

so as to long last and survive after the accomplishment of his mission, unfortunately premature, due to his death at only 36 years of age.

A lot of large scale statistical actions are related to his name, among which the first population census of 1859, as well as other statistical surveys of major importance at national level, marking at the same time concerns of statistical methodology nature meant to facilitate the accession of Romanian statistics to international statistics. Maroian has stressed “As for the format of our works, we should subordinate the statistical questionnaires to our administrative needs, without omitting, however, the practical examples given by advanced science and by Congresses decisions in view to facilitate international comparison. At the same time, we hope to succeed in a better knowledge at international level both of ourselves and of our endeavours - misunderstood so far”.

Naturally, there are still a lot of other actions and undertakings of statistical nature carried out in the past, that represent arguments so that nowadays statisticians, and not only them, should both mark the early stages of statistics and should also outline the new landmarks for statistics affirmation as an indispensable tool of knowledge, indissolubly implied in the substantiation of any undertaking envisaging decision making at micro and macroeconomic level.

At over 50 years since the Second World War, under the circumstances of the former regime, statistics was deeply affected by restrictions and doctrine obligation of exclusively serving the regime. Being thus determined to abandon its deontological principles, statistics has narrowed the investigation area and has particularly deviated from its social mission of ensuring the information of all statistical data user categories on the real phenomena and processes of society evolution. During that period, the overlapping of the deliberately confuse conception related to the national interest of knowing by means of statistics the real state of art with the administrative functional blockage, has deeply distorted the image of Romanian statistics and public trust in its social function.

**RE-ADAPTATION** Since 1990, in view to properly accomplish its real functions, Romanian statistics engaged itself in the natural process of re-adaptation to modern statistics and of complying with the European norms and standards. The context conferred to statistics by the actions aiming at Romania's accession to the European Union created the necessary prerequisites for harmonisation and afterwards for the gradual integration of Romanian statistics into the European Statistical System.

Thus, Romanian statistics benefited, through the Phare Programmes, by a strong support over the 17 years, materialised in the improvement of the National Institute of Statistics' infrastructure, through the endowment with modern IT; wider knowledge of methodological and technical nature achieved by the statistical