

**Studentii SNSPA și TWAU Club  
mulțumesc**

# **Centrului Cultural Palestinian Mahmood Darwish**

**pentru sprijinul, susținerea și generozitatea  
manifestate anul acesta pentru publicarea volumului**

***Insight Inn***

TWAU 2020



# ***Insight Inn***

TWAU 2020

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***Insight Inn***

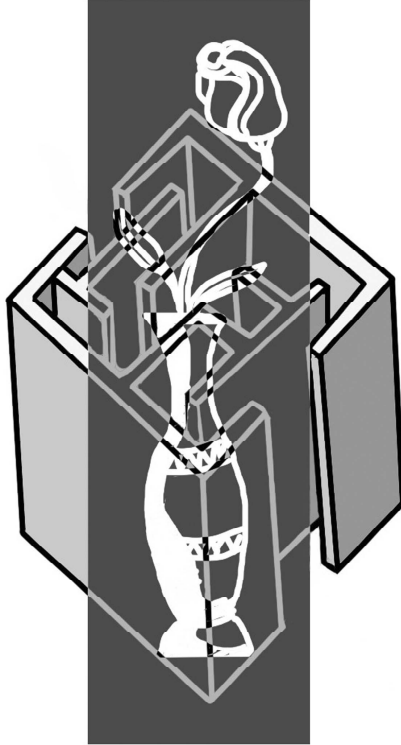
TWAU 2020



**EDITURA UNIVERSITARĂ**  
**București, 2020**



***Despre libertate și alți demoni...***



**Conf. dr. SILVIA OSMAN**  
Coordonator al volumului colectiv *Insight Inn*  
București, 2020



Primăvara anului 2020 a servit tuturor o neașteptată lecție de libertate. Între pereții propriilor case, libertatea, care ne-a prisosit sau nu, a prins alte culori și semnificații profunde, desenând perspective noi asupra propriilor noastre valori, în liniștea care a îngreunat, peste noapte, o lume întreagă.

*Insight Inn* este despre astfel de perspective, o hartă a dezvăluirilor acestor valori și despre libertate, așa cum o văd și scriu despre ea tineri frumoși, așezați inteligent pe calea devenirii lor ca oameni. Libertatea de a trăi frumos și de a gândi nelimitat, de a simți și de a împărtăși cu ceilalți valorile și crezurile, trăirile și credințele, așa cum izvorăsc ele din profunzimile ființei lor, se întrezăresc în toate lucrările incluse în acest volum colectiv și sunt, de multe ori, însoțite de neliniști și de revoltă mocnită, de întrebări care caută (și vor găsi, cu siguranță) răspunsuri, de curiozitate vie, gândire logică, argumente valide, seriozitate și determinare în atingerea scopurilor, entuziasm și sensibilitate.

Fiecare dintre tinerii frumoși care au scris despre lumea din jurul nostru astăzi, în *Insight Inn*, au corectat textele scrise cu pasiune, la prima mână și au (re)organizat materiale, s-au informat, au editat text și sunet, au desenat, au ilustrat grafic lucrări și au editat audio/video și muzical un trailer de promovare, au cântat despre lumea noastră, și-au imaginat lansarea virtuală a volumului lor colectiv în vremuri în care colectivul este respins de normele de distanțare socială și au fost toți ca unul, în acest demers comun. Între paginile acestei cărți veți întâlni perspectivele lor asupra lumii din jurul nostru, clătinând și apoi (re)clădind, din visele și planurile lor de viitor, lumea în care vom trăi, cu toții, mâine. Lumea din jurul nostru se schimbă secundă de secundă, perpetuu modelată de energia emoțiilor și de gândurile noastre cumulate, în evoluție. Lumea pe care acești tineri minunați o visează astăzi o puteți întâlni





măine, în anii ce vin, în viitorul mai mult sau mai puțin îndepărtat și o veți putea recunoaște, dacă veți reuși să citiți cu atenție și înțelege, printre rânduri, ce scriu în *Insight Inn* studenții SNSPA, coautori ai acestui volum, cu energia lor tânără, cu noblețe, bunătate, curaj, demnitate, forță interioară și determinare.

*Insight Inn* este despre introspecție și despre cum ne regăsim, căutându-ne esența, atunci când circumstanțele exterioare ne par nefavorabile. *Insight Inn* este despre căutări interioare și despre alegeri, despre ochi care aleg să vadă partea plină a paharului, despre punți care răsar de niciunde și trec peste gol și despre resemnificarea eului profund, în momente de cumpănă.

*Insight Inn* este despre cum găsim atunci când căutăm, cum vedem, în spatele ochilor închiși, atunci când mulți, de jur împrejur, sunt orbi. Acest volum colectiv, apărut sub umbrela seriei TWAU (The World Around Us) include o sumă de lucrări scrise, cu grijă, elan, pasiune și entuziasm, în *lingua franca* a vremurilor pe care le trăim, de către studenți și absolvenți ai SNSPA București, specializările Științe Politice, Relații Internaționale și Studii Europene, Sociologie și Psihologie. Se dorește a fi un punct de plecare către un nou început, o reinventare și o recalibrare a lui *a fi*, în acum, acceptând lumina din noi și renunțând la măștile lumii, ca pe o scenă *fără spectatori*. Pe un culoar de libertate astfel definit, ne putem îndrepta către o reală schimbare de paradigmă în educație (și în comunitate) în care corectitudinea politică și relativismul moral încetează să ne mai fie piloni.





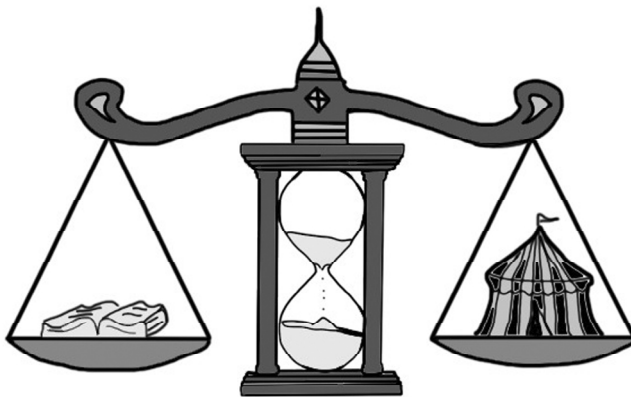
## ***An Insight into Our Pandemic***



**HE FUAD KOKALY**  
*Ambassador of the State of Palestine to Romania*

In the midst of a pandemic generated by the new Corona virus, my people is commemorating 72 years from the Nekbah, the Palestinian catastrophe that happened in 1948. For the past couple of months, the whole world stopped from following normal activities and people around the world are suffering from isolation imposed by authorities due to quarantine safety measures. The people experience a restriction of their human rights, due to exceptional circumstances, that, for sure, will be restored as soon as the pandemic abates, in the following days or months. We, the Palestinians, are commemorating this May, 72 years of suffering and frustration, that, unfortunately, won't go away like a pandemic. We stand tall, despite all domination viruses and we will never give up on our self-determination and human rights. We stand for peace and for *The Two States Solution*, despite all adversities. We will not give up Jerusalem and our right to return to the homeland. This catastrophe we are commemorating today spread over the Palestinian people as a pandemic, plaguing our nation, continuously, for 72 years, this May. We will emerge from these life changing experiences only through cooperation and unity, being all as one in our efforts to end what plagues us. I wish to the entire world what I wish for my people: to enjoy freedom in health, human rights and liberties unrestricted by any outer force, and a life full of satisfaction, surrounded by family and friends, in peace, in their homelands.

***Insights into what the pandemic  
is teaching us***



***AUT INVENIAM VIAM AUT FACIAM***

**Prof. LILIANA POPESCU, PhD**  
*Vice-Rector for International Relations  
The National University of Political  
and Administrative Studies*

The Covid-19 pandemic taught us a lot. It is enough to pay attention to what it is telling us, in order to learn our lesson, yet how many of us do that? How systematic are we doing it?

It reminded us, teachers and educators, in a very practical manner, that education is much more than delivering content to students. It has taught me how important the human contact with students is and how easy it has previously been to present various topics to them, while meeting face to face, and stimulating their engagement on the topic at hand. As a professor, the pandemic placed me in a difficult situation, i.e sorting out the problem of getting students involved, incentivizing them to participate in discussions on various themes, while facing and sharing the screen of a device. Meanwhile, I realized that not all students reacted in the same way to what was going on around us. Some of them were worried, anxious, preoccupied with what was happening and were wondering what would happen with their graduation examinations, and future. Some others were more relaxed, being trained by previous experiences or having had a different kind of education, involving knowledge on to how to detach themselves more from difficult challenges.

I mainly had final year students in the second semester, apart from the doctoral ones. So, I had the opportunity to get in touch with their feelings on a regular basis. More than during pre-pandemic times, I realized how important it was to connect with students not only intellectually but also emotionally. The pandemic taught me, more than my entire previous experience did, the importance of relating to students while considering the wholeness of their integral beings.

We all have fears and hopes, challenges and dreams – academics and students alike. The pandemic got us all closer to



each other. We've all realized that we are human beings, regardless of the position we occupy and our designated roles in the education process. Somehow, the pandemic levelled us up, and pointed to what was most essential in life rather than underlining differences.

I imagine that for students the online academic activities must have been an even bigger challenge than for Academics. Firstly, because their life experience is limited in time. Secondly, because the essence of being a student is being part of a community – what we call “the student life”. Thirdly, because they've had to face new assignments and intellectual challenges on their own. The students graduating this year had to face the special challenge of working independently much more than their elder peers.

What did students learn? They've learnt that life is full of surprises and that these are not always pleasant. The challenge of spending more time on their own, as well as with their families, might have stimulated them to be more introspective. Or not. Some students might have drifted into more pleasurable and addictive activities like gaming, endlessly watching movies or series, and the like. However, they most certainly have had the opportunity to get to know themselves better, to see how they react and discover unknown inner resources, to see their weaknesses and strengthen their characters.

How do we react to uncertainty? This is a question equally valid for students as well as for professors. What can we do to build up our tolerance to uncertainty? What strategies do we employ to cope with unexpected situations? What can we, as individuals, do for our communities and our society? These are all open questions we each need to answer and, perhaps, share and ponder upon.

The societal changes during the pandemic time are immense. There are consequences in terms of unemployment, in terms of



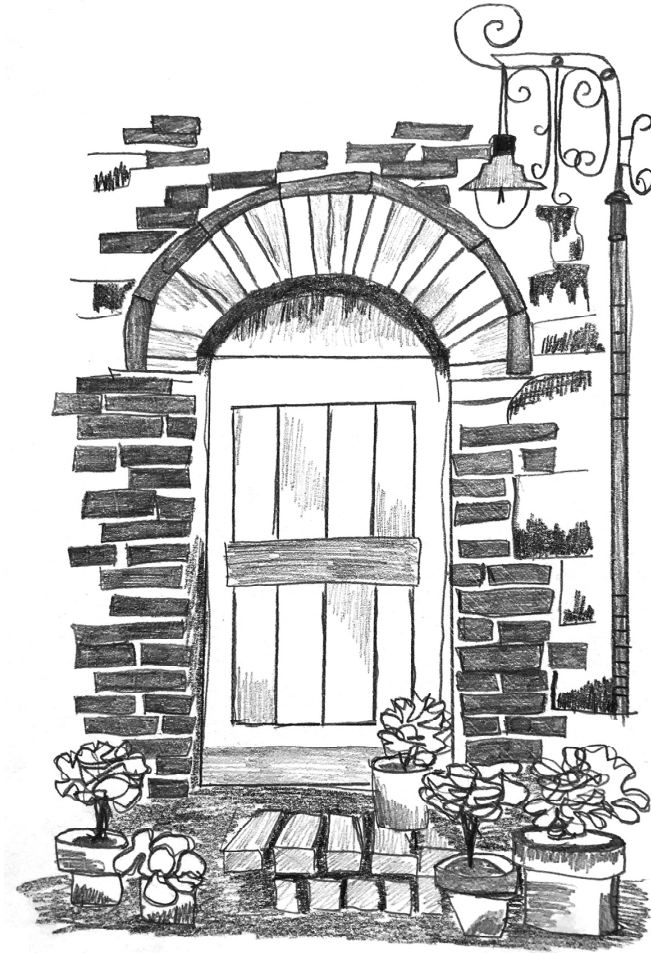
painful inequalities, in terms of huge differences in perceiving the society and the world around us. The movement Black Lives Matters revealed the giant inequalities perceived by considerable segments of the most affluent country in the world, the USA. At the same time, it has unleashed a series of energies worldwide that claim new changes, blaming the past for present social and equal inequities.

„*How to navigate through such turbulent times?*” is a question that is going to stay with students, with academics, and with younger generations, for a while from now on. Perhaps, one answer to the question might be: “*Always look at the bright side of life!*”





*SNSPA Alumni*





## *A Time for Introspection*



**DANIEL GHEORGHE**  
*Alumnus SNSPA*



*“If I am not for myself, who will be for me?  
And being for myself, what am I?  
And if not now, when?”*

(Hillel the Elder)

As we daily face the relative character of many realities in our lives, the past three months brought us in a place to face the relativity of what we were describing as a normal life. The globalized society and life in big cities created, almost with us unaware of it, a dynamic rhythm that sometimes went far beyond our power to deal with it. Interhuman communication, and connection overall, lost their position as a priority in our lives and became a simple option, often motivated by pragmatic attitudes. Too long periods of time were passing since the last meeting with an old friend or the visit to one of our relatives. Maybe because we also started to take them for granted. The long hours at the office often transformed the books we bought in simple pieces of furniture. And then, suddenly, the lockdown kicked in, and leaving the comfort zone (as we only fantasized about while listening to some motivational speeches in our rush to the office and back) became our new reality. Like in a game for kids where a break often can be only imposed, people had to re-configure their whole rhythm of life. Suddenly, the complaints and aspirations regarding a better life came into being, however, differently than expected. Family and the time spent with ourselves became our daily mirror in a tough process of curing our narcissism. What we called socializing became a distant reality and it pushed us to fathom what it really takes to be a good socializer: knowing thyself so you can understand the other. And, of course, the books that we bought long ago but didn't read started to wave their impatient pages in

