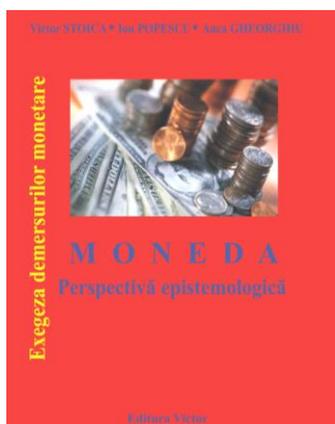


## NEW PERSPECTIVE ON THE CURRENCY\*

Professor PhD Dumitru NICA

A few months ago, the prestigious Victor Publishing, published the reference work: *Currency. Epistemological perspective*, as a result of a fruiting scientific collaboration between researchers, known for the accuracy and the requirement that is demonstrated in working with students, master and doctoral students. As a first part of a broader and exciting approach, both moral and suggestively entitled Exegesis of the Monetary Approaches, so acutely claimed of the paradigm change occurred in worldwide economic and social realities, the present volume is intended to be – is the authors merit that were able to be – *a new perspective* on this ancient and such an important economic category as currency, which, over time, has often confused both theoreticians and practitioners.



The novelty is induced by significant items such as: the stages periodization of the currency from its scriptural form to the Trust (Chapter 1 – Appeal to history); resuming and reinterpretation of Ludwig von Mises argument on the uniqueness of the money function, that is to facilitate market activity, acting as universally accepted medium of exchange (Chapter 2 – Functions and attributes of money); concept of monetary equilibrium approach invented by Swedish brand Upsala School and Dutch School developed in the amphitheaters of the University of Amsterdam Netherlands, theoretical gains later exploited by other prominent economists from other azimuths of knowledge (Chapter 3 –Classification of monetary signs); inflation evaluation according to demand and costs, imported and structural (Chapter 4 – Inflation, chronic disease of the currency). As the coherence and unity of the analysis lies in the author's effort to identify and capture the convergence of monetary theory

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\* Review on the book: Victor Stoica, Ion Popescu and Anca Gheorghiu, *Currency. Epistemological perspective*, Victor Publishing House, 238 pages, Bucharest, 2010.

(Chapter 5), of the interest (Chapter 6) and the inflation (Chapter 7). Moreover, in these chapters are discussed particular current and controversial topics such as free money and banking privatization, Ricardo effect and its use by Fr. A. von Hayek, the deterministic chain capital – interest – profit, the general Keynesian theory of the interest rate, inflation's functions etc.

In few words, allow me to suggest that readers to go through with interest, attention and curiosity this new book of my distinguished colleagues, as they may be surprised to find one answer to the question *why another book about currency?*. Although the spectrum of responses can be quite large (for some reasons I already mentioned above), as for me, I noticed just a few. First we emphasize the restlessness and the desire of authors to express their views about a topic on the agenda related to axiology, epistemology and economics praxiological. Second, the objective requirement to be thorough the value judgments about currency in a systemic, holistic perspective, based on predictable future requirements. And finally, their conviction that now more than ever, there is a need to reassess the monetary philosophy in terms of pragmatic history of economic thought, but in connivance with the requirements and restrictions on the twenty-first century, able to allow for the similarities between currency and money, between money and the intrinsic value or cost of the individual and collective (social) consumption. Two economic and value categories with a special role in the production of goods and services required by consumers are closely related to the life and work quality, morality, equity and social justice.

From my point of view, perhaps the most important conclusion of the book to be revealed in this brief *review* aimed at the idea, assumed and advanced by the authors about the *healthy currency*. The authors appreciate that we have healthy currency when it is stable, allowing businesses to use it as a reserve of purchasing power for centuries and millennia. Because of this truth having a paradigm-value, the currency is removed from the arbitrary of the political power. Its relative stability is related to the fact that economic agents do not anticipate future price inflation expressed in such currency. Therefore, a healthy system can not finance bank loans through inflation and accordingly a healthy banking system is compatible with a healthy currency and adopts a stable credit profile policy.

Although written within the rigorous field matrix, the book can be read easily and why not with intellectual pleasure by laity and is offering in its pages moments of deep meditation and spiritual comfort.

