DECONSTRUCTIONS OF THE EUROPEAN IDENTITY. THE PERMANENCE OF ICONOCLASM

ILIE BĂDESCU

THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIOLOGY OF THE ROMANIAN ACADEMY

Seen as the clash between the culture of faith and the counter-culture of nihilism, inconoclasm is the attempt to deconstruct and rebuild the human identity on a faithless base. There is a difference between real iconoclasm, as a nihilist deconstructivism that engenders a faithless identity, and deconstructions that have emerged even within the Christian Church. Iconoclasm cannot be explained by economic, ethnic or political causes, for it has been always related to the spiritual organization of the world.

Key words: iconoclasm, Christianity, identity, Europe, noology.