

Dan S. STOICA  
“Al. I. Cuza” University of Iasi (Romania)

## Conversations on the Internet

“Darkness, darkness, darkness,  
Good brother with madness [...], with sin and murder ...”  
(Ion Minulescu, *Verses to Darkness*)<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract:** Pointing out some characteristics of both realities, conversations and the Internet, this study lays the grounds for some appreciations on conversations as they take place on the Internet. If the first is a human activity, the latter is medium and context for the previous. As one can easily observe, there might be characteristics of the medium/context with impact on the activity. There is more: if the medium/context is characterized by a state of permanent, fast, sometimes profound change, the people trying to perform the activity within the same alignment they knew before could end up in distress and frustration as they don't recognize the online world anymore. A *motto* I found in a book on Stalinism and other isms read “Change is certain. Progress is not”. If one cannot see any progress in some sudden change, one could be reticent about the necessity of that change. But, at the same time, there may be numerous other persons to find that changing something just for fun means there is a reason for that change. The two categories do not collide *per se* on the Internet, but they seldom find a common way, and their respective opinions of the others are quite poor. The discussion turns around two main characteristics of the Internet: the possibility for any creator of content to mask their identity, and the general tendency to deny any authority.

**Keywords:** Internet, conversation, social media, human interaction.

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<sup>1</sup> The original Romanian version is:  
“Întunerec... Întunerec ... Întunerec!... [...]”  
Frate bun cu nebunia [...], cu păcatul și cu crima...”