

<b>In memoriam – SIMION NICOLAEV</b> <i>Mariana Golumbeanu, Tania Zaharia</i>	<b>“Cercetări Marine “</b> <b>Issue no. 53</b> <b>Pages 153-160</b>	<b>2023</b>
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***In memoriam – SIMION NICOLAEV***  
**(13.05.1948 – 27.11.2022)**



Dr. Eng. Simion Nicolaev, senior scientific researcher and former General Director of the National Institute of Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa" passed away on 27 November, 2022. Deeply attached to the values of marine fishing, with an exceptional activity that brought honor to Romania, appreciated and recognized by researchers from the states bordering the Black Sea, the disappearance of Dr. Eng. Simion Nicolaev leaves a huge void in Romanian marine research and fishing.

Born on 13 May 1948, in the heart of Danube Delta, Murighiol town, Tulcea county, Simion Nicolaev followed the elementary school in the native village, and during September 1962 - October 1996 the courses of the High School no. 2 in Tulcea. Starting 1966 he attended the specialization courses in Fishing Techniques and Fish Culture within the Faculty of Food Products Technology and Fisheries Techniques of the Polytechnic Institute of Galați, which he graduated brilliantly, as head of promotion, in 1971.

In the period 1978-1985, he was a PhD student of the "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati, Faculty of Food Technology and Fisheries Technology having as coordinator the eminent Prof.Dr.Eng. Nicolae Dobrovici Bacalbașa, obtaining the scientific title of Doctor of Engineering in the field of fish technique.

Thanks to the exceptional professional results obtained during its university studies, within the government assignment he selected the Romanian Marine Research Institute (RMRI) in Constanța, an institution where he carried out his prodigious professional activity.

Since 1990, Dr. Eng. Simion Nicolaev has been active within the National Institute for Marine Development and Research “Grigore Antipa” (former RMRI). From 2015 until his retirement in February 2021, he held the positions of General Director and Scientific Researcher, as well as President of the Board of Directors at the NIMRD.

In recognition of his scientific personality, Dr. Eng. Simion Nicolaev was honored, over time, with numerous and important responsibilities:

- President of the Romanian National Oceanography Committee.
- Chair of the Consultative Group on Environmental Aspects of Fisheries (RACFOMLR)/Black Sea Commission.
- Commissioner for Romania to International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling.
- Coordinator of the Black Sea Working Group of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (WGBS-GFCM).
- Vice Chairperson of ACCOBAMS Convention Bureau.
- Representative of the International Scientific Secretariate of Southeastern Europe within Balkan Environmental Association (ISSE-BENA).
- Legal representative of the Technical Secretariat of the National Committee of the Coastal Zone.
- Member of the Scientific Council of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve.
- Associate Professor at “Mircea cel Bătrân” Naval Academy, “Ovidius” University Constanta and Expert of the Doctoral School “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati.

In 2012, he was awarded the Black Sea Medal by the Permanent Secretariat of the Black Sea Commission, for outstanding services in the field of marine sciences.

The long and exceptional professional career of Dr. Eng. Simion Nicolaev leaves an unmistakable and impressive mark in the field of oceanological research and marine technological development, as well as that of the design and construction of fishing equipment used by the Romanian ocean fishing fleet.

Starting from 1990, for over 30 years, until his retirement, he ensured as Director/Director General, the management of the National Institute for Research and Development "Grigore Antipa", contributing substantially to increasing the scientific visibility of the institution on a national and international level.

The scientific work of Dr.Eng. Simion Nicolaev is represented by more than 70 papers/abstracts presented at various scientific meetings. Passionate

scientist, dedicated to his research, has left behind not only valuable published papers, co-author of the Patent for polymeric material with antifouling properties, its process of obtaining and coating antifouling, but also essentially contributed to the institute development.

Throughout his career, Dr. Eng. Simion Nicolaev fulfilled his noble mission as a scientific researcher with dedication and passion. Through the disappearance of Dr. Eng. Simion Nicolaev, the academic community loses a remarkable scientific personality, an exceptional researcher, who dedicated his entire life to the marine research.

*God rest him in peace!*

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