



“Gh. Asachi” Technical University of Iasi, Romania

ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY, A NEW DIRECTION IN THE PSYCHOLOGICAL FIELD

Carmen Cătălina Ioan

*“Gh. Asachi” Technical University of Iasi, Faculty of Industrial Chemistry, Department of
Environmental Engineering, 71 D. Mangeron Blvd., 6600 Iasi-10, P.O. Box 483, Romania*

Abstract

The paper substantiates the idea that the *Environmental Psychology* is a new direction in psychology that studies the effects of human interrelation with the existential space. Questions are answered with reference to conceptual delimitations such as the definition of the object of study, specific scientific strategies, analysis tools, etc. The “contamination” with other disciplines is also evidenced. A relatively new domain in Romania, Environmental Psychology has a tradition in the United Kingdom, USA, Australia, New Zealand, where there are academic departments, journals and organizations aimed at developing this discipline by promoting its studies over the social area. The fundamental landmarks and the important psychological factors in the relationship with the environment are analyzed from the original perspective of plurality in manifestation. The conclusion of the paper is that new pathways are created through Environmental Psychology to avoid the traps laid by the physical, social or educational environments, the final outcome being the sustainable development of the individual.

Keywords: environment, environmental psychology, sustainable development
