MENTAL VALUES AND MEANINGS OF RES*. ILLUSTRATIVE LEXICON*[1]

Abstract: Res *is perhaps, the most prolific word with regard to the meanings in Latin. Many phrases formed with its help were inherited in European languages, particularly in legal and political field. The name of a new form of government-Republic is an eloquent proof of what was said above.*

The multitude of phrases, but also of senses of ***res*** *is a testimony of the Latin genius that knew how to organize itself and the world led by him, that he also created the terminology of social-institutional organization.*

The expressions and meanings of res touch many areas such as: legal, military, philosophical, political, social, mental, diplomatic, poetic, religious, and so on. ***Res*** *was used by Latin people to describe many concepts whose diversity is very high. Through him there were expressed feelings, social-political institutions and practices, philosophical terms (we think here at Lucretius who created an entire philosophical terminology in Latin, especially using this word), legal terms in an overwhelming proportion, situations of life and in the works of Latin writers,* ***res*** *is very used to render different states of mind or mentalities.*

Keywords: *res, meanings, Latin, mentalities, lexicon.*

Res is perhaps the most prolific word in representing the meanings of Latin language. Furthermore, expressions formed with its help have been inherited by the European languages, especially in legal and political fields. The denomination of a new form of government – the Republic is an eloquent proof of this fact. Also, the word rebus comes from the Latin ***res***.

The multitude of meanings of ***res*** is a testimony of the Latin genius that knew how to organize itself and the world led by him, his organization being so perfectly that it was inherited, especially in the European social-institutional organization terminology and beyond.

Expressions and meanings of ***res*** reach many fields such as: legal, military, philosophical, political, diplomatic, poetic, religious and so on, being translated according to the context. In other words, its meaning can be observed only in its context, often ***res*** can have antagonistic meanings in different contexts.

At a first analyze of ***res*** we can observe that it rendered with the following meanings: thing, object, situation, circumstance and event. (Paraschiv, M., Curcă, R.,-G., 2007: 423.)

In other dictionaries we find the following meanings of ***res***: it could derive from the indo-European *rei*, according to Pokorny, having the meaning of thing, possession, the avestic *ray*= paradise, wealth, but also the Sanskrit *rayi* =wealth, property and good. (http://fr.wiktionary.org/wiki/res,/ 20.01.2011,/*Le Dictionnaire étymologique latin).*

It is a fact that the Latin ***res*** inherited all the meanings present both in Indo-European and Sanskrit.

Félix Gaffiot in *Dictionnaire latin-français* gives us the most meanings of *res*: thing*, object, being, business, fact, event, circumstance, body, nothing, contradiction ,race, action, reality, fortune, interest, advantage, wealth, cause, reason,legal business,*

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litigation and so on. (http://www.lexilogos.com/latin/gaffiot.php?p=1349/20.01.2011). It is our own translation). We believe that this is the most complete definition of ***res***.

In an English-Latin dictionary we have the following definition: *res, ei, f = thing, situation, business, fact, condition, property, profit, advantage, world, universe, case (legal) result, power, value, opportunity*. (***Pocket Oxford Latin Dictionary,* 1994, 2005: 162). (It is our own translation).

We gathered these meanings and values in three categories: political social, legal and philosophical-poetical and mentality. We mention that the translation belongs to the authors from which we selected the expressions. Many times we offer a different interpretation and translation for the meanings of ***res***. Our study has not exhausted all the values and meanings of ***res*** because of the saving imposed by the rules of typewriting, but we consider that we captured the main value of this word.

1. Political-social values:

Idem sentire de ***re publica***= to have the same attitude towards the state (*Apud*, Varzari, E., Hanganu, A., Cosmescu, A, 2010: 73), in which *res* has the meaning of state or public affaires

Res publica=State, Republic (*Ibidem:* 126.)

Corruptissima ***republica*** *plurima leges* –Tacitus=If a state is very corrupt, it has many laws. (Matei, V., 2007: 57) It can be noticed that, over the time, the Romans joint the two words *res publica* in a single word designating by it the Roman state.

*...**res** angusta domi* - Iuvenalis-=poverty. (*Ibidem:* 126) In this case, res has a social fault value, if we translate literally, it would be *narrow thing.*

Libertas inestimale ***res*** *est*= Freedom is priceless (*Ibidem:* 174). Here, *Res* has the sense of human right, a fundamental right-freedom. This saying is still present nowadays.

Lucri bonus este odor ex ***re*** *qualibet* - Iuvenalis= The smells of gain is nice from wherever it would come. (*Ibidem:* 178) We have here an economic sense of ***res***, namely that of earnings, wealth, favorable situation and, why not, of a business.

Multum ad ***rem*** *pertinent...*- Seneca= It is very important for what purpose you take an action...(*Ibidem:* 208) ***Res*** in this case has the meaning of social action, but also of motive of this action.

*...**res** disociabiles...*- Tacitus-=Things that do not work together. (*Ibidem:* 215) Also, in this case, we deal with the value of action, but an action opposite to the other, so that we can interpret it as a political opposition.

...in ***republica*** *versantur* - Seneca-=...the one dealing with politics. (*Ibidem:* 218) Besides the meaning of state, we also see here the meaning of politics that *res* has.

...nervum ***rerum***...= the nerve of things or money (*Ibidem:* 218). The economic value is the most obvious in this context, as we can understand here by *res* even economics.

*...**res** non sinit...*- Terentius= Does not accept the situation. (*Ibidem:* 242). Therefore, *Res* has here the meaning of social context.

Res *gestae divi Augusti*= war facts of Augustus. ***Res*** has two meanings here 1. War, 2. History.

Rebus *sic stantibus*= as long as the situation persists. (*Apud*, Varzari, E., Hanganu, A., Cosmescu, A, *op.cit*.: 117). *Res* in this case refer to a diplomatic context, the expression being also used nowadays in the language of diplomatic relations, and here it is correct to translate *res* by relations.

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...memento ***rebus...-*** Horatius= Remember the circumstances. (*Apud* Matei, V., *op. cit.:* 12). Although it has to a great Latin poet, *res* has here also a social meaning, we can translate life circumstances.
*...**rerum** novarum cupidus...*=...wishful of new things, reformist. (*Apud*, Varzari, E., Hanganu, A., Cosmescu, A, *op. cit*.: 119) ***Res*** has here the meaning of reform, restructuring, and why not, of new institutions.
Res** novae*= new situations, revolution. (*Apud,* Pistol, P., 2005: 91) In this context ***res has the meaning of revolution (more than a reform), namely a whole new situation, that changes completely a certain system. As found in the two contexts, ***res*** can have different meanings in almost identical contexts, although they may seem similar.
*Concordia parvae **res** crescunt, discordia maxume delabuntur* - Sallustius= By means of collaboration, small problems gain importance, but by disunion even the most important are lost. (*Apud* Matei, V., *op. cit.*:52) We also deal with a political sense of ***res*** if we interpret it in relation to *concordia* or *discordia*. The term of *concordia* represented during Sallust's time a desideratum of Roman political forces, that during Augustus' time materialized by *concordia ordinum* = alliance of Roman orders. It would be correct to translate in this case *res* by principles or, why not, political doctrines (thinking here of the two political factions which dominated Roman political life, *Optimates* and *Populares* that had different doctrines).
*...**res** ad omnia parata* - Seneca=...ready for everything. (*Ibidem:* 73). We can interpret this phrase where ***res*** appear also as expression of a social-political context, translating it not only as anything, but especially as compromise, lack of scruples, crime.
*...**res** ipsa declaravit* - Cicero (http://www.lexilogos.com/latin/gaffiot.php?p=1349/20.01.2011) = As demonstrated by the event.
***...res** efficintes, **res** effectae* - Cicero (*Ibidem*) = effective forces, effects
*...**res** urbanae* - Cicero (*Ibidem*) = urban life
*...primos se omnium **rerum** volunt* - Terentius (*Ibidem*) = who want to be the first in the world
*...maxima **rerum** Roma* - Vergilius (*Ibidem*) =Rome, wonder of the world
*...**rem** augere* - Cicero (*Ibidem*) = to increase the wealth
*...privatae **res*** - Cicero (*Ibidem*) = personal wealth
*...In **rem** esse aliqui* - Plautus (*Ibidem*) = to be in the interest of someone
*...pro tempore et pro **re*** - Caesar (*Ibidem*) = according to times and circumstances
*...in media **re publica** versari* - Cicero (*Ibidem*) = to interfere in the political life
***...rem publicam** tenere* - Cicero (*Ibidem*) = to be at the top of the political life or the government
***...rei publicae** usus* - Cicero (*Ibidem*) = political practice
*...**res** militaris* (http://fr.wiktionary.org/wiki/res, / 20.01.2011) = war, military art
*...quibus **rebus** perfectis* - Caesar (*Ibidem*) = preparations being complete. This also refers to the meaning of war, or rather to the situation before belligerency.
*...ante **rem*** - Titus Livius (*Ibidem*) = before battle or before action
*...**res** populi Romani perscribere* (*Ibidem*) -Titus Livius= to write the facts or Romans' history
*..**rerum** scriptor*=historian (*Ibidem*)
*...**res** ampla* - Cicero (*Ibidem*) = huge wealth
*...**rem** reperire...*- Plautus (*Ibidem*) = to find the means
*...**rerum** potiri*= to appoint himself/herself
*...summa **rerum***= supreme power

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Res *mihi Romanas dederas, Fortuna regendas*-Lucretius (*Ibidem*) = Fortuna, you gave me the Roman Empire to rule it
Res *rustica*- Columella's work=agriculture
Fama ***rem*** *exagerat*= The rumor exaggerates any deed.(*Cf.****Proverbe şi cugetări latine,* 1976: 235) In this case, res might be considered as action, or communication, as the rumor in fact exaggerates the action by a deficient process of communication.
Fortiter în ***re***= Courageous in any situation. (*Ibidem*: 45) In this case, *res* can be interpreted as energy, strength of character or life, the scene of human action.
Ex necesitate ***rei***= The argument of force major (*Ibidem*: 22) *Res* has here the meaning of force, but especially of exceptional circumstance, that requires actions to match it. We believe that the best interpretation of this expression, especially of *res*, is a state of emergency.
Non opus este verbis, credite ***rebus***= No need for explanations, but trust in deeds. (*Ibidem*: 72) *Res* have here the meaning of concrete results of an action.
Rerum *omnium magister usus* - Caesar= Practice is the guide of all things (*Apud*, Munteanu, E., Munteanu, L.,-G., 1996: 262-263) Interpreting the meaning in the context of Caesar's work we can translate *res* as military discipline, man oeuvre or application.

2. Legal values

Ius ***rerum***= law of things
Re= in fact (****Proverbe şi cugetări latine:* 9)
Tuas ***res*** *agitur* – Horatius= Your interest is at stake. (*Ibidem*: 94) The following examples show that ***res*** mean not only interest, but also wealth.
Res *familiaris* (http://fr.wiktionary.org/wiki/res,/ 20.01.2011) = patrimony
In ***rem*** *esse* (*Ibidem*)= to the benefit of
..in ***re***= in fact, to the point, real (*Apud*, Varzari, E., Hanganu, A., Cosmescu, A, *op.cit.*: 79)
*...****res*** *nec mancipi*= things that are not in the property rights or by opposition *...****res*** *mancipi*= things that are in ownership. (*Apud* Benveniste, É., 1999: 114)
...Bis de eadem ***re*** *ne sit actio*= Not to take an action twice for the same thing. (*Apud* Matei, V., *op. cit.:*36)
...ad rem= briefly, concisely. (*Ibidem*: 10)
Emptio fit praetio, permutatio fit ***rebus***= the purchase is made by price, the exchange in kind by things. (*Ibidem*: 89)
Eripitur persona, manet ***res***=The person dies, the work remains. (*Ibidem*: 91)
Ex ***re***= timely. (*Ibidem*: 104)
...in ambiguis ***rebus*** - Ulpian= for unclear cases (*Ibidem*: 146)
...intuitu ***rei***= in terms of work (*Ibidem*: 159)
...iudicis officium est, ut ***res,*** *ita tempora rerum quaerere*= the judge's duty is to investigate both the facts and its circumstances. (*Ibidem*: 165).
Res *delictae*= abandoned things
Res *furti*= stolen things
Res *nullius*= anyone's work
Res *ipsa loquitur*=the thing speaks for itself
Res *subreptae*=hidden things (*Apud* Matei, V., *op. cit.*: 344-346)
Eror in ***rem***= error on the work (*Apud* Săuleanu, L., Rădulețu, S., 2007: 112)
Ex ***re***= in deed (*Ibidem*: 127)
Iura ad ***rem***=outstanding rights and *iura in* ***re***= real rights (*Ibidem*: 163)

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Propter ***rem***= real obligations (*Ibidem*: 259)
Re= real contract (*Ibidem*: 279)
Res *certa*= sure asset
Res *communis*= common asset
Res *extra commercium*= things outside commerce
Res *inter alios acta*...= thing agreed between others
Res *probandae*= deeds to be proved
Res *probantes*= evidentiary deeds
Res *transit cum suo onere*= the patrimony passes to the person holding it
Scriptae in ***rem***= obligations binding to third parties. (*Ibidem*: 282-291)
Tuas ***res***= your assets, phrase of the Roman law.
Ob ***rem***= usefully (*Apud*, Matei, V., 1994: 61)
Ab ***re***= detrimentally
Privatae ***res***= private wealth
Rem *dicere*= to advocate in a trial
Res *in patrimonio*= patrimony work (*Apud*, Sâmbrian, T., 2009: 167-175).(The translation from Latin belongs to the author of the mentioned work.)
Summa ***rerum*** *divisio*= basic classification of things
Res *corporales*= tangible things
Res *incorporales*= intangible things
Res *mobiles*= movable things
Res *immobiles*= immovable things
Res *fruttifere*= things that cause other things
Res *infruttifere*= things that do not cause other things
Res *divizibili*= divisible things
Res *indivizibili*=indivisible things
Res *principales*= main things
Res *acesoriae*= incidental things that serve for another thing
Res *universitatis*= things designated to a local collectivity
Res *sacrae*= quote things
Res *sanctae*= inviolable things (*Ibidem)*
Lex ***rei*** *situ*= Law of the place where the asset is located (*Apud*, Hanga, V., Calciu, D., 2007: 126) (the translation from Latin belongs to the quoted author)
Res *iudicata pro veritate accipitur*= A court case is considered true (*Apud*, Munteanu, E., Munteanu, L.,-G., *op. cit*.: 262-263)
Res *abhoret a fide* -Titus Livius= The thing is refused by ration (*Ibidem*)

3. Philosophical-moral, mentality and poetic values
...***res****...spes* (http://fr.wiktionary.org/wiki/res/20.01.2011) =present and future
...***res*** *adversae* (*Ibidem)* =unhappiness
...*res* *prosperae* (*Ibidem)* = luck, wealth
...***rem*** *sectari, non verba* - Cicero (*Ibidem)* =to refer to the deed, not the words
...et de ***re*** *et de causa* - Cicero (http://www.lexilogos.com/latin/gaffiot.php?p=1349/ 20.01.2011) = and about the deed and the cause
...***re*** *quidem vera* - Cicero (*Ibidem*) = actually
...e ***re*** *nata*-Terentius (*Ibidem*) = depending on the situation or as it resulted from the situation

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*...**rerum** divinarum et humanarum scientia* - Cicero (*Ibidem*) = knowledge of sacred and human things.
*Tempus edax **rerum*** - Ovidius=Time, the one that devours things (*Apud*, Varzari, E., Hanganu, A., Cosmescu, A, *op.cit*.: 131)
*Adaequatio **rei** et intellectus* - Summa Theologiae= Compliance of work with mind (*Apud* Matei, V., *op. cit.*: 8).
*Ad perpetuam **rei** memoriam*= For eternal remembrance. (*Ibidem:* 10)
*Adversae **res** admonet religionum* - Titus Livius= Misfortune makes one remember the gods. (*Ibidem:* 11)
*Adversarium impetus **rerum** vici fortes non vertit animum* - Seneca= The buffets of fortune do not discourage the brave man. (*Ibidem:* 11)
*Memento **rebus**...*- Horatius= Remember the circumstances (*Ibidem:* 12)
*Alius in aliis **rebus** est prestantior* - Publilius Syrus= Each is special in something else. (*Ibidem:* 17)
*Amicus certus in **re** incerta cernitur* - Cicero= A true friend is discerned during an uncertain matter. (*Ibidem:* 19)
*...**rerum** causa* - Seneca= the cause of things (*Ibidem:* 27)
*...Credula **res** amor est* - Ovidius= The easiest thing to believe is love. (*Ibidem:* 58)
*Crescere posse imperfectae **rei** signum est*-Seneca= the capacity to grow morally, is the sign of imperfection (*Ibidem:* 59). Here, *res* may be interpreted as human existence, rather human insecurity, but also as spirit, being, and so on.
*Dum licet in **rebus** iucundis vive beatus* - Horatius= As long as possible, one lives in pleasant circumstances. (*Ibidem:* 84)
***...res** ad omnia parata* - Seneca= ready for anything. (*Ibidem:* 73)
*...De omni **re** scibili* - Picco dela Mirandola= About all that can be known. (*Ibidem:* 70)
*Est modus in **rebus*** - Horatius= It is a measure in all. (*Ibidem:* 93)
*Eventus varios **res** nova semper habet*= Any new happening has its surprises. (*Ibidem:* 98)
*Ex **re** nomen habet* - Ovidius= Reputation is achieved by important facts (*Ibidem:* 104)
*Fortuna in omni **re** dominator* - Sallustius= luck reigns everywhere. (*Ibidem:* 115)
*Homo **res** sacra homini* - Seneca= Man is something sacred for man (*Ibidem:* 136)
*În **rebus** dubiis plurima est audacia* - Publilius Syrus= Under critical circumstances, boldness is greater. (*Ibidem:* 156)
*Ludit in humanis divina potentia **rebus**...*- Ovidius= Divine power plays with human things. (*Ibidem:* 179) We can substitute the expression *humanis rebus* by people.
*...in omni **re*** - Cicero= in any art. (*Ibidem:* 155)
*...**res** mortalium*= mortal things (*Ibidem:* 198)
*Magno animo de **rebus** magnis iudicandum est* - Seneca= We must judge important things with great discernment. (*Ibidem:* 184)
*Mors ultima linea **rerum** est* - Horatius= Death is the last frontier of things. (*Ibidem:* 204) Also in this context we can interpret ***res*** as life, human action, humanity.
*Omnia **rerum** principia parva sunt* - Cicero= The beginning of all things is small. (*Ibidem:* 269)
***Rem** tene, verba sequenter* - Cato Maior= It governs over the matter, the words come implicitly. (*Ibidem:* 343)
*...**rebus** angustis animosus atque fortis appare...*- Horatius= Show brave in distressing times. (*Ibidem:* 341)
*Sunt lacrimae **rerum*** - Vergilius= There are tears for our miseries (*Ibidem:* 381)

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De ***rerum*** *natura*-Lucretius= about the nature of things, where *res* means matter, primordial substance, and also spirit.
...rerum *primordia* - Lucretius=D. Murăraşu (*Cf.* Titus Lucretius Carus, 1981) suggested that this expression to be translated as atoms.
Semina ***rerum -*** Lucretius= seeds of things (also in the translation of D. Murăraşu) We can interpret *res* as the nucleus of atoms, if we refer to Lucretius' work.
Felix qui potuit ***rerum*** *cognoscere causas* – Horatius= Blessed is he who could ascend to the principles of things. (****Proverbe şi cugetări latine,* 1976: 45). (The translation belongs to the quoted authors)
Res *nulla concilio nocentior malo*= Nothing is more harmful than a bad advice. (*Ibidem*: 203) ***Res*** can be interpreted here also as a meaning or the middle of the action, which may be vitiated by a wrong urge.
Virtus omnibus ***rebus*** *anteit* - Plautus= Virtue is above all. (*Ibidem*: 232) *Res*, here, has the value of a feature, if we analyze it in relation to *virtus,* which is the apex of human features.
Rerum *actor*...- Augustinus= The creator of things (*Apud*, Munteanu, E., Munteanu, L.,-G., *op. cit*.: 262-263) We can interpret this phrase in terms of religion, God is the Creator of things, considering the religious significances of Augustine's work.
Res*publica Chistiana*= Christian community (*Ibidem*) *Respublica* here has the meaning of association and not of state.
Res *severa vera gaudium* - Seneca= True joy is a serious thing (*Ibidem*). *Res* can be interpreted here as a certain feeling.
Res *este magna tacere* - Martialis= Silence is golden. (*Ibidem*) Also, the word *res* falls into the sphere of morality, having here a meaning of wisdom, if we correlate this expression to another: *If you had been silent, you would have remained a philosopher.*
Res *cogitans*-Descartes= The thing that thinks (*Ibidem*) *Res* can be here the equivalent of man, being the thinking being.
The pun *Amore, more, ore,* ***re*** must not be left aside when presenting the meanings of *res*.

Conclusions

Res were used by Latin people to describe various notions which diversity is very high. By means of it there were expressed feelings, institutions, philosophical terms (we think here at Lucretius, who formed an entire philosophical terminology in Latin, using especially this word), legal terms in an overwhelming proportion, but also in the works of the Latin writers' *res* is very used in order to render various feelings or situations.

Res has, as seen in the lexicographical and lexical examples, various mentality values, very important, defining for the Latin collective mind dominated by pragmatism, action, energy, dominant spirit.

The legacy of *res*, as such, especially in legal expressions, demonstrates once more its polysemantic character, but also its power to express various notions, some complementary, others that oppose.

We consider that ***RES*** is the most conclusive expression of the Roman pragmatism, corresponding best with *pragma* of the ancient Greek language.

In Romance languages there were preserved several meanings of *res*, of which the most important is considered the one of *republic*, form of government inherited by many countries, not all Romance countries. The Romanian word „reification" is also

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considered to have the same importance (process by which social relations take the form of some relations between concrete objects, and man himself becomes a subject of social processes, their object, similar to a thing) (****Dicţionar explicativ al limbii române,* 1998: 910) corresponding with the French word „réification", emanating from *réifier* (to confer the character of a thing, to generalize, from the Latin word *res*...) (*** *Dictionnaire encyclopédique de la langue française LE MAXIDICO,* 1997: 942) and so on.

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