

GABRIELA DRĂGAN

Director General of the European Institute of Romania

2009 – A Year for Redefining the Institutional Identity

2009 is foreseen as a year of economic crisis management, at global, European, but also national level. Will it be a year of crisis for the EIR as well?

Challenging question ... 2009 seems to be a crossroads year for the EIR, a year of redefining our institutional identity. In 2009 we will try to reposition ourselves on the training services, research and translation market, by identifying both new beneficiaries and new means of obtaining the funds necessary for conducting our current activity. Obviously, we cannot ignore the fact that the effects of the economic crisis will be felt by the Romanian economy and by us as well. Unfortunately, we can already identify its first signs. What I wish for this year is for us to be able to diminish as much as possible these negative effects through an intelligent use of the possibilities legally at our disposal.

You have mentioned redefining and repositioning. Does this also mean a change in the fields of activity of the EIR in 2009?

In 2009, the key-fields of activity for the EIR will be the same as those identified starting with 2000, when, in fact, our activity began: research, training, communication and translation. At first glance, it seems that we are dealing with a true "project freezing". In fact, we had and still have to deal with a correct and immediate identification of the niche markets on which the EIR can efficiently conduct its activity. We should not forget that the EIR is the result of a Phare project, with EU financing. The project identified the fields in which Romania, candidate country at that time and accession country shortly after, had to take actions. Moreover, this "freezing" is just apparent, since we had a lot of redefining and repositioning moments depending on the concrete evolution of the relations between Romania and the EU.

Can you give us an example?

Certainly: the research activity. Thus, the initial studies series, known as PAIS (*Pre-Accession Impact Studies*), answered to all of the needs identified in the pre-accession period, mainly those generated by the conditions imposed during the accession process. After January 1st, 2007, the studies made by the EIR became SPOS studies (*Strategy and Policy Studies*). Their purpose was to answer Romania's needs in defining and protecting its own interests, as a Member State, in an enlarged European Union. Within this series, for instance, in 2008, four new studies have been conducted. Consequently, **the total number of EIR studies has reached 65**. Without going into details, it should be mentioned that the studies deal both with strategies and policies intended to support the European integration process, such as *Directions Regarding Romania's Energy Security* and

European Perspectives on Asylum and Migration, and with punctual matters, intended to internally enforce the European framework, in studies regarding *Milk Quota Impact upon the Romanian Farmers in the Common Agricultural Policy Context* and *Legal Regime of CJEC Preliminary Rulings and Their Impact upon the National Legal System*.



Which are the goals of the EIR team for 2009?

First of all, we want to maintain our status of institution capable of offering **quality "products"** in all of its fields of expertise (from studies and training programmes in the field of European Affairs, to translations and organization of events under the aegis of EIR).

Secondly, we wish to identify new means of diversifying our financial resources by accessing projects engaging community or national funds. Obviously, the true challenge for the EIR team is the adequate positioning in relation to this new expectation. This will require not only a precise "scanning" of the projects market in order to correctly identify potential projects and potential partners, but also, later on, an efficient and effective operational and financial implementation for the good management of funds drawn and the attainment of the objectives set.

Thirdly, we intend to enhance older as well as more recent **partnerships** with relevant actors on the Romanian or European market. For example, in the field of training, the partnership with the EIPA (European Institute of Public Administration) of Maastricht that began and ended in 2008 will be materialized in 2009 through a pilot – project which will include three specialized training sessions offered by the EIPA and the EIR in the field of European Affairs. In addition, the partnership with the High Council of the Judiciary is intended to support the initial training activity of future magistrates and the continuous training of magistrates in place, by facilitating the access to the case law of the Court of Justice of the European Communities and by translating and linguistically and legally revising the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights.

Fourthly and lastly, we want to achieve a **better, more efficient communication** by means of "classical" instruments, already applied successfully, such as conferences, debates, seminars and round tables, as well as by other means which remain unexplored yet, such as the present *Newsletter*, inaugurated through today's interview. Therefore, I take this opportunity to wish this new publication long life, filled with success and fulfilments!

EIR Agenda – March, 2009

Training in European Affairs

- General training programme in European Affairs
- The legal system of the European Union

March 23rd – 26th
March 30th – 31st

For registration and further details please access <http://www.ier.ro>

Romanian Journal of European Affairs

Romanian Journal of European Affairs is a publication that deals with a wide range of topics pertaining to the realm of European Affairs. Its articles focus on issues of significance in the EU today (institutional building, economic policies, energy, migration etc.), the effects of the European integration process on the new member states (with a particular focus on Romania), as well as the EU's relations with other global actors.



Issued on a quarterly basis by the European Institute of Romania, the journal has been largely distributed both in Romania and in universities and research centres across Europe and has also been included in various academic electronic databases.

We warmly welcome submission of papers or book reviews. The ideal length of an article (in English or French) is from 4,000 to 8,000 words, including a 200-word abstract in English and a very brief autobiographical note. Book reviews should be no longer than 2,000 words. All articles should be presented in Microsoft Office Word format, Times New Roman, 12, at 1.5 lines, and will be sent to the address rjea@ier.ro. Please send your contribution before February 1st, May 1st, August 1st and November 1st respectively.

For more information, please visit www.ier.ro/rjea or contact us at rjea@ier.ro.

EIR launches the call for working papers under the series: *Working Papers 2009*

The European Institute of Romania launches a new call for working papers under the *Working Papers 2009* series on relevant topics adapted to the current internal and European context.

Thus, the European Institute of Romania welcomes potential authors from various areas, including researchers from university centres and institutes of the Romanian Academy, who can contribute to the approach on various topics specific to the area of European integration. In this respect, the *Working Papers* series offers to all authors and researchers interested in the European issues the possibility to publish online working papers as part of the EIR series.

The *Working papers* series supports the exchange of scientifically supported ideas and facilitates the dissemination of information and opinions with a view to developing a Romanian approach to the European processes.

This call for working papers is valid throughout 2009.

Please contact us at: phone no. 021 314 26 96 (extension no. 120), email address: studii@ier.ro

For a Unified Romanian Terminology

As a result of the collaboration between the Translation Coordination Unit (TCU) from the EIR and the experts from ministries, agencies and the university milieu, a multilingual database has been created, including about 55,000 terminological entries, out of which 25,124 are validated. These entries have been extracted out of over 160,000 pages of Community *acquis* which cover the most various fields, from finance to fishery, agriculture, telecommunications, case-law etc.

The need for a unified terminology in the Romanian texts published in the EU Official Journal is stated by the fundamental principles of terminology as a science and a research field, and also required by the practical aspect of quick access to a database such as IATE (Inter Active Terminology for Europe). This unique and multilingual terminology EU database, having an inter-institutional and interactive character has been launched on June 28th, 2007 and allows free access to the public.

At the same time, the unified Romanian terminology is a legislation requirement, all the more so as we are confronted with synonymy and the indecision between adapting terms from French (according to the traditional cultural pattern) or from English (far more preferred nowadays).

The first step has been done. On November 20th, 2008, under the exchange of letters from September 2008, the European Institute of Romania transferred to the Directorate-General for Translation (DGT) of the European Commission 25,013 validated terminology entries, in order to be included into IATE. Periodically, new validated terminology entries will be transferred to DGT, thus contributing to unify Romanian terminology.

The second step is a desideratum several times expressed by the TCU team, namely the establishment of a National Centre for Romanian Terminology, in order to capitalize the accumulated experience, the glossaries published, the experts network without which the terminology research would not have accomplished a fundamental requirement, namely the pragmatic character of the actual use of terms in each field.

Mariana Bara, PhD
TCU

With Nabucco, it's all about blues, not opera



Source: http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/photo/index_en.cfm

Leaders of various states involved in the Nabucco gas pipeline project met at the end of January in Budapest against the backdrop of the recent gas dispute between Russia and the Ukraine, an episode that propelled once more the issues of new transit routes and supply diversification high on the European agenda. It is very probable that Budapest was not the host of the event by chance: Hungary is just one of the countries that announced support for both Nabucco and competitor project South Stream, and the EU may need to regain as many supporters as possible if it wants to push the project through.

The Nabucco pipeline, spearhead of a European plan to reduce dependency on Russian gas, will connect Turkey to Austria via Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary and is planned to become operational in 2013. What seems to be stalling the project is the insufficient European political will that comes as an effect of the fact that the various EU member states have different dependency rates on Russian gas (as well as a number of other interests) which in turn affects their perception upon the urgency of the project. The recent episode in the gas saga demonstrated though that energy supply is a matter of European security and that the EU dependency on Russian gas only makes for an increased European vulnerability on the international stage.

The conclusions of the Budapest Summit added a new concern to the materialization of Nabucco. Funds directed from the Commission to the European Investment Bank will help EIB to obtain loans for the construction of the pipeline but this will only cover a fraction of what is needed. This is a valid logic since the project belongs to a consortium of energy companies (among which Transgaz of

Romania) and from this point of view it is essentially a commercial undertaking, as underlined by Commission representatives. However, if it comes to failure, a flame-out of the Nabucco project might be interpreted as a bad omen in the quest for a European energy policy.

The previous concern about Nabucco was, and still is, where to get the gas for the pipeline from. In the attempt to get gas flowing from other suppliers but Russia, the Summit in Budapest had as guests representatives of gas-producing countries from the Caspian Sea region. In spite of the positive signals received from the potential suppliers, Europe must be wary of Moscow's continuous attempts to woo the former Soviet republics which have important gas reserves into signing gas deals with Russia. Present at the World Economic Forum in Davos, the president of Azerbaijan – the country credited as the most likely candidate to get gas flowing through Nabucco, Ilham Aliyev, warned that there are still several challenges to be overcome with respect to this project, challenges among which he mentioned political will and financial commitments.

Currently, Nabucco seems to be only the first runner-up, after South Stream, in a competition over European energy security. In the mean time, perhaps some other tune than the Nabucco blues will be heard at a follow-up of the Summit in Budapest due to take place in May in the Czech Republic.

Iulia Serafimescu
European Studies and Analysis

Cultural diversity remains an essential value in defining the European spirit

The first EIR event this year is part of the *Romania-France: together in Europe* series of conferences developed in partnership with the Embassy of France in Romania with the purpose of drawing a French-Romanian perspective on the challenges of Romania's integration into the European Union. Mr. **Jean Musitelli**, State Counselor, former Ambassador, France's permanent delegate to UNESCO, held a conference on January 20th, with the participation of His Excellence Mr. **Henri Paul**, the Ambassador of the Republic of France to Romania and of Mr. **Virgil Ștefan Nițulescu**, Secretary General in the Ministry of Culture, Religious Denominations and National Cultural Heritage. The host of the event was Mrs. **Gabriela Drăgan**, Director General of the European Institute of Romania.

One of the conclusions of the debate is that the cultural diversity, subject to enormous pressure because of the evolution of the digital technology and the globalization, must be protected, as it constitutes a fundamental element of the European construction. The digital revolution had dramatically affected the cultural diversity. The new actors, who act as mediators between authors and public are risking to limit the contact between them. The digitalizations of the cultural works as well as the lack of attractiveness of the legal offers are thus encouraging piracy. This does not only cause economic damage (by reducing the revenue of the author), but also cultural damage - the focus is on works with a commercial character, which are likely to bring in revenues.

The globalization has led to a significant decrease of the cultural diversity. We witness the concentration of the production within a

small number of large companies. At the same time, the liberalization of the cultural exchange has led to a series of positive effects, but also to asymmetric cultural exchanges to the disadvantage of less developed states.



© Embassy of France in Romania

An increasingly pressing issue is that of protecting cultural diversity from the danger of piracy. The European Union's action thus becomes all the more important as the necessity of a global solution appears to become a priority.

For the complete summary of the event, as well as for Mr. Musitelli's speech please visit: www.ier.ro/site/index.php/site/arhiva_evenimente

Mihai Sebe

European Studies and Analysis

The European Institute of Romania Has a New Administrative Board

At the end of 2008, the Government has appointed the new Administrative Board in charge of coordinating the EIR's activity. The Board is made up of nine members appointed under Article 8 of the Government Ordinance no 15/1998, as subsequently amended.

The President of the Board is Mr. **Florin Pogonaru**. The Members of the Board are: Mr. **Lucian Croitoru**, Mrs. **Smaranda Enache**, Mr. **Emil Hurezeanu**, **Răzvan Theodorescu**, Academy Member (appointed by the Prime Minister), **Florin Filip**, Academy Member (representative of the Romanian Academy), Mr. **Costel Olteanu** (representative of the national employers' organizations), Mr. **Gheorghe Simion** (representative of the national trades unions'

confederations) and a representative of the Commission for European Affairs of the Romanian Parliament.

The Director General, assisted by the Scientific Advisory Board, manages the Institute.

The **Scientific Advisory Board (SAB)** of the EIR is made up of nine members, at the most, appointed by the Director General for a term of four years. The members of the CSB are prominent public figures with vast professional experience in the fields they represent.

At present, the SAB is made up of the following members: **Florin Bonciu**, PhD, Professor, Ambassador **Lăzăr Comănescu**, **Olimpiu Crauciuc**, PhD, Professor, **Valentin Lazea**, PhD, **Octavian Manolache**, PhD Associated Professor, **Dumitru Miron**, PhD, Professor, **Constantin Gurgu Munteanu**, PhD Professor, **Liviu Mureșan**, PhD, **Gheorghe Zaman**, Academy Member.

Editor-in-Chief: Mădălina - Paula Barbu

Editors: Alina Arhire, Mariana Bara, Iulia Serafimescu

Copy Editor: Loredana Iordănoiu

Graphics: Monica Dumitrescu

English version: Mihaela Papa, Diana Popa, Oana Gherăsoiu - Roșu

*The texts published in this Newsletter express the authors' opinion and do not represent the official position of the European Institute of Romania or of the editors.

ISSN 2065 - 457X

In order to receive future issues of the EIR Newsletter, you can subscribe, from February 25th, by accessing the following link: www.ier.ro/index.php/site/form_newsletter.



European Institute of Romania

7-9, Regina Elisabeta Bvd., RO - 030016, Bucharest, Romania

Phone: (+4021) 314 26 96 / Fax: (+4021) 314 26 66

Contact: newsletter@ier.ro

Web: www.ier.ro