

FLORIN POGONARU

Chairman of EIR's Administrative Board:

The option for European money can be realistic only in a co-operation based environment

One of the solutions identified in Romania in order to overcome the current economic crisis is accessing European funding. How realistic do you believe this option is in the context of the controversies on the administrative capacity of absorbing these funds?



The business environment is currently redefining its models, going from speculative models based on short and medium term risk acceptance, towards models in which the cash flow is determinant. In this context, ensuring a liquid demand in conditions of crisis can be achieved only to the extent that the source of liquidity is European money. I think that the option for European money can be realistic only if an

environment based on co-operation, as far as accessing European funding is concerned, will substitute the present environment based on suspicion. For instance, Romania is the only country in which the Agencies for Regional Development (ARDs) are not allowed to contact those who have submitted projects.

This situation has led to the rejection of all four submitted projects for the first call, in the financing line of energy saving. In three of the cases, the applicants could not be announced that a document, which they could easily provide, was missing. Also, as long as the civil servants are not stimulated with clear quotas of the value of the financed projects, there must be no illusion about an environment of co-operation in accessing European funding. Spain has one of the highest absorption rates. The secret of this success lies precisely in the manner in which it knew how to offer incentives to civil servants. We have to adopt a similar model, which stimulates the ones who are competent and involved.

What do you think of the measures taken at European level to counter the effects of the financial crisis? In this context, could you share with us some of the measures adopted by the business environment in Romania in order to fight these effects?

The way in which the effects of the crisis are countered by the European developed countries is different from how we must approach things in Romania. The Romanian economy is a „taker“ of effects and thus, it is bound to act like one. Our reactions of

stimulating consumption must take place at the moment in which the European markets show the first signs of recovery from crisis. The priority now is to ensure exchange rate stability. It is too bad that we took so long to mobilize in this field, in order to apply for foreign financing. The price we are paying today is the devaluation of the national currency and the exchange risks that still exist, but also the extremely high interest rates that the SMEs in the first place have to pay in order to obtain financing. It is an illusion to believe that the Romanian SMEs can hold on when the credit costs vary between 20 and 25%.

Rebuilding trust between partners in the business environment was one of the directions of the Businessmen's Association of Romania. In this respect, we advocated the introduction of the counter-guarantee fund and of the capitalization of the guarantee funds for the credits given by the banks to the SMEs. Ensuring liquidity in the system by the means of a coordinated action at the European level is another priority for the business environment. I think that the major problem that we have is the poor reaction speed of the Government and of the National Bank in finding solutions in crisis situations.

We always leave the impression that we do not define our interests quickly enough and we are not proactive, but in a state of permanent defensive as regards the propositions others put forward.

In a year marked by the effects of the financial crisis, the legal framework fundamenting EIR's functioning was recently modified so as the services provided are more numerous and the opening towards the market is broader. What is your perspective regarding the new types of partnerships that EIR can establish (both from your position as Chairman of EIR's Administrative Board and as President of the Businessmen's Association of Romania)?

I believe that the value of each institution is given by the value and the synergies that take place between the people who work in that institution. The EIR value was confirmed in time both by the fact that EIR is a powerful brand, and that it had a real contribution in Romania's European integration process. For the next period, if we want EIR to continue to live up to the level of the brand that it created, we must consider stimulating those who work for EIR. I come from the business environment and I know that this cannot be achieved by salary reductions. On the other hand, I understand the budgetary constraints and the fact that the revenues of EIR's employees have to come from self-financed activities of the Institute. Thus, I have given the two dimensions of the partnerships: maintaining the role EIR plays in the process of European integration and ensuring the position of EIR employees in accordance with this objective.

EIR Agenda - March, 2009

Communication on European Issues

- **Conference:**
How Efficient Can Communication on Structural Funds Be?

26th March

Training in European Affairs

- **General Training Programme in European Affairs**
- **The Legal System of the European Union**

23rd – 26th March

30th – 31st March

TCU Publications: EU Case-Law Glossary

From the *Community Acquis Series*, edited by the Translation Coordination Unit (TCU) of the EIR and dedicated to the translation of the *Community acquis* into the Romanian language, we present you the **Legal Glossary**, published in 2007. This comprises the work of terminological research and translation of the Community case-law into the Romanian language.



On January 1st 2007, Romania became a Member State of the European Union, thus the *Community acquis*, directly applicable in our country from this date, had to be translated into Romanian. The Community case-law, an integral part of the *Community acquis*, responsible for ensuring the legality of the Community acts, the uniform interpretation and application of the Community law, requires a special attention both from the Romanian courts, which have to comply with and apply the principles established through it, and the Romanian citizens, in general, who are now subjects of the Community law.

The idea of publishing a **Legal Glossary** arose from the need to meet the quality standards and to comply with the principle of terminological consistency in the translation of the historical case-law, given its significant volume, as well as of the legal texts in general. The glossary includes 456 concepts presented in French, English and Romanian. With a view to establishing a series of conventions as to the consistent translation of commonly occurring terms and phrases of the historical case-law, considerable attention has been paid to both the terms, which designate usual concepts, or terms, that are difficult to translate, and several recurrent phrases. Although the glossary is the result of the activity of translating the Community case-law, the terms are generally specific to the legal language. Therefore, we believe that the solutions suggested can be adequately used in other contexts, in the actual translation activity.

We hope that you will find this glossary useful, please find the .pdf version available on the website <http://www.ier.ro>, in the section **EIR publications/Translation Coordination**.

TCU

EIR for RCO Updating

At the end of 2008, the EIR started the necessary procedure for including three new occupations: **Terminologist, Linguistic Reviser and Legal Reviser**, in the **Romanian Classification of Occupations (RCO)** and in the Classification of Activities of National Economy (CANE).

The update of the RCO is carried out pursuant to the Order no. 270 of June 12th 2002 concerning the approval of the **Procedure for updating the nomenclature of the Romanian Classification of Occupations**. These requests are to be approved by the Ministry of Labor, Family and Social Protection, along with the National Institute of Statistics.

To this purpose, a research was conducted for establishing the name of the occupations, proposed to be included in the RCO, the level of education required for practicing each profession, the corresponding code for each of the new occupations (a six digit code). The memo describes the general context of the Romanian economy, the different tendencies of the Romanian labour market, the need for training as well as the evolution of these occupations at national and international levels.

Considering the common interest for training and having a work force adapted to the current market, the EIR has contacted a series of institutions and professional associations such as: the Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest, the Faculty of International Business and Economics (the Department of Romance Languages and Business Communication and the Department of Germanic Languages and Business Communication) and the Faculty of Accounting and Management Information Systems (the Department of Law); the Romanian Academy; the Institute of Linguistics "Iorgu Iordan – Al. Rosetti"; the Romanian Translators Association, the National Union of Public Notaries in Romania, universities from Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Iași, Sibiu, Timișoara, etc.

In the following issues we are going to present the new occupations proposed by the EIR: Terminologist, Linguistic Reviser, Legal Reviser – present-day occupations with a good potential of development on the Romanian labour market.

If you wish to support the EIR initiative, we welcome your opinion at fax no. 021 314 26 66.

Mariana Bara, PhD

TCU

A conference for a safer world



Foto: Sebastian Zwez © <http://www.securityconference.de>

In October 1962, the Soviet-sponsored ballistic missiles sites being constructed in Cuba were discovered by U.S. Airforce reconnaissance flights. That was one of the hottest episodes of the Cold War and those were the security concerns of the age, an age in which international relations were shaped in a very different way. That was also the year of the first Conference on Security Policy in Munich, which took place in a bipolar world imbued by concepts such as *containment*, *détente* and *Realpolitik*.

Today, the 45th Security Conference taking place in Munich revealed a different set of security concerns and challenges for world leaders committed to making the world a safer place.

Europeans go multilateral

In the realm of security but not only, the European drive is towards a so-called "effective multilateralism" advocated as early as 2003 in the basic European strategy document, *A Secure Europe in a Better World*. The report on the implementation of this security strategy, issued in late 2008, speaks again about multilateralism and argues that the global challenges and key threats to security today cannot be tackled by any of the international actors alone.

When Europeans say *multilateralism*, they are mainly addressing Washington. This is because, at least at the rhetorical level, everybody in Europe calls for a redefinition of the transatlantic ties to the extent that the transatlantic relationship needs to be more European and lose some of the British bias. Again, when Europeans say *multilateralism*, they are addressing the new emerging powers in the global arena. The European view is that these new powers need to be ensured proper representation in global institutions that deal with global challenges, so that the actions of those institutions themselves become more legitimate.

Beyond rhetoric though, several issues are driving a wedge through the European block, as the opinions of the European leaders present in Munich for the 45th Security Conference made clear.

The new Franco-German perspective on NATO relates to the European concept of defence arguing that the two have to be complementary, and implies that we can no longer speak about NATO supereminence as far as European security is concerned. In the words of French President Nicolas Sarkozy, "it's Defence Europe and NATO, not Defence Europe or NATO". This view seems rather

disturbing for the EU member states in Central Europe, since they favour a more traditional approach on European security, i.e. a strong NATO in defence of its Eastern border. Still on the Eastern border topic, member states like Poland and the Czech Republic continue to argue for a tougher stance on Russia, calling the US missile defence system in Europe a good idea. Several significant others, such as Germany, advocated at the conference the need to integrate Russia in any future security architecture (while opposing Ukraine and Georgia's bid for a NATO Membership Action Plan), while the ESDP High Representative Javier Solana spoke about the need to defeat the "general atmosphere of mistrust" regarding Russia's intentions.

Afghanistan goes first for the United States

The Munich Security Conference allowed a glimpse at the new American administration's foreign policy and confirmed that the top security priority for the US is Afghanistan. Acknowledging that today's global threats "have no respect for borders", American Vice President Biden explicitly addressed US partners: "Our security is shared. And so, too, I respectfully suggest, is our responsibility to defend it".

The plea to share the responsibilities of global security may sound appealing to the Europeans, inasmuch as it seems to fit their concept of multilateralism, but it may prove difficult to embrace: at a time of deep economic troubles, the European states will have to spend more for the Alliance, send in more troops, learn to military address counter-insurgency and share all the existent risks with the US.

Going to the NATO Summit

The next round of discussions regarding the European security architecture will probably take place in the framework of the NATO Summit in April, jointly hosted by France and Germany. Depending on the answer given by the European states to the Afghanistan commitment test, tomorrow's security concept might be at stake: the security threats of a globalized world leave no place for a Cold War – oriented NATO.

Iulia Serafimescu

European Studies and Analysis

Training in European Affairs programmes - March

The General Training Programme in European Affairs, at first organized under Phare guidance and benefitting from the expertise of foreign specialists, has become the "traditional" training programme for the European Institute of Romania. In 2009 the fifth edition will take place during three training sessions, the first one being planned for the period **March 23rd–26th**, while the other two will be announced in the 2nd semester.



The distinct feature of the programme is the purpose of offering an overall image on European matters by presenting the Community institutions, the main fields of European integration and the major Community policies. With a general approach, the programme is recommended to persons with a limited level of knowledge in the domain of European Affairs or to those who want to complete their image about the framework of the European construction.

Until recently, most course participants were members of the central or local public administration, but the programme is now open to other categories of public interested in an initiation in European matters: experts from the private or NGO sector, who feel the need to understand the European framework in which they develop their activity, but also members of the academic world interested in knowing the main coordinates in the field of EU Affairs in a short, but intense training session.

The programme is structured in modules which combine training methods such as presentation, debates and exercises. **The main themes discussed during the four days of training are:** EU institutions and decision-making processes, the EU legal system, Justice and Home Affairs, Environmental Policy, social and occupational policies, Internal Market, Economic and Monetary Union, EU budget.

The team of trainers is made up of Romanian specialists, honorable members of the academic milieu, and also independent experts with a solid background in European Affairs accumulated in Romania and in other countries, but also with a rich experience in the professional training of adults and the methods it entails.

The Legal System of the European Union is a specialized programme introduced in the training offer of the EIR in 2008. It is based on the results of the training needs' assessment within the central administration developed at the end of 2007. For the current year two sessions have been planned, the first one taking place in the period **March 30th-31st**.

Gaining familiarity with the legal order of the European Union as well as understanding the *Community acquis* are themes of interest for public servants involved in the development of Community law, but also for specialists from the private environment interested in the implementation of European legislation and in understanding its implications.

If the General Training Programme in European Affairs has an introductory character, the specificity of the Legal System of the European Union programme lies in the fact that it offers a course adapted to persons who possess at least minimal knowledge in European Affairs.

During the training programme, the European legislative ensemble is presented in the international law framework, without ignoring its connections to the national law. **The course modules are structured on the following themes:** domestic law, international law, community law; EU institutions and their legal documents; the intensity of sources in community legislation; the *Community acquis*; the influence of the European jurisdiction over the legal system of the EU.

The modules are lectured by PhD Simina-Elena Tănăsescu, professor at the University of Bucharest – Faculty of Law, noted scholar in constitutional and Community law, with a vast academic and training experience in Romania, but also in countries such as Switzerland and Germany. The methods used include lecturing, and commenting on legal texts and case-law, in order to stimulate interactivity and to facilitate the learning process.

For further details about the current training offer of the EIR, please access <http://www.ier.ro>. When the content, timetable and tariffs of other programmes have been established, the offer will be updated on the website.

Alina Arhire

Training in European Affairs

Editor-in-Chief: Mădălina Paula Barbu
Editors: Alina Arhire, Mariana Bara, Iulia Serafimescu
Copy Editor: Loredana Iordănoiu
Graphics: Monica Dumitrescu
English version: Diana Popa, Mihai Sebe

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European Institute of Romania

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

Phone: (+4021) 314 26 96/ 133 Fax: (+4021) 314 26 66

Contact: newsletter@ier.ro

Web: www.ier.ro