



EIR newsletter

Year III, no. 28 - April 2011

analysis | opinion _____

in this issue _____

9 MAY – EUROPE DAY



The Schuman Declaration of 9 May 1950 represents a governmental proposal of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs **Robert Schuman** concerning the creation of a new organisation structure of the European states. Following the experience of the two World Wars and the failure to maintain peace in Europe in this period, France has reached the conclusion that it was necessary to create a superstructure with the role of ensuring peace on the continent. To this end it has been created a technically defined community, namely

a Common High Authority in charge of the coal and steel productions. This will lead to a peaceful reorganisation of Europe after the war and one of the direct consequences has been the creation of the European Coal and Steel Community.

A number of factors, both economic and political, have been at the origin of the Declaration, that would favour a strengthened cooperation:

a) economic factors: in the difficult economic conditions after the Second World War, France needed the coal resources in the Ruhr area in order to meet the demands of the metallurgic industry.

b) political factors: The Schuman Declaration aimed at integrating Germany in a permanent European structure seen as the best way to prevent the transformation of Germany into a threat for its neighbours and, at the same time, to guarantee peace in Europe. The wish of the ... p. 2

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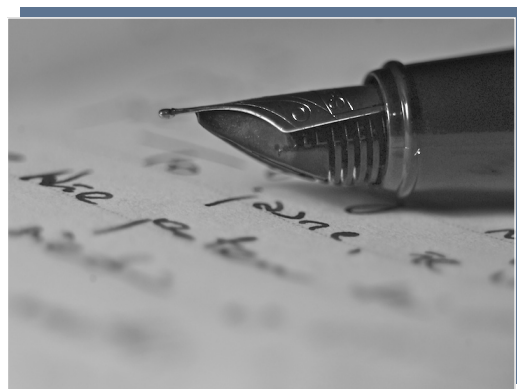
in focus _____

Trilateral cooperation protocol agreed by EIR, MFA and SCM

The European Institute of Romania (EIR), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and the Superior Council of Magistracy (SCM) signed the Trilateral Cooperation Protocol on 6 April 2011.

The goal of this protocol is to create a common database containing the Romanian translation and linguistic revision of the European Court of Human Rights case law in order to facilitate the access of magistrates and of all the persons concerned to the ECHR case law. This common database will be published on the official websites of EIR, MFA and SCM as well as on “Monitorul Oficial al României”

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... United States of America to see Western Europe rebuild has been added to all these and, for this purpose, the USA, faced with a Great Britain reluctant to be involved in a supranational construction¹, have supported France in adopting decisive measures.

At European level there were already a number of initiatives meant to create a supranational structure. Thus, in his speech delivered at Zürich on 19 September 1946, Winston Churchill proposed the creation of the United States of Europe and was talking about the creation of a France-Germany partnership as the first step of such a construction². A similar idea has been encountered in the speeches of Robert Schuman before the United Nations, speeches in which he has announced the necessity of integrating Germany in Europe³.

The first versions of the Declaration have been drawn up during April – May 1950 and there were 9 versions of this document. A number of key elements were aimed at, such as:

- it was the starting point of a new era, with a new entity: Europe;
- it was intended to offer a basis for world peace;
- the law was to replace war within the new community of states;
- the newly created community was to be opened to all the Member States;
- the production was to be offered to the entire world;
- the war among the Member States was about to become materially impossible;
- Europe was to be transformed following a gradual construction process;
- it was aimed at improving the world economy and helping the developing countries especially the African countries⁴.

In his declaration to the international press, Schuman suggested that this apparently technical construction would have important consequences not only over the European democracies but over the entire world, including the Eastern European countries controlled by the soviet power: “The pooling of coal and steel production should immediately provide for the setting up of common foundations for economic development

as a first step in the federation of Europe, and will change the destinies of those regions which have long been devoted to the manufacture of munitions of war, of which they have been the most constant victims.”⁵

The immediate result of this initiative was the founding of the European Coal and Steel Community (one of the two communities that preceded the current European Union), by six European states, on 18 April 1951.

The declaration⁶ is seen as one of the main founding events of the European Union and thus, in the year 1985, it was decided to celebrate Europe Day on 9 May in the memory of the Schuman Declaration.

The same day - other events in history

9 May 1945 – ratification, at Berlin – Karlshorst, of Germany’s unconditional surrender (8 May, Reims, France), signed by Marshal Gheorghii Jukov, representative of the Soviet Union, Marshal of the RAF Arthur William Tedder, Deputy Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force, and General Carl Spaatz, Commander of the US Strategic Air Force, as representatives of the western allies. For Germany, the document was signed by Colonel General Hans-Jürgen Stumpff, as representative of Luftwaffe, Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, as head of Oberkommando der Wehrmacht and Admiral Hans-Georg von Friedeburg as Commander-in-chief of Kriegsmarine.

9 May 1877 – the Independence Day of Romania, date when Mihail Kogălniceanu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of His Highness Carol I, declared in the Parliament that Romania was at war with Turkey and that, in fact, it was independent. Officially adopted by the Parliament and enacted by Carol I on 10 May, the Declaration of Independence was published in the Official Gazette and the day of 10 May was declared the Independence Day. Until the communism came to power, the celebration date was 10 May, in the same day with “King’s Day”. Since 1975, the Independence Day has been celebrated on 9 May.

Mihai Sebe

in focus

... Besides the translation and revision of the ECHR judgements, the cooperation between the signatory parties will aim at two more aspects. On one hand, it will be centred on the creation, publication and distribution to the magistrates and other persons concerned of reports, synthesis and other information documents concerning the European Court of Human Rights case law and, on the other hand, it will take into consideration the organisation of round tables, debates and conferences on this topic in order to increase the information degree of the persons concerned about the judgments of the Court.

The cooperation protocol has been signed by: **Carmen Ciuta**, Government Agent for the ECHR (as representative of the MFA), **Gabriela Drăgan**, Director General (as representative of the EIR) and Judge **Horațiu Dumbravă**, President of the Council (as representative of the SCM).

Adina Grigoriou

¹ <http://www.ena.lu/> (last consulted on 20 April 2011).

² http://www.ena.lu/address_given_winston_churchill_zurich_19_september_1946-2-794 (last consulted on 20 April 2011).

³ <http://www.schuman.info/UN4849.htm> (last consulted on 20 April 2011).

⁴ <http://www.schuman.info/proppurp.htm> (last consulted on 20 April 2011).

⁵ http://europa.eu/abc/symbols/9-may/decl_ro.htm (last consulted on 20 April 2011).

⁶ The full text of the Declaration is available at http://europa.eu/abc/symbols/9-may/euday_ro.htm

Green economic growth – premise for sustainable development



The conference organized by the EIR and the Ministry of Environment and Forests took place on 19 April 2011 at the Intercontinental Hotel.

The opening session contained the speeches of **László Borbély**, Minister of Environment and Forests, Chairman-in-office of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, CSD 19), **Bogdan Mănoiu**, Minister, Head of Department for European Affairs (DEA), **Eugen Curteanu**, State Secretary, Ministry of Regional Development and Tourism (MDRT), **Niculae Idu**, Head of the Representation of the European Commission in Romania and Prof. **Gabriela Drăgan**, Phd., Director General of the EIR.

The key concepts of the conference, the green economic growth and sustainable development, were specified by **Gabriela Drăgan**, who underlined the importance of the current Romanian presidency of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development. Further on, Minister **Bogdan Mănoiu** referred to the objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy, translated into national targets and sectoral programmes, underlining that the seven initiatives of the Strategy draw the legislative framework for an efficient use of resources, inclusively through the reduction of the energetic consumption of buildings, the green economic growth being conditioned by innovation. From the European Commission’s perspective, **Niculae Idu** enumerated some of the recent environment challenges, which need an immediate answer and an unprecedented mobilization. Mr Idu drew the attention upon the problems generated by the climate changes and upon the demographic consequences, water resources etc.

Eugen Curteanu referred to the measures adopted by MDRT within the problem of the energy-intensive buildings, like the activities for the certification of energy auditors, the buildings’ thermal rehabilitation programme etc.

As chairman of CSD 19, Minister **László Borbély** underlined the importance of the research development on issues related to the environment and stated the five themes of the future Rio conference (mining, chemicals, transports, waste and sustainable products). The fact that the decision will have to be taken through consensus raises a capital question, to wit whether the world states will wish to change the development paradigm, from consumption to sustainable development.



The section dedicated to interventions was moderated by **Dragoş Pîslaru**, Manager General, GEA Strategy and Consulting SA. **Viorel Dobrescu**, Director, DEA, presented the correlations between the Europe 2020 Strategy and NRP. The guest indicated that the emblematic initiatives proposed at the European level are meant to facilitate the reach of the national reform objectives and mentioned the inclusion of the Euro Plus Pact within NRP.



The coordinators of two of the studies drawn up under the aegis of the EIR, within the SPOS 2010 project, presented the researches’ results. Thus, Prof. **Emilian M. Dobrescu**¹ PhD, scientific secretary of the Section for economic, legal and sociological sciences of the Romanian Academy, circumscribed the Danube Strategy among the “green” strategies on sustainable development. This one must be implemented without setting up new institutions, without creating new funds, without amendments of the legislation in force. **Ene Dinga**², Deputy Director General of the Romanian Bank Institute, characterized the current development paradigm (depletion of natural resources and deterioration of natural environment, appearance of a non-political hegemony, generated by the economic sphere, autonomization of consumption and depreciation of human condition) and explained the philosophy of sustainability (based on principles like intelligent growth, sustainable growth, inclusive).

There followed a session of questions and comments addressed by the present public.

At the end, **Gabriela Drăgan** highlighted the role of the SPOS studies in the substantiation of policies and public strategies, expressing the wish that EIR consolidates its role of intermediary between the academic environment, decision-makers and civil society.

Mariana Bara

¹ Study “Romania and the European Union strategy for the Danube Region. Process, implementation and priorities”.

² Study “New European Strategy for economic growth and employment (Europe 2020): objectives, instruments to monitor implementation, institutional resources, implementation recommendations”.

Round table at EIR: Guidelines for a New Industrial Policy in Romania

On 28 April 2011 EIR organized in the conference room an event in order to disseminate the results of the study “The competitive potential of the economic growth: guidelines for a new industrial policy in Romania“, carried out within the SPOS 2010 project.

In the opening speech, Prof. **Gabriela Drăgan**, PhD., Director General, European Institute of Romania, briefly presented the series of the PAIS and SPOS studies drawn up under the aegis of the EIR. Mrs Drăgan specified the theme for debate, the relation between the development paradigms and the context of the current crisis and also formulated the essential questions at which the study has tried to answer.

The speech of **Christiana Leucuța**, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Business Environment (MECMA), contained appreciations about the study and suggestions for future studies to extend the analysis of the economic agglomerations to other regions of Romania. The guest presented the perspective of the European Commission and of MECMA concerning the role of the agglomerations (clusters) in the economic circuit. In her presentation, Mrs Leucuța mentioned the Commission’s communications about the economic growth and innovation, the Europe 2020 Strategy and the current role of the trans-regional and trans-national networks in the economic growth.

Three of the study’s authors participated with interventions. Thus, Prof. **Valentin Cojanu**, PhD (Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest; coordinator) explained the scientific approach, method, results and problems encountered during research. Mrs Cojanu underlined that the study’s results indicate the approach from three perspectives: national, regional and sectoral. The guest also drew the attention upon the fact that a very low percentage from the territory of Romania is effectively engaged in the economic circuit of the country.

From the geographer’s perspective, Prof. **Ileana Pătru-Stupariu**, PhD (Faculty of Geography, University of Bucharest) underlined the importance of the unconventional resources of energy (solar, geothermal, wind) for the territorial development, in this case for the North-East region. Because the region has



a valuable insufficiently exploited potential of resources, a strategy aiming at the green economy and ecological agriculture is necessary.

Dragoș Pîslaru (Manager General GEA Strategy & Consulting SA) specified a series of findings concerning the characteristics of the domestic capital and the need of continuity in the field of policies. The guest underlined the problem of the insufficiency of the official data necessary for the drawing up of some policies’ studies and analyses.

The round table moderator, **Agnes Nicolescu** (expert EIR) underlined the merits of the study, as well as the correlation between clusters and infrastructure. The event ended with interventions from the public on themes concerning the competitiveness, the industrial development strategy, the communication between the academic environment and the political decision-makers, the defence industry and innovation, etc. Underlining the research role in the concepts clarification, **Gabriela Drăgan** also highlighted the importance of such a rigorous explained study, an useful work instrument for the authorities with attributions in the field.

The study may be consulted online within the section Publications at www.ier.ro or may be purchased from the EIR premises.

Mariana Bara

EIR event calendar — May 2011



18 May 2011 Debate: *Treaty of Lisbon: implications upon the Romanian institutions and policies*

23 May 2011 Conference from the series Romania – France: Together in Europe – *Équilibre des finances publiques locales et décentralisation dans l’Union européenne*

APRIL – ENERGY MONTH

In the European Union (EU), this April was a month dedicated to energy issue events. A number of events organized in various Member States brought into discussion significant problems, such as energy security or energy efficiency.

An International Conference on Energy Security took place on 29 April 2011, in Pécs, Hungary, dedicated to the manner in which the EU energy policy can ensure security of supply and how the external dimension of EU energy policy can be strengthened. An expert panel on energy cooperation and a workshop on enhancing the instruments for energy cooperation were also organized.

At the same time, between 11 and 15 April 2011, hundreds of events were organised in all parts of Europe, to celebrate the EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW), for a more sustainable energy future. Furthermore, Bulgaria has been the meeting point of state and business representatives from South-East Europe involved in energy efficiency and renewable energy. They joined the 7th Congress and Exhibition on EE & RES, held in Sofia, between 13 - 15 April.

This kind of events came at an ideal time, taking into consideration the contextual facts, in as far as the European Commission's public consultation on the external dimension of EU energy policy and the Communication on the subject are expected later this year. The creation of a single European energy market and the elimination of external energy dependency are priorities for the Hungarian EU Presidency. Important energy implications of crisis situations in the southern Mediterranean and Japan can also be noticed. Ongoing discussions on pipeline solutions for EU gas and oil supply are taking place.

All the efforts made by EU institutions address the same problem: major energy challenges facing us today, such as climate change, our increasing dependence on imports, the strain on energy resources and access for all users to affordable, secure energy. Over the next decade, energy investments in the order of €1 billion are needed, both to diversify existing resources and replace ageing infrastructures and to integrate growing amounts of renewable energy .

In order to deal with energy issues, the European Commission adopted on 10 November 2010 a communication¹ on energy by 2020, in fact a strategy for competitive, sustainable and secure energy, defining the priorities for the next ten years: to cut annual consumption of primary energy in the EU by 20% by 2020.

A well-established strategy related to energy issues is not futile. The European Union has the world's largest regional energy market – 500 million people and 20 million companies – and accounts for one-fifth of the world's energy use. Today, more than 50% of the EU's energy comes from countries outside the Union – and the percentage is growing. The need to ensure energy security was highlighted when Russia stopped the flow of gas into the Ukraine in 2006 and into Belarus in 2007. Both countries act as transit states for many European countries, so these acts led to supply crises.

We must emphasise that energy consumption and dependency on oil and gas imports are growing, while resources become scarcer. The European energy supplies need to be secured, by promoting energy efficiency and the use of mixed energy sources. The energy policy also aims at diversity in suppliers, transport routes and transport mechanisms.

In the EU, reducing energy consumption and eliminating energy wastage are main goals, as the improvement of energy efficiency is decisive for competitiveness, security of supply and for meeting the commitments on climate change made under the Kyoto Protocol². The EU focuses mainly on energy-intensive sectors, such as construction, manufacturing, energy conversion and transport. Nevertheless, energy efficiency improvements are necessary in all the economy fields, involving a wide range of stakeholders, including a panoply of small firms. The situation is even more complicated, because Member States have to agree unanimously upon any EU-wide changes to tax policy for „green” products and services and because the existence of wide variations in public incentive measures at national and even municipal level in EU countries cannot be denied.

Improvements in energy efficiency can reduce the need for investment in energy infrastructure, cut fuel costs, increase competitiveness and improve consumer welfare. Environmental benefits can also be achieved by the reduction of greenhouse gases emissions and local air pollution. The best solution, most experts agree, is an “integrated approach” that combines policy and fiscal incentives with technological advances, more favourable financing conditions and changes to consumer behaviour.

The challenges and issues brought by the development of the European energy policy must be overcome in order to prepare the EU (the largest energy market in the world) for future energy crisis, the scarcity of supplies, drastic climate changes. The ambitious and binding energy and climate change objectives for 2020 are, together with competitiveness and sustainability, the main drivers of the EU energy policy today.

Flavia Durach



¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:0639:FIN:en:PDF>

² http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/index_en.htm

THE NEW ENERGY TAXATION DIRECTIVE

The European Commission presented on 13 April a proposal to revise the Energy Taxation Directive which will be the new framework under which the EU tax policy will contribute to a “greener growth”, in line with the Europe 2020 Strategy. As Energy Taxation is an issue that affects Member States, businesses as well as citizens, one of the main objectives of these proposals is to make energy taxation fairer by introducing objective elements reflecting the true environmental impact of various types of fuels.

The reason that the current running 2003 Directive is now outdated and inconsistent is that even though the taxation of energy products is partly harmonized at the EU level and the directive on energy taxation already sets minimum rates for taxation of energy products used as fuel and as fuel and electricity, taxation is based on consumption volume. This means that it does not contribute to the achievement of EU objectives on energy and the fight against climate change and, moreover, it does not provide more incentives to stimulate economic growth and job creation.

According to Algirdas Šemeta, EU Commissioner for Taxation and Customs Union, Audit and Anti-Fraud, the new Taxation Directive will split the minimum tax rate into two elements: a first element based on CO2 emissions and a second one based on the energy content of each product¹. It will therefore base taxation on objective criteria and provide for a consistent treatment of energy sources and energy consumers regardless of the source of energy that they consume. All energy products for a given use – for instance use as motor fuel – are subject to the same minimum rates. Over time, this would be reflected in the rates applied by Member States.

The revised directive will address CO2 in all areas where the EU Emission Trading System does not apply.

Furthermore, it will address taxation of renewable energies, in particular biofuels, reflecting their lower CO2 emissions and energy content. This will lead to lower taxation of biofuels than under the current system in which they are mainly taxed at the rate of the fossil fuels they are supposed to replace.

On the long term, as it is based on objective criteria, the new taxation system will have an impact on the rates Member States have to apply. The actual impact will depend on their current national rates and on how Member States will implement the new framework. Additional revenue from energy taxation can be used to reduce the employers’ social security contributions. Moreover, an additional 1 million jobs could be created by 2030 as a consequence of reforming the ETD.

The proposal also takes into account specific sectors such as the industrial and agricultural ones. These sectors and the companies not covered by the EU Emission Trading Scheme will be partly exempt from the CO2 tax when they

are deemed to be subject to “carbon leakage”, meaning the risk of relocation of the activities to third countries.

In regard to households, the proposal acknowledges the social dimension of energy taxation and maintains the possibility for Member States to apply exemptions or reductions for energy products used for domestic heating.

If Member States and MEPs give the proposal the green light, the revised directive will enter into force in 2013. Member States will be given deadline until 2023 to apply the new minimum rates².

To conclude, once the directive will be fully in place, it is supposed to provide the right incentives for citizens and companies to switch to cleaner fuels and use energy more efficiently. According to Algirdas Šemeta, the directive will contribute to green growth policies and it will foster competitiveness and employment in Europe.

Anca Mihalache



¹ europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/...

² <http://www.endseurope.com/search/?q=states+and+MEPs+give+the+proposal+the+green+light%2C+the+revised+directive+will+enter+into+force+in+2013>

The Single Market Act

On 13 April, the European Commission presented the final version of the Single Market Act, highlighting its commitment for re-launching the Single Market. The Commission aims to adopt new, greener and more inclusive ways of growth, through twelve instruments that will bring competitiveness and social progress by worker mobility, SME finance and consumer protection.

The President of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso, declared that the Single Market remains their best asset in facing the crisis. Moreover, through its new provisions, it helps in implementing the objective of a stronger Single Market in 2012 and it offers increased benefits to businesses, workers and consumers.

The twelve instruments that should be adopted by 2012 are:

- 1. Access to finance for SMEs** – the aim is to initiate common rules for venture-capital funds, encouraging investments in any other Member State, providing innovative SMEs with funding combined with expertise.
- 2. Worker mobility in the Single Market** – it aims to remove the legal obstacles preventing Europeans from working where they wish, to modernise the rules for recognising professional qualifications so as to simplify procedures, and strengthen cooperation between the Member States, by issuing a European Professional Card.
- 3. Intellectual property rights** – the goal is to grant the first unitary patents in 2013.
- 4. Consumers: Single Market players** – measures are intended to increase the confidence of consumers through alternative approaches to dispute settlement and putting in place non-judicial means of redress.
- 5. Services: strengthening standardization** – aims to revise the legislation on the European standardisation system, to extend it to services and make standardisation procedures more efficient.

6. Stronger European networks – the Commission will adopt legislation on energy and transport infrastructures in order to identify strategic projects of European interest.

7. Digital Single Market – proposes legislation to guarantee mutual recognition of electronic identification and authentication across its territory, and a revision of the e-signature Directive to permit safe and unobstructed electronic interaction.

8. Social entrepreneurship – proposes a European framework for mutual investment funds.

9. Taxation – implies a revision of the Energy Tax Directive, aiming to guarantee consistent treatment of the various energy sources and take better account of products' CO2 emissions.

10. More social cohesion in the Single Market – the Commission intends to make a legislative proposal for strengthening the application of the Posting of Workers Directive.

11. Regulatory environment for business – proposes a simplification of the accounting Directives as regards financial reporting obligations, and a reduction of the administrative burden, especially for SMEs.

12. Public procurement – aims to modernise the legislative framework in order to arrive at flexible procedures and at a balanced policy sustaining the demand for environmentally friendly, socially responsible and innovative goods and services.

However, these are not exclusive actions, as the Commission stressed that they will be followed up by additional measures meant to stimulate a greener and fairer growth for Europe.

For further information you can access: <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/469&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Oana Ștefăniță

EU Budget Draft 2012

The main goal the European Union is pursuing in 2012 is the revitalization of the European economy. Following the agenda of the 2020 EU Strategy, the new budget will focus on 5 main objectives: Employment; innovation; research and development; climate change and energy issues; education and social integration.

Budget Commissioner Janusz Lewandowski described the budget draft as “A delicate balancing act combining austerity and growth boosting measures for 500 million Europeans”¹.

The budget for 2012 represents € 132.7 billion with an expected increase in payments as 2012 is the sixth year in the current financial perspective (2007 – 2013) and long term projects in fields such as research and infrastructure are reaching full speed. As a result, payments and commitments are expected to increase by 4.9% and 3.7% respectively².

The European Union is looking to further support sustainable growth within Member States by investing in small and medium enterprises (SMEs), an area where € 57.7 billion will be directed.

Also, under the banner of the Europe 2020 initiatives, the EU will dedicate € 62.6 billion to fields such as youth actions (15% increase in comparison with 2011) and climate change activities (6.1%

increase in comparison with 2011). In order to support its citizens, the EU intends to make a 6.8% increase in actions concerning Freedom, Security and Justice.³

Despite the necessary increasing costs, the 2012 EU budget is taking the current worldwide economic climate of austerity under careful consideration in order to fully support its citizens. The proposed 4.9% budget increase for 2012 makes up for the bare minimum required in order to honor all the Commission's legal commitments.

MEPs have warned the Council that budget cuts in certain sectors such as cohesion, citizenship and foreign affairs could affect programmes such as those undergoing in North Africa in this particular period of democratic development.

Administrative costs for the European Commission in 2012 will not register an increase in comparison with 2011, this being possible by significantly reducing costs for buildings, communication, studies, publications and conferences. Also, the Commission will reduce the budget of low performance initiatives such as Cooperation for Development which will suffer a 70.7% cut.

Alexandru Boboc

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/budget/index_en.cfm

² http://ec.europa.eu/romania/news/proiect_buget_2012_ro.htm (last accessed on 06.05.2011)

³ <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/499&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en> (Accesat ultima oara la 06.05.2011)

Training course **Development of competences for the translation and revision of legal texts**

When?

27 June – 1 July 2011
4 – 8 July 2011

Where?

EIR premises, 7 – 9 Regina Elisabeta Avenue,
Conference Room, 4th floor

Who is addressed to?

The persons interested in the translation of complex legal texts. The trainers are certified by the National Council for the Vocational Training of Adults (CNFPA). In order to benefit from this training programme it is necessary to know both English and/or French (one of them at advanced level) and good computer skills are also required.

What knowledge and skills will you acquire?

- the main stages and quality standards regarding translation, revision and terminology research
- the issues pursued in the linguistic and legal revision activity
- the main sources of documentation and how they can be used to obtain high-quality translations
- the main CAT tools and how to use them in the translation and/or revision activity
- basic knowledge of law, especially regarding the European Union law and the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights
- develop a responsible and critical attitude as well as communication and organisation competences in this area

Price: 800 RON (the price also includes the Style Guide for the translators of the *acquis communautaire* into Romanian).

“An excellent course

[..] I finished this course and I have many words of praise. Remarkable punctuality, energetic trainers, well informed and open in their relationship with the students, clearly structured matter, examples and exercises to the point, sound system and computers for everyone. For me, it was a five-day investment that was worth every minute.

I recommend it warmly!

Laura Février, freelance translator “

A new session of internships at TCU. Applications can be submitted by 15 May

At the beginning of the road, practical experience is often the obstacle in the young graduate’s way towards fulfilling his career objective. One of the best solutions in overcoming this obstacle is completing an internship, all the more when the internship in question is done within a prestigious institution. The experience of a few months in such an institution can confirm the motivation for the chosen professional field. It is also an opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills he/she has acquired through their studies and, especially, to acquire new practical skills which go beyond those covered by the university curriculum. On the other hand, such an experience gives a potential employee an indication regarding the young candidate’s practical abilities and their ability to integrate themselves in a professional environment. Thus, such an internship may constitute an important competitive advantage on the labour market.

In this context, for the past years, EIR organises through its departments internships for undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate students and for those who have recently graduated their academic studies, from which it has received positive feedback.

The Translation Coordination Unit hosts internship sessions twice a year and gives those who are interested in the field of legal translations, EU law and ECHR case-law and have solid knowledge of French and/or English, the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge and develop their skills in a field of actuality, as well as the opportunity to integrate in a team of professionals ready to share their experience. From 2008 up to the present, TCU has trained 28 interns who have confirmed the utility of these strategies in their professional development.

Information on the application file and the selection procedure and, also, testimonies of former interns can be found at http://www.ier.ro/index.php/site/news_page/169

Diana Popa

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

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