



EIR newsletter

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interview _____

Gabriela DRĂGAN

Director General of the European Institute of Romania



A while back you were speaking about repositioning and redefining EIR's institutional identity. We have indeed seen that after the accession, EIR has reoriented itself towards the new priorities resulting from Romania's status as EU Member State. Could you tell us some thoughts regarding this aspect of EIR's institutional life?

Happy coincidence, the first seven years of the Institute were also the years during which Romania underwent an accelerated process of Europeanization. In these years, the accession negotiations were started and finalised and, naturally, as a recognition of all these efforts, the Treaty of Accession to the EU was signed. Thus, 2007 was a point of inflection for both Romania, as a whole, and, particularly for EIR, the Institute being obviously part of the Romanian institutional setting.

Romania is already an EU Member State for four years. Are we more conscious today than we were four years ago of what the position of Member State means? of the fact that this status entails not only rights, but also obligations? that the specific EU decision-making structure requires Romania, as any other Member State for that matter, to become an active presence within the Commission, as well as within the Council and the European Parliament? that we can be a voice to be considered only if we can show professionalism, coherence and determination? Are we conscious that our evolutions at community ... **p. 2**

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EU's Energy Strategy - Is Europe ready to face the energy challenges of the next decade?

The energy strategy of the European Union has been updated for the second time, the latest version being published on 10 November 2010. The document will be discussed by EU leaders during a summit on energy which is due to take place in Brussels on 4 February 2011, and where the European officials are expected to prepare for turning the newly adopted strategy into a general framework for all the new energy policies of the Union ... **p. 8**



... level can only be a reflection of how the national “actors” are performing at both central and local level? We have here a series of questions we could consider rhetorical, and yet they are questions which we have the obligation to answer as quickly as possible so that Romania’s position in the EU will fully reflect the 7th place among the EU nations, a place which is currently held only in relation to the size of the population. As in a gigantic puzzle, each component of the national institutional structure must find its proper place so that the image of the whole is as clear and coherent as possible. In this gigantic institutional puzzle, EIR covers four distinct areas: the area meant to allow a better substantiation of the national policies by drawing on studies and analyses conducted by some of the best researchers on the market, the area of training and improving the professional competences of the civil servants (not only), the area of disseminating and conducting debates on topics of interest at European and national level and last, but not least, the area of the relevant translations of the ECJ and ECHR case-law. But, as a whole, the added value reveals itself only if there is compatibility and synergy between the components.

Ten years is an important moment in the life of an institution. I believe our readers would like to know more about EIR’s achievements so far.

Ten years in the life of a human being means not only the end of the period during which the child learns the basic principles of living in society and the foundation for the future development is laid, but the beginning of this development as well. What did these ten years mean for the European Institute of Romania? At first sight, the statistical data could provide a fairly convincing image: over one hundred studies, analyses, opinions, thousands of pages of *acquis communautaire* translated and revised, thousands of civil servants trained, hundreds of communication events (conferences, debates, round tables). And last but not least, a journal dedicated to the European affairs *Romanian Journal of European Affairs* - which also celebrates its 10th anniversary!

But beyond the figures there are the people. And beyond quantity, there is quality. The products of the Institute which were developed during the ten years of activity also reflect the quality of the efforts which are often placed in the area not only of professionalism, but of excellence in the field. The partnerships established throughout this period were an effect, but also a cause of the good results achieved. Please allow me to recall only the fact that the European Institute of Romania is currently member of the European Policy Institutes Network. Neither can we ignore the fact that the Institute is now part of the Friends of Europe network, being given a five-star rating by Europe’s World, the only independent journal distributed all over Europe.

Finally, the value of our projects has always depended on the involvement of our institutional partners, Romanian public administration institutions, universities, research institutes, the Representation of the European Commission in Romania, embassies of the EU Member States in Romania and, last, but not least, NGOs.

Certainly, at this moment of celebration and, at the same time, of assessment, our thoughts along with our gratitude go towards all our collaborators and partners who, in these ten years, have been beside us, supported our projects and allowed the Institute to hold a solid position in the Romanian institutional framework! Finally, I would not like to forget those who are no longer among us today, former EIR’s employees or collaborators, and who, I am convinced, are watching over us all from above!

EIR’s Anniversary Conference will take place on 14 December, reuniting important personalities of the European affairs field from Romania and EU. What is EIR’s aim in organising this event?

Obviously, we would like to have an event which goes beyond the mere celebration of the ten years of activity... In fact, EIR’s anniversary conference gives us the necessary motive to bring together many of those who, in this decade, have supported Romania’s accession to the EU. Thus, we are glad that many of the relevant political and institutional “actors” with an important influence on Romania’s European path, celebrate today, along with us, EIR’s 10th anniversary.

And, as our event does not aim to be only a festive event, during the conference several debates will take place on topics of maximum interest for the current period such as strengthening the EU economic governance, the impact of the Treaty of Lisbon on the institutions and national decision-making process and deepening the process of integration on the EU internal market.

The presence of Professor Jacques Pelkmans, for example, has a double significance - as friend of EIR, standing beside it ever since the beginning of its existence, but also as an outstanding personality in the field of the European economic integration, expert in the specific issue of the internal market. The recent crisis revealed that there is still a strong temptation, mostly in difficult times, to diminish the role of the single market and to seek refuge in some forms of economic nationalism. The speech of Professor Pelkmans is meant to draw attention to the insufficient level of the single market and competition in many Member States having repercussions on the economic and monetary union, an integrated and flexible single market being a precondition for an optimum monetary area and a means for improving the productivity and competitiveness throughout Europe.

During the conference there is a moment dedicated to the EIR Excellence Awards. Why such a moment? Or how did you come up with this idea?

I spoke earlier about the excellence which the European Institute of Romania succeeded in achieving through its products and services. And I think we do not need to be modest...the many positive signals regarding EIR’s activity give us the right to say so.

Gabriela Drăgan
 is a PhD Professor and Prodean of the Faculty of International Economic Relations of the Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies. Since January 2008, Ms Drăgan is also Director General of the European Institute of Romania. She has worked as an economist and scientific researcher for the Electrotechnics Research Institute, as a scientific researcher for the Institute of National Economy and, between 2002 - 2006, as a Director of the European Studies and Analysis Unit of the European Institute of Romania.

She is a tenure Professor of Jean Monnet courses and expert in European Integration. She has published, as author or co-author, numerous books and articles (listed in international databases, various scientific publications or volumes issued following national or international conferences). She is a Member of the Romanian European Community Studies Association (RECSA), of the European Association of Regional Studies, of the Romanian Association of Regional Studies, Director of the Romanian Journal of European Affairs, issued by the European Institute of Romania (since January 2008), Member of the Editorial Council of the Romanian Economic Journal of the Faculty of International Economic Relations (since 2008), Member of the Editorial Council of the Bulletin of the Petroleum-Gas University of Ploiești, Economical Sciences series (since 2008) etc.

Consequently, we considered we have reached the maturity level which allows us to acknowledge and appreciate excellence... And we can do this only in the field we know best, that is, the field of the European affairs. This is how the idea of the EIR Excellence Awards was born. We dedicated this first edition, organised this year on the occasion of the 14 December anniversary conference, to journalism.

In a field such as the European affairs, which at first sight may seem rather technical, a high quality journalism has an essential role. Without these dedicated writers bringing the European information closer to the heart and mind of every reader, the EU would continue to appear a project of the elites for the elites, which in fact is not what the founding parents would have wanted. Because the EU must remain a democratic construction in which every citizen has not only free access to information, but also is an active part to the integration process, the role of the mass media, of the communicators in general, is essential. The press, the radio, the television address the citizens directly and, by their active presence, support the integration process. Through concrete information, analyses, reports, etc., all these "soldiers" of the great army of communication both from Romania and the EU help the Community and national institutions never to lose sight of the fact that the final objective of any policies,

either community and national ones, is the citizen and her/his welfare.

In the end, could you tell us something about the future activity of the Institute?

Without any doubt, at this moment, the European Institute of Romania has an important intellectual, specialised capital which is a good starting point for approaching the post-accession issues, both at theoretical and practical level. Romania's new status, as EU Member State, would have only to gain by using more efficiently this capital. Assuming the competition, both on the internal market of goods, services, capitals and labour and on that of innovating ideas, constructive solutions entails a more coherent articulation both at the level of institutions and at the level of individuals. Thus, I wish that through its activity, the Institute contributes to the consolidation of Romania's position and role in the EU, supporting the process of coagulating, at national level, all efforts, experience and expertise gathered until now for the wellbeing of us all.

Interview by **Mădălina Magnusson**

event

New Architecture of the European Union Cohesion Policy: *Smart, Sustainable, Inclusive Growth*

On 10 November 2010, the European Commission published the fifth Report on economic, social and territorial cohesion. On the occasion of the report submission, the EU Regional Policy Commissioner, Johannes Hahn, states: *The findings from this report and the consultation to follow will help us prepare a cohesion policy that is better adapted to the economic situation of today.*

Present at Bucharest two days after the official submission of the Report at Brussels, Mrs Angela Martinez Sarasola, Head of Unit (Romania) within DG Regio, has asserted, at the headquarters of the EC Representation in Bucharest, the opinion of the European Commission as to the future of the cohesion policy after 2013.

Analysing the significant economic and social evolutions in the last years, corroborated with the reform of the Community budget, the report shows that the future architecture of the cohesion policy must be in concordance with the objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy. An extensive assessment of the economic, social and environmental situation and trends in EU regions shows, on one hand, that all regions benefited from the cohesion policy (through direct investments



and indirect trade benefits, by supporting EU-wide priorities such as, for instance, environmental protection, research and innovation) and, on the other hand, that the legislative and regulatory framework must be reconsidered in order to ensure more value to money, to make policy even more effective and to obtain concrete and measurable results.

The publication of the report marks the launch of some public debates and consultation on how the overall architecture of the cohesion policy can ensure that each structural instrument contributes effectively to achieving the objectives of Europe 2020 Strategy. And, although it seems strange, the cohesion policy needs our support.

Make yourselves heard at Brussels!

The public consultation process shall take place until 31 January 2011. You will find additional details and information at http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/consultation/5cr/index_ro.cfm.

Florentina Costache

Evaluating structural and cohesion funds

A video-seminar regarding the *Official Report for Evaluating Structural and Cohesion funds 2007-2013* took place on 3 November 2010. The event hosted by Hotnews.ro benefited from the presence of the representatives of the Ministry of Finance, of the European Institute in Romania, of the consultants and NGOs and it involved debating the conclusions and recommendations of the report.

The main discussion topics were the over regulatory tendency manifested through excessive control and a lack of sizing according to the complexity of the administrative tasks regarding public procurement, financial management and control. There was also talk about the low volume of payments made by the year 2009, along with the observation that the present rhythm of payments represents a major risk in reaching the total absorption target, with the anticipation that, should this rhythm be maintained, the volume of reimbursement will hardly reach the initial allocation in the year 2020.

Amongst the recommendations in the Report there is the necessity of an analysis - based on the observations of intermediary evaluations at an operational programme level - of the possibilities to reallocate funds in order to counter the effects of the current economic crisis. Moreover, there is need for an analysis of the existing and estimated capacity of absorption as well as an analysis of the volume of non-reimbursable funds requested by potential beneficiaries.

It is recommended to create measures in the shape of a system of sanctions and rewards in order to accelerate payments, along with exempting SMEs from ensuring pre-financing guarantees that would reduce liquidities.



Mrs Gabriela Drăgan, Director General of the European Institute of Romania, signalled the stake of the discussions regarding structural and cohesion funds that are allocated from the European budget, a budget to which all member states contribute, making the interest in the well spending of these European money very high.

To the extent that absorbing funds is a means for the development of states and not a goal in itself, Mrs Drăgan also drew the attention on the need for a well thought management of funds allocation.

Agreeing with the fact that there is a regulation excess, Mrs Drăgan suggested adjusting guides in order to provide them with unity, realising separate analysis on axis and reallocations, along with introducing rules of human resources management from the private sector to the public one.

Both the evaluation Report and the video-seminar can be found on the Hotnews.ro website: <http://economie.hotnews.ro/stiri-eurofonduri-7994510-video-seminar-live-raport-oficial-evaluare-fondurilor-structurale-coeziune-2007-2013-reprezentantii-ministerului-finante-institutului-european-din-romania-consultantilor-ong-urilor-dezbat-concluziile-.htm>.

Anca Mihalache

Round Table at EIR

„NATO’s New strategic concept – Perspectives and opportunities”, 29 October 2010

On 29 October 2010, the European Institute of Romania organised a round table on *NATO’s New strategic concept Perspectives and opportunities*, an event intended for the debate on the Working Paper *NATO’s New strategic concept - A test for the transatlantic relationships*, drawn up under the auspices of EIR in 2010. The debate brought together representatives of the relevant institutions, of the academia, non-governmental organisations and other specialists who approached a series of themes which are important for the evolution of NATO, not long before the high level reunion of the Member States of the



Alliance, between 19 - 20 November in Lisbon, on which occasion the NATO’s new strategic document will be adopted.

Among the elements brought up by the speakers we mention the necessity of correlating the present security facts with the preparation for future challenges, the lessons learned from particular security contexts such as Afghanistan, the balance of objectives of dissuasion of potential aggressors with those intended to ensure credible security guarantees for the Member States and also for the main partners of the North Atlantic Organisation,

the continued strategic dialogue with Russia, as well as NATO's reform in the context of the present financial difficulties.

Moreover, issues regarding the security options of the allies and their diverging opinions regarding a series of initiatives, among which an European security system comprising the anti-missile defence elements, correlated with guaranties for the Russian side as regards the solely defensive character of the installations have been discussed. The need to harmonise the positions of France and Germany as regards the anti-missile defence system as well as the importance of maintaining an equilibrium between the component of nuclear dissuasion and that of assuring the Alliance's eastern partners have been emphasized on this occasion.

The objective of dissuasion remains as important as before, with the difference that the targets of this objective are not the same as ten years ago. This prompts the need to update the strategic concept of the Alliance.

Last, but not least, as reflected in the discussions as well as from the arguments brought by the participants at the round table, NATO shows an increasing interest in intensifying the politic and strategic dialogue with international actors such as China and South-East Asian states.

Agnes Nicolescu

How do the Romanian MEPs represent us in Europe



On 1 November 2010 EIR hosted a conference entitled “The Romanian Members of the European Parliament: how do they represent us in Europe?”. The event organised in partnership with the European Institute of Romania gave the opportunity for the launching of a study undertaken by the European Institute for Participative Democracy - Qvorum, a report on the activity of Romania's representatives in the European legislator.

The study is part of the “Europarlamentarii la raport” (*MEPs called to report*) programme that the Qvorum Institute launched in March 2009, which consists in a series of monitoring reports for 2009 - 2014. The project is financed by the Governments of Island, of the Principality of Liechtenstein, and by the Government of Norway, through the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area.

The conclusions of the study on the overall analysis of the activity of the Romanian Delegation to the

European Parliament as well as the voting conduit of the Romanian MEPs for some of the most important and most recent resolution proposals were presented at the conference. A similar study regarding the activity of the Romanian MEPs at the European legislator was launched by the Qvorum Institute in May 2010.

During the event, presentations were given by Ms Gabriela Drăgan, Director General of EIR, Ms Adina Vălean, MEP (ALDE), Ms Rovana Plumb, MEP (S&D), Ms Mariana Niștelea, Director of the Council of Europe Bureau in Romania, Mr Florin Sari, of the Bucharest Bureau of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Ms Eliza Iatesen of the EUROPE DIRECT CENTRAS Information Centre Bucharest and Mr Gabriel Trăistaru, Europuls Brussels. The moderator of the talks was Mr Doru Frăntescu, Director of the Qvorum Institute.

The report contains statistics and analyses from which we can conclude that the Romanian MEPs in the present parliamentary term is still unsatisfying. The presence of the Romanian delegation at the plenary meetings of the European Parliament is still low as compared to that of the delegations of the other Member States, while the individual presence of most Romanian MEPs is slightly growing. As regards the substantial activities, although on an uptrend, the Romanian MEPs are still in the second half of the chart. Here are a few examples of Romanian rapporteurs for important initiatives within the EP:

Initiative	Rapporteur
The European railway network for a competitive freight transport	Marian Jean Marinescu (PPE)
Council Regulation on notifying the Commission on projects of investment in the energy infrastructure in the European Union	Adina Vălean (ALDE)
Maternity leave Directive	Rovana Plumb (S&D)

The integral text of the study can be accessed http://www.qvorum.ro/publications/Europarlamentarii%20la%20raport_vol%20II.pdf.

Mădălina Magnusson

Labour-Market Integration of Young People: to be or not to beemployed?



On 19 November 2010, EIR, in partnership with the Foundation for Education and Socio-Economic Development - IRECSON, organised the public debate on the *Labour-market integration of young people: to be or not to be employed?*

The initiative comes as a follow-up to the research conducted by the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux (NACAB) in May 2010, as part of the project "Strengthening the capacity of the civil society to promote social inclusion initiatives". The research used both a qualitative approach (72 focus groups of young people) and a quantitative one (questionnaire-based research).

The analysis of the data gathered covers several areas concerning the attitude of young people towards labour market. At first, young people have high expectations before entering the labour market, but they adapt quickly to the real working conditions, when confronted with reality. As regards the information sources for obtaining employment, they refer

more and more rarely to the employment agencies, using their own information possibilities.

The debate held on 19 November provided the opportunity for the institutions and employment agencies to express their views on the subject, with speeches delivered by Valentina Vasile (Scientific Director of the Institute of National Economy), Constantin Viorel Mihai (Deputy Director of the National Centre for Development of Vocational Education and Training), Gabriela Drăgan (Director General of the European Institute of Romania), Iorga Adriana (Executive Director of the Bucharest Agency for Employment), Cristian Pârvan (Secretary General of the Businessmen's Association of Romania), Maria Pădure (Vice-president of the National Alliance of Student Organisations in Romania - NASOR) and Georgiana Neculau (research assistant, co-author of the NACAB study).

The main subjects discussed were the initiatives on youth integration, career guidance and the provision of efficient education, Valentina Vasile stating that a good education doesn't mean acquiring knowledge, but competences. The internship was declared to be a valid initiative for the labour-market integration of young people, Viorel Constantin highlighting the SOP HRD support for raising the awareness and mass-media coverage on the students' involvement in practical training. Another issue discussed was the increasing number of young people who choose to leave the country, due to a lack of opportunities for developing their potential.

As a conclusion, the institutions represented to this debate proved to be open towards the challenge of students' integration. "We want young people, but we want them to desire to work, we want them to have the competences written on their diplomas and to be willing to learn" Cristian Pârvan pointed out

Ioana Diaconu

publication

December issue of RJE in 2010

In the December issue of RJE various researchers analyse themes of utmost interest for the EU Affairs specialists such as the regional cooperation framework, the position towards EU of Turkish political parties, the conditionality within the ENP, the Europeanization of the Romanian foreign policy, the European system of weapons' acquisition, the relationship between political knowledge and trust in the EU among the Romanian citizens and the interconnection of Romanian critical infrastructures with the European ones.

Alina Homorozean, a master student at the Dresden University of Technology and the University of Applied Sciences in Dresden, concentrated on two complementary research questions concerning regional cooperation in the Black Sea Region. The author analyses the regional order and its future in the region along with the current contribution of the most significant cooperation initiatives, i.e. the Northern Dimension and South-East Asia. Ms Homorozean argues

further that a possible strategic solution for successful policy development lies in the creation of an integrated regional cooperation package, functioning on the principles of multi-speed and multi-dimensional cooperation in several policy fields. Upon **Alina Homorozean**, the Black Sea cooperation framework should concentrate on four main pillars: economy, environment, good governance and security.

The second article presented in this issue is written by **Mehmet Bardakçı**, Assistant Professor in the Department of International Relations at İzmir Gediz University who researches whether the Euroscepticism within the party systems of the EU candidate states of Central and Eastern Europe can be found in Turkish politics. **Mr Bardakçı** concludes on the phenomenon of Euroscepticism which makes no distinction among party families. According to the author when comparing the Turkish case to the party-based Euroscepticism in the Central and Eastern European candidate states, the phenomenon of Euroscepticism in Turkey is a “minority component”.

In addition, a brief overview on the Conditionality in the European Neighbourhood Policy is presented by **Oana Mocanu**, PhD in International Business and Economics and Project Coordinator within the European Studies and Analysis Unit at the European Institute of Romania. **Ms Mocanu** explores different opinions upon the potential effect of the conditionality mechanism within the European Neighbourhood Policy. Further, the author states that this depends on the commitment of the ENP partner countries to the values, objectives and projects promoted by the policy, but most of all on the capacity of the European Union to replace the traditional incentive of accession with a proper alternative, mostly in economic, financial, social and security terms.

Liliana Popescu, Associate Professor at the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration, Faculty of Political Science, and a Ph.D. of the University of Manchester, discusses various aspects of the Europeanization of Romanian foreign policy: elite socialization, bureaucratic reorganization, institutional and policy adaptation to the requirements and exigencies of EU’s Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), projection of national interests onto CFSP agenda and decisions. **Ms Popescu** concludes that despite the short time since Romania entered the EU, Romania underwent a considerable process of national adaptation in the area of foreign policy. Further, the Europeanization of Romanian foreign policy is a process with contradictory elements, characterized by successes in projecting the national interest, but also by behind-lagging and inertia in bureaucratic organization.

Sergiu Gherghina, PhD Researcher at the Institute of Political Science from Leiden University has undertaken research upon the empirical evidence of Romanians on the relationship between political knowledge and trust in the EU among the Romanian citizens between 2002 and 2009. For this research **Mr Gherghina** used individual level data from the Candidate Countries (2001-2004) and Standard Eurobarometers (2005-2009). From the analysis one can synthesize that knowing more about the EU substantiates the support for it and diminishes the risk to witness dramatic drops. Furthermore, at empirical level, it shows that citizens from one new member state can support even more the EU when they know more about it.

Cristian Iordan, PhD in Political Science of the University of Bucharest in the area of European Security and Defence, prepared an article about the European system of weapons’



acquisition as a condition for a solid and effective Common Security and Defence Policy in Europe. The article aims to demonstrate, with recent developments in the matter, major challenges and statistic elements on defence, investment and research budgets: at first, that the process of standardisation and harmonisation at the European level are necessary steps towards the creation of an European system of defence procurement, and secondly, the link between this system and the ESDP. The author suggests a common market for the defence equipments that will have a common support and control export policy, not limited to intracommunity transfers.

The last paper present in this issue of RJEa tackles with considerations about critical infrastructures in Romania. The author, **Dan Fifoiu** holds two Master Degrees, one in National Security Intelligence Activities Management (at the “Mihai Viteazul” National Intelligence Academy), and another one in Intelligence Analysis (at the Department of Sociology and Social Work of Bucharest University). According to **Mr Fifoiu** the current state of our country is in line with the international and community standards and allows the implementation of specific measures for the protection of critical infrastructures as a unified national plan. Romania is situated at a level of development which corresponds with the integration in the European space of critical infrastructures and has an important role in elaborating future strategies of the EU.

The full texts of the articles and findings of the authors can be found online on the webpage of the Romanian Journal of European Affairs, www.ier.ro/rjea.

Mădălina Magnusson

EU's Energy Strategy - Is Europe ready to face the energy challenges of the next decade?

The communication adopted on 10 November, entitled “A strategy for competitive, sustainable and secure energy¹”, emphasizes that the energy issue is one of the greatest challenges to be tackled by Europe. The tasks which must be addressed are not at all simple, in an economic and financial context which is unfavourable to the implementation of the energy investments needed in the next decade. Another element which needs to be taken into consideration is the fact that the energy-related emissions account for almost 80% of the EU's total greenhouse gas emissions. In order to counter these developments, energy investments of around € 1 trillion are needed in order to diversify current energy resources. The EU's energy policy has started from the objective to ensure continuous energy products and services to European private and industrial consumers alike, at affordable prices. As stated in the Lisbon Treaty², Europe basically wants to achieve the following objectives in terms of energy policy: *security of supply, competitiveness and sustainability*.

However, at a closer look, especially the last two goals appear difficult targets to achieve, considering that the last enlargement waves of the European Union have brought in a series of Member States with outdated infrastructure, not to mention less competitive energy economies. At the same time, the new energy strategy takes note of the fact that the ambitious energy and climate change objectives for 2020, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20%, increase the share of renewable energy to 20% and to make a 20% improvement in energy efficiency, are unlikely to be entirely achieved. EU energy and climate change goals have been incorporated into the Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth³ and in the European Council's flagship initiative entitled “Resource efficient Europe”.

The independent 2010 **Renewable Energy Attractiveness Index**⁴ currently names the United States and China as the best investment opportunities for renewable energy, which for Europe translates into the need for more stimuli. Among the main obstacles to achieving the EU objectives in terms of energy efficiency is the fragmentation of the internal energy market at the level of the European Union. Moreover, the security of internal energy deliveries is undermined by delays in investments and technological progress: ENTSO-Electricity has estimated that the EU needs to build or renew 30 000 km of network cables in the next ten years⁵. Fragmented markets not only undermine the security of energy supply, but they also limit the benefits involved by a competitive market in this field. According to the “Energy 2020” Communication, at present,

almost 45% of European electricity generation is based on low-carbon energy sources, mainly nuclear and hydropower. Other elements highlighted consist in the poor quality of National Energy Efficiency Action Plans, developed by member states since 2008, and the fact that energy efficiency in transport is lagging behind. In other words, Europe is still far from achieving the objective set for energy efficiency. The above-mentioned Communication also draws attention to the fact that, in spite of the serious gas supply crises that have exposed Europe's vulnerabilities, there is still no common strategy towards partner, supplier or transit countries.

However, at the European Autumn Gas Conference (EAGC) held in Berlin recently, the European Energy Commissioner Günther Oettinger told the 350 gas industry officials present at the reunion that gas is fundamental to Europe's energy mix and will continue to be so for “decades to come”⁶. More than that, the Energy Commissioner pointed out to the fact that every EU region should have access to at least 3 different sources of gas, so as to prevent crises similar to the one occurring in early 2009, when part of Central and Eastern Europe was left without gas. In order to reach this target, Europe needs new pipelines, in order to ensure the diversification of imports, as well as fresh investments in transborder connections. Commissioner Oettinger also identified specific direction where new investments are needed in the gas sector:

- Interconnections linking the Baltics to the western European natural gas markets
- A gas pipeline linking the Caspian Sea gas reserves to Europe (the so-called “southern corridor”)
- A north-south gas link to remove bottlenecks in Western Europe.

According to the International Energy Agency, gas will be the only fossil fuel for which demand in 2035 will be greater than in 2008, but this hardly represents a reason of joy for experts in the energy sector, since the representatives of large European gas companies do not find necessary to invest in big infrastructure projects. In Ștefan Nicola's opinion⁷, this has a lot to do with the fact that the European Commission is investing billions of euros to stimulate the use of renewables.

In the light of these elements, the energy strategy of the European Union is still far away from providing all the proper answers to the continent's energy needs, despite the fact that the Union remains the world's largest energy importer.

Agnes Nicolescu

¹ Brussels, 10.11.2010, COM (2010) 639 final, <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:0639:FIN:EN:DOC>.

² Lisbon Treaty, article 194 of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union (TFUE).

³ Communication from the Commission (doc. 7110/10 of 5 March 2010).

⁴ 2010 Renewable Energy Attractiveness Index, Issue 26, August 2010.

⁵ Brussels, 10.11.2010, COM (2010) 639 final, <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:0639:FIN:EN:DOC>

⁶ Ștefan Nicola, „Europe's gas industry deeply divided over the future”, *European Energy Review*, <http://www.europeanenergyreview.eu/index.php?id=2554>

⁷ Idem 6.

The new European Trade Strategy

To grow Europe and its global role

In November, the Commission launched a new strategy in line with the EU 2020 Strategy and aiming to lead Europe towards economic recovery, boost growth and create jobs.

The Communication entitled **Trade, Growth and World Affairs**¹ presents the trade policy as a core component of the EU's 2020 Strategy.

In the very same day, DG Trade launched the results of an Eurobarometer Survey² on trade, public opinion consultation which contributed to the renewal of a trade policy strategy.

In the views of the Trade Commissioner, Karel De Gucht³ "Trade is a key role to play in the economic recovery and... we have to step up efforts to ensure that trade delivers more growth and more jobs in the years to come."⁴

According to De Gucht, the proposal contributes to the EU 2020 plan in order to ensure that trade works in Europe, for every European and works to restore confidence, growth and jobs.

In brief, the document released a short while ago desires to strengthen the institutional setting that will make the European trade voice louder and clearer in the international arena.

It is well known that the European economy is one of the largest in the world and we are the biggest exporter; in addition, EU is the most important provider and host of FDI. This is also reflected by the public opinion who thinks EU has major benefits from international trade and the European products are globally competitive.

Needless to say that open trade generates economic growth, benefits for consumers and more and better jobs. (At the moment, more than 4.6 million Europeans are working for companies of American or Japanese parentage.) From facts and figures, approximately 36 million employees benefit from international trade. Therefore, it is important that EU tightens trade and investment with its big trading partners such as the US, China, Japan and Russia.

In addition, this communication will provide greater transparency and legitimacy to the EU trade policy and, within the new institutional framework of the Lisbon Treaty, it will give a new voice to the European Parliament regarding trade issues.

Not only should the new strategy be seen as a key element of the external dimension of Europe 2020 Strategy, but also it should become a clearer statement for Europe as an actor and assertive player in global trade relations.

Moreover, the paper was elaborated with the input provided in a public consultation⁵ with the civil society and the stake holders, as well as the EP and Member States.

Basically the Communication sets out how the Commission wants to develop its trade and investment policies for achieving sustained growth. And further DG Trade aims to conclude the Doha round negotiations ensuring as deadline the end of next year.

Moreover, the EC envisages establishing a group of eminent people from both developed and developing countries that will provide independent recommendations for the future of global trade and the World Trade Organisation.

EU would also like to make significant progress regarding the ongoing bilateral trade negotiations and pursue negotiations with its neighbours for deepening the Single Market.

2011 Commission agenda

In order to get the full picture regarding the usefulness of this paper it is important to point out the 2011 Commission agenda in the field of trade:

- A legislative proposal for an EU instrument useful for access to public procurement market in developed countries and large emerging economies
- A new EU investment policy, aiming at concluding debates with Member States and the EP
- Goods and services regulations - on how to develop mutual supportiveness when dealing with an open market
- Reform of GSP for developing countries by adopting of a Commission Communication on trade and development
- Green paper to improve the EU export control system
- Communication to help SMEs that want to develop international activities.

EU TRADE IN FACT AND FIGURES⁶

- EU - largest trading bloc worldwide
 - 1.6 trillion euro in 2009 export of good and services, approx 13% of EU's GDP
 - 1.6 trillion euro in 2009 imports of goods and commercial services
- EU - largest importer of agricultural products from developing countries
 - 53 billion euro per year (2006 - 2008)
- EU - 1st destination of FDI
 - Attracting 221.7 billion euro in 2009
- By 2015 90% of world growth will be generated outside Europe
- EU - 17.5% share in world trade.

Mădălina Magnusson

¹ COM 2010 (612), <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:0612:FIN:ro:PDF>

² Special Eurobarometer 357 http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2010/november/tradoc_146945.pdf

³ http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/degucht/multimedia/video/#video-13

⁴ Karel De Gucht, cCommissioner for Trade, A renewed trade strategy for Europe: Speaking points, http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2010/november/tradoc_146984.pdf

⁵ Public Consultation on a future trade policy http://trade.ec.europa.eu/consultations/?consul_id=144

⁶ MEMO 10 (Brussels, 9 November 2010), Trade, Growth and World Affairs http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2010/november/tradoc_146981.pdf

THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY IS AWAITING THE ADOPTION OF THE EU BUDGET

The article 39 (ex Article 33 TEC) of the consolidated version of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union¹ reproduces the text from the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community of 1957:

“The objectives of the common agricultural policy shall be:

- (a) to increase agricultural productivity by promoting technical progress and by ensuring the rational development of agricultural production and the optimum utilisation of the production factors, in particular labour;
- (b) thus to ensure a fair standard of living for the agricultural community, in particular by increasing the individual earnings of persons engaged in agriculture;
- (c) to stabilise markets;
- (d) to assure the security of supplies;
- (e) to ensure that supplies reach consumers at reasonable prices.”



However, the current conditions have imposed a rethinking and reform of the common agricultural policy (which, following the changes brought by the Treaty of Lisbon, includes the fisheries policy as well). The general ideas of the reform envisaged by the European Commission were presented by the Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development, Dacian Cioloș, before the Committee on Agriculture of the European Parliament, Thursday, 18 November, the text of the communication being available online². The interest in this document was aroused both by the questions from the EP and by the reactions of the European press.

Experts envisage that food safety will become a global issue by 2025. Assessing that in 2010 over half billion people are either freshwater or cropland scarce, they believe that in 2025 the number of people that will experience cropland scarcity will reach 1.4 billion³. The scarcity of water resources leads to food scarcity, even more so as currently 40% of the food supply comes from land that is irrigated.

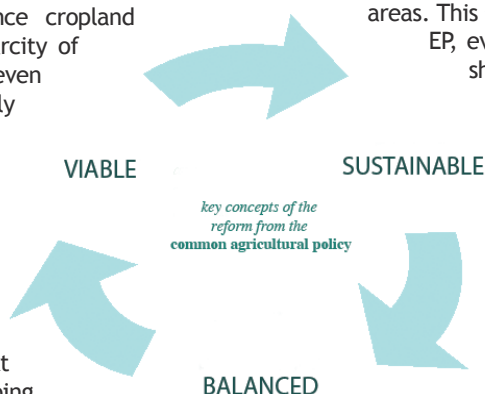
In order to answer the concerns raised by this forecasts and to strengthen the results already obtained in the area, the European Commission prepared this guiding document which reflects the new reform in the area of the common agricultural policy (CAP). As mentioned in the communication, the text reflects a sustained activity of developing and reforming the common agricultural policy:

The Council discussed the reform during four successive presidencies. The Commission previously launched a public debate (earlier in 2010), followed by a conference (in July 2010). The European Parliament adopted its own report on the post-2013 CAP and its link with the Europe 2020 Strategy. The Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions presented their position in specific papers.

Acknowledging the structure based on two separate pillars, each pillar being complementary to the other without overlapping, the reform proposal is organised around three major broad policy options, defined as “potential paths whose impact will be analysed before final decisions are made”:

1. introducing further gradual changes to the current policy framework;
2. performing major overhauls of the policy in order to ensure that it becomes more sustainable, and that the balance between different policy objectives, farmers and Member States is better met;
3. a more far reaching reform of the CAP with a stronger focus on environmental and climate change objectives, while moving away gradually from income support and most market measures.

Whichever option is adopted following the impact studies, the Commission declaration document states nevertheless that there are three future CAP objectives which will be pursued by maintaining the public support for the agricultural sector and rural areas. This statement generated lively comments in the EP, even more so as the EU budget and the CAP share of this budget are not yet established, but will only be known in the second half of 2011.



The three objectives, formulated in line with the Europe 2020 Strategy, would thus be:

1. viable food production;
2. sustainable management of natural resources and climate action;
3. balanced territorial development.

The Communication from the Commission is a text which indicates a transformation of the common agricultural policy framework by replacing the five classic objectives of the treaties (maintained unchanged from 1957 till 2007) with three totally different objectives which take account of the global changes and of the fact that being competitive is much more important than simply being productive. 2011 will show, following the impact studies to be performed, if the future area-specific legislative proposals (directives, regulations) of the Commission will be accepted by the European Parliament and by the Council in order to become instruments of reform.

Mariana Bara, PhD, Associate Professor

¹ OJ C 83, volume 53, 30 March 2010.

² Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - The CAP towards 2020: Meeting the food, natural resources and territorial challenges of the future, http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/cap-post-2013/communication/com2010-672_ro.pdf

³ http://www.foia.cia.gov/2025/2025_Global_Governance.pdf

European Commission Work Programme for 2011

The chairman of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, within the *Speech on the State of the Union*¹, publicly asserted on 7 September 2010, submitted the main political and economic objectives of the European Union for the next year. After a series of debates within the European institutions, these proposals took the shape of a series of concrete actions submitted at the end of October 2010 within the Commission Work Programme for 2011.

The main activities of the Commission are thus focused around five key-elements, influenced by the economic crisis and the structural changes suffered by the Union on the occasion of the Lisbon Treaty adoption:

- A. approaching the economic crisis and creating the dynamism necessary to the economic recovery;
- B. re-launching the employment increase by accelerating the Europe 2020 reforms agenda;
- C. creating the space of freedom, justice and security;
- D. launching the negotiations for a modern EU budget ;
- E. exercising the EU influence on the worldwide scene.

We are dealing with an ambitious programme, intended to solve the economic and social challenges with which the Union confronts and to offer a plus of visibility on the international scene. The work programme for 2011 is also the first programme „which shall be adopted according to the new programming cycle set up through the political orientations of the President of the Commission and submitted in the Framework Agreement between the European Parliament and the Commission”².

Pursuant to the provisions of the Consolidated Version of the Treaty on European Union referring to the promotion of the „economic and social progress” of the European peoples for combatting „social exclusion” and for favouring „justice and social progress”³, the emphasis is on the economic re-launch, understood as an increase of the occupation quota. In order to consolidate the economic governance in the first half of 2011, the European Semester for the coordination of the economic and social policies shall be launched. The objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy shall play a crucial role in this process, being also the reference elements in the annual Economic Growth Analysis, which is to be adopted in January 2011.

The economic measures shall be completed by a series of stricter regulations in the financial field, regulations intended to provide an additional protection of the small investors and habitual consumers.

Any increase shall have to observe two essential elements: be smart and durable. 2011 must be the year in which

Europe 2020 emblematic initiatives like **Youth on the Move** and **Digital Agenda** are to be applied. Another emblematic initiative which shall be launched next year shall be the one concerning the **Efficient Use of Resources**, intended to facilitate the transition to a low-carbon society.

Economy actually isn't everything. The European Commission recognises the importance of the negative rights and implicitly the existent disparities between the rights provided in treaties and in reality, between expectancies and theory. Single Market supposes the existence of a unitary judicial system, a correct step in this direction being the launch of the European contractual law. Justice often proves to be a complicated system, with its own rules in which abuses may appear. Trusty to its mission, the Commission wants to protect the rights of the criminality victims. This aspect represents some vulnerability in many European judicial systems, the offences' victims benefiting of a low protection or sometimes of no protection in front of the intimidation actions performed by suspects.



Setting up new EU external action structures allows, at least in theory, the promotion of a common and coherent external policy. The Commission shall have to prove responsibility in using the instruments it possesses. A global commercial policy may be proved to be a valuable advantage within the Europe 2020 Strategy, the Commission intending to adopt some measures in order to stimulate the positioning of the European enterprises on the worldwide market. The Neighbourhood Policy as well as the extension process shall be further on in focus, being about continuous processes, essential for the Union.

The summer of 2011 is announced to be an important period for the Community budget, as in June 2011 the Commission shall publish its multiannual financial framework for the post-2013 period, intended to favour the modernisation of the European political and economic

instruments. At the same time, in the second semester of 2011 the detailed legislative proposals shall appear in the field of the great policies like agriculture, fishery and cohesion policy.

The Commission's work programme is accompanied by four annexes detailing its proposals:

- a) Annex I - a list of 40 strategic initiatives which the Commission intends to submit in 2011;
- b) Annex II - a list of other 140 possible initiatives;
- c) Annexes III and IV - a list of proposals of simplification and recession⁴.

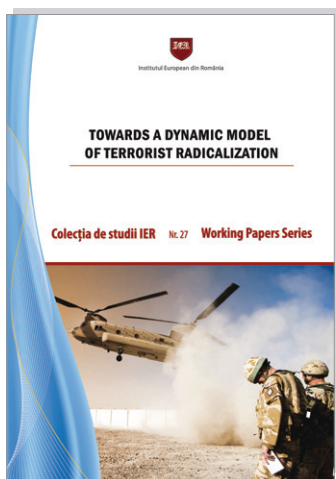
Mihai Sebe

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/romania/news/070910_discurs_barroso_ro.htm.

² Available online at http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/programmes/docs/cwp2011_ro.pdf Consulted on 18.11.2010

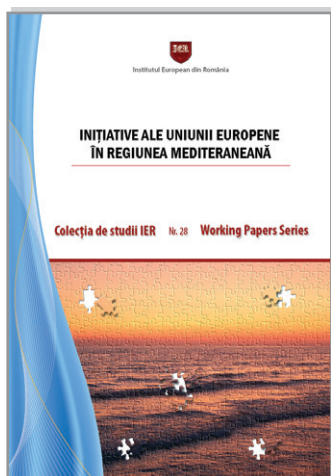
³ Available online at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2010:083:0013:0046:RO:PDF> Consulted on 14.11.2010

⁴ Available online at http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/programmes/docs/cwp2011_annex_en.pdf Consulted on 18.11.2010



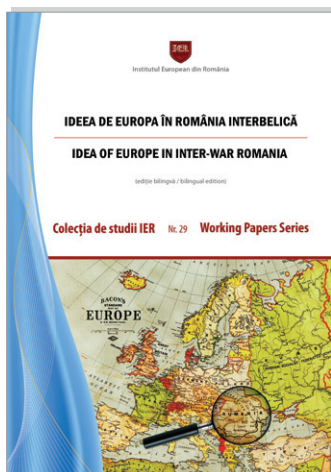
Working Paper no. 27
Towards a dynamic model of terrorist radicalization

The Working Paper entitled *Towards a dynamic model of terrorist radicalization*, written by Clara Volintiru, has been published as part of EIR's WP series. The paper, written in English, aims to develop a theoretical evaluation of terrorist radicalization, through an analysis of the interaction between the individual's motivations and determinant factors from the environment, starting from case studies of conflicts in Czechnia and Kosovo. The proper understanding of the radicalization dynamics is essential for the development of efficient policies aiming to securitize the borders of the European Union and combat terrorism.



Working Paper no. 28
Initiatives of the European Union in the Mediterranean region

The micro-study, dealing with *Initiatives of the European Union in the Mediterranean region*, is elaborated by Oana Mocanu, Project coordinator with the European Institute of Romania, and tackles aspects concerning EU's neighbourhood policy in the Mediterranean region, from the perspective of the latest developments in the region. Complementary to bilateral relations in the framework of the ENP, the Union for the Mediterranean is the most recent initiative of the Union for this region, bringing a series of elements of added value, as compared to previous projects, such as: its institutionalisation, the strong focus laid on projects and attracting private funding sources, as well as efforts to lay the foundation for consolidated cooperation inside the Mediterranean region.



Working Paper no. 29
Idea of Europe in inter-war Romania

The paper *Idea of Europe in Inter-war Romania*, written by Mihai Sebe, Project coordinator with the European Institute of Romania, intends to examine the evolution of the European idea in Inter-war Romania. It tries to realize a brief and synthetic presentation of Romanian currents and intellectual evolutions, a history of that idea in inter-war political and intellectual environments. Thus the paper proves the fact that the Romanian élites were connected to the evolutions at the European level, offering solutions and professionally commenting the proposals presented.

For more details please visit www.ier.ro - Publications

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