

event \_\_\_\_\_

## European Congress of Local Governments, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition: "Local Government Today – People, Cooperation, Innovations"



The second edition of the European Congress of Local Governments (ECLG) took place in Krakow, on 5 and 6 April 2016.

The event, organised by the Institute for Eastern Studies (IES) in Warsaw and its partners, took place at the International Conference Centre in Krakow and was attended by more than 1500 delegates from different regions of Europe. The agenda of the event included subjects relevant for the regions and local governments, structured according to different themes (economy, finance, environment, and regional cooperation, among others), in the form of plenary sessions and debates ... **p.2**

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publications \_\_\_\_\_

## Romanian Journal of European Affairs – Summer Issue 2016

In the summer issue of the Romanian Journal of European Affairs, the contributors open up the debate on topics such as: recent changes in the international balance of power; the question of equivalence between 'Euroscepticism' and 'Populism' in the Czech Republic; an EU perspective on sharing economy as a contributor to sustainable growth; the transition to sustainable development in Kazakhstan and the connections to the assistance given by the EU; political psychology in Transatlantic perspective - a strategy framework for Eastern Europe; as well as the development of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline project ... **p.5**



... The European Institute of Romania (EIR) was the IES's partner in organising a debate during the ECLG entitled: **How to Attract Key Investments to the Region?**

The event was moderated by Mrs. **Gabriela Drăgan**, Director General of the EIR and took place on the second day of the congress (6 April). The key points of the guests' speeches are the following:

**Emil Boc**, Mayor of Cluj-Napoca (Romania), former Prime Minister of the Government of Romania, introduced the city of Cluj-Napoca and its metropolitan area as the "heart of Transylvania". Cluj was the *European Youth Capital* in 2015 and it is a contestant in the final session of the competition for the *European Capital of Culture* in 2021. The city hosts 11 universities, 4 of which are in the top 12 universities in Romania, as well as 15 research institutes. Cluj is also the European capital of clusters, with 7 clusters active in IT, energy, agriculture, furniture and life-style, while being considered the national growth centre for the IT field. The attraction of investments is also increased by the way the region is presented in the international reports: Eurostat Report 2014 calls it "Europe's friendliest city", the European City Report places Cluj-Napoca in the top 10 of cities where the quality of life is at a high standard, the New York Times defines Cluj as being a "hub of art" and Trip Advisor recommends the region and the city of Cluj-Napoca as the best tourist destination in Romania. Consequently, all these appreciations lead to an increase in the investors' trust, thus facilitating the development of projects and investments. In order to attract investors, Cluj-Napoca is in a continuous process of infrastructure development (airport, motorways, ring-roads, public roads etc.) and e-governing is used for modernizing public administration. "Cluj Innovation City" is the major project for the next 15 years. A EUR 535 million investment, on a 200 ha area, the project is focused on research and development and will offer around 20,000 jobs.



**Marek Sowa**, Member of Parliament, Poland, former Marshal of the Malopolska Region, underlined that, in attracting investments, it is important to concentrate on developing conditions of attractiveness for investors; cooperating with university centers, genuine centers of out-searching, given the fact that many companies recruit their future employees among students, is crucial. Strategic investments have set off modernization works at the Krakow airport (the largest investment in the region). The advantages of the Malopolska region are due to the unconditional support of the academic environment, the well-developed tourism infrastructure, and the way the investments from public funds were prioritized. All of these must be reflected in a real and transparent manner in reports and specialized publications, which increases the attractiveness for strategic investors.

**Witold Stepien**, Marshal of Lodz Region, Poland, presented the key elements in the economy of this region, which has developed constantly. The city of Lodz is one of the most important transit centers in this part of the continent, connecting Warsaw to Western Europe, as well as the Baltic maritime ports to the one in the South. The key points for attracting investments are a good transport infrastructure, very young human resources, preferential taxes for investors, industrial clusters, tourism and leisure activities, education infrastructure (research centers) etc.

**Ruslan Martsinkiv**, Mayor, Ivano-Frankivsk City Council, Ukraine, shared some key indicators related to the business environment and investments in this city. There are 3,300 entrepreneurs, including approx. 120 enterprises (of which large enterprises 0.1%, medium-size 3.6% and small 96%). Ivano-Frankivsk offers investment opportunities for partners from approx. 48 countries. At present, the total volume of foreign investments is of \$ 465 million, of which \$ 441 million from EU (95% of the total capital). Industrial enterprises are considered to be very attractive for foreign investors, which is very important for the economic development of the city. In order to attract investments in the main sectors of the economy, modernizing enterprises and creating a modern industrial and transport infrastructure, a development zone based on industrial investments was established in Ivano-Frankivsk on an area of approx. 612 ha. The participation of the municipality in the implementation of programs and projects with EU or international financing (such as the Poland-Belarus-Ukraine Cross-border Cooperation Programme and the Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine ENPI Cross-border Cooperation Programme) is particularly important.

**Anders Wangby**, Director, Västerbotten Investments Agency (VIA), Sweden, brought to the audience's attention the fact that the representatives of the local authorities have to trust the business environment, to be aware of the specific needs of the regions they represent and of the resources at their disposal in order to implement major investment projects, to stimulate the investors' interest for the region by presenting through reports real and concrete data regarding the local economy and the opportunities it offers. How to attract investments in the region? There is no single answer to this question, Mr. Wangby stated. In conclusion, attracting companies to invest in various regions requires local involvement from authorities as well as citizens.

As mentioned before, throughout the two-day congress numerous plenary sessions and debates took place, on a challenging range of subjects (culture and education, migration, European funds, regional development, public procurement, key investments, infrastructure on environment, transport, communication etc.). Many debates at the ECLG benefited from Romanian expertise, our country being represented at both official and expert levels.

Florentina Costache

## EIR Studies – between Debate and European Reality

Following the launch of the SPOS 2015 Strategy and Policy Studies, the European Institute of Romania (EIR) organized, this April, three debates meant to address the relevant subjects on the European agenda, which were developed in three of the five studies elaborated in 2015: “*The fight against Euroscepticism and extremism/radicalization, and the consolidation of trust in European values*” (4 April 2016), “*The cross-border cooperation between Romania and Ukraine, and between Romania and the Republic of Moldova. Opportunities and challenges over the 2014-2020 period*” (12 April 2016) and “*The Juncker Commission Investment Plan and its potential impact on the Romanian economy*” (20 April 2016).

The first debate focused on the emergence and development of the Euroscepticism phenomena both at the European and national level. By analysing the position of the political parties and the citizens' attitudes concerning the European Union, both the debate and study dealt with the current European reality, also putting forward a comparative presentation of the “champions” of Euroscepticism and the Member States that maintain a euro-optimistic attitude. As for Romania, it has been acknowledged that, although it is one of the states characterized by a pro-European stance, the feeble presence of a European consciousness at the level of the population enhances the risk of vulnerability towards Eurosceptic influences. Finally, the commonly expressed vision of the speakers was that of a European Union which, notwithstanding its imperfections, remains “ours, pertaining to us all” - a successful project and one of peace.

The cross-border cooperation between Romania and the Republic of Moldova, and between Romania and Ukraine, respectively, was the theme of the second debate organized by the European Institute of Romania, in close collaboration with the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration. Emphasising the interdependence between cross-border cooperation and regional security in Eastern Europe, both the study and the debate examined the challenges and opportunities entailed by the collaboration between our country and the two states, taking into account multiple dimensions - social, economic, political and security. Furthermore, the role of Romania was discussed and evaluated as pertains to the support granted to the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, not only by means of operational programmes, but also through assistance programmes and bilateral projects, as well as fulfilling the conditions for a potential accession to the European Union. Therefore, the debate pragmatically addressed the issue of cross-border cooperation and illustrated



the necessity of consolidating it in order to achieve optimum results, thus contributing to ensuring prosperity, stability and security in the immediate proximity of the European Union.

Another important point of the current European agenda and one of the strategic priorities of the present Commission is the initiative of President Jean-Claude Juncker, namely the investment plan meant to stimulate economic growth and competitiveness in the EU. Thus, the third debate created the ideal context for a discussion on the potential impact of the investment plan on the Romanian economy. After the comprehensive description of the functioning mechanism of the plan, the authors formulated a series of public policy recommendations. The latter entailed both the necessary steps to be made for encouraging the public-private partnership with a view for accessing the grants available through the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) and the importance of designing a strategy so as to attract public investments. Last but not least, through the debate, the panellists wished to encourage the participants to show support for investments in the main sectors which produce positive effects within the economy (industry, energy and infrastructure), as well as the alignment of Romania to the 25 EU Member States which already implement the Juncker Plan.

In conclusion, we can say that the debates reflect the manner in which the European Institute of Romania aims to facilitate the interaction between the governmental and non-governmental actors, the academia and business environment. Therefore, the SPOS 2015 Strategy and Policy Studies represent a useful instrument in fundamenting public policies and in the consolidation of Romania's position in the current international context, offering an accurate image of the issues on the European agenda.

Raluca Manea, intern

opinion

## Why should the European Union invest more in youth mobility?

In 2014, the European Union started a programme, called Erasmus+, that was meant to support education, training, youth and sport for the next 7 years. At that moment, there were allocated more than 2 billion euros/year for the development of projects aimed at sustaining the directions of the programme, the main objective being that of offering **more than 4 million Europeans** the opportunity to study, train themselves, gain professional experience and take part in volunteering programmes in other countries. The statistics for the first year of implementation seem to be encouraging and to show that things are working properly: 650.000 people studied, trained themselves or volunteered abroad, 70.000 organizations benefited from the available funds and about 18.000 projects were carried out<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> 2014 - the first year of Erasmus+, available at: [http://ec.europa.eu/education/tools/statistics\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/tools/statistics_en.htm), accessed on 20 May 2016;

In order to understand the fundamental role of such a programme, it is necessary to bear in mind the socio-demographic dynamics of the youth in the European Union: for instance, from 2010 until 2013, the **number of young people** (15-29 years old) from the Member States **has decreased by 3.2 million**, thus coming to represent merely 17.9% from the total population. Given the demographic changes, it is estimated that, in the long run (2060), the number of citizens aged between 20 and 64 years will decrease by 10%, whereas the **number of persons older than 65 years will come to represent 28% of the total population**<sup>2</sup>. Therefore, we do not need only qualitative training opportunities for the young people, but also measures aiming to encourage the involvement of the persons who are no longer active in the labour market and a better cooperation between the generations.

Moreover, the recent economic crisis did not affect only the banks and the financial institutions, but also had a strong impact upon the youngsters from the European Union. A Eurobarometer from May 2016 showed that **57% of the young Europeans** (16-30 years of age) **feel marginalized and excluded from the socio-economic life**, following the crisis. On the other hand, **61% of the people surveyed stated that they do not desire to study, to train themselves or to volunteer in another member state**. A paradox of the survey is that 90% of the people questioned agreed that it is important for the youngsters to enhance their knowledge about the way in which the European Union and its institutions function<sup>3</sup>.

The fact that this economic crisis determines the youth to feel marginalized is best reflected through the unemployment rate (1 of 5 young Europeans does not have a job) and the number of the NEET people<sup>4</sup> (14 million youngsters). In other words, not only is the number of young European diminishing, but a considerable number of them are not properly integrated in society, consequently leaving the possibility to develop certain attitudes and movements that may question the policies adopted in the youth field and the relevance of particular institutions and mechanisms.



### European thinking, local action

Issues regarding the efficient integration of young people (particularly of the marginalized ones) in society exist in nearly all Member States, some being confronted with more complex situations than others. Therefore, over the years, a series of instruments have been developed aiming at addressing these continuous challenges. Such an example is what **Ireland** is presently doing, through youth work. As a representative of the Studies and Analyses Unit, I had the opportunity to take part, between **17-24 April 2016**, in the **"Think European, Act Locally"** seminar, organized by Eurobug, International Youth Work Training and Collaboration Limited/Ireland, whose theme concerned the **relationship between local actions and European strategies related to youth field**.

For achieving its purpose, the seminar focused on: identifying the funding opportunities available within the Erasmus+ framework, the use of non-formal education methods that can be applied to youth work activities both at the national and international levels, examining the impact that international projects have in local communities, sharing the experiences in the youth work field, identifying examples of local involvement and the development of new partnerships between the present organizations.

Apart from the theoretical information that was presented throughout the week, the organizers paid significant attention to the practical component, involving the participants in activities of facilitating and sharing knowledge and experiences in the field of youth work, but also in study visits at the youth centres in the proximity of the capital city of Ireland, where the manner in which the problems of the community's youngsters are dealt with and the facilities they benefit from were presented (Foreige Big Picture).

**The most rewarding aspect of this event is given by the encouragement of the mobility of knowledge and experience.** This happens as a result of the fact that, due to Erasmus+ projects, people from different corners of the European Union, and not only, gather in the same place to learn one from another, to see how the European strategies are applied in a particular field at the local level and, last but not least, to become aware of the fact that they belong to the same community, namely the European Union. Besides the high-level meetings between the representatives of the Member States, when citizens participate in mobility projects, they act as ambassadors of their origin countries and bearers of the European values.

To conclude, we need to say that the European Union should invest more in the mobility of the young people, not only for solving the problems related to education, jobs and marginalization, but also to make sure that the young people of today will be the well-trained decision-makers of tomorrow.

Eliza Vaş

<sup>2</sup> The 2015 Ageing Report EUROPEAN ECONOMY 3 | 2015 Economic and Financial, Economic and budgetary projections for the 28 EU Member States (2013-2060), p. 20, available at: [http://ec.europa.eu/economy\\_finance/publications/european\\_economy/2015/pdf/ee3\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/publications/european_economy/2015/pdf/ee3_en.pdf), accessed on 20 May 2016;

<sup>3</sup> European youth in 2016, available at: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/atyourservice/en/20160504PVL00110/Eurobarometer>, accessed on 23 May 2016;

<sup>4</sup> Youngsters who are not engaged in employment, education or training.

## Romanian Journal of European Affairs – Summer Issue 2016

In the summer issue of the Romanian Journal of European Affairs, the contributors open up the debate on topics such as: recent changes in the international balance of power; the question of equivalence between ‘Euroscepticism’ and ‘Populism’ in the Czech Republic; an EU perspective on sharing economy as a contributor to sustainable growth; the transition to sustainable development in Kazakhstan and the connections to the assistance given by the EU; political psychology in Transatlantic perspective - a strategy framework for Eastern Europe; as well as the development of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline project.

**Paul Dobrescu**, University Professor at the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, and **Mălina Ciocca**, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Communication and Public Relations, at the same institution investigate the shifts in the international balance of power, that they attribute both to the weakening status of the US globally and to the rise of regional powers. By arguing that the world is currently experiencing a short stage of uni-multipolarity, characterised by high instability, the authors point to the tensions caused by a shift in power and status from the global hegemon to the regional hegemons. The article further discusses the consequences of this stage in terms of: ideological allegiances, institutions and treaties evolution, development models legitimacy.

**Petr Kaniok** and **Vlastimil Havlik**, Research Fellows at the International Institute of Political Science, Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University (FSS MU), and Assistant Professors in the Department of International Relations and European Studies, FSS MU, challenge in their paper the common assumption that Euroscepticism and populism, however defined, are two sides of the same coin, by considering the case of the Czech Republic. Through reviewing the EU related press releases produced by either Eurosceptic or Populist Czech parties, in a six month period in 2014, the article reveals to what extent, if any, there is a match between ‘Euroscepticism’ and ‘Populism’.

**Florin Bonciu**, PhD, University Professor with the Romanian-American University in Bucharest, Senior Researcher with the Institute for World Economy in Bucharest and **Ana-Cristina Bălgăr**, Researcher with Institute for World Economy analyse in their paper the sharing economy as a potential significant contributor to sustainable economic growth. Starting its analytical approach on two assumptions (the phenomenon of multipolarity and need of a new model of sustainable economic growth), some of the article’s findings are that sharing economy has a huge potential of involving millions or even billions of participants and of capitalizing the existing assets while providing spill over effects in the economy.

**Sabina Chukayeva**, Secretary General of the Kazakhstan National Federation of UNESCO Clubs, and **Bakhytzhon Akzharov**, government worker at the city administration of Almaty, investigate new realities of the Sustainable Development agenda in the light of the transition from the



Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a focus on the cooperation between Kazakhstan and the European Union, a wished-for fruitful cooperation that would add more perspectives for Kazakhstan as a dynamic developing country in the Central Asian region. This article is intended for specialists as well as a wider audience (e.g. students), who are interested in international relations and organizations, international cooperation, sustainable development, and foreign policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

**Katerina Veljanovska Blazhevskaja**, PhD, Professor of political systems at the Faculty of Security, Criminology and Financial Control and Vice-Rector for Science at MIT University, Skopje and **Oliver Andonov**, PhD, Professor of security studies at the Faculty of Security, Criminology and Financial Control at the same university, perform an analysis of applied political psychology by using the case study of Ukraine - an example of a kind of “psychological warfare” of citizens caused as a result of claims made by the neighbouring Russian Federation, political steps and tactics of the European Union and the NATO Alliance. The purpose of this paper is to describe the need for encouraging the creation of a rational attitude of the nations in order to consolidate the region in which they are located, and to encourage the formation of a common security strategy for Eastern Europe.

**Roxana Ioana Banciu**, Business Development Manager at Softwin and Project Manager & International Relations Analyst for the Center for European Policy Evaluation, focuses her attention on the Nord Stream 2 pipeline project, discussing the energy sector as a particular aspect that influences Russia-EU relations, taking account of the Ukraine factor. The article also adds to the debate on Kremlin’s actions regarding Eastern Europe, particularly in the context of the last 3 years, by discussing some important elements of the Russian soft power over Europe through the South Stream project.

Full articles are available at <http://rjea.ier.ro>.

**Oana Mocanu**

## Building Bridges between National Perspectives on the European Union (2014-2016)

Currently the European Union is facing an essential dilemma. On one hand, its need for further integration is urging; on the other hand, European citizens have a growing feeling that they have no say over the future of the European project. Increasing the EU's legitimacy is a core priority for the new European leadership. One of the reasons of the growing divide between European citizens and the EU project may be that there is a lack of refined appreciation of what the various national visions are over the EU. Moreover, the EU is failing to come up with new initiatives that would foster strong support among the citizens.



Thus, the project called “Building Bridges between National Perspectives on the European Union”, initiated by IFRI Brussels, aimed to address those challenges by stimulating the public debate among national experts on the relationship between their member state and the EU and on the future of the Union. This project helped to confront their visions with others’ from different Member States.

The project gathered 28 experts on European affairs, one from each Member State. Each focused on the perspectives of his/her Member State.

At the end of the project, an online publication entailing the 28 contributions was launched - **The European Union in the Fog**, with each chapter following the same structure of answering five questions:

- “What does your country hope to gain from its membership to the European Union?”
- “Do you think that the European Union appears to be a clear project in your country? If not, what are the main reasons?”
- “Which degree of integration seems adequate to the position and ambitions of your country both politically and economically?”
- “According to you, how could we strengthen the idea of belonging to a common European public sphere among your national citizens?”
- “Which policies would you deem essential to conduct at the EU level in order to better legitimize the European project?”.

Within this project the Romanian contribution focused on the topics of: **Soul Search, National and European Identity and Politics in a Time of Trouble.**

Despite almost ten years within the European Union, Romania’s accession is not yet complete. Romania is not part of the Schengen zone and has yet to enter the Eurozone (previously planned for 2019). Moreover, a core problem remains in the ownership of the necessary reforms in order to catch up with the rest of the EU and to restructure the public authorities.

Romanian attitudes vis-à-vis the EU are consistently favorable, but this is not sufficient evidence of an appreciation for the European Union, as it reflects a distrust in the national institutions. Nevertheless, more could be done in the national curricula at school to better promote the EU. A greater knowledge base in Romania would help the country reach its true potential within the EU.

Romania is a firm believer in further integration. It supports an EU energy policy, common foreign policy and a strengthened Eurozone. There is also a belief that the EU should better defend its achievements, such as the four freedoms, as it helps to better legitimize the European Union in the eyes of its citizens.

The Building Bridges Project is available online at <http://www.ifri.org/en/recherche/zones-geographiques/europe/projet-building-bridges>.

The study *The European Union in the Fog* is available online at <http://www.ifri.org/en/publications/publications-ifri/ouvrages-ifri/european-union-in-the-fog>.

Mihai Sebe

## National Network of Correspondents project debate: Labour market in agriculture sector



In the framework of the Eurofound project, the European Institute of Romania and its partners organized in May the second quarterly debate on an important research topic of interest for Eurofound and for the Romanian labour market, namely *Labour in the agriculture sector*.

National correspondents involved in the project, representatives of the Romanian Government, of trade unions and employers' associations, and members of the Eurofound Governing Board representing Romania were invited to express their points of view. Interventions by the representatives of the Romanian Government, the Eurofound national correspondents, and of trade unions and employers' associations have been made on *the Package of measures for developing rural middle class sustained by the Romanian Government*<sup>1</sup>.

Representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture offered information about the necessity of the package for the citizens working and living in rural areas and showed openness towards the trade unions and employers' associations involved into the agriculture sector. Market regulations in the agricultural sector, focusing on the law on the exercise of occasional activities carried out by day workers (law 52/2011) and the

new initiatives such as vouchers for the day workers were presented by the representative of the Ministry of Labour.

Problems such as the lack of jobs in rural areas, lack of information regarding existing financing schemes in agriculture, attracting young people to rural areas, financial support encouraging the Romanian citizens working abroad to return to the labour market in Romania, services that are beneficial and useful for community were raised by the representative of trade unions.

The risks of transforming the rural areas in gated communities with minimal investments and services are real and can have long term effects. Solutions for combating those risks can be found in: increasing investments in infrastructure, the existence of a coherent and applicable legal framework, maximum use of existing human resources in rural areas, the protection of rural population and the support for the small farmer.



Nicoleta Voicu

<sup>1</sup> More information about the initiative on Government website: <http://gov.ro/ro/obiective/strategii-politici-programe/pachetul-de-masuri-pentru-dezvoltarea-clasei-de-mijloc-la-sate&page=1#null>

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

The 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of International Conference

### *The Future of Europe*

— 10 - 11 November 2016 —

Abstracts due by: **July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016** • Abstract acceptance  
notification due by: **July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016** • Papers due by: **September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

The Faculty of International Business and Economics of the Bucharest University of Economic Studies is organizing the seventh edition of *The Future of Europe International Conference*.

Against the background of developments within the European Union, the conference aims at bringing together scholars from all over the world to present papers and debate ideas in a wide range of thematic areas, covering: a) *economic issues: general theory and policy, from both interdisciplinary and core epistemological areas; qualitative and quantitative methodology and modelling, with particular emphasis on E.U. business, money and banking, financial markets, business cycles and economic crises, business and government ethics, public and private regulatory frameworks;* b) *multiculturalism and diversity across European Union, with particular emphasis on business communication and negotiation, leadership, organizational culture, migration issues, gender economics.*

To accommodate such a variety of topics, the conference is organized around the following sections, described on the conference site ([http://www.rei.cercetare.ase.ro/FoE\\_Conference/index.html](http://www.rei.cercetare.ase.ro/FoE_Conference/index.html)):

- ★ **The new challenges of European Union governance** ★ **Business across Europe** ★
- ★ **Finance and banking in the European Union** ★ **Survival of the European Union** ★
- ★ **Multiculturalism in the European Union: success, failure, and the future** ★

New section proposals can also be submitted to the organizing committee. Ph.D. candidates are welcome and strongly encouraged to submit valuable academic papers. Official language of the conference is English.

The submitted abstracts and papers will undergo a double blind peer review process. The accepted articles will be published in the conference proceedings as working papers. A selection of the presented papers will be published by the ISI and/or International Databases indexed journals associated with the conference:

*Romanian Journal of Economic Forecasting* ([www.ipe.ro/rjef.htm](http://www.ipe.ro/rjef.htm)), *Journal of Economic Computation and Economic Cybernetics Studies and Research* ([www.ecocyb.ase.ro](http://www.ecocyb.ase.ro)), *Romanian Journal of European Affairs* (<http://rjea.ier.ro>) *Oeconomica* ([www.oeconomica.org.ro](http://www.oeconomica.org.ro)), *The Journal of Philosophical Economics* ([www.jpe.ro](http://www.jpe.ro)), *Economics & Sociology Journal* ([www.economics-sociology.eu](http://www.economics-sociology.eu)), *The European Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies* ([www.ejst.ro](http://www.ejst.ro)), *The Romanian Economic Journal* ([www.rejournal.eu](http://www.rejournal.eu)), *Synergy* ([www.synergy.ase.ro](http://www.synergy.ase.ro)).

Fees* (per participating author)	Presenters**	PhD students***	Participants
Early bird	<b>75 EUR</b>	<b>50 EUR</b>	<b>40 EUR (without social events)</b> <b>75 EUR (social events included)</b>
Late registration	<b>100 EUR</b>	<b>75 EUR</b>	<b>50 EUR (without social events)</b> <b>100 EUR (social events included)</b>

\* Fees include conference materials and CD, coffee breaks and closing dinner.

\*\* Members of the *Research Centre in International Business and Economics* and the *Research Centre in Literature and Linguistics Applied to Languages for Special Purpose "Teodora Cristea"* will benefit from a special fee of **50 EUR**.

\*\*\* PhD students of the *Economics and International Affairs Doctoral School* may benefit from special discounts awarded on merit.

For other important dates and details concerning the conference venue, accommodation and Bucharest sightseeing options, check the conference website which will be regularly updated with new information.

[http://www.rei.cercetare.ase.ro/FoE\\_Conference/index.html](http://www.rei.cercetare.ase.ro/FoE_Conference/index.html)