

Research Paper on Migration Flows, Sustainable Development and Neighbourhood Policy in the New EU Countries

1. The object of the research paper

If once, these were considered marginal problems of the national policy, now, the migration flows, the sustainable development and the neighbourhood policy of Romania are obvious and are imposing themselves as special issues, in the same time with the European development. The practice and the academic and post – graduated education in those areas started to prove their efficiency, by creating more specialists in these areas and increasing the social assistance and legislation quality and also adapting the internal laws at the European norms level. Not in the same measure, the material base is ready and developed to make possible these special practices.

The aim of the research paper is to support the collaboration between the national and international institutions on migration flows (I), sustainable development (II) and neighbourhood policy (III) areas, in the new EU countries (Romania and Bulgaria).

(I) The EU has been built on the philosophy of free movement of the citizens of the member states in the European space. Also, The Green Card has been adopted for developing a strategy of the EU for managing the migration flows. The demographic decline, the aging of the population and also, the high level of the development in some regions of the European countries, are encouraging the immigration, to cover their own economic needs.

The EU's enlargement has generated a series of fears of labour's migration. Its consequences in the union's space are many-sided, in connection with economic, financial, social, employment, cultural and political aspects.

The migration phenomenon registered a considerable increase in Romania, especially after the collapse of communism. The studies show that the favourite countries for migration are Germany and the United Kingdom, but also countries as Italy, Spain or France and that the migration has grown up especially between the young students and women with a view of a permanent or a temporary job.

The decrease of life quality, the inequalities and the social exclusion, the increase of those who are living under the limits of poverty, are just some of the reasons of the enhancing of the migration phenomenon in Romania (especially the migration phenomenon of brains and young). More than that, the negative aspects from work law, the unequal treatment between women and men, the health and the security from the job, the almost unexisting social dialogue, the employment policy, the exclusion and the absence of the social protection, have only unfavorable effects: the aging of the population, the depopulation, the diminution of the labour, the degradation of the work quality.

We consider that the main factor of the migration is the economic conditions from the home country.

(II) From the point of view of the sustainable development, the Romania's desiderate is not an economic growth in the short run which can be capable of recession, but the promotion of the economic progress, the elimination of the poverty,

the raising of the living standards, the improvement of the production factors and production performances, of the institutions and the permanent renewal of the knowledges, the rationing of the policy system, etc. We are pleading for the reconciliation between economy and environment, for that development type that is answering to our present needs without compromising the capacities of satisfying of the next generation needs.

The sustainable development is an objective necessity, whit a strong ethical charge, a constant of the states economic and social policies.

But in Romania, we are confronting with a polluting structure of production which is damaging the environment. More than that, the low rate of the economic growth from here, can't cover the necessary funds for the investments in the control equipments and ecologic techniques for the technical, institutional and managerial imposed restructuring.

(III) In Romania, the neighbourhood policy is achieved by the Transfrontalier Cooperation Offices, which are ensuring the cooperation between the authorities of the Romania's neighbour states, for solving the common issues and for the conception and implementation of the transfrontalier strategies.

The policy of the Romanian Govern is especially centered on the good neighbourhood relations and regional cooperation in the European south-east and the Black Sea space. Romania must play an active part in mongering the EU's relations with the states from the Black Sea's area, but also in persuading the Union to implement more development projects in this area. Also, Romania must help Moldova to protect better his frontiers and to control the illegal migration.

2. The objectives an the structure of the project

2.1. General objectives:

- (I)** – the increase of the Romania's ability to restrict the migration flows by developing the educational system, preparing human resources, creating new and better employment opportunities and restructuring the social and national insurance system.
- (II)** – finding an optimum balance of the interaction between economic, human, environmental and technical into a dynamic and flexible running process.
- (III)** – the guarantee of transfrontalier cooperation management programmes. Romania will pursue to enhance the neighbourhood policy, which signifies an instrument for the EU's values and standards spread in the eastern areas and also an instrument for a strategic, ample and flexible approach promotion.

2.2. Specific objectives:

- (I)** – the increase of the Romania's institutions quality activities which must ensure the approach, the development and the build-up of the labour;

The legislation's changes and initiatives have to be actuated in agreement with the european and international norms, like: work legislation, fiscal and budgetary legislation, etc. I have to point out the need of the increasement of the living conditions of the persons or families with no earnings or little wages, the prevention

and the control of the social exclusion, the diminution of the poverty by growing up the employment level.

The employment must be in agreement with the EU's orientations, the diminution of the unemployment and the guarantee of a real social protection of the unemployed by attracting and involving them in activities of public utility carried on during their availability. For more coherence of the actions on the labour market, the National Plan of Action in the employment's sector has to be drawn up in cooperation with the social partners.

- creating new and better employment opportunities by attracting the investments, limiting the migration flows.

We have to create an international flow for the foreign investors and to make possible the cooperation between the public and the private sectors by eliminating the obstacles that the foreign investors must overlook in Romania (by drawing up a set of measures in a close cooperation with the Romanian Agency for the Foreign Investments, for example). It is also necessary the achievement of a data base (available on the Internet), which must include all the information for the foreign investors needs, the promoting materials of our development abilities and the projects of investments which need foreign investments.

The implementation of a coherent policy and the fight against the corruption in the foreign investments area, is imposed.

- reinforcing the social dialogue and security;

The social security issues are about the individual insecurity conditions, the demographic decline and the fragile situation of the population's health, the emigration of the educated and talented young people, the civil society and the absence of a strong middle – category. The aim of the social security policy is about all these aspects, with an important accent on the control of the poverty, the reinforcing of the social dialogue and solidarity and the alignment at the European norms of the employment area. The main social phenomena which are spoiling the cohesion of the Romania society and are accentuating her vulnerability for social crises and conflicts, are determined by the negative evolutions at the macroeconomic level and the incoherence of the legislation.

The state must be involved in the promotion of the dialogue and social cohesion, as an equilibrium factor in the elimination of the negative effects of the transitory process and the evolutions of the market economy.

- the improvement of the social assistance system.

The Social Insurance System has to be consolidated for the growth of the Social Services for the beneficiaries: pensions, health, unemployment, work accidents. The factors and the institutions must be directly involved in the increase of the wage system and living standards, the employment level and the control of the social exclusion. It is also necessary to control the black labour and the corruption by developing the partnership relations with the qualified institutions and organizations.

- (II)**
- the economic growth, respecting the condition of the natural resources conservation;
 - the elimination of poverty and the assurance of the conditions for the essential needs satisfaction (work, food, energy, water, home, health);
 - the direction of the economic growth processes to a new quality;

- the conservation and the increase of natural resources, the supervision of the economic development impact on the environment;
 - the restructuring of the production technologies and the keeping under control of them risks.
- (III)**
- creating conditions for the released trade;
 - the promotion of the free movement of the persons;
 - guiding the economic development process on the sustainable development principles;
 - the decentralization and the promotion of the transfrontalier cooperation;
 - the setting of a favorable situation for the development and the activation of the Euroregions;
 - the fight against the organized crime and the illegal migration;
 - the human resources development, as a key element of the ENP's objectives achievement;
 - the best management of the neighbourhood.

2.3. The research paper structure:

The paper research is structured on three directions:

- (I)** First direction includes projects which are supporting the migration flows control, achieved with the regional, national and international cooperation and they pursue:
- the increase of the national economic competitiveness and new and better employments;
 - the involve of the natural and legal persons;
 - programs for attracting and keeping the labour on the national work market;
 - programs for professional trainings;
 - programs for the development and restructuring of the assurance and protection system;

The basic problems of this area – which can be called as issues of cultural security, in a large signification – are directly connected to the need of the manifestation of new conceptions and attitudes that will contribute to the configuration of cultural and civilized dimensions of the reforms, asked especially by the European and Euroatlantic integration.

The community spirit, the national solidarity, the communication culture, the attitude for the performance, the respect for the elites and their promotion are insufficient developed stages. That's why the improvement and the development of the Romania's cultural, scientific and human potential represent an essential element and resource of the national security and the modern Romanian society. The promotion of the education society must be done in cooperation with the civil society and corresponding to the White Charter of education and training, elaborated of the European Union.

The basic policies in human resources has to continue with the reform in the education system by guaranteeing the basic education for everyone, the growth of the preacademic education quality, the connection of the Romanian education, to the economical and social needs.

For best results, the education system must to promote the informational society requirements in the educational institutions, to ameliorate the research and development legislation and institutions, to reinforce, on the competitiveness` bases, the national research system, capable to contribute in a real way to the modern romanian society.

- (II)** Second direction is about sustainable development and is supporting:
- the measures for avoiding the accidents which are damaging the environment and the decrease of the pollution;
 - the creation of an equilibrium between the promotion of the economic growth and the protection of the environment;
 - the creation of a coherent policy for the economic and environmental sides;
 - the elimination as much as possible, of the polluting sources, using programs for the reasonable skimping of the energy, water and earth;
 - the attraction of the investments in the ecological technologies.

Romania needs to promote and develop the information technology and to increase the specialists number in this area, to protect, to preserve and to restore the national patrimony and his promotion as an important part of the universal cultural patrimony.

The culture has to be promoted as a base of the sustainable development of the nation and as a nucleus of the national identity. It is also necessary to protect the cultural and religious diversity, to promote the multiculturalisma and the multiconfession and the dialogue with the religion`s representants.

- (III)** The third direction is supporting the neighbourhood policy and the Romania`s relations with Moldova and Ukraine, where our country must contribute to:
- reinforcing the democracy, the respect of the human rights and the fundamental liberties;
 - the justice reform;
 - the development of the civil society;
 - the integration of the education and research in the European space;
 - reinforcing the political dialogue and the cooperation in the foreign and security policy and the cooperation in justice and home affairs;
 - guiding the cooperation in sectors like energy, transports, information society, environment, research and development;
 - the development of people-to-people contacts, civil society, education, public health.

3. Estimated results:

- (I)** The migration flows prevention and control, with:
- the guarantee of the special institutions and organizations network development, recognized and active at the national level, which must ensure the necessary skills and technics for the education and professional training;
 - the increase of the specialized research centers/ networks in high knowledge and technology, recognized at the European level;

- the stimulation of the economic agents for creating stronger relations with the universities and new and better job's opportunities;
- the juvenation and the increase of the high qualified persons performances;
- the consolidation of the social dialogue and security;
- the fast alignment at the employment European norms;
- the improvement of the social assistance system;
- the amelioration of public health;
- the support and the consolidation of family, as an fundamental social entity;
- the prevention of the control of the discrimination, racialism and social exclusion;

(II) The ensurance of the sustainable development, with:

- the consolidation of the environmental law and protection;
- the increase of the centers number which must manage and control the polluting issues, ecological disasters caused by accidents or natural distresses;
- the setting of dialogue and stable partnerships between the institutions, economic agents and population;

Building research and innovation systems should lie at the base of any initiatives in international science and technology co-operation. Only a well-functioning innovation system can translate fruits of scientific research into concrete benefits for all in the developing countries. Existence of such a *national system of innovation* enables a country to participate and benefit from the ongoing economic globalization and the accompanying globalization of science and innovation systems. Therefore, international science and technology co-operation should involve building partnerships and networks with different stakeholders, both in the developed and developing countries, including governments, business, trade unions, academia, IGOs, NGOs, and local communities.

- the investments in the clean technology;
- the involvement of the citizens;

Also citizens can contribute to compliance monitoring by tracking the performance of industrial facilities through independently compiled emission data or independently assessed compliance/state of environment information.

- the stabilization of the gases concentration;
- the protection of the nature and the biosphere, the conservation of the natural resources;

For example, the agriculture is a major user of land and water resources and has significant environmental impacts. We have to work and identify best policy practices and market approaches supported by indicators of environmental performance and analysis of policy issues.

- the natural resources and the waste products management;

Natural resource management is at the forefront of today's environmental concerns. The countries fosters policies that ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, based on the integration of environmental and economic policies.

- the efficiency of the environmental management.

In transition and emerging economies, poor environmental compliance is a major concern for the environmental authorities as it clearly demonstrates the failure to implement environmental policies and laws. In order to address this failure, effective and efficient strategies and institutions for assuring compliance are needed.

Commonly, their success will depend upon a broad array of actions that governmental agencies undertake, alone or in co-operation with other stakeholders, to promote and monitor compliance and to correct or halt behaviour that fails to comply with environmental requirements. Well-designed and effectively functioning systems for assuring environmental compliance benefit society by protecting human health and the environment. Furthermore, clear rules that are applied in a fair and consistent manner can help governments to reinforce the credibility of regulation, create a predictable investment climate, and strengthen the rule of law and good governance. The role of compliance in guaranteeing a level playing field for businesses is increasingly important on a global marketplace.

We have to start to systematically analyse and disclose data on the greatest contributors to industrial pollution, the economic consequences of non-compliance and forces that drive violations are not quantified. The effectiveness and efficiency of compliance assurance instruments and strategies are not analysed. High performance is associated only with high numbers of inspections, investigated violations, or monetary sanctions.

Despite institutional improvements, the probability of discovering non-compliance remains low. This is often due to continued legal restrictions imposed to prevent corruption whereby planned inspections of industrial facilities should not occur more often than once every year or two, and all site visits should be announced well in advance. Although the problem of corruption does exist, frequency restrictions are not likely to solve it. Measures such as full transparency of inspection procedures and systematic disclosure of inspection results which are more likely to curb corruption received less attention. At the same time, there are positive developments.

There is a role for government to increase at least the adherence within firms to financially viable environmental improvements leading to both public (environmental) and private (economic) benefits. This role lies in quantifying and explaining to businesses and other market players the economic and social gains of environmental regulation and compliance assurance (as well as losses from their absence), raising firms' environmental awareness, encouraging sector-specific benchmarking of environmental behaviour and performance, etc., thus raising the level of corporate environmental responsibility.

The environmental authorities will need to assume the role of catalysing and facilitating the participation of commercial and non-commercial parties, which may act as indirect enforcers. These range from industry associations through financial institutions to citizens' environmental and other pressure groups. To this end, it will be important to raise the transparency of regulation and enforcement.

Continued institutional strengthening is also necessary in such areas as development of better procedures and technical guidance, staff training and infrastructure improvement, as well as staffing and budget allocation.

In order to achieve the objectives of sustainable development, Governments need to integrate economic, social and environmental concerns in their policy-making and to promote economic growth and international competitiveness of industry through macroeconomic policies. In order to stimulate domestic private enterprise, boost economy-wide competitiveness and attract foreign direct investment, policy reforms

should aim at creating an enabling policy environment, through improvements in infrastructure and education, encouragement of research and development, facilitation of exports and liberalization of domestic markets. In this regard, the development of small and medium-sized enterprises should receive special attention.

Industry plays a critical role in technological innovations and research and development activities, which are crucial for the economic and social development of any country, as well as in the development, diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and management techniques, which constitute a key element of sustainable development.

There is a mutually reinforcing relationship between social and industrial development, and industrialization has the potential to promote, directly and indirectly, a variety of social objectives such as employment creation, poverty eradication, gender equality, labour standards, and greater access to education and health care. In this regard, the overriding policy challenge is to promote the positive impacts while limiting or eliminating the negative impacts of industrial activities on social development.

As the world has become more industrialized, there have been increasing environmental pressures such as harmful emissions and waste, which have had global, regional or local impacts. These include, at the local level, urban air pollution, contamination of soils and rivers and land degradation; regionally, acid rain and water and coastal zone contamination; and globally, climate change, ozone layer depletion, loss of biodiversity, increased movement of hazardous waste and increased land-based marine pollution.

The overriding task facing Governments is to maximize the positive influence of industrial activities on economic and social development, while minimizing the negative impact of production and consumption on the environment. To this end, Governments should review their regulatory policies and systems of economic incentives and disincentives and undertake other actions such as capacity-building, environmental data collection and enforcement that support the environmental protection efforts of industry and civil society. Governments should encourage the wider dispersion and implementation of industry's voluntary initiatives and agreements and sharing of best practices.

(III) The achievement of the neighbourhood policy, with:

- the promotion of the cultural cooperation and the direct human contacts, in Moldova and Ukraine;
- the creation of the cultural cooperation networks between the non-governmental organizations from Romania, Moldova and Ukraine;
- the promotion of the people-to-people contacts using especially the education mobility, the cultural and social cooperation and the audio-visual;

Assistance for reforming and upgrading the education system with a view to convergence with EU standards and practices will be essential to strengthen democratic development, social stability and economic competitiveness. The objectives include fuller participations in programmes such as Tempus and Youth Action, greater opportunities for participating in exchange programmes such as

Erasmus Mundus and investigating the scope for cooperation in the framework of the EU programmes in the field of culture.

– the development of the energy, transport and telecommunication networks between Romania, Moldova and Ukraine and also the development of the economic and trade integration of this two countries;

The regional ENPI component will help to meet the objectives outlined in this strategy and the conclusions and recommendations of the working groups established in the framework of regional cooperation by addressing a limited number of priorities which are relevant to Moldova, but have a genuine regional dimension both in terms of joint implementation and regional impact.

At sectoral level, this relates in particular to **transport** (the development of major trans-national transport axes in line with the recommendations of the High Level Group and of the Transport Ministerial Conference in Baku of 14th November 2004 and its follow-up Working Groups), **energy** (covering, in the context of the follow-up to the Energy Ministerial Conference in Baku of 13th November 2004, all regional elements in this domain, in particular in relation to harmonising energy markets, safety and security of energy production, transportation and supplies, energy efficiency and renewables and facilitating investments in energy projects of common interest), and **environment** (targeting *inter alia* the regional dimension of the EU Water Initiative, cooperation on regional seas and rivers including on biodiversity, regional aspects of sustainable management of forests and compliance with multi-lateral agreements, climate change and industrial pollution, information, monitoring and assessment and civil society cooperation in the environment field).

Beyond that, certain aspects of **border and migration management, the fight against trans-national organised crime, and customs** can be addressed more effectively at a regional level. This may include action in connection with customs and border management, fighting international crime, and migration and asylum management. There will also be scope for regional **SME cooperation and civil society cooperation**. Finally, assistance related to the destruction of anti-personnel landmines, explosive remnants of war and small arms and light weapons will be available.

– the improvement of the affairs environment;

Moldova will be involved in two ENPI CBC programmes: a trilateral landborder programme with Ukraine and Romania, and the multilateral Black Sea Programme.

– the promotion of the public – private partnerships;

From 2007 on, EC assistance will be provided through a set of new instruments. While the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), including not only its national but also its transnational/regional, cross-border and thematic components, will be the principal new tool for providing assistance to Moldova, certain measures, in particular in the area of conflict prevention and crisis management and resolution, may also be supported under the future Stability Instrument

– the decrease of the differences;

A separate instrument will continue to be available to promote democracy and human rights worldwide. Moldova may benefit from assistance under this instrument, mainly under broader Calls for Proposals involving several countries or regions.

Details will be elaborated as part of a separate programming process. Full complementarity with the assistance provided under the national ENPI envelope will be ensured.

- the reinforcement of the Euroregions part;
- the control of the transfrontalier crime, like the control of the migration or any kind of illegal traffic.

4. The activities calendar

The project proposal must be sent at the place, date and at the stated time and conditions in the “**1st ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS**”, made by University of Genoa. The responsibility of sending the proposal paper research at the stated place and time in the announcement of the competition is in the candidate’s charge.

5. The project budget

The weight of the allocations from the project total budget, approved with this destination, for each part of the project (**(I) (II) (III)**), is:

- 50% for the migration flows;
- 35% for sustainable development;
- 15% for neighbourhood policy.

6. Ethics rules

The development of the competition and the carrying on of the received projects are submitting to the existing regulations and legal provisions.