

## **EUROPEAN SUMMER SCHOOL-RAPALLO(GENOA)-ITALY**

**Research project "Sustainable Development,Neighbourhood Policy in new EU countries (ROMANIA),Migration People Flows,in the new ENP(European Neighbourhood Policy)**

NAME: SAMOILA DANIEL

CITY:VASLUI

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COUNTRY:ROMANIA

### **THE FINAL VERSION**

Sharing research and scientific know-how between countries and communities is more crucial than ever in our modern world. It is key to improving economic growth,building sustainable development,tackling poverty and creating a worldwide network for the advancement of science and technology.The post communist countries ,like Romania,have been introducing reforms with different speed and directions in their social development.For Romania, the prospect of joining the EU created strong incentives to implement economic and institutional reforms.It also formed a powerfull basis for social cohesion and helped avoid social instability that accompanied large scale changes in political and economic systems in other transition countries.Abrupt economic and social changes and dismating of social institutions led to vulnerability and poverty of large groups of people.Given the limited opportunities for these groups to restore income and status within the new economic and social system,marginalization appeared to be a most serious problem .It appears in different forms of discrimination and exclusion based on such factors as age education level,gender,family size and ethnic group.Throughout ECA,children and youth have been dispropotionately affected by poverty,collapse and social services,and unemployment.The number of children in residential institutions has increased significantly in the last 10 years and reached 820.000,with 60 percent labeled as disabled.Studies suggest that the number of children living on the streets ranges from 1 to 3 percent of the population.Sustainable development is the form of economic growth that meets the needs of the society in terms of short,medium,and long term welfare.It is based on the consideration that development must meet the current needs for a sustainable development of the society was highlighted in 1992 at the Earth Summit in

Rio de Janeiro and was reiterated at the World Summit for Sustainable Development ,in Johannesburg in 2002.Approaching an indicator system to help monitor the sustainable development of our country must stem from the objectives and targets provided for our National Strategy for Sustainable Development,in the Orizont 2025,Romanian Development Strategy and in other programmatic documents adopted at national level and must be consistent with EU's Sustainable Development Strategy adopted in Goteborg in 2001.

These indicators must be consensual and provide a representative image of the three dimensions of sustainable development:society,economy,environment.It is equally necessary that these indicators be transparent ,sound and reliable from a statistical point of view,that they be obtained from the best data sources which must be harmonized in point of methodology with the international standards ,be similar to those of EU member states and provide the comparison with the international standards used by United Nations,and by OECD.The goal is setting up an indicator system to fully cover the three pillars of sustainable development and to lay the foundation for a large debate with decision makers concerned with the development of this field .A systematic and consistent data organization template ,was taken into account when developing the indicators.

The list of **indicators** includes:

- 1) Environmental structural indicators ,which ROMANIA is under the obligation to report to international bodies.
- 2) Indicators monitoring fulfillment of the milenium development objectives
- 3) Indicators monitoring fulfillment of the objectives,included in the Orizont 2025,Romanian Development Strategy.

A number of general measures have been identified that need to be addressed in order to encourage active citizenship and sustainable development.There is a need to:

- 1) Decentralise power that will bring the decision making structures closer to the people like making local governments more responsible developing initiatives appropriate to local needs.This decentralisation of power from central to more local governments needs to be backed-up with delegation of financial resources.However measures need to be put

into a place in order to ensure that local elites, do not dominate local governments and utilise the benefits for just their own purposes..

- 2) Develop know-how of active citizenship, increasing reputation of civil organizations providing public information, changing attitudes of government bodies and public affairs, changing company culture and involving people in the decision making process.
- 3) Build effective people's organizations by paying attention to those socially excluded and involving them in coalitions, which may pave the way for social reform. Various organizations, neighbourhood, community associations should consider this issues.
- 4) Adopt NGO's programmes to respond the current needs of the community they serve.
- 5) For fostering the work domain curriculum should introduce techniques of active teaching and learning, focusing on entrepreneurial attitudes and values with concern for sustainable development and social responsibility and the values of solidarity.
- 6) The link between civil society and schools should be reinforced. Moreover the partnership between NGO's and enterprises, administrative bodies, trade unions etc, should create a positive balance between civic involvement and economic development.
- 7) Subsidies, grants, or other opportunities should be found to enable sharing of good practice between volunteers and other civil society experts by publishing leaflets about their activities and sharing experiences and good practices
- 8) Special attention should be paid to enforcing the community development projects to stimulate and empower people in various domains, starting with community involvement, to take up, the initiatives and withdraw the feeling of helplessness inculcated from the past.

**People movement** is released by globalisation but must still be accommodated within institutional norms and fundamental values. The goal is to making the EU, an accessible space for new migrants requires a policy built around **2 axes: the market and human rights.**

However, immigration can be beneficial for Europe society in the EU and its member states are able for attract the kind of immigrants, the economy needs and to assimilate them successfully. I want to argue that as a point of principle, EU policy making must clearly differentiate between voluntary and forced migration. This provides the basis for two different strategies to be pursued simultaneously: **a)** a first strategy driven by economic

criteria for the flow management of voluntary migrants;**b)** a second strategy for those forced into migration, as determined by a humanitarian response.

Rules should be flexible enough to attract immigrants for specific jobs and periods of time while demand continues to exist. Short term migration and seasonal occupations both necessary to bridge temporary labour shortages in some areas, should not result in permanent resettlement. Immigrants might also be given the chance to work in areas where corporate or trade unions interests have distorted the normal operation of the markets. The judgment stipulate that states need to make an exact correlation between social security benefits and social security contributions. If immigrants are excluded from some benefits for which they have paid contributions the state incurs international responsibility for the violation of property rights.

I am in all in favour of international institutions having the ongoing authority to control the human authority to control the human rights situation of immigrant groups.

Nevertheless long term residents need at least to know the language of the place they are living in, as well as the history of the Union, and get involved in its politics. They should be prepared to preserve its independence and integrity, respect the rule of law, the democratic principles, human rights and fundamental freedoms, the equality of men and women, the rights to privacy, and above all the culture of tolerance in a society. Acceptance of these values by immigrants should constitute the very transmission belt, from short to long term residence and finally citizenship.

The most important step for the EU immigrant's presence should be the transition from medium to long term residency. At that stage an overall assessment of the immigrants integration into Europe society, should be undertaken including along with labour market criteria, a comprehensive assessment of his or her personality and of the ties he or she maintains with the society of EU. Immigration has acquired some distinctive features in the era of globalisation. There now exists a worldwide market for a migrant workforce. In 2002 the number of migrants reached around 175 million people about 3% of world population more than doubling the world's migrants population since 1970.

But despite, thus tendency to increase disparities, there are 2 reasons why world society benefits from migration over all: **1)** First, cause the transaction between the country of destination and the immigrant is an opportunity for welfare of both parties. Were the

borders in world society completely open, people flows would just crisscross each other at random. But where the country of destination permits the immigrants to enter its territory lawfully a contract may be concluded for mutual advantage. 2) Second, immigration can act as a catalyst in challenging authoritarian regimes. It is naïve to believe that it would help developing countries, closed their borders to put an end to the brain drain. Development and democratisation in these countries is quite likely to be in consequence of crises in particular of the breakdown, in turn is often the direct result of the exclusion of large parts of the population from participation in the social, and economic life of the nation. I think it is important, to prevent friction within society, it is necessary to promote a policy of voluntary assimilation of immigrants and confer long-term residence status only on persons who have been successfully integrated in the above sense. I think it is proper to compress some **recommendations** for protecting the receiving migration country:

- 1) The labour market, needs to balance supply as well as demand. The framework could explicitly target measures at the Supply of low skilled labour as well as at the demand for such labour.
- 2) The new regime, could channel migrant labour to sectors or subsectors with little native labour to ensure that migrants are complements to aid, not substitutes for domestic labour.
- 3) To ensure that employment under the new regime is temporary and not permanent, incentives could be designed to encourage return home when not employed. For example, unemployment and pension benefits could both be portable and only payable in the country of origin.

Bilateral migration agreements that include some or all of these features could have a number of advantages over many existing policies:

- a) Agreements could stimulate circular migration allowing employers in receiving countries to obtain affordable noncontracted services while respecting the law and reduce incentives for potential migrants to use illegal means of entry.
- b) Such an approach seems commensurate with migrants preferences to spend shorter periods abroad and the need for receiving countries to obtain labour services but not necessarily absorb a permanent population of migrants.

- c) Moreover in the sending country, increased circular migration, encouraged by the lowering of transportation costs, could reduce many of the negative social effects that results from the separation of families during long term, and reduce the incidence and degree of “brain drain”, from migration sending countries in EU.

Bilateral agreements have some advantages relative to the most favored nation approach used in trade negotiations and particularly are useful for policy makers in receiving countries who are seeking to balance labour market demand with the potential demand with the potential externalities of migration.

### **Social Externalities generated by Migration**

- 1) first, migrants from other cultures bring different values, which some sections of the native population may resent
- 2) second, unlike, imported goods, migrants are people who hold a package of political, social, and moral rights and obligations.
- 3) third, while buying an imported product is a one-time decision, bringing in a migrant could result in future labour market commitments, including the renewing of visas, paying of taxes, and provision of relevant training.
- 4) finally, a migrant generates claims for social protection that, depending on the taxation regime the effectiveness of tax administration, may result in a net fiscal cost.

### **EXAMPLE:**

Romania, in the past immigration territory from the North East regions of Italy, is now a land of emigration, with Italy as the favourite destination point. By 2000, following the Moroccans and the Albanians, the Romanians had become the third largest immigrant group in Italy. Caritas estimated them at about 85000. Since the Italian quota system does not meet their migration needs, the Romanians are also involved in illegal migration to Italy, and they represent one of fifth of Central East Europe immigrants currently in Italy. Romanians are also migrating to other large countries such as: Germany, USA, Canada. Romania itself has also become the transit point of growing migration flow from other countries interested in settling in Western Europe. Almost half of the Romanians seem to prefer settling in the central regions of Italy, mainly in Rome and the Lazio region. A significant share (67%) migrate in the hope of fulfilling job expectations, more than half of them holds a secondary education diploma.

### **Neighbourhood Policy in new EU countries, ROMANIA.**

After the 2004 parliamentary and presidential elections in Romania ,relations between Romania and the Republic of Moldova improved markedly.As soon as the new administration took office,bilateral relations with Moldova were placed high on the Romanian foreign policy agenda and the destination of the new Romanian President's first official visit abroad was Moldova in January 2005.This improvement was also made possible by the newfound consensus amongst the political class in Chisinau regarding Moldova's integration with the EU as the country's main strategic foreign policy goal,which culminated in the signature of the EU-Moldova Action Plan in the framework of the EU's Neighbourhood Policy(ENP) in February 2005.The Party of Moldovan Communists,led by the Moldovan President ,Vladimir Voronin,subsequently won the parliamentary elections in March 2005 on a pro –European platform.

If only to make matters worse,Romania's accession to the EU means that Moldovans are facing new restrictions in conducting trade with and travelling to Romania.The free trade area between Romania and Moldova has ceased to exist upon Romanian's accession to the EU and Romania introduced visas for Moldovans for the first time in its history.Add to this the fact that in the last months alone,around 530 000 Moldovans applied for Romanian citizenship due to Romanian's new found attractiveness as an EU member ,and becomes clear that Romanian-Moldovan face a bumpy road ahead.Romania's official position with regard to the Republic of Moldova is that of one nation,two states,which is justified in the official discourse by stressing their shared history,language,culture and traditions.Such a position implies a special relationship and clashes with the position promoted by Moldova's communist authorities,which rests on building pragmatic relations with Romania.In such a context,it is helpful to review the general principles that guide Romania's foreign policy vis a vis Moldova.

- 1) A basic treaty regulating bilateral ties between Romania and Moldova is considered unnecessary by the Romanian authorities despite the insistence of the Moldovan communist authorities.Instead the Romanian authorities favour a political agreement, focusing on cooperation in the field of Moldova's integration with EU.
- 2) Moldova is a European state with very close links to Romania and its future lies with the EU alongside Romania.Romania will lobby relentlessly for Moldova's eventual

accession to the EU ,despite the unfavourable climate in the EU towards further enlargement.

Romania has succesfully lobbied for Moldova's inclusion in the Central European Free Trade Area as of 1 January 2007.

**3)** Romania and the EU remain comparatively weak vis a vis Russia in terms of what they presently are able or willing to offer Moldova ,namely market and labour access,energy deliveries and leverage in the Transnistrian conflict.However ,the EU doubled its financial assistance to Moldova to 254 milion euro,for the period 2007-2010 at a donor conference in december 2006,thereby making it the second highest per capita beneficiary of EU aid under the ENP after the Palestinian Authority.

Now that it has achieved EU membership ,will Romania fundamentally change its foreign policy towards Moldova?The answer of course is “no”but the new country might consider a number of additional steps to make its policy towards Moldova more pro-active.It would be interesting for Romania to develop a closer partnership with those EU states that are very active in the EU's neighbourhood and that favour further enlargement,e.g the Baltic states,Poland ,the Czech Republic,Germany.It is necessary to increase the level of assistance ,joint projects and exchanges could be another way through which Romania can develop a more pro active policy.Moldova is eager to diversify its trade and Romania is well placed to provide assistance through its Chambers of Commerce to its Moldovan.More Romanian investment in the Moldovan economy,especially in the energy and banking sectors,would be welcome.Romania is coping with labour shortage and is willing to give Moldovan workers priority access to its labour market.The presence of Romanian language media and press in Moldova should be reinforced.In addition,several other measures could be considered by the Romanian authorities:

- a)** Now that the opening of two additional consulates for treating visa applications has been approved at the highest level, amount of paperwork required by moldovians for obtaining a Romanian visa should also be reduced
- b)** A streamlined procedure should be adopted to allow to the moldovians to recover Romanian citizenship under the best possible conditions.

c) An open public debate should be launched in Romanian society on its relations with Moldova so as to explain and legitimise a more pro-active and hence more costly policy towards Moldova. Romania is already taking steps to offset the effects of its accession to the EU on its relations with the Republic of Moldova. The most urgent challenge at the present time is to effectively cope administratively and logistically with the huge demand for Romanian visas and Romanian citizenship. Several other possibilities for increased cooperation with Moldova from Romania's perspective have been outlined above. It remains to be seen to ensure the irreversibility of democratisation or a sustained process of economic reforms in Moldova. Romania's efforts in this regard are therefore most welcome.

**Conclusion:**

The regional strategy agreed by European Commission within the framework of the Stability Pact for South East Europe proposed investing in institutional capacity and human capital formation, focusing on professional associations, universities and other groups, as a way to promote a new leadership from the region. It is expected that this new leadership will be adequately prepared to promote social cohesion and regional collaboration through desirable behaviour and policy making. Developing a local human capital deeply permeated by democratic values, and sensitive towards social development issues is a basic priority to achieve peace, stability and regional integration in South East Europe. Therefore, the main objective of these research projects should be, to train a new generation of decision makers, social scientists and policy analysts with a regional vision that can contribute to change public culture by promoting a better informed public policy debate on social inclusion, cohesion and inter-ethnic reconciliation on the basis of rigorous applied research. The newly trained social scientists may become full time scholars, policy makers or professionals in the non-governmental sector in their respective countries. This type of social analysis would require substantial improvements in the quality, knowledge and skills of organizations/institutions and research groups which are involved in assessing poverty and improving the linkages among research, analysis, poverty reduction and inclusive social policies as well as investment programs at regional level. Training should cover conceptual issues, methodological tools

as well as case studies. In particular, possible terms to be covered during the first phase could be the following:

- a) European Integration, European Union, Stabilization and Association Agreement;]
- b) Social inclusion, cohesion, and social policies in comparative perspective
- c) Poverty reduction Strategies and Medium Term Expenditure Framework
- d) Techniques and methods for Social Research and policy design (action research, quantitative and qualitative surveys, focus group discussions, participatory rapid appraisal, logical framework, ranking needs and priorities.
- e) interactive computer analyses of large scale quantitative data
- f) best practices in project or sector specific social assessments (for agriculture, education, sectoral adjustment loans, etc), assessments of the social impact of macro-stabilization and privatization programs, Participatory Country Assistance Strategies, Poverty Reduction Strategies, Poverty Assessments.

**Policy implications on the three domains: state, work, and civil society**

Based on these conclusions the project has been able to make the following: recommendations

**State domain**

- Reshaping political parties is a must in the post-communist countries, as well as sustainable efforts for increasing their interest in social issues, democratising the political domain and encouraging “networked polity” by promoting local governance.
- Public debate spaces should be created and maintained, providing opportunities to deliberate, to discuss and to build trust between citizens.
- Institutional reform in public administration sector as well as different civil services should be considered.
- Awareness-raising campaigns in the context of European accession for acknowledging that EU-integration is not only Government’s or State responsibility.
- A special role of mass-media in promoting civic values should be recognised in the context of reshaping public media in Central and Eastern European countries.
- Open access to public information for all the citizens strengthening their information rights, providing technologies to foster access, free or charge services, and guidance.

- Paid leave systems to make the citizens able to participate in relevant citizenship training. Training funds to be established and tax refunds for those undertaking these training courses should be proposed.
- Reforming educational system in post communist countries from Central and Eastern Europe, which should start with a debate on the duality of traditions of civic education.
- Schools should be open to the wider society, embedded into their local community. If this requirement is fulfilled, more actors would interplay in educating youth, school partnership programmes would broaden the democratic experience of students. School democracy (student participation, parent participation, teacher participation) should be promoted.
- International youth exchange programmes are of immense value, not only at the higher education level, but also in general education system. Financial support and opportunities are needed to make them possible for rural and deprived schools.

#### **Work/economic domain**

- Establishing real learning partnerships between schools, enterprises, administrative bodies, trade unions, civil society should create a positive balance between civic involvement and economic development.

#### **Civil Society domain**

- Subsidies, grants or other opportunities should be found to enable sharing of good practice between volunteers and other civil society experts by publishing leaflets about their activities, and sharing experiences and good practices.