ROMANIA’S CONCERN REGARDING THE IMPROVEMENT OF
SERVICE QUALITY IN THE
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

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Abstract: Through the reform and decentralization process, Romania has scored progress in the services provided by the public administration area. Consequently, attempts to fulfill and respectively satisfy both the effectual legislative requirements, and the various needs of the consumers/citizens have been made. From a socio-economic point of view, the increase in the quality of public services has contributed to the promotion of market economy principles, decrease of monopoly degree and also the rise in the living standards.

The implementation and the certification of a quality management system according to ISO 9000 standards is a high priority objective in the Romanian public administration, because through the improvement in terms of quality of service, increase of their efficiency, fighting the bureaucracy and providing the transparency in the decision making act is aimed.

Keywords: public administration, Romania, quality
CURRENT APPROACHES CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM ON A GLOBAL LEVEL AND IN ROMANIA

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Abstract: The strong economic determination given by a framework for exercising the “freedom of movement” (goods, services, capital, persons), corroborated with the circulation of a single exchange currency and of some coordinated economic politics, has imposed the necessity of some major changes in the administrative system as well. In the context of the future development of the EU, a particular emphasis will be laid on: the active participation of the nations in Europe, democratic and effective governing, understanding and respect for diversity and common aspects in Europe, related to culture, institutions, language, and values. Romania as an integral part of the EU must align with these desiderata towards community.

Keywords: administrative reform, Romania, global level
TOWARDS ROMANIA’S MONETARY INTEGRATION

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Abstract: On the 1st of January 2007, Romania became a member of the European Union together with Bulgaria. The next important step towards European integration will be Romania’s accession to the Monetary Union. To achieve it, Romania must join the Exchange Rate Mechanism II, and then conditioned by the fulfillment of nominal convergence criteria, it will adopt the euro. Since the final objective is not just the adoption of the single European currency but also the generation of profits, it is also necessary for a country to fulfill some criteria for real convergence. The article refers to the stage of fulfillment of the criteria for both nominal and real convergence by Romania. The paper also compares the situation in Romania with that of other EU member countries from Central and Eastern Europe.

Keywords: criteria, Monetary Union, Romania
EDUCATION AND THE LONG-RUN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL WELLBEING OF INDIVIDUALS

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Abstract: Particularly in recent years, there has been a strong upsurge of interest in the economics of education, especially amongst applied economists. Both at the individual level and at the level of society, there is now ample research showing substantial positive effects of education not only in terms of monetary benefits but also in terms of nonmonetary benefits. This paper summarizes the main findings with respect to the effects of education and training for the wellbeing of the individuals from a society. It will be a key focus of this study to show that efficient educational policies need not be inequitable, and equitable policies need not be inefficient. Countries do not necessarily have to choose between efficiency and equity. There are ways to evade strong trade-offs between efficiency and equity, while current attempts to reach the one or the other sometimes turn out to be both inefficient and inequitable.

Keywords: education, wellbeing, efficiency
Abstract

The work is meant to analyze and define the concept of Geopolitics and briefly present the main contributions of Romanian geopolitics. These bring into sight the importance of Romanian space where two legacies from different directions meet, i.e. that of Peter the Great who said that „I am not looking for land, but for water”, and that of Friederich Liszt, the author who used to indicate the direction of expansion for Germany by following the Danube’s course.

Our country geographical position as riverside to the Black Sea, and as Eastern border for the European Union, integrated on the navigable trans-European axis of Danube–Main–Rhine has a first rank importance regarding the development of maritime and inland waters transport and international trade at the same time, starting with 1st January 2007.

If costs for inland waters and maritime transport are characterized as low, the transport on the river Danube has yet another advantage, that of political and juridical safety and a common interest of all Danubian countries. Today all Danubian states are members of the European Union and can guarantee a common interest in lightening the traffic on the Straits of Bosporus and the Dardanelles, by redirecting the ships in the Black Sea.

Keywords: globalization, Romania, maritime activities
PROTECTION OF THE COMMUNITAIRE TRADEMARK

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Abstract: As the number of the member states of the European Union grew up, some of the obstacles for the free ware traffic and the performance of free services have disappeared.

The set up of the community brand offers to any state the possibility of obtaining such a protection even if it is out of the borders.

Keywords: European Union, European brand, protection
Abstract: Global ecologic balance relies on a great number of interactions and expresses different favorability degrees from the human perspective. Economic processes became also global, but this escape from national governmental, control raise a lot of questions, and fuel debates. Premises of global economy can be found in history and their evolution pattern may show us some of the possible outcomes. Differences in wages are sensitive measuring instruments for the strength migratory and investment processes. Global pollution is also a term of this equation, and could start some irreversible effects in the transitory phase, before reaching any of the economic globalization benefits.

Keywords: globalization, premises, process
THE PRINCIPLES OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLITICS AND THEIR REFORMS

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Abstract: To draw up the regional development strategies, you have to take into account a series of principles that create the global framework of getting on the activities in territory. According to these principles, there were settled down the compulsory demands for the elaboration of any regional politics and, implicit, the arrangement of the territory, in the capacity of components of the regional development

Keywords: regional development, reform, regional politics
Abstract: This paper aims to provide an overview regarding the competitiveness of Romania’s regions in the context of the European Union. The development and the competitiveness of a region are influenced by factors connected to a general economic background, traditions or geographical position. In Romania, these kind of factors determined important disparities between the eight regions, generating on one hand, more developed regions with higher contributions to the national GDP, a stable labour force and attractive for investments and, on the other hand, less developed regions with high unemployment, large rural areas with low economic activity in sectors generating more added value and often avoided by foreign investors. Although at country level we can divide regions in three category (winners, laggards, losers), at European level, all Romania’s regions are among the less developed. That is why the future regional policy it is important for diminishing the disparities between regions and for bringing them closer to the European level.

Keywords: Romania, European Union, regional development
THE LABOUR MARKET PROGRESS AND THE EMPLOYMENT IN DOBROGEA COUNTY

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Abstract: The present material is realizing a regional approach of the labour market, in particular, labour market and employment from historical province Dobrogea between 1996-2008 period. The development of the regional labour market take place in the context of the intensification processes for decentralization to local level and regionalization at national level through Romania’s adhesion at European Community. Adhesion to European Community bring itself free goods circulation, services, capital and, gradually, free circulation of the persons, all above said having influences over labour market dynamic – labour market which is non-typical – over regional economy, generating modifications in companies system and, also, demand system. The current consumer has now a larger palette of options oscillating between domestic and import goods with impact over domestic demand which is trend to the Romanian consumer, but to the export too.

Keywords: labour market; employment; Dobrogea County; public-private partnership.
Abstract: This Strategy sets specific objectives for moving, within a reasonable and realistic timeframe, toward a new model of development that is capable of generating high value added, is motivated by interest in knowledge and innovation, and is aimed at continued improvement of the quality of life and human relationships in harmony with the natural environment.

Keywords: regional development, rural development, Romania
THE OVERLOOKED ROLE OF TOURISM IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT. THE CASE OF REGION WEST1

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Abstract: The regional development should aim to correlate and integrate tourism among the other integrative parts of the regional and local development, taking into account the fact that a region’s prosperity as effect of tourism development may be shown clearly in several stages: on the spot (as a result of direct consumption of the tourist product), on short term (through continuous absorption of the work-force and encouraging the welcoming commerce) and in the long run (concentrating capital for investment in the general infrastructure and the one of tourism, in structures of reception for tourism and in the development of urban services). The analysis of intra-regional disparities as part of the economic growth at the level of Region West starts off with the idea that each component county has a different landscape, which favored or inhibited their economic growth; in the same time, each component county has its own specific, which can be promoted through tourism, inducing in time a regional income, and respectively, a socio-economic and cultural growth of less developed areas.

Keywords: tourism, regional development, region West

1 Part of the research included in the PhD thesis – “The Analysis of the Regional Development. From ethnic, religious and cultural diversity to economic performances and community harmonious life in Banat”
WHY ARE WE TALKING ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OPPORTUNITY COSTS AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT?

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Abstract: It is often said that „losing” is not reduced only to a term found in a dictionary but is felt as a daily presence in a human’s life as well as in life of the Economy. We are talking about the losses generated by certain or random action, or a choice taken as an alternative for another different alternative. Most of the time these losses are not understood by the ones who actually bear and suffer the consequences (an economical term referred to as the „opportunity cost”). These costs occur as a result of: the lack of information regarding the matter; the absence of information; or a wrong association between information and opportunity costs. There is a strong connection between regional development and opportunity costs, as inevitably one generates the other. On the one hand, the costs are suffered by the community or owners or on the other hand, suffered by the local or regional authorities. The article is pointing out the relationship between opportunity costs and regional development, which is the role and importance of the costs when the situation really exists or is just presumptuous.

Keywords: opportunity costs, regional development
Abstract: One of the present challenges that SMEs meet is market globalization, a trend which impels enterprises to adopt management strategies that can ensure their competitiveness at international level. In the context of internalisation, competence management is a key success factor and a strategic instrument of major importance. In order to be reactive and innovative, enterprises have to identify and develop human competences which suit their short, medium and long-term needs. International activities require additional competences on behalf of the human resources who are the most effective and efficient production factors of a company. A good command of foreign languages, knowledge of international markets, rules and regulations, cross-cultural awareness are all additional competences. The entrepreneur’s personality, experience, behaviour and character are major factors that contribute to the success of the enterprise.

Keywords: small and medium enterprises, management, international activities
Abstract: The tourism's globalization and lasting development process aims at practicing the tourist activities under the ecological incidence and the resources' rational use, nowadays the rural tourism being the one which best fits the respective demands.

The indicators' system used in the analysis of the rural tourism activity analysis presents itself as a subsystem separated from the system of indicators generally applied for tourism.

According to the general principles that must be observed in the creation of the set of indicators of the rural tourism, of the main tasks accomplished by its quantity and quality component elements, it has been created and synthetically, clearly and concisely given - an indicators' system presented in a new way, with applicability within this form of tourism. This includes the indicators of the rural tourist demand and of the rural tourist supply.

Keywords: rural tourism, development, indicators
AGRICULTURE OF ROMANIA AND INTEGRATION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

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Abstract: In a peaceful atmosphere, with large perspectives, the adherence of Romania to the European Union has put on some severe issues. Individual agricultural exploitations specifically related to Romania do not share any conditions of modern and competitive agricultural practices. For making progress and remaining on the market, it is not only necessary but mandatory that agricultural producers establish an activity on a durable correlation between costs, quality and incomes. Financing the expenses for rural developing programs is effectuated through state budget financing for the part of co financing, from the European Community Budget and from the private contribution of project beneficiaries, in established proportions after the negation with the European Commission and the adaptation of rural development plan.

Keywords: Romania, European Union, agriculture