

The Role of the Public Administration and the Rural Development

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Abstract: Present time demonstrates that the theory and practice of the public administration are in a perpetual and radical change, under the influence of some contextual factors, extremely different: historical, political, geographical, cultural and economical ones. The understanding on the whole working mechanism in the public administration mainly requires the knowledge of the assigned meanings. The local public administration is the only actor actively involved in the local evolution of the rural space. Starting from this reality and from the need of increasing the capacity of the local public administration, it elaborates and implements politics for local development. The local public administration is the only actor actively involved in the local evolution of the rural space. Starting from this reality and from the need of increasing the capacity of the local public administration, it elaborates and implements politics for local development. Since then the presence of the politics explained and still explains the differences in the development among countries and groups of countries.

Keywords: public administration, rural development, correct management of the public.

“I want to change administration into a second magistrature”

Vasile Lascar

I. Introduction

The public administration is presented under a multitude of concepts and theories meant to define and explain it. The dynamic of the social life determines a change and a modelling of all the structures, institutions, organisms consisted of, and make the public administration work.

As a state, Romanian society and particularly the public administration are confronted with essential, difficult challenges generated by the evolution of the contemporary world, challenges to which we'll have to answer in the future.

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The term “administration” comes from the Latin,administer’, a compound word made up of the prefix,ad’, which shows direction and the noun, minister’ that means servant, helper, agent. The verb,administro’ means to give a helping hand, to lead/run or to guide.

The Dictionary of the Romanian Language explains the verb “to administrate” as to direct/manage, to rule, while the collocation “public administration” as the totality of the administrative authorities from a state, section or service in charge with the administrative problems of an institution or economic agent.

In “ Dictionary of American Government and Politics “, edited by Dorsey Press, Chicago, in 1988, under the guidance of professor Jay M. Shafritz from the University in Pittsburg, more explanations are given to the collocation “ public administration “.

Thus, public administration means the executive function in the Government, execution, application of the public politics, organisation and management of the people and other resources to reach the governing aims, the art and science of this management applied to the public sector. We can easily notice that the numerous explanations given to that term can do nothing but to demonstrate its complexity.

The difficulty to define this term equally determines the finding out of all the plans of manifestation the public administration, so that it could be understood.

The concept of the public administration has its origins within the state.

II. Rural Development

It is important to demonstrate that work in the public administration is carried out by people specially trained, who got fame in time, due to their fundamental mission to serve the interests of the citizens into the state. In this way, the personnel of the public administration (personnel stipulated by contract and public clerks) is responsible for the effects of the decisions taken and their putting into practice.

Far from the classical debates concerning the evolution of the administrative systems, organisation models and problems of the limited rationality, the whole modern debate on the administrative reform is based on new interesting terms, like public management.

The local public administration is the only actor actively involved in the local evolution of the rural space. Starting from this reality and from the need of increasing the capacity of the local public administration, it elaborates and implements politics for local development.

Although some of the local agents left the communities where they worked, those who remained have got important achievements, proving that the learning period, experimenting and storing of knowledge stages have passed and the local development agents became insuperable resources for community.

The main attention of the local public administrations in the rural areas should be directed towards the financing opportunities, the best adapted instrument to the needs of developing the rural communities that ensures a unitary and coherent context to European support for the local strategies of development.

Not very complicated, such an endeavour is mainly conditioned by the elaboration of a strategy of lasting development, that of the human resource as well as the promoting of a public partnership – private on topic areas of mutual interest preferably in association with territorial administrations in the neighbourhood.

The major importance of this new financing context is that the rural communities can get money to support development strategies, the financing through specific programmes for the rural milieu can be correlated to financial programmes by region politics, environment politics, enterprise politics, educational politics, etc.

According to the Council Regulation (CE) 1698/2005, rendered into Romanian legislation by Order 243 on April 14, 2006, the Agricultural European Fund for Rural Development is structured on 4 financing axes.

Each axis includes more measures having the role to promote specific projects to contribute to the performing of the general objectives of the Commune Agricultural Politics, in accordance with the national programme of rural development and the local strategies.

The public administration has the responsibility to be involved at the level of all the axes, either as a petitioner, a partner or a supporting and coordinating institution by means of complementary informing actions, consulting, dissemination, etc. Its responsibility as a promoter reverts to a reduced number of measures.

In view of the complexity of such an approach and taking into account the particular situation in the Romanian rural areas (economical and social infrastructure showing a deficit, fragmentary propriety, with prevalence of half – subsistence farms, structural fragility, in most cases even mono production, the bad quality of the entrepreneur and the lack of the investment sources, bad quality of the services and the reduced level of education and the professional training, reluctance to change and reduced

elasticity to offer), have as a result that the driving role in rural development and in revaluation of the opportunities provided by European context must revert to public administration.

Without assuming the role of the promoter or a direct beneficiary, the public administration can't promote and support the initiation of projects on other measures having an important role of training at the local level. It is not only about the funds of the Agricultural Politics and the Region Politics, but also the educational politics, culture and professional training or the enterprise politics. A good informing and dissemination of the information at the level of community, with good practical examples from other Union countries can have an essential role in attracting funds and projects to potent the efficiency of the development strategies.

Finally, we insist on the major exigency to start from a strategy. It is important to establish the resources, the needs, the opportunities, menaces and competitive advantages. Without a strategy, coherence will miss in the use of the funds, resources will be lost but more than that that time will flow not in the advantage of the population who live in the rural areas.

To have a good activity means to be prepared and dispose of simple procedures.

III. The role of the local public administration

The Romanian administrative system was often criticised as far as the quality of the public clerks is concerned, no matter about their position either a managerial or execution one. This is due to the fact that the public administration in Romania still keeps mentalities that exclude quality in prejudice of quantity. In this way, structural and organising changes to support the public function professionally have been taken into account by access to the taking of public positions through competence criteria, so that administrative activities should be more efficient. The coherent and correct management of the public clerks' career by means of a suitable wage, the stimulation and insurance of some normal work conditions to respect the principles of stability and continuity in work, have become landmarks in the activity of the public administration that built a series of institutions to coordinate, support and control the achievement of these requirements.

Within the state administration, there isn't any public position without professional training and/or in the management. The professional competence and that in the public management are absolutely necessary to get efficiency at the level of the administrative system by corresponding prediction of the future evolution, activity planning, resources taking, motivating the employees and the control of the way processes evolve.

“ Value of an administrative system consists not only in the material and financial means it has, as in its own human potential. “ Taking that into account, to a great extent, the performing of the political decisions, the general economic and social progress depends on the functionality of the administrative system (conceived as an ensemble of structures, bodies and regulations), it is explainable the special attention paid to the professional training of the personnel from the public administration and the pursuit of their individual and planning career.

The theoretical and practical professional training of the personnel from public administration becomes more and more important while the specialised and complex character of the administrative activity must be understood, taking into account the major changes public administration is passing through as a direct effect to the changes of the background.

The way in which the personnel from the public administration see itself and the action domain in democracy are reflection topics for researchers and place for bureaucratic power (represented by the public clerks, who, by virtue of legal regulations and the competences given by the law, hold a part of the power in state). The efficiency of the administrative system is determined by treating the public position professionally, one of the stated/declared objectives of the process of administrative reform in our country. The professional training of the public clerks is reflected in the quality of the provided public services. Not even a single public position can be taken except for the person who is prepared to give it a certain complexity.

The educational training perfected in learning institutions is completed in the work process through the active participation of the clerk at his own training and perfecting career.

IV. Conclusions

Unfortunately, the recorded achievements, as they are at the absolute manner, are put into shade by the varied range of failures, negative trends and the deterioration of the social and economic climate. With the pretence of a synthesis and with the hope that some of them will be deduced within the measures and the ways suggested to overpass the real state of things, in summary they are the following :

The most dangerous menace for the lasting development is extreme poverty.

The big demographic increase of the world population predicted for the next 40 years.

The biological diversity is in great danger, many species of plants and animal races disappear or are extinct, the environment being more and more fragile.

For the world security, stability and prosperity, the relative poverty is dangerous, by dividing the human society in rich and poor, instead of decreasing differences they are becoming higher and higher.

Unfortunately, on the way, we noticed that things are not like that, on the contrary, the development, no matter from what perspective are we going to see it, either social, economical, biological, etc. can't claim the politics neutrality. Since then the presence of the politics explained and still explains the differences in the development among countries and groups of countries. In other terms, the development has a political colour.

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