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Euroregion and Local Economic Development

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Abstract. Concerns for regional development policies and strategies are included in the classification based on NUTS I, II, III, the European Union as a priority aiming to overcome the gaps between countries, areas, regions, urban and rural non-discriminatory basis as balanced.

Keywords: region; Euro-region; local development framework; institutional framework;

1. Introduction

Lowered in the Romanian space, regionalization of the country concerned and the Government recognizes the people and local authorities, seeking solutions that are on the one hand, to reduce the administrative costs and on the other citizen, the focus of public action be as close to the leadership in the context of real autonomy and political democracy, to participate in local community development and the region to which it belongs and to enjoy better conditions of life and civilization. This means policies and strategies of public management, legal and efficient management of resources more limited, collaboration, cooperation and collaboration, under proper coordination between regional and local economic development - social development.

2. An Institutional Policy Framework Legislative Development and Regional U.E.

Development gaps that exist between U.E countries require the need to set the following objectives of the Community regional policy:

- promote economic and social progress in a balanced and feasible by strengthening economic and social cohesion;
- development and structural adjustment of regions with developmental delays;
- conversion of areas seriously affected by industrial decline;
- development of rural areas. This objective seeks to redistribute workforce traditional agriculture to specific occupations in rural areas (rural tourism, handicraft micro-industrial);
- development and structural adjustment of regions that have an extremely low population density (less than 8 inhabitants per km²);
- solidarity between regions prosperous and less prosperous areas in decline;
- reduce the existing regional disparities with an emphasis on fostering the balanced development and revitalization areas;
- prevent production of new imbalances.

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The importance of economic disparities issues, the complexity of regional monitoring of the implementation of regional policy and the amount of resources in use requires the establishment of basic principles on which to support the U.E. regional policy. These principles are:

- focus effort on the most serious financial problems;
- partnership or cooperation between the Commission, Member States and other authorities or bodies, including economic and social partners;
- planning-programming activities for a period of 3 or 6 years;
- co-financial contribution of the various actors involved in implementing programs and regional development projects;
- community support - supplement for structural expenditure in Member States. This means that this type of expenditure should be maintained by each state at least at the level recorded in the previous period scheduled.

Experiences of the last two decades reveal the following types of regional and local development policies:

- policies initiated at the central level;
- policies that support development of private enterprises;
- policies initiated locally or regionally.

Regional and local development policies initiated at the central level have been developed in a stable environment after the Second World War and consist of *centralized redistribution of resources*. However, these policies have not led to satisfactory results over time, given their limitations:

- sectoral allocation of resources has led to fragmentation of results;
- turbulent economic climate of the 70s (the two oil price increases) has transformed business and industry initiative to support local innovation and entrepreneurship in a future work to stop them, enforcing the market, including the labor market;
- weakest regions, characterized by traditional organizational structures and technology could not develop the centralized resource allocation policies that were appropriate regional problems.

Regional and local development policy which included the development of private enterprises has been successfully practiced in the late 70s and early 80s and *was based on the functioning of market mechanisms*. Regional and local development seen by practicing these policies allowed entrepreneurs to position themselves in the economic, social, political, regional and local level, to introduce innovation, assume risk and more easily adapt to the circumstances.

Development policies at regional or local level are applied in regional and local areas structurally weak, without resulting from the practice of the two types of policies listed above.

In this case, **the local community is highlighted role** in stimulating local and regional development initiatives and attracting their exogenous.

Thus, regional development policies allow individualization of their harmonious development by adopting development policies that apply the local advantage, the complementarity between urban and rural areas. Regional policy is a policy of **solidarity** that contributes essentially to:

- *delay development* of the regions in economic aspect to the European average of economic development;
- *conversion* of industrial areas in difficulty;
- *diversification* of agricultural areas in decline;
- *regeneration* of neighborhoods, towns depopulated.

European regional policy is a policy based on real *financial solidarity*. It allows the transfer of more than 35% of the EU budget, fueled largely by the richest Member States, to **disadvantaged regions**. This policy not only promotes developing countries with a lower level compared to EU average, but also large contributors to the Community budget countries whose companies benefit from significant investment opportunities and transfer know-how, economic and technology, especially for regions the stagnant economic activities.

Regional policy is a policy with addressability and results. This results in several actions carried out in the Community:

- regional policy has contributed to helping people looking for a job, increase living standards, both at state level and disadvantaged regions;
- because these policies have been built and upgraded highways, high-speed trains, airports, linking peripheral regions of the great centers of economic development;
- in remote areas were set up small and medium enterprises;
- environmental situation has improved in the old centers of heavy industry;
- industry, tourism and rural computerization entered the U E ;
- peripheral areas have developed services education and leisure.

3. The Legal Framework of UE Regional Policy

Community legislation in the fulfillment of regional development policy is complex and requires special attention to properly interpret it. In this paper we analyze the legislation through the following three components:

- institution treaty provisions;
- provision in the text of the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe;
- provision of legislation adopted at Community level.

Since 1957, when the project was completed a European Union from an economic perspective, regional policy has become an indispensable element of European integration because of differences in development between Community countries.

Preamble of the **Treaty of Rome** founding states show concern the European Economic Community to strengthen the unity of their economies and to ensure their harmonious development. Founding member of the European Economic Community have proposed the implementation of these goals by reducing disparities between different regions of Member States.

The main instruments for achieving reduction of disparities between different regions of the Member States are mainly **four Structural Funds and Cohesion Fund**.

European Regional Development Fund mission is specified by Article 160 of the Treaty of Rome "*help redress the main regional imbalances in the Community through participation in the development and structural adjustment of regions lagging behind, and in the conversion of declining regions*"¹The role of the Cohesion Fund is "*to contribute financially to environmental projects and trans-European networks in the field of transport infrastructure.*"²

The 2000 Treaty of Nice amending the Treaty of Rome establishing the field of economic regions. Paragraph 14, Article 2 of the Treaty of Nice provides that "*from 1 January 2007, when the multiannual financial perspective and Inter-institutional Agreement relating thereto shall be adopted and applied by this date, the European Council decides how to use those funds multi. The decision is*

¹ Article 160 - Treaty of Rome

² Article 161 - Treaty of Rome

taken by a qualified majority on a proposal from the European Commission and European Parliament on the advice given"¹ Consultation Committee of the Regions and Economic and Social Committee is essential.

All lists and presentations of articles of the Treaty of Rome, consolidated version of the Single European Act (1986), Treaty of Maastricht (1992), Treaty of Amsterdam (1997) and the Treaty of Nice (2000) shows that the policy coordinating regional and structural elements are priority issues for the future of the European Union. Also, the **Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe contains provisions that make explicit reference to regional policy**. Austria and Finland's Presidency, held in 2006, and has made certain commitments to prelaunch debate on **Constitutional Treaty**, which is in some trouble because of the negative vote of France and the Netherlands in 2005. Germany, which held the EU Council Presidency in the first half of 2007, organized intense debate and discussion on the ratification and entry into force of this important document. It believes that the European Union is certainly a future in which the Constitutional Treaty for Europe will be fundamental regulatory act. Article I-3 states that the Union "*promotes economic, social and territorial cohesion and solidarity among Member States*"².

Article I-5 provides for the Union to respect the equality of Member States before the Constitution, to respect and national identity, including in respect of **local and regional autonomy**.

Third paragraph of Article I-11 states the principle of subsidiarity to local, regional and central level. **Subsidiarity** is a fundamental principle of EU regional development.

It is noted that the Constitutional Treaty is without fundamental changes in regional policy and economic and social cohesion. In many ways it changes the way decision making through laws or framework laws, in other respects the Constitutional Treaty brings only some additions. Romania's contribution in the consultation process was generating considerably different views on the future of Europe.

Normative Acts Adopted at Community Level

Content, purpose and objectives of regional development policy are defined in a huge volume of legislation. After the entry into force of the **Treaty of Maastricht** (1993) Regional development policy has seen a new dimension to become a priority. It creates an institution entitled to participate in decision making on issues related to regional development policy, cohesion and structural funds implementation - **Committee of the Regions**.

"If in 1975 the Structural Funds is less than 5% of EU spending, the budget period 2007-2013 they constitute about 40%."

Regulation no. 1059/2003 (EC) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS). Under its three levels are created NUTS I level - between 3 and 7 million inhabitants, the second - between 800,000 and 3 million inhabitants, the third between 150 000 and 800 000 inhabitants.

Communication of 28 April 2000 the Commission by Member States on guidelines for a Community initiative concerning trans-European cooperation, which creates INTEREG III. Through its instrumentality, the Commission shall inform Member States about the program INTEREG III **cross-border cooperation** between Member States and in the process of accession, cooperation with EU regions at large distances and island regions, cooperation with countries in the Balkans. Communication states that the cooperation is carried out in three directions:

- ✓ promoting integrated regional development;
- ✓ contributing to harmonious territorial integration within the Union;

¹ Paragraph 14, art. 2 - Treaty of Nice

² Article I-3 - Constitutional Treaty for Europe

✓ improving regional development policy and cohesion and transnational and interregional cooperation techniques.

Commission Communication of 28 April 2000 by Member States of the Community Initiative guidelines on sustainable economic and social regeneration of cities and neighborhoods in crisis, which created the Urban III. General objectives and principles presented the initiative, eligible areas and priorities for action, mode of preparation, presentation and approval of programs and funding provisions of the initiative.

Regulation (EC) no. 1783 / 1999 of 12 June 1999 of the European Parliament and the Council on the European Regional Development Fund assigns tasks, goals and innovative measures financed by the ERDF.

Regulation no. 1257/1999 (EC) of the Council of 17 May 1999 on support for rural development from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) and repealing certain regulations fining, established the new framework for achieving tasks and objectives of the EAGGF.

Regulation no. 1260 / 1999 (EC) of 21 June 1999 the Council set out general provisions on structural funds. We call this regulation a framework document setting out the objectives as ERDF, ESF, EAGGF and FIFG.

Regulation no. 2012 / 2002 (EC) of 11 November 2002 on the establishment of the European Union Solidarity Fund. This act regulates the contribution of the European Union in the process of restoring normal life in regions where there were certain calamities and disasters.

Regulation no. 16/2003 (EC) of the Commission of 6 January 2003 establishes special rules detailed Implementation of Council Regulation (EC) no. 1164/1994 on the eligibility of expenditure in the context of measures part-financed by the Cohesion Fund. It sets the framework for determining the eligible costs of the measures financed by the Cohesion Fund.

4 The Romanian Legislation on Regional Development

Romanian legislation in the field of regional policy and cohesion began to develop in the middle of the previous decade. The negotiation process with EU on Romania's accession, legislation in this area began to comply with the *acquis communautaire*.

The main provisions of Romanian legislation is contained in two instruments:

- provision at Constitution;
- provisions at regulations.

a) Provisions of the Constitution

Romanian Constitution, the version revised by Law No. 429/2003, not explicitly aspects of regional development policy. According to art. 148 of the Constitution *"constituent treaties of the European Union and other EU regulations binding precedence over contrary provisions of national laws, in compliance with the Act of Accession"*.¹

b) Provisions regulations

The negotiation and conclusion of chapter 21, Romania was obliged to transpose the *acquis communautaire* on regional policy and coordination of structural funds and to adapt it according to law.

Law no. 315 / 2004 on regional development in Romania Romanian adapt regulatory and institutional framework and in accordance with EU requirements, which regulate the status of territorial classification NUTS, existing in the European Union.

¹ Article 148 – Romanian Constitution

Government Decision no. 497 / 2004 with the last change made by the **Decision 128 / 2006** establishes the institutional framework for implementation of Structural Instruments.

Law no. 529 / 2003 approving **O.G. no. 79/2003** regulating and control arrangements for recovering amounts from non-reimbursable financial assistance granted to Romania by the European Community.

Emergency Ordinance no. 34/2006 is to integrate traditional procurement system and electronic procurement system, thus avoiding duplication of legislation.

Normative acts mentioned above are just a multitude of regulations governing regional development policy subjecting them to changes and additions.

5. Institutional Framework for Implementing Regional Development Policy

According to institutional subsidiarity criterion are three levels of the institutional implementation of Regional Development Policy: Community level, the national and regional level.

At Community level there are two institutions which aim to achieve regional development policy. The first institution, with an *advisory role* in decision making on regional development policy is the *Regions Committee*. The second institution, the **executive character**, is the *Directorate General for Regional Policy (DG REGIO)*.

a) **Committee of the Regions (COR)** is the most recent Community institution. She started with the entry into force of the Treaty of Maastricht. Committee of the Regions is a consultative body, the role of assistant to the Council of Ministers and the European Commission, composed of representatives of regional and local communities. He respects the principle of political balance, geographical and regional EU Member States. Membership is set at a maximum COR 350, Statement no. 20 adopted on 14 February 2000 Representatives of the Governments Conference in Brussels states that for "*a Union of 27 Member States, COR is composed of 344 members, plus all the many substitutes.*"¹ Romania holds 15 seats in COR. COR members, including the alternates are appointed by Member States for a period of 4 years and their mandate is renewable. COR members are not at the same time, members of Parliament. Article 263 of the Treaty establishing the European Community states that "*Committee members are not bound by any mandatory instructions. They function in complete independence in the interests of the Community*"².

According to Article 264 of the Treaty establishing the European Community "*shall appoint COR of 2 in 2 years, its members, the President and Bureau of the Committee*"³. The President shall convene the Committee at the request of Council or the Commission. COR may meet on their own initiative and shall adopt a Regulation of activity.

Article 265 of that Treaty specifying the COR consultation by the Council or the Commission and the European Parliament and issues opinions on its own initiative.

b) **Directorate General for Regional Policy (DG REGIO)** of the European Commission is the specialized structure of the European Commission aimed at the initiation, completion and implementation of normative acts on regional development policy.

DG REGIO has the power to manage the structural and cohesion funds the European Union. However, DG REGIO is responsible for implementing the **European Solidarity Fund** for rapid intervention in case of major disasters, coordinating Group extraperiferice regions of the Union, taking the European Commission contribution to the **European Fund for Ireland** which aims to reconciliation in Northern Ireland.

DG REGIO particularly aims to create conditions favorable to the successful expansion of the European Union and cooperation in regional development policy perspective, the EU's neighboring

¹ Declaration no. 20 adopted on 14.02.2000 Representatives of the Governments Conference in Brussels

² Article 263 of the Treaty establishing the European Community

³ Article 264 of the Treaty establishing the European Community

states. Because of the way of activity, DG REGIO taken a particular interest and cooperation with other European networks working structures in regional development policy.

Other institutions that have decision-making and executive roles in the implementation of regional development policy are the European Parliament, Council of Ministers of the European Union, European Investment Bank.

is the only supranational institution of the European Union, together with the Council of Ministers shall act as the legislative and budget. The European Parliament represents the citizens of Member States of the Union, its members are democratically elected through direct universal suffrage for a period of 5 years. Regional development policy in the **European Parliament Regional Development Committee works (REGI)**, which comprises 56 MEPs members, 48 alternates.

Council of Ministers of the European Union as well as the European Parliament is a co-legislative institution. Of the Council are representatives at ministerial level from each Member State.

Regional development policy is an integral part in the work processes of the Council of Competitiveness, Employment Council Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Policy, Agriculture and Fisheries Council. In the working committees, regional development policy is represented by several different committees, dealing with regional policy in accordance with other areas.

European Investment Bank (EIB) is a complementary European Union with legal personality, which has the mission to contribute to balanced and sustainable development of the internal market. It provides funding for projects aimed at developing the less promoted projects of interest to several Member States. Through its work, the EIB provides loans and guarantees low interest requiring Member States for projects of all sectors, including development projects in the backward regions.

The national institutional framework for regional development policy developed in line with the objectives of economic and social development of Romania, as well as the European Union.

Law 151 / 1998 lays the foundation of regional policy by introducing the 8 regions of development, units of regional development policy implementation at the local level, which are formed according to NUTS¹ classification system. According to this classification, development regions in Romania are NUTS II regions.

Law 315 / 2004 states that nationally there are two levels of institutional structure: National Regional Development Council (NDRC), Ministry of European Integration.

a) NDRC is the institutional structure of decision-making role in the development and implementation of regional development policy objectives, is established on the principle of institutional partnership and has no legal personality.

b) Ministry of European Integration is the institution responsible for the development, management, implementation and evaluation of regional development policy and programs of economic and social cohesion.

In addition to the above institutions, there are few national institutions authorized to operate additional regional development policy such as: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy and Commerce, National Institute of Statistics.

The **regional level** of the institutions responsible for implementing regional development policy is made in the 8 development regions. According to Law no. 315 / 2004 regional distinction: Regional Development Council (RDC) Regional Development Agencies (RDAs).

a) Regional Development Council (RDC) is a body constituted in the developing regions, therefore, in our country are 8 CDR's, each operating on the principle of institutional partnership and possessing legal personality. Each CDR, the region in which they operate, has the following core competencies:

¹ NUTS - Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics

- review and approval of regional development programs;
- support the development of PND¹ ;
- approval of regional development projects with specialized regional bodies;
- NDRC transmission to the proposed project portfolio;
- monitoring how the use of FDR² ;
- coordination of regional policy and regional development objectives and regional programs funded by the European Union.

b) Regional Development Agency (RDA) is a nongovernmental organization (NGO), public utility, with legal personality, which implements regional development policy in the regions. Each ADR is working on the following principles:

- decentralization;
- explicit definition of the functions and powers;
- separation of powers.

Main tasks are:

- Develop plan and development programs;
- Develop plans for regional development and fund management;
- submission for approval of projects selected CDR regional development programs;
- technical and financial monitoring of projects financed by the European Union and their coverage;
- promote, in partnership, projects of regional and local levels;
- development of cooperation with bodies and institutions in the European Union;
- developing their budgets for income and expenses for carrying out the work.

In addition to these responsibilities, each ADR conducted a series of activities.

Presentation of the three levels of complexity highlighted the institutional framework for implementing regional development policy, the spectrum of institutions in this area is vast and encompassing several areas of activity.

6. Regionalization and Five Development Regions in Romania

The region is a representative level, located in the administrative hierarchy immediately below the central position. As a legal status, *region and regionalization* covers various political and administrative realities. *Regionalization* can be:

- a) *political* (at the states: Spain, Italy etc.).
- b) *built* - a result of creating a unitary state in the union of several States, in turn keeping the individuality (United Kingdom);
- c) *diverse* - with regional staff and other criteria established than the territorial and political, such as language or cultural criterion (Belgium, before its transformation into a federal state);
- d) *administrative (classical)* - obtained or made towards administrative decentralization and transforming regions local authorities, local autonomous administrative point of view (France);

¹ NDP - National Development Program

² Regional Development Fund

e) *functional by devolution* - forming regions in the position of "*constituencies*" of the state administration (Greece);

f) *cooperative regionalization* - creating regions that institutionalized forms of cooperation between local (Romania).

The objective is balanced regional structure, close to economic development - a social whole administrative territory of the state.

In Romania applies REGIO Regional Development Operational Programme *combining local initiative with regional development*. It includes the following priority structure:

Priority Axis 1 - growth poles, with scope: integrated urban development plans.

Priority Axis 2 - improving regional transport infrastructure and local levels aimed at pol-za: county road network and urban ring roads and county road status.

Priority Axis 3 - improving social infrastructure: improving services in health, education and public safety.

Priority Axis 4 - small business development: business support regional and local initiatives to support local businesses, creating jobs and sustainable development.

Priority Axis 5 - sustainable development and promotion of tourism: cultural heritage restoration and creation and development of tourism infrastructure.

Between May 5 and May 13, 2010 meetings were held for clarification on access to funds in the ROP (Regional Operational Programme).

Development regions in Romania refers to regional subdivisions established in 1998 to coordinate regional development in Romania. It is the general association of neighboring counties.

The 8 development regions in Romania are:

- 1) N - E counties: Iasi, Bacau, Botosani, Neamt, Suceava, Vaslui;
- 2) S - E: Braila, Buzau, Constanta, Galati, Vrancea, Tulcea;
- 3) South - Wallachia: Arges, Calarasi, Dambovita, Giurgiu, Ialomita, Prahova, Teleorman;
- 4) S - V Oltenia: Dolj, Gorj, Mehedinti, Olt, Valcea;
- 5) Western Development Region: Arad, Caras-Severin, Hunedoara and Timis;
- 6) I - V: Bihor, Bistrita-Nasaud, Cluj, Salaj, Satu Mare and Maramures;
- 7) Center: Alba, Brasov, Covasna, Harghita, Mures and Sibiu;
- 8) Bucharest - Ilfov.

In Romania, the administrative authorities' capacity to implement in practice in local and regional development is reduced to the needs of local communities: the limited number of qualified personnel, insufficient funding, lack of organization, lack of experience, inadequate equipment.

National Rural Development Programme 2007 - 2013 requires appropriate strategies and responsible for their application. In many municipalities to set up local development agent position, which is responsible: the local situation diagnosis, consultation, promotion, etc. locally.

Were created by combinations *intercommunity development associations* between administrative units - territorial. Among the approximately 3,200 communes, revenues are insufficient to start local development programs. It is expected that the local development association to be able to obtain revenues necessary to achieve objectives of common interest: to protect the environment and traditional cultural values, building capacity to access European Structural Funds.

They set up local development agencies, the Foundation "Partners for Local Development", "National Foundation for Community Development", "Romanian Association for Community Development", etc.. developing programs for social development - problems of institutionalized children, combating poverty, promoting solidarity and social cohesion, work and supply NGOs in these directions.

Community development programs are conducted in counties Iasi, Cluj, Constanta, Dolj, Ialomita, Valcea, in over 200 rural communities.

National regional development policy identifies certain types of regions.

Types of regions takes place after the delimitation criteria such as *economic, administrative, geographic, social, cultural, historical, ecological, etc.* allowing the group to:

✓ *homogeneous regions (economic criteria)* - per capita income close together so dominant industry.;
Geographical basis - similar topography or climate, common natural resources, socio-political criteria
- some "regional identity" common historical development.

✓ *nodal regions* - polarized when interest is minimal uniformity and cohesion is the result of interaction of internal flows, the relationships and interdependencies polarized by a center ("dominant node").

✓ *regions for planning (programming)* - the unit resulting from a specific institutional framework and implementation of administrative policies and specific programs of regional development.

For regionalization, the Senate approved a plan proposed administrative reorganization of our country.

Community Charter defines regionalization: a region is a territory formed, the geographic, net unit or assembly of similar areas where there is continuity, the population has common elements and seeks to preserve and develop it, to ensure progress and prosperity.

Council of Europe believes that regionalization is an administrative sub-unit - just under the territorial state with an elected government authority and resources to support the development by that authority.

Region concept is relatively new status. In other words, currently supports the concept of region as a political quantity and / or administrative or within countries or at European level. In Europe, federalism (as an exception) was introduced during the nineteenth century. Regions were recognized as administrative units - the territorial economic development better in Italy and Spain.

In the last decades of the century. XX, and regionalzarea regions were imposed in European countries and is the harmonious development of all countries and areas: economic, social, cultural, for peaceful coexistence, to fight bureaucracy, corruption, and especially for the upper / central management of state interests and approaches to local needs.

Today, the EU regionalization is designed and implemented as a policy development harmonious, balanced lifting backward areas, less developed countries. The region is interpreted as a **public collectability** territorial strategies that reflected the distance of Community policies.

Concern political leadership of the country's administrative reorganization Romania (about 7-8 years) show more real and more evident in recent years with the statements of the president on the need for this change - change from organizing in counties (41) in regions (16).

Arguments related to:

- dividing the counties do not support the decentralization process;
- current organization cannot ensure the development;
- can not expand local autonomy for implementation of appropriate infrastructure;
- current regional projects are hampered by small area counties;
- need for investment performance.

Administrative reorganization of this concept involves the union of 2 - 3 - 4 etc.. counties (out of 41) in large regions (8-16). The theme is addressed and U.E. U.E. will provide funds for local investment rather than current size counties with areas considered too small, but the administrative entities - greater social economic, which means that there is a con-vergence of preoccupations in this area - both within Romania and to European level.

Romania expects the regionalization of the country's progress many changes - from an economic perspective such as investment in infrastructure, restructuring activities in the modernization of agriculture and industry, in services, the fuller employment of local labor resources, increase local markets, local GDP growth, national income growth and welfare.

Also, attracting European funds would have more solid financing resources, broad support. However, it is expected to reduce development gaps between country areas and counties.

On May 17, 2011 took place in Romania, Mamaia, Constanta County, International Symposium "regions, regionalization, regionalism in Europe", organized by research centers in the field, with eight sections. On this occasion, the Council of Europe has expressed a preference for the reorganization of administrative - territorial units of Romania in the format / type voivodships (as in Poland), which would be a very good reason for the EU important to provide funds for regional development in the coming years.

7 Euroregions

Regionalization of the Community Charter defines the region as "*a territory formed from geographically, a unit or group of similar areas where there is continuity, the population has some common elements and which wants to retain its specificity and to the resulting develop in order to stimulate the cultural, social and economic.*" (Andrei, 2009, pp. 51-53)

In the *European* context, regional development policy serves crystallization and perpetuation of European identity. The phrase "*regional development policy*" indicates a set of uniform measures in terms of addressing - the geographical area, without reference to their belonging to a country or group of countries.

Euroregions NUTS classification model follows (Nomenclature of Territorial Units Statistics), which I referred in the previous chapter. For the period 1 January 2008-31 December 2011, the NUTS classification created regional structures in the EU following:

- 97 Euroregions NUTS I;
- 271 Euroregions NUTS II;
- 1303 Euroregions NUTS III.

Romania became part by a greater or smaller number of counties /12 municipalities Euroregions - Table 1.

The following diagram includes Euroregions which include Romania.

Table. 1 Euroregions including Romania

Nr. crt.	EUROREGIONS	YEAR	PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
II.	Carpathian	1993	Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Romania (7 counties)
III.	Danube-Cris-Mures-Tisza	1997	Hungary, Serbia, Romania (4 counties)
III.	Lower Danube	1997	Moldova, Ukraine, Romania
IV.	Upper Prut	1997	Moldova, Ukraine, Romania
VV.	Giurgiu-Ruse	2001	Bulgaria,Romania
VVI.	South Danube	2001	Bulgaria, Romania (between cooperative associations)
VVII.	Lower Danube	2001	Bulgaria, Romania
VVIII.	Danube 21	2002	Bulgaria, Serbia, Romania (the Danube riverside settlements)

IIX.	Danubius		2002	Bulgaria, Romania
XX.	Siret-Prut-Dniester		2002	Moldova, Romania
XXI.	Bihar		2004	Romania, Hungary
XXII.	Middle-Danube Gates	Iron	2005	Bulgaria, Serbia, Romania

Source: www.euroregiune.ro

8. Participation of Romania in Cooperation within the Euroregions

Government Emergency Ordinance (GEO) nr.120/1998 for ratification by Romania of the European Framework Convention on cross-border co-operation of territorial communities or authorities, adopted at Madrid on 21 May 1980, is the legislative development of cooperation activities border by the authorities and local communities in our country.

Moreover, Romania is a party to the European Charter of Local Self-Government, adopted in Strasbourg on 15 October 1985, and ratified by Law 199/1997 of our country.

According to the Madrid Convention, cross-border cooperation aimed at strengthening and developing neighborly relations between territorial communities or authorities which depend on two or more Contracting Parties, as well as agreements and understandings necessary for this purpose.

Local authorities or bodies designated to serve regional, according to Romanian law, county councils and local councils.

9 Conclusions

News regionalization is confirmed by the political and economic concerns to find new solutions to problems developing in conditions of global crisis. Regional development policy objective is to help reduce economic and social disparities between the various regions of Europe. Therefore, this policy now, is called economic and social cohesion. However, the reference territorial space includes not only the Community, but the entire European continent. Through various actions and instruments of regional development policy supports cross-border cooperation between Member States and U E members, the proximal regions of neighboring European countries. These actions not just a series of activities to highlight areas that meet the convergence criteria, but also refers to actions that contribute to the balanced development of all regions.

For Romania, regional development policy is considered an important way to absorb EU funds. In the pre-accession and accession Romania made some progress in terms of regional development and cooperation. By the end of the negotiation process, Romania has managed to reform the legal framework for regional development, which is in conjunction with the new Community legislation in the field. As the aim of current regional development in Romania as soon as some areas of development to meet the convergence criteria, the post-accession period and the effective integration of legal and institutional framework supports continuous adaptation. Development regions are the ones that should ensure the UE principle of subsidiarity so that decisions be based on the opinion of European citizens.

Local economic and social development cannot be done only in a territorial national framework, but in a decentralized national, economic and social development. Defining elements of the concepts of regional development and local development are divergent, but convergent, joining in the political and macroeconomic mondo lift the standard of living and civilization of all citizens. It is possible that while the entry into force of the Constitution on the future of Europe, the development regions of Romania to acquire legal personality, which would facilitate the convergence criteria. Currently territorial disputes order, traditional, linguistic and historical are replaced by building up effective implementation of projects financed by the Structural Funds and Cohesion (Romania are allocated over 17 billion during 2007 - 2013), and use sensible of their own resources to local communities.

To take advantage of development at Community level, each region of over 266 UE must implement all available tools to facilitate exchange of experience.

Without more effective exploitation of local resources, the UE 's efforts will have only temporary results. The results obtained by applying local development policies can be assessed in two complementary ways:

First, local economic interventions on the outcome of the objectives set by local authorities and the second the consequences of these policies, independent targets.

Following documentation references made in the study, a first finding is that local development management is a theory and a policy issue that brings together diverse and convergent action on land redistribution funds and local government actions.

In the current crisis of public institutions in our country, management of local development provides the opportunity to review the relationship between private and public, between economic and social. Viewed in this perspective, studies on local development issues include urban management based on public services, by highlighting the cultural and historical heritage of that community, given the political and institutional aspects related to the central administration, local government relations.

The study of these processes allows highlighting a variety of situations and show that local development policies vary depending on numerous factors such as:

- closure of some factories that have failed because of the crisis;
- aging population;
- lack of local entrepreneurship;
- dynamic business problems (restructuring, mergers, refinancing, etc..)

The relationship between economic, social and development policies as local factors.

A positive contribution to local development can be brought as a result of public - private partnership. Worldwide, public - private partnership has enabled many cities image restoration and contributed in a positive way to their conversion. This partnership enables access to professional expertise of the private sector without a change in how public management content.

We believe that in Romania, the effect of public-private partnership will be due to the emergence of Law 178 / 2010 of the partnership, the partnership governing contracts and other issues involved.

For local development strategies and to establish development needs, an important role in public-private partnerships is occupied by local government. Thus, in some municipalities of the country was created by decision of the Local Council Local Development Agent function (interface between government and community), whose main tasks:

- local situation analysis to identify appropriate solutions to address the problems that hinder local development;
- developing and implementing local development strategies;
- providing information, advice, promotion at local level.

Romania, exercised administrative capacity at local level remains inadequate to the needs of increasingly diverse local communities, the limited quality of the reduced number of personnel acting in the administrative field.

Among the causes include: lack of experience in local development strategies and human resource management, and inadequate facilities, sporadic action, pace slowed in solving many social and economic problems of local agriculture and rural development disregard . As a result of these factors is the net difference between Romania and other UE member states on local development.

Coherent local development strategies at the level of common municipalities, cities and municipalities are the best proof and guarantee optimum use of existing resources planning, workforce retraining for local development. Their experience should be extended.

Intervention impact on attracting local and business mobility by making spatial concentration of businesses is an advantage for local development.

Agglomeration of specialized activities in an area attracts ancillary industries. Traction spatial concentration of businesses are cumulative in nature. After you install an enterprise, the probability that a second company to install increases. The question arises to what extent will continue a process of spatial knowledge that external effects are supported, at least in the first phase, the local authorities as social costs.

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