



September 2009



**N
E
W
S
L
E
T
T
E
R
No 1**

Project title:

South-Eastern European developments on the administrative convergence and enlargement of the European Administrative Space in Balkan states

Programme:

Lifelong Learning Programme

Sub-programme:

Jean Monnet Programme, Key Activity 1

Action type:

Multilateral Research Group

Duration:

01 September 2009 – 31 August 2011

SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

Reason for the project

European integration revealed, also for public administrations, specific processes and mechanisms, for evaluating the progresses recorded within the framework of national reforms. The most important ones refer to administrative convergence and compatibility with principles and values of the European Administrative Space (EAS). For the Balkan states, situated in different positions in the European integration process, each above concept is emphasised and it develops in a distinct and specific way.

The project receives funding from the European Community.

Sole responsibility of this Newsletter lies with the coordinator. The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency and European Commission are not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained herewith.



South-Eastern European developments
on the administrative convergence and
enlargement of the European Administrative Space in Balkan states



<p>Project objective</p> <p>The project objective is to carry out complex, interdisciplinary research on processes and phenomena, characterising public administrations in the Balkan states from the perspective of administrative convergence and EAS enlargement towards the Balkan region.</p> <p>The above developments are researched from pan-Balkan and South-Eastern European perspective.</p>	<p>Brief project description</p> <p>Conceived on 4 stages, each one responding to concrete research objectives, the project directs each partner's efforts to valorise the expertise acquired in the activities of Jean Monnet Chair and towards their extension in view to research an actual topic for the Balkan space.</p> <p>The project comprises activities of bibliographical research, documentation, socio-political and economic analysis, two thematic workshops and two sociological surveys. The main research results will be presented in a final international conference and will be integrated in a collective book.</p>
<p>Impact envisaged of the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Achieving a research at standards of excellence on an actual topic concerning the European integration process in the Balkan states;▪ Creating and strengthening a sustainable research network;▪ Introducing the research results and representative articles for the theme approached in the European informational flow;▪ Sustaining the European integration process of Balkan states through provision to decision-making factors of the necessary support in view to substantiate and implement European policies;▪ Enlarging the dialogue with the civil society, Balkan and European organisations in the field.	<p>Outputs</p> <p>The concrete outputs of the project will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 4 general reports and 20 thematic reports (analyses, case studies, comparative studies) and specialised articles that will be published;▪ A collective book;▪ An interactive website (containing data bases, articles, papers, accessible to general public);▪ Monthly newsletter, in an electronic and printed version.



South-Eastern European developments
on the administrative convergence and
enlargement of the European Administrative Space in Balkan states



PARTNERS

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF POLITICAL STUDIES AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, Bucharest, Romania
(P1 - Coordinator) <http://www.admpubl.snspsa.ro>
UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN, Mytilene-Lesbos Island, Greece (P2)
<http://www.aegean.gr/sociology>
NEW BULGARIAN UNIVERSITY, Sofia, Bulgaria (P3) <http://www.nbu.bg/index.php?l=964>
UNIVERSITY OF RIJEKA, Rijeka, Croatia (P4) <http://www.efri.hr/english/default.asp>
EUROPEAN PUBLIC LAW ORGANIZATION, Athens, Greece (P5) <http://www.eplo.eu>

PRESENTATION OF THE PARTNERS

National School of Political Studies and Public Administration (NSPSPA) in Bucharest, Romania is a public institution of higher education and research with legal personality. NSPSPA was set up in 1991 and its mission is focused on training and developing professional competences through Bachelor degree studies, master and doctorate studies in the field of political and administrative sciences as well as international relations and European integration. Member of EUA, NSPSPA shares and applies the principles and provisions of Bologna Declaration. Since Romania accession into the European Union, NSPSPA restructured the whole process of higher education and research, aiming objectives for quality assurance in higher education, according to those of the European Higher Education Area. NSPSPA comprises three faculties: Political Sciences, Public Administration, Communication and Public Relations, as well as two departments: International Relations and European Integration, Management. The studies are accredited according to the Romanian laws. The activities relevant to the domain of the project are those of education and research on themes that approach European studies, European integration, European Administrative Space, Europeanization, public administration, studies on European law etc. and activities specific for the projects of Jean Monnet Action - 1 Permanent Course, 5 Modules, 1 Chair. The international academic cooperation through Community programmes – TEMPUS, Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci and bilateral programmes represents a strategic pillar of institutional development.

The Faculty of Public Administration embodies a complete and complex educational system in the area of administrative sciences: Bachelor, Master and doctoral studies.

The Faculty of Public Administration has the central goal of basic and continuous training of present and future civil servants from the central and local government. At the same time, it elaborates scientific studies and researches in the area of administrative sciences, by collaborating with national and international bodies.



South-Eastern European developments
on the administrative convergence and
enlargement of the European Administrative Space in Balkan states



The University of the Aegean, established in 1984, is one of the newest Universities in Greece. Today it has seventeen departments and has become one of the largest Universities in the country. The University has been set up on different islands, thus it constitutes a University-network.

Apart from the strategic importance of the location, the particular challenges of developing academic cooperation with South-Eastern and Central European, Mediterranean and Black Sea Region Universities should be regarded as a key strategic research opportunity.

One of the principal features of the University of the Aegean is that it develops new interdisciplinary scientific domains that adhere to the needs of the contemporary Greek and European scientific community requirements and expectations for high-quality research activities and studies. This strategic objective respects absolutely the EU approach to improve regional cooperation with a view to creating prosperity, stability and security in all the neighbour regions.

The New Bulgarian University (NBU) was established on 18th September 1991 upon decision of the Great National Assembly. On 5th July 2001, NBU obtained institutional accreditation from the National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency for the maximum 6-year period, and in December 2005 it passed through the second accreditation procedure. In 2004 NBU was accredited by The Open University in Great Britain.

The mission of NBU is:

- To be a student-oriented, autonomous academic institution for cultivating of enterprising persons, responsible for their own development.
- To serve as environment for the development of socially concerned persons, prepared for the life under the conditions of democracy, civil society, market relations, European and world integration.
- To be a liberal academic institution, based on the relation between education, research, and entrepreneurship.
- To provide general interdisciplinary and narrowly specialized education, based on research work and related to the practice.

NBU determines its academic profile in the sphere of: Human sciences and humanities; Natural sciences and new technologies; Arts

NBU works on programs of the European Union –LLP (Erasmus for higher education, Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig for adult education, Jean Monnet for European Integration), SOCRATES, TEMPUS etc. It contributes to research and educational initiatives, exchange of students, lecturers and administrative staff and provides funding for students and equipment for the University complex.

NBU is member of competent international organizations and it plays an important role for the comparison of studies at the University with the world standards: the European University Association (EUA), the International Education Institute (IET), the European Association of International Education (EAIE), the International Association of Semiotic Studies (IASS), the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS), the network of Institutes and Schools on Public Administration in Central and Eastern Europe (NISPAcee), the European Consortium on Political Studies, the International PR Organization (IPRA), Leonardo international network for academic mobility (LEO-NET), the Informal European Theatre Meeting (IETM), the European Association of Students in Theatre (EAST), the European League of Institutes of Arts (ELIA), etc.



South-Eastern European developments
on the administrative convergence and
enlargement of the European Administrative Space in Balkan states



Rijeka University - Faculty of Economics Rijeka is a public institution of higher education, founded in 1961. As a constituent part of the **Rijeka University**, the Faculty is the main educational and research centre in the field of economics for the broader region. It has several dislocated study-centres throughout Croatia, organises and carries out undergraduate/graduate (3+2), postgraduate specialist and 3-year doctoral studies with corresponding ECTS scoring system, according to Bologna. Within this activity great emphasis is given to international cooperation among numerous international institutions of higher education. Faculty of Economics in Rijeka carries out scientific projects for general economic needs and business sector as well as the projects financed by the Ministry of Science. A very important segment of scientific research is dedicated to the publishing activity. The Faculty continuously edits its own Proceedings of Rijeka Faculty of Economics – Journal of Economics and Business. The Journal has been abstracted and indexed in JEL/ EconLit, IBSS and DOAJ, since June 2008 in CAB abstracts, and since July 2008 in the SSCI and JCR.

The **European Public Law Organization (EPLO)** was created as an international organization with headquarters in Athens, Greece, with suitable governance, full international legal personality and status, upon the initiative of the Hellenic Republic, by the "Agreement for the Establishment and Statute of the European Public Law Organization", signed by several powers on 27 October 2004. The creation of the EPLO became effective on 10 September 2007, upon receipt by the Depositary of notifications by three parties (Hellenic Republic, Republic of Italy and Republic of Cyprus) to the Statute that the formalities required by the national legislation of such parties with respect to this Statute had been accomplished. The signatory powers recognized the importance of public law and the need to further promote its scientific, research, educational, training, institution building and other dimensions for a better generation of lawyers and democratic institutions worldwide, and the promotion of European values through public law throughout the world. The "Agreement for the Establishment and Statute of the European Public Law Organization" remains open for adhesion by other powers.

The purpose of the EPLO is the creation and dissemination of knowledge in the area of public law *lato sensu*, including *inter alia* national, comparative and European public law, human rights law, environmental law, etc., and the promotion of European values through public law throughout the world. To this effect, the Organization organizes and supports scientific, research, educational, training, teaching, institution building and other activities and provides assistance for democratic institutions in Europe and worldwide. In order to accomplish its purposes, the EPLO promotes the cooperation with other institutions and organizations and bodies, in particular organizations in the United Nations system.

The European Public Law Organization is the continuation of the European Public Law Center, which it has recently absorbed. The European Public Law Center (EPLC) was established in 1995 under the law of the Hellenic Republic as a Greek non-profit institution of international character, aiming at the study and research, pure and applied, as well as training in all areas of public law in Europe, including national, comparative and European law. The Center has carried out very extensive research activities in the direction of the creation of a European Public Law. It has organized and executed training programs, prepared studies, undertaken consulting activities, participated in international bodies and institutions of similar character and scope of activities. The EPLC has also aimed to promote the rule of law and democracy in third countries, and has encouraged the study and application of law, democratic institution building education and training. In over 12 years of activity, the EPLC has been involved in a variety of issues spanning from the interpretation and comparison of legal systems to the proposition of innovative solutions for institution building, education and environmental protection. The EPLC has been actively present with its projects and activities in Europe, the Mediterranean Countries, the Balkan Area, the Caucasus and Former Soviet States, the Middle East, Central and South Asia, Africa, as well as Latin America.



Members' academic contributions in the field of research connected to the project

Prof. Dr. Lucica Matei
Corina Lazăr, PhD candidate

Development and regulation of civil service in Central and Eastern European states. A comparative analysis in view of good governance

The paper was presented at the *IIAS International Specialised Conference – Helsinki 2009, Finland „History and future of nation-building. The role of public administrations, civil servants and public finances in nation-building”, Workshop B – Sub-theme 2: Exemplifying good governance: the future of public service and democracy*

Available at: http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1440099

Abstract

The Central and Eastern European states, recently accessed or acceding to the European Union are undergoing civil service reform processes incorporated in the general public administration reforms.

Based on the necessity to promote good governance, the strategies of reform have been designed and implemented distinctly in each state; their finality consists in compatibility with a possible European model for civil service.

A comparative analysis will take into consideration both the political-administrative systems of the states mentioned, the organization of the national civil service systems as well as the common European values embodied in civil service organization.

Without being considered the most robust ones, the civil service systems in Central and Eastern European states are closely related to tradition, historical, economic or socio-cultural context as well as connections with the recognized systems: Anglo-Saxon, Continental German or Continental French.

The elaboration of civil servants statutes represented a stage necessary to achieve the civil service reform. At the same time, the civil service reform focused on the following values: effectiveness, accountability, honesty, integrity, dynamism, lawfulness.