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

Partners:
National School of Political Studies and Public Administration, Romania (P1)
University of the Aegean, Greece (P2)
New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria (P3)
University of Rijeka, Croatia (P4)
European Public Law Organization, Greece (P5)

Academic coordinator: Professor Dr. Lucica Matei

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.
Event no.1 - Scientific event organized within the framework of Jean Monnet project

“Public Administration in the Balkans – from Weberian bureaucracy to New Public Management”

The workshop had the following structure:

- Opening Session
- Session 1 - Balkan Public Administrations between Transition and Modernity
- Session 2 - Impact of Reforms on Public Administration in the Balkan States. National Experiences
- Session 3 - A Balkan Model of Public Administration – Myth or Reality?
- Session 4 - Administrative Convergence between Weberian Model and New Public Management
- Session 5 - Evaluating a Case Study Relevant for NPM Application in Local Government
- Special Session - European Governance versus National Governance. European Pragmatism
Effective implementation of regulations requires a degree of administrative discretion. But this discretion needs to comply with the rule of law and good governance requirements in the form of substantive and procedural principles. These principles are products of the cross-fertilization of legal orders. Drawing on the legal systems of the EU member States the Court of Justice incorporated them in the EU legal order as General Principles of EU law, limiting the administrative discretion of EU regulators. These principles have gradually been enshrined in EU formal instruments, such as the Treaties or the Charter of Fundamental Rights. While these provisions serve as limits to the administrative discretion of the EU regulators, their formal adoption by the EU is likely to influence the administrative law of EU member States, contributing to the emergence of a *jus communis*. 
South-Eastern European developments on the administrative convergence and enlargement of the European Administrative Space in Balkan states

Nicolaos BALTAS, Prof. Dr., Athens University of Economics and Business, Greece


Available at http://www.balcannet.eu/papers_grecia/Baltas_Nicholas.pdf

Agriculture is a vital element not only in the rural economy but also in the wider national economy of Greece. Greece's agriculture occupies the first place in terms of its share in GDP, population and balance of trade among the old member states of the European Union (EU-15). Specifically, Greece’s agriculture contributes in terms of GDP, the active population and its value exports 6,16 and 23 percent respectively against 2,4 and 8 percent at an average level in the EU.

Notwithstanding these characteristics, Greek agriculture suffers from major structural problems. Small and fragmented land holdings, insufficient rural infrastructure, inefficient marketing system, weak farmers’ bargaining power are just a few of the factors that contribute to the formation of high-cost production structures and hinder the development of Greek agriculture. The overall result of these problems is that farm income have remained very low compared with the incomes of the Greek economy and those of the farm sectors of the EU member states.

The question which we will try to answer is, to what degree the change in the institutional framework of the development of Greek agriculture, due to the implementation of the CAP and the freeing of trade in agricultural products within the Community, affected Greek agriculture. Specifically, after a short review of agricultural policy in Greece before accession and the changes made during the transition period, an attempt is made in this paper to assess quantitatively and qualitatively developments in key indicators of Greek agriculture. Moreover, the agricultural sector's prospects are examined after the 1992 CAP reform for important for our country products, the implementation of the Uruguay Agreement, the Berlin Agreement, enlargement of the EU, the Mid-Term CAP reform and the recent developments and the CAP prospects. The accession of Greece into the European Community in 1981 resulted in the immediate implementation of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the gradual (within 5 years) removal of tariffs on the trade of agricultural products with other member countries. Consequently, the institutional framework within which Greek agriculture had developed in the post-war period changed radically and the regulating ability of the Greek state was significantly limited.

Decoupling in the enlarged EU should produce similar trends to those in the EU-15, as producers’ decisions will be driven by market considerations rather than by the maximization of direct payments. The CAP reform will generally reduce most of the downside risks of agricultural markets in the EU-27, notably in the area of structural surpluses. In the new member states, income should increase in real terms not as a result of the CAP reform but in comparison to the pre-enlargement situation in 2002.
Undoubtedly, in a democratic society, citizens need to know what the decision makers are up to and they must be able to scrutinize them. The right to know is just as important a cornerstone to democracy as the right to vote. We have come a far way since 1992, when the Member States adopted a Declaration on the right of access to information (attached to the final act of the Maastricht Treaty). This Declaration stated an important principle: “Transparency of the decision-making process strengthens the democratic nature of the institutions and the public's confidence in the administration”. This is actually what steered the EC towards the adoption of Regulation 1049 in 2001, which was a real step forward for transparency. Today, the Commission’s proposal for a revised Regulation is on the table and that opens a new round of debate on the role and the right of citizen on transparency.
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Project’s Research Reports

Research activity no.1

General framework of administrative convergence provided by the reforms of national public administrations in South-Eastern European states

Thematic research reports:

UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGERAN
The federal bureaucracy, a system very interesting for the administrative and organisational future of the EU
Available at [http://www.balcannet.eu/materiale/ADM.CONVERGENCE.pdf](http://www.balcannet.eu/materiale/ADM.CONVERGENCE.pdf)

NEW BULGARIAN UNIVERSITY
Reforms of Bulgarian public administration

UNIVERSITY OF RIJEKA
General framework of administrative convergence provided by Croatian public administration reforms
Available at [http://www.balcannet.eu/materiale/ADM.CONVERGENCE.pdf](http://www.balcannet.eu/materiale/ADM.CONVERGENCE.pdf)

EPLO
Global and EU Administrative Law and Justice. Contemporary Trends and Lessons to be learned
Research activity no.1

General framework of administrative convergence provided by the reforms of national public administrations in South-Eastern European states

THE FEDERAL STRUCTURE: A CHALLENGE FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION ADMINISTRATIVE AND ORGANIZATIONAL FUTURE

A delimitation study between bureaucracy and governance

Prof. Panagiotis GRIGORIOU

University of the Aegean
Jean Monnet European Chair Holder
Member of Euromediterranean University Senate
Mytilene-Lesbos Island, Greece

Governance is not a simple role in the award of civil society in regional and central government structures. This is an innovative concept for the functioning of institutions and markets. This is a new proposal for the interpretation and application of the democracy in Europe, which for three centuries is characterized as the principal laboratory for the processing of the principles of the direct democracy.

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2. EUROPEAN UNION FEDERALIST TRENDS
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**Research activity no.1**

*General framework of administrative convergence provided by the reforms of national public administrations in South-Eastern European states*

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**REFORMS OF BULGARIAN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

*Prof. Dr. Margarita SHIVERGUEVA*

New Bulgarian University  
Jean Monnet Chair in European economic integration  
Sofia, Bulgaria

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Good governance in Bulgaria is critical to long-term economic, social and environmental development. However, evaluating government activities and performance is challenging due to the limited availability of comparative data. Best practices are rarely definable and are often based on subjective assessments. The reform of the public administration in Bulgaria aims to create an atmosphere, which actively encourages the innovations, introducing good practices and EU achievements.

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

Research activity no.1

*General framework of administrative convergence provided by the reforms of national public administrations in South-Eastern European states*

**GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF ADMINISTRATIVE CONVERGENCE PROVIDED BY CROATIAN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS**

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One of the main goals of Croatian foreign policy is to become a full member of the European Union. Croatia has submitted a request for full membership on 21st of February 2003, and received the status of official candidate for EU membership on 18th of June 2004. Negotiations for accession have been officially open on 3rd of October 2005. Negotiations focus on the conditions under which the candidate countries will adopt, implement and enforce the acquis communautaire.

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Research activity no.1

General framework of administrative convergence provided by the reforms of national public administrations in South-Eastern European states

GLOBAL AND EU ADMINISTRATIVE LAW AND JUSTICE
CONTEMPORARY TRENDS AND LESSONS TO BE LEARNED

Prof.Dr. Spyridon FLOGAITIS
EUROPEAN PUBLIC LAW ORGANIZATION
Athens, Greece

The CST is the expression, at the EU level, of a trend observed in international organizations, that of autonomous settlement of administrative disputes by judicial formations that operate in within the organization itself. In European law, the establishment of the Tribunal introduced some innovations. For the first time, for example, and following the model of administrative tribunals of other international organizations, judges of such judicial formations are selected and appointed not by the usual procedure applied for the composition of the ECJ and/or the CFI (i.e., the proposal by member-states, and therefore their representation in the panels), but by an open call for expression of interest, with opinion expressed by an expert panel and a final ratification procedure by the Council. It should be noted that the procedure followed for the composition of the Tribunal, a procedure that will in the near future be applied for every special judicial formations that may be created, and by the courts, was foreseen already by the Constitutional Treaty, long before it was ratified and put in force. Yet, it was already applied for the establishment and composition of the Tribunal!

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Events in the field of research connected to the project

9th International Congress of IAPNM
“Regulation and Best Practices in Public and Nonprofit Marketing”
Bucharest, 10 – 11 June 2010

At this year’s Congress there were represented 145 authors and coauthors from 40 universities or institutions of 16 different countries, which leads us to conclude that there is a constant development of the Congress of the International Association on Public and Nonprofit Marketing as well as of the organizers’ effort.

Should you be interested in going in-depth of 2010 IAPNM Congress, please do visit our website http://www.admpubl.snspa.ro/iapnm_congress/