

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.

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.

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Cooperation between the Project's Partners

19 February 2010

Terror, Dignity and Instrumentalization of Human Life

**Professor Yiannis Drossos,
National and Capodistrian
University of Athens, Greece**

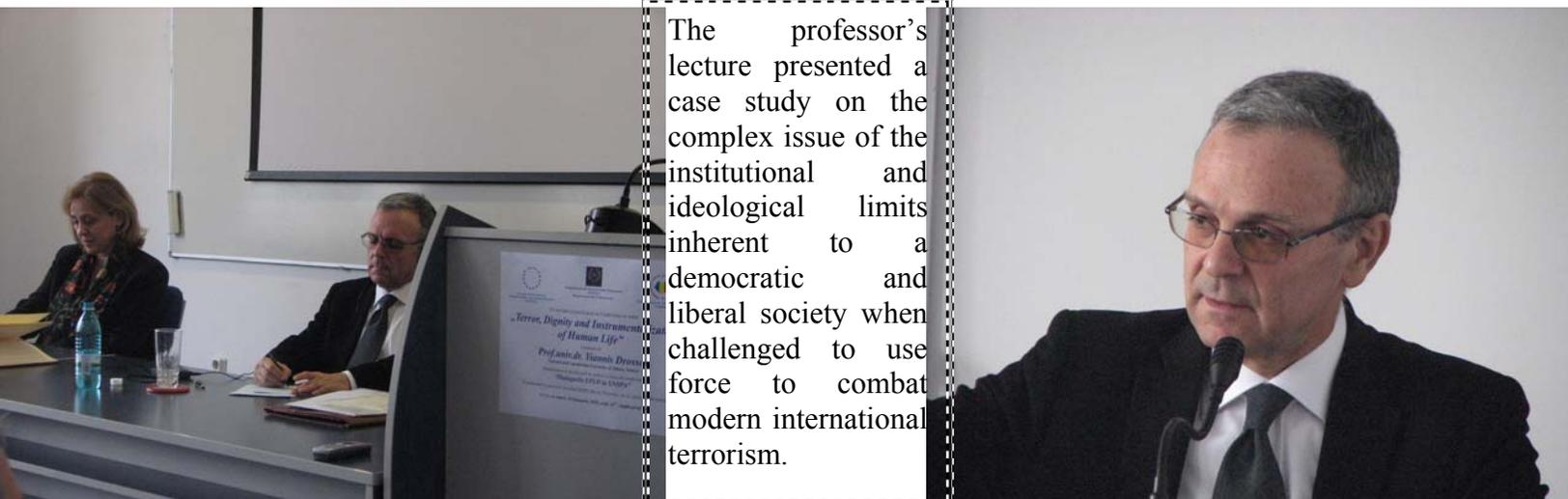


The National School of Political Studies
and Public Administration,

The Faculty of Public Administration,
and

Bucharest Regional Office of the
European Public Law Organization

presented
this event as part of the Conferences'
cycle "EPLO's Dialogues at NSPSA"



The professor's lecture presented a case study on the complex issue of the institutional and ideological limits inherent to a democratic and liberal society when challenged to use force to combat modern international terrorism.

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



Workshop
Wrap Up



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
- Closing Session





SESSION 1

Balkan Public Administrations between Transition and Modernity

Moderators

Margarita Shivergueva, Prof. Dr., New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria
Sylvia Archmann, Mag., European Institute of Public Administration, The Netherlands

Speakers

Sylvia ARCHMANN, Mag., European Institute of Public Administration,
The Netherlands

*“Transformational Government and Beyond. From Weberian Bureaucracy to New
Public Management”*

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

The adoption of new working cultures, commitment to best quality and customer satisfaction in public administration through the adoption of the principles of Transformational Government is an ongoing process in Europe. European public administration is thus moving from a model characterized by bureaucracy and inefficiency, towards a new model where quality, customer satisfaction, efficiency and reduction of administrative burden are the issues at stake.

This transformation relies strongly on the solid presence of ICT in public administration and government work; however, important societal changes are needed, such as the promotion of eInclusion and eSkills to ensure that citizens are not left behind in benefiting from the information society. The possibilities of transformational government are thus manifold: from efficiency gains to energy saving.



Panagiotis GRIGORIOU, Prof. Dr., University of the Aegean, Greece
“The Federal Bureaucracy: A Challenge for the European Union Administrative and Organisational Future”

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



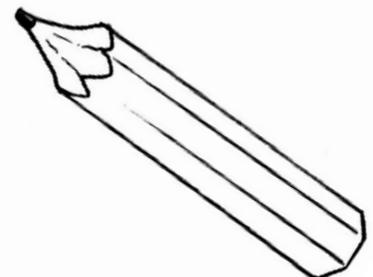
The federal bureaucracy, a system very interesting for the administrative and organisational future of the EU, can have both, positive and negative, impact on the efficient working of government/ governance at the EU level. A well-organized bureaucracy can increase the efficiency of the European government/governance. If every administrative component of this system has a specific responsibility, that does not overlap with other responsibilities, the efficiency of the system will increase greatly.

The European governance will constitute a principal objective of our research report. We will start with an account of the EU political system as an ‘information processing’ system. The ‘informational complexity’, which such a system has to cope with, is analysed and conceptualised along three different dimensions: density of communication, structurability of information and heterogeneity of beliefs and interests.

Next an eight-fold classification of EU modes of governance is developed based on the dimensions of centralization/dispersion (of authority), strict/loose coupling (of system units) and inclusive/exclusive access (to decision making). Next step for our report will be the new approach to EU governance by stressing the interdependence of governance and integration.

It suggests that EU governance is not just shaped by the emerging properties of the EU polity but has a strong impact both on system formation at national and European level.

It is a process of mutual structuration which is likely to affect the integration and coherence of member state systems up to a point where European ‘good governance’ may threaten the governability and democratic quality of established national systems.

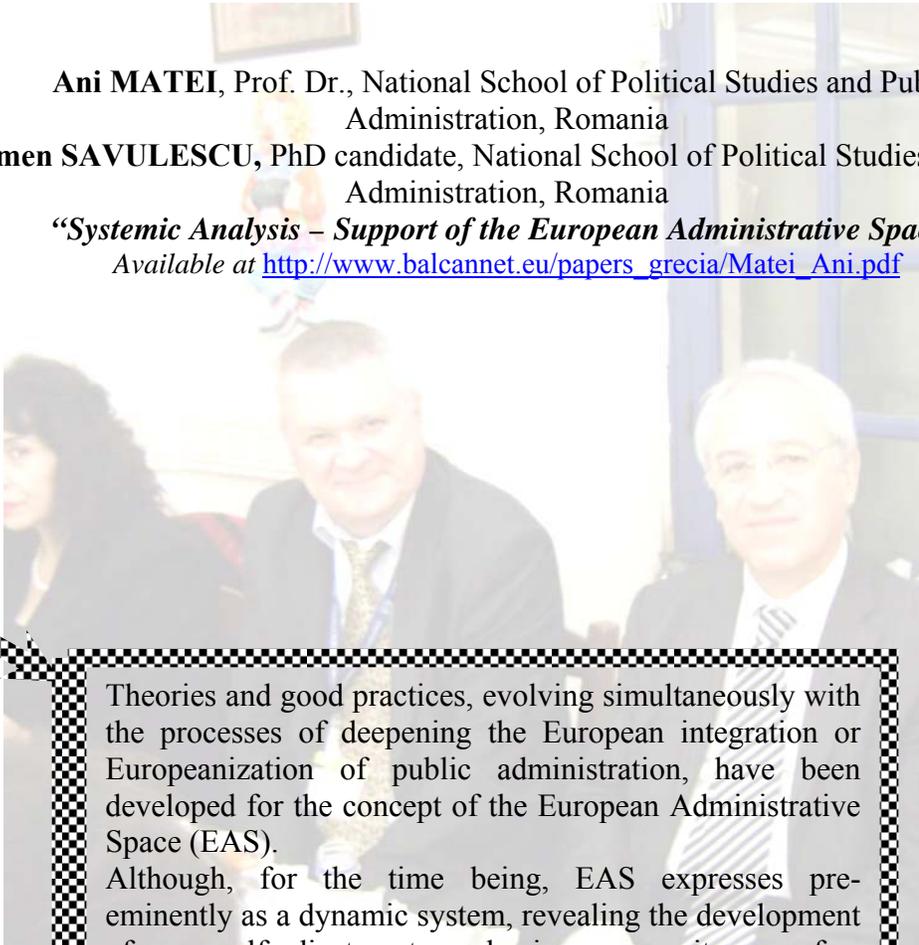


Ani MATEI, Prof. Dr., National School of Political Studies and Public
Administration, Romania

Carmen SAVULESCU, PhD candidate, National School of Political Studies and Public
Administration, Romania

“Systemic Analysis – Support of the European Administrative Space”

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



Theories and good practices, evolving simultaneously with the processes of deepening the European integration or Europeanization of public administration, have been developed for the concept of the European Administrative Space (EAS).

Although, for the time being, EAS expresses pre-eminently as a dynamic system, revealing the development of own self-adjustment mechanisms, we witness a few preoccupations concerning the systemic substantiation.

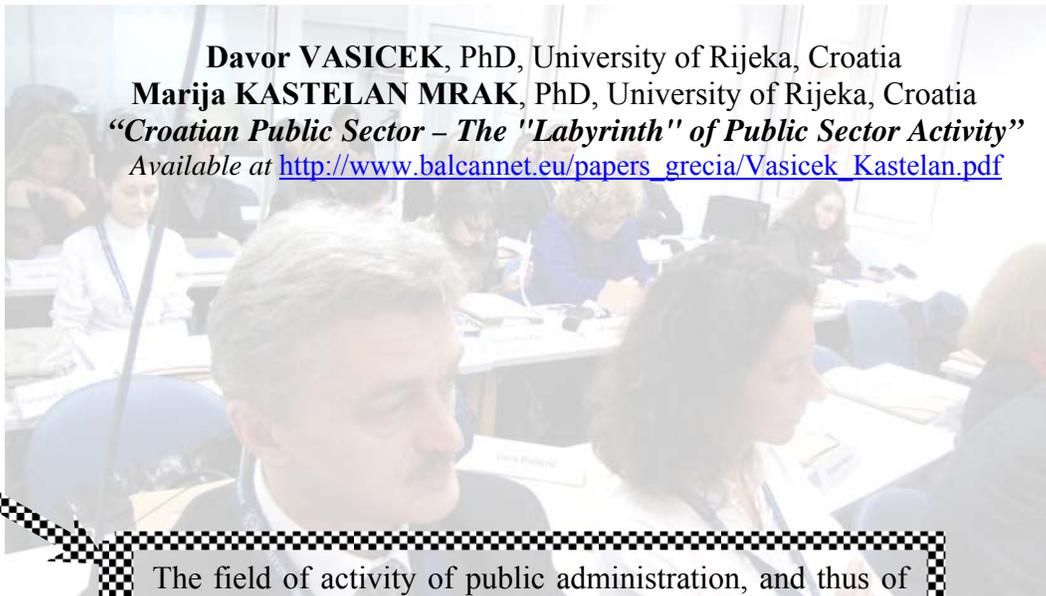
The self-adjustment mechanisms of EAS are based on legislative harmonization, transfer of good practices, as well as strategies of the administrative reform.

The national, infra-national and European administrations represent the organising pillar of EAS. This reality leads to the hypothesis of organising EAS as a multipolar system, with mixed architecture.

The relative recent occurrence of EAS justifies its development on principles similar to those of New Public Management.

The enlargement processes of EAS, the administrative convergence and dynamics are emergent and express systemic effects, encompassing the robustness of the administrative institutions, national or regional traditions, organisational culture or geo-political aspects.

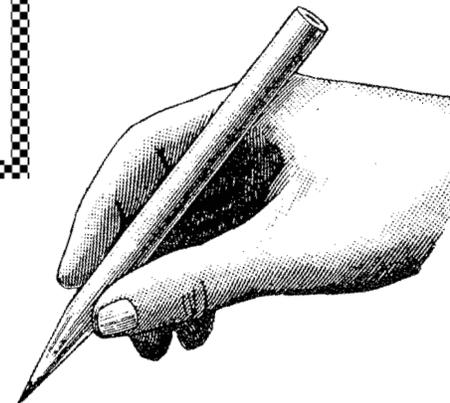




Davor VASICEK, PhD, University of Rijeka, Croatia
Marija KASTELAN MRAK, PhD, University of Rijeka, Croatia
“Croatian Public Sector – The “Labyrinth” of Public Sector Activity”
Available at http://www.balcannet.eu/papers_grecia/Vasicek_Kastelan.pdf

The field of activity of public administration, and thus of the administration of convergence is very broad and complex. In order to perceive the complexity of the functioning of the Croatian public administration the institutional framework of Croatian public sector and the basic components of the state administration and local self-government are presented. The Croatian public sector and its integrated sub-sectors are defined according to the methodology of the Government Finance Statistics (hereinafter GFS), International Monetary Fund (hereinafter IMF), United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA) and European System of National Accounts (ESA 1995).

Croatia has a two-tier system of government administration: central and local government administrations. This paper analyses the public sector and public administration reforms at a functional and institutional sense at both state and local levels. International and Croatian legislative definitions of the public sector are not defined uniformly. Therefore, the institutional scope and structure of the Croatian public sector needs to be described in more detail according to the international and Croatian legal resources.



Panagiotis KARKATSOULIS, Hellenic Ministry of the Interior, Greece
***“Local Self-Government Reforms as an Ambivalent Means for Attaining Efficiency: The
Case of Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”***

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



Local governance seems to be a promising tool for upgrading both concepts of Governance and Decentralization. It is supposed that certain weak points of previous, traditional models of decentralization have been identified and can be overcome. The managerial paradigm sees local self-government as resources, human potential and infrastructure facilities that should obey to certain economic rationales and restraints concerning local budgets. On the other hand, local Governance gives emphasis to the issue of public consultation and citizens' participation in the decision making process. Through the examination of the FYROM local self-government reform case we are going to shed light on similarities and differences among the literature approaches to local self-government and the implementation of such reforms in real life.





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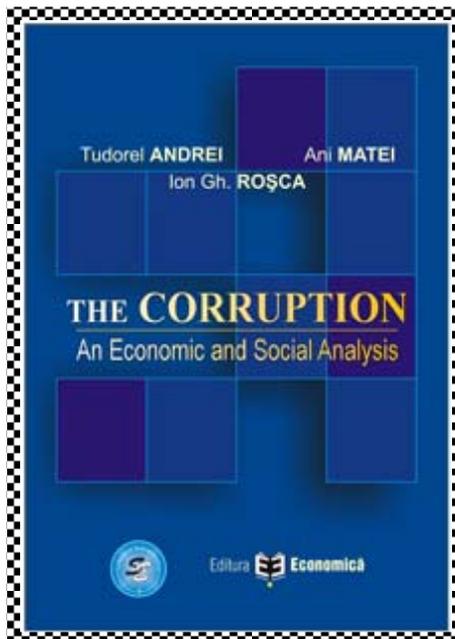


**Members' academic contributions in the field of research
connected to the project**

**Tudorel Andrei
Ani Matei
Ion Gh. Roșca**

***The Corruption
An Economic and Social Analysis***

Available at: <http://www.edecon.ro/carte/722/the-corruption-an-economic-and-social-analysis-ani-matei-ion-gh-rosc-a-tudorel-andrei/>



The core ideas of the book focus on social perception, modeled through statistic analyses, on the specificity of corruption in the public administration or the public health system in close correlation to the processes of decentralization and performance of health services.





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**LATEST
NEWS**

**9th International Congress of IAPNM
“Regulation and Best Practices in Public and
Nonprofit Marketing”**

Organizers:

International Association on Public
and Nonprofit Marketing



National School of Political Studies and Public
Administration, Faculty of Public Administration

New terms for attending the IAPNM Congress

- **Extended Deadline:** 15 March 2010
- The Organizing Committee has established a series of measures meant to stimulate the participation of the best researchers – academic teachers, specialists, students, the team research or the development and continuity of public and nonprofit public researches in the same research institutions.
 - **Reduced participation fees with approximately 25%** for coauthors (minimum 2 coauthors attending the Congress) or authors coming from the same institution (university, research centre, public institution, etc.) and the last year participants.
 - **Paper publishing:** all the papers presented at the congress will be published in a special volume, both the printed and the electronic version, which will be distributed without charge to all Congress participants.

website: http://www.admpubl.snsa.ro/iapnm_congress
e-mail: iapnm2010@snsa.ro



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Project's Activities - Stage 2
Period: 01/03/2010 - 01/09/2010

“Convergence and Europeanization. From Weberian bureaucracy to New Public Management”



The activities that will be achieved in the second stage of the project refer to:

I. Research activity no.2 , “Convergence and Europeanization. From Weberian bureaucracy to New Public Management “.

The thematic reports will focus on the following topics:

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF POLITICAL STUDIES AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

„Europeanization of central and local government in Romania. Empirical researches and case studies”

UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN

„The bureaucracy as a structure and set of regulations in place to control activity, usually in large organizations and government”

NEW BULGARIAN UNIVERSITY

„European governance & public administration reform in Balkan states”

UNIVERSITY OF RIJEKA

„Study on reform of governmental accounting and public finance”

EUROPEAN PUBLIC LAW ORGANIZATION

„New Technologies in the service of efficient public administration”

II. Research activity no.5, “Sociological research concerning the degree of administrative rationalisation”

In this stage the following deliverables will be fulfilled:

Deliverable 1 – Updating the website of the project

Deliverable 3 – Achieving the thematic research reports (CD-Rom/DVD)

Deliverable 4 – Achieving and disseminating 6 Newsletters

Deliverable no. 5 – Database for the “Sociological research concerning the degree of administrative rationalisation”



Meeting of the Project Board

On the occasion of the Workshop “Public administration in Balkans – from Weberian bureaucracy to New Public Management “, from Athens, the meeting of the Project Board was organized on 4 February 2010. Representatives of the consortium partners participated in this meeting, aimed to strengthen the relations of an efficient collaboration.

The agenda of the meeting comprised the thorough analysis of the status of delivering the Jean Monnet project, the presentation of new modalities to disseminate the outcomes of the project, the impact of the project as well as the next actions in view of a successful project accomplishment.

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