



**International scientific conference
"Facing the Challenges in European Union.
Re-thinking of EU Education and Research
for Smart and Inclusive Growth (EuInteg)"**

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The State remained the most important partner of the European Union in the field of regional policy in Central and Eastern Europe

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Theoretical perspectives of understanding of the relationship between national states and the supranational (EU structures) in general (I)

1. The five different reform models on the administration and the management of public systems of Pollitt and Bouckaert.

- a) This means that private-sector management techniques are imported into the public sector;
- b) This means a vision on the architecture and the mapping of the public sector;
- c) This requires the recognition of civil society as a partner in reform;
- d) The fourth model goes beyond the infrastructural level and includes the supra-structure that is also involved in the reform process;
- e) The fifth model goes beyond the fourth one and includes all elements of the system. This requires a reform strategy which includes the major steering mechanisms in society, depending on the state structure itself.





Theoretical perspectives of understanding of the relationship between national states and the supranational (EU structures) in general (II)

2. The steps of the relationship between the nation states in the CEE region and the European supranational framework from the perspective of Europeanization (Johan P. Olson)

- a) Expanding of frontiers in which the EU policies can take action;
- b) Development of the European institutions, which will receive competences to directly influence the relevant national level;
- c) Adapting of national system of governance to "European Political wide-centers and European norms" by creating a specific system of multilevel governance (MLG);
- d) Export of forms of governance established at the level of the entire European continent;
- e) Unifying policies, creating a new kind of policy in the EU.





Theoretical perspectives of understanding of the relationship between national states and the supranational (EU structures) in general (III)

3. The phenomenon of Europeanization in Central and Eastern Europe can be explained in Frank Schimmelfenning 's and Ulrich Sedelmeier 's perspective in 3 ways

- a) The external incentive model stresses the centrality of the EU role in the delineation of the changes that took place in the CEE states;
- b) The social learning is perceived as a community of values to which candidate countries want to join and want to adapt the norms and rules because they are perceived as good;
- c) The lesson-driving relies on the observation that a significant part of the changes in the candidate countries happened without compulsory or coercive means.



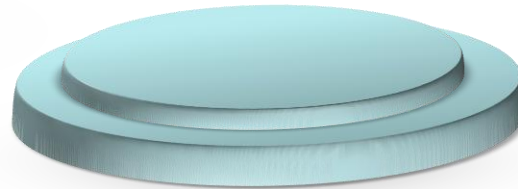


Manifestations of the EU-member states relationship in regional policy



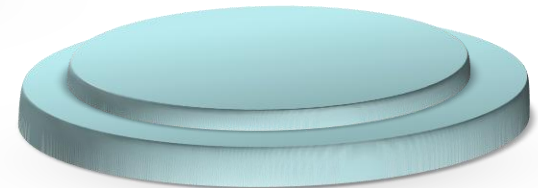
a)

Integrated top –down policies by regionalisation and decentralisation



b)

Recentralization as the bottom-up initiatives of the states



c)

Re-adjustments between the top-down policies and the bottom-up initiatives



1. Integrated top-down policies



Analyzing the Annual Progress Reports of CEE Countries in the field of regional policy till their accession we can notice:

1)

From procedural perspective - regionalization and decentralization reached all CEEC

a)

Intermediate levels were created between central government and administrative structures

b)

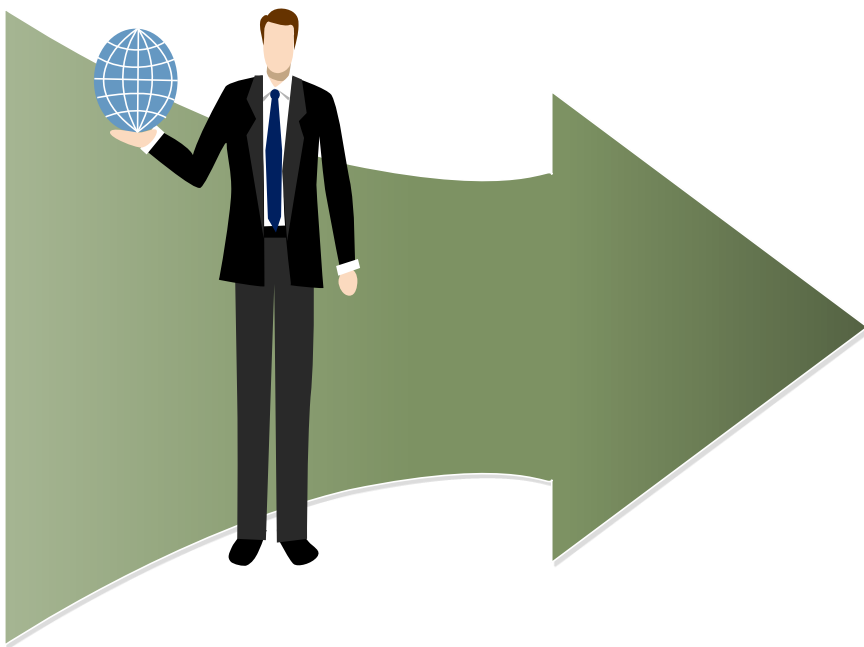
Legislative packets were given in order to pave the way towards decentralization

2)

From the functional perspective, the European Commission reports show that until the accession moment, no state revealed a normal functioning of the regional structures.



2. Recentralization as the bottom-up initiatives of the states



2.1

The unfinished or mimed decentralization

2.2

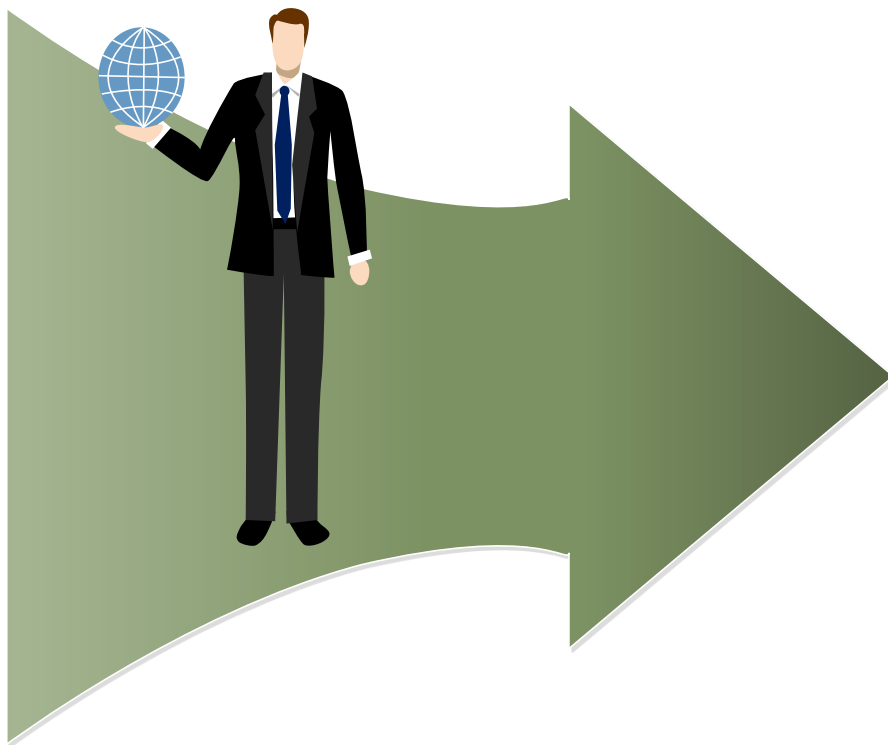
Central administrative structures have to be consolidated in order to develop a solid capacity for the absorption of Community funds

2.3

The administrative coercions that developed within the economic crisis and authoritarian trends frameworks



3. The perspective of regional policy consists in the constant re-adjustments between the top-down policies and the bottom-up initiatives



3.1

The MLG (multilevel governance) should consider overlapping competencies and the interactions among the EU, states, regional and local actors to be variable, dynamic and constant

3.2

A real democratization of regional policy as to reach complementarity between European integration issues and demands of democratic consolidation in CEEC

3.3

Restoring good intentions and commitments from the period during the negotiation of the regional policy chapter



Conclusion

1. The continuation of the European integration process as a “supranational democracy” could continue the process of decentralization in Central and Eastern Europe.
2. The Lisbon Treaty recognizes the equality of states regarding the Treaties and their national identity, including in terms of the local and regional autonomy.
3. The economic crises has also put the problem of territorial reforms for greater decentralization.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
KIND ATTENTION!**