University of Craiova

Faculty of Social Sciences

Agora Alumni

UNIVERSITY OF CRAIOVA

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Agora Alumni

No. 2 • 2015

No. 2 • 2015

Agora Alumni

Aims and scopes

Agora Alumni is a scientific journal dedicated to the BA and MA students, PhD students and graduates from the University of Craiova who specialize in Social, Law, and Humanistic Sciences, as well as other related fields of study.

Agora Alumni is the first academic journal that includes contributions from the students and graduates of the University of Craiova, addressing issues related to the study of Society, Law, and Humanistic sciences.

Agora Alumni is a peer reviewed scientific publication with an interdisciplinary approach, dedicated to young professionals interested in improving their skills in their specific areas of interest, and also encouraging them to disseminate the results of their research.

Agora Alumni aims to create a scientific support for young researchers to publish the results of their work, and also to improve their chances towards better professional development.

Agora Alumni welcomes contributions from BA and MA students, PhD students and graduates addressing issues regarding Law, Social and Humanistic Sciences in a scientific approach.

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Articles and studies

Romanians' image in the international media (media monitoring)

Gabi Ghimiş *, *Alicia-Roberta Durău***

Abstract

Media monitoring has been made during November 1, 2013 – January 10, 2014, on a total of 104 articles related to Romanians. There were studied eight publications from three different countries. From France: Le Monde, Le Figaro, Le Parisien; from Great Britain: The Guardian, Daily Mail, Reuters and from Spain: El Mundo, El País. In the approximately three months of monitoring, there have been many articles about Romanians and Roma abroad, their situation, the image created in the West and especially the issues raised by the liberalization of the labour market. There have been many articles which outline the image of Romania through the actions of the criminal conduct of Roma, often making the confusion between "Romanian" and "Roma". It is worrisome the increasingly common association of all Romanians with the Roma population and the beggars in the international Media, the watchword to describe Romania's image abroad, being "criminality".

Key Words: *Romanians, immigrants, labour market liberalization, crimes, Romania's image.*

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France:

Between November 1st 2013 and January 10th 2014 we have been monitoring three newspapers from France and found the next articles about Romanians and our country as a central subject, on different topics.
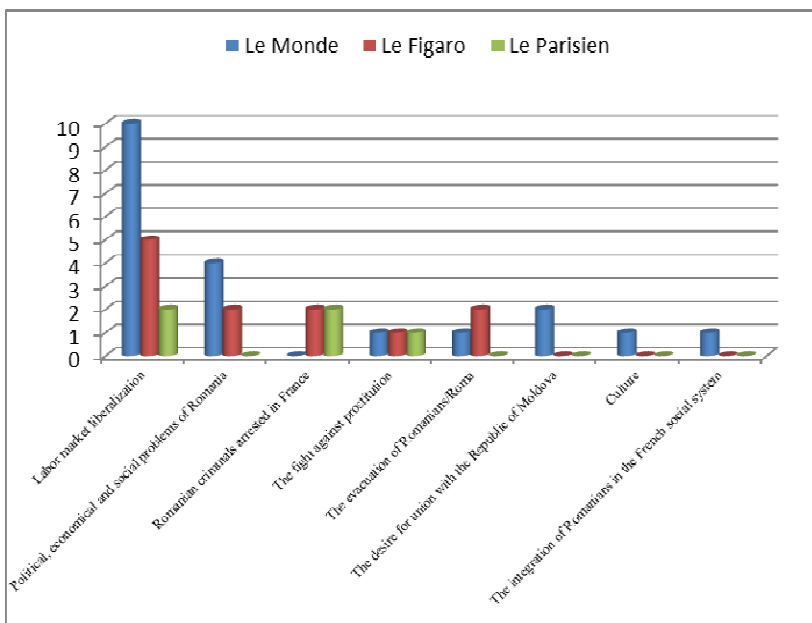
In the French daily "Le Monde", between the articles in which the Romanians are the main subject, there are prevailed the subjects on labour market liberalization, framed on "Society" section.

The journalists of "Le Monde", although they are trying to show an objective opinion on labour market liberalization for Romanians and Bulgarians, beginning from January 1st 2014, they

are losing their objectivity, hardly criticizing this measure and anticipating the wave of immigrants coming from East which will unbalance the developed West economy.

There is also a journalist (Dominique Gallois) who is optimistic about the wave of immigrants that will arrive beginning with January 1st 2014, suggesting since the title that the workers from the East are like "a breath of fresh air for the construction companies".

Concerning the topic of political, economic and social problems of Romania, there are treated briefly and very objective issues like: the fight against corruption, still present in the Romanian institutions, the issue of shale gas and everything related to the problem of Roșia Montană. Another issue is the "Romanian failure" in the attempt to integrate the Roma minority into society.

Also, in "Le Monde", we found some articles related to Romanian criminals arrested in France and our country's name is often associated to the fight against prostitution, which outlines a negative image of Romania, perhaps due to the lack of reaction from Romanian authorities.

The articles that bring a negative image of our country are those related to the eviction of Roma from the streets of Paris. In the title is used the word "Roma", but in the content of the article they are called "Romanians". So, here is made the confusion between a minority and a nation, associating the Romanian people with Roma ethnics.

The articles about culture have a smaller percentage (with topics related to Nadia Comăneci or the Romanian cinematography, with reference to Cristian Mungiu's film "Beyond the Hills") and articles on the integration of Romanians in the French social system, particularly in the health and health insurance system, paid by the French State, or the desire of

restoring the Romanian territory by the union with the Republic of Moldova.

In "Le Figaro" we found fewer articles on the subject of Romanians, and as in "Le Monde", there are dominating the ones on labour market liberalization.

On this issue, it highlights the reactions and worries of Germany and Great Britain across the wave of immigrants from Eastern Europe and also the fact that France predicted the situation created on 1 January 2014, with the liberalization of the labour market for Romanians and Bulgarians.

The journalists are dealing with this subject with objectivity, and the same goes for the issues related to social and political problems of Romania. There are treated subjects as the replacement of ministers, the quarrel of the Minister of Culture with Crin Antonescu and the precarious situation of the Romanian health system, hospitals and their lack of basic drugs.

When it comes to eviction of Roma population, the problem of prostitution or Romanian criminals arrested, things are getting a more personal interpretation and the articles lose their objectivity. A good example in this case is an article published on 02.12.2013, entitled: "Romanians on the knees: incidents during deportations". This author, like other journalists of the newspaper "Le Figaro", describing the events that occurred during the evacuation of Roma, fails to stipulate that the people involved in that action are Roma ethnical, calling them Romanians and making again confusion between Roma and Romanians.

And the third newspaper monitored, "Le Parisien", although it published fewer articles about Romanians (perhaps because it is a local newspaper), has like dominant theme the labour market liberalization.

Unlike the others, the journalists of "Le Parisien", deal with this topic briefly and objectively, somehow concluding that the labour market liberalization is a benefit for the countries that receive immigrants by greater contributions to the state system and note that the first negative reaction to this measure is increasing the crime rate.

Among the topics found in "Le Parisien", there are also those of Romanian criminals arrested in France, specifying only that they have Romanian nationality and the subject of prostitution associated with the name of Romania.

An article that caught our attention was published on 10.01.2014 in "Le Monde", entitled: "A l'ouest, jeune home!" (Go west young man!), Which, starting from a quote of Horace Greeley, a famous American journalist ("Go West, young man, go west and grow up with the country"), seeks to justify the westward migration of Romanians. The article presents in detail the situation in Romania, as well as the young people's impossibility to find a decent job in their own country. This explains the fact that young people are encouraged by their own system to emigrate and search a better paid job and a better life.

Another article, framed in the "Culture" section of "Le Monde", published on 01.09.2014, entitled: "Nadia en équilibre. « La Petite Communiste qui ne souriait jamais », de Lola Lafon", brings to the fore the launch of Lola Lafon's book, about the life of Nadia Comăneci.

The article is a presentation of the book and also remembers the difficult times that the little gymnast lived under communism, who debuted in 1976 at the Olympic Games in Montreal, at just 14-year-old.

Although the article is surprising for the French media, bringing in light and complimenting a Romanian girl, however the author, does not give the offensive style that the French

journalists have against Romanians and ends his article in an ironic note: "*Nul n'aurait pensé qu'elle pouvait habiter ce robot communiste de 40 kilos, mascotte de son pays, jusqu'à sa fuite aux Etats-Unis, en 1989*". (Nobody would have thought what could live with that communist robot of 40 kilograms, the mascot of her country, until she fled the United States, in 1989).

Great Britain:

Between November 1st 2013 and January 10th 2014, we have monitored three newspapers from Great Britain, where we found the following articles related to Romanians and our country as central topic on different themes:
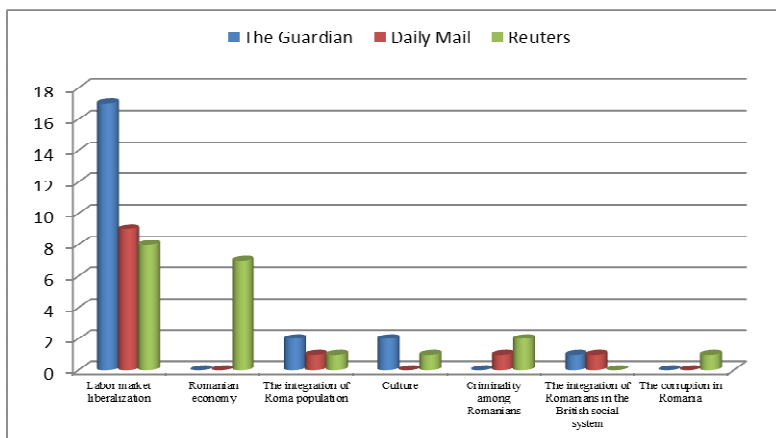
Regarding the articles about immigration, the journalists from "The Guardian" seem to have an objective position with articles presenting the testimonies of Romanians who are already

established in the UK, who have stable jobs, pay taxes and do not feel discriminated by the British.

"The Guardian" estimated a new wave of Romanian immigrants since 1 January 2014 when the Romanians had the same rights as British citizens to work freely, publishing articles with statistics on the number of Romanians who will "invade" the UK. There were also found articles on the position of the Prime Minister and other politicians, David Cameron being put under increasing pressure from his own party to take action as a result of fears that the full access to the labour market in the UK would lead to a wave of immigration mass.

An article that caught our attention was published by "The Guardian" on 30.12.2013, with a pretty impressive title "Thousands of Romanian children stay at home while parents work abroad", related to the children left home, while their parents are working abroad. It is a shocking article which outlines the situation of the children left behind, to what extent they are affected by the absence of their parents, testimonies of the parents who left Romania which are restricted to a single common point "they have left the country for a higher salary, for the good of the children, tired of the situation in Romania" not considering how children are affected after their departure; and testimonies of the children who say "Mom and Dad are not beside me, they left for a better life ", while they have remained with their grandparents. There is presented a huge number of children left at home, which figures only on paper, but in reality it is higher.

A cue ball for Romania was the article published on 31.12.2013 in "The Guardian" when the editor, intrigued by all the talks of Romanians wave arriving from 1 January 2014 as all British media predicted, challenged Romanians in Great Britain

and elsewhere to send pictures of all the beautiful places in Romania and perspectives about their own country.

With the liberalization of the labour market for Romanians and Bulgarians there appeared more and more articles related to immigration and its consequences. "Daily Mail" is no exception and published several articles with statistics, showing the number of Romanians and Bulgarians who were expected in the UK.

Daily Mail presents, in several articles, information and statistics on homeless people on the streets of London, where they don't distinguish between Romanian and Roma; statistics showing that one of 10 homeless is Romanian or Bulgarian.

What particularly caught our attention was that, in the title appeared the word "Romanians", and in the article there were pictures of Roma and appeared the word "Gypsies".

Articles on the number of Romanians arrested in London for various crimes, particularly related to fraud at ATMs are a black ball for Romania, because the journalists of Daily Mail do not distinguish (again) between Romanians and Roma.

A pretty rough article was a statistic presenting the crime rate, rising with the immigration of Romanians and Bulgarians, where the editor has outlined a very bad image of our country.

The Daily Mail newspaper had a subjective position during the monitoring through its articles, unfavourable to Romania's image, preferring to present Romanians as a nation of thieves and beggars.

During the monitoring, the publication "The Reuters" did not put very much emphasis on the immigration problem, publishing only 8 articles, saying that now, countries like Great Britain, France and Germany are facing a massive influx of Romanian and Bulgarian immigrants, and now they can work, after 7 years from the European Union integration, without any

restriction. On this topic, "The Reuters" had an objective position, presenting concrete and concise things.

Spain:

Between November 1st 2013 and January 10th 2014, we have monitored two newspapers from Spain, where we found the following articles related on Romanians and our country as central topic on different themes:

Regarding the Spanish media interest for Romanians we can affirm, after the monitoring of the two newspapers, that it is very low.
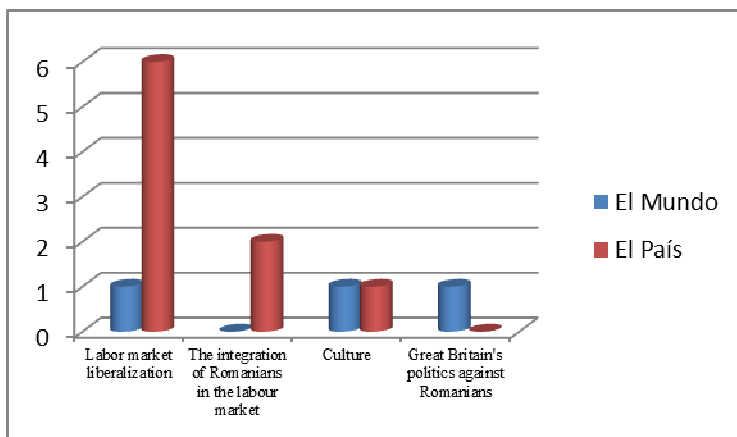
The daily "El Mundo" is very "poor" in articles about Romanians, being resumed at the number of three. So, the subject of labour market liberalization beginning from 1 January 2014 is treated in an objective and detached way. It also shows the fears of France, Great Britain and Germany to be "invaded"

by Romanians and Bulgarians starting from 1 January and also their actions, taken in the desire to postpone the liberalization of the labour market.

Another article presents the measures taken by the UK to deter Romanians who intend to go to work, namely the reduction of social benefits for Romanians and Bulgarians.

Another article in "El Mundo" informs that, in certain provinces of Spain, where Romanians percentage is very high, agreements were signed between the Romanian state and local authorities to introduce courses of Romanian culture in schools.

The newspaper "El País" had several articles about Romanians (nine), in which, the dominant theme was the liberalization of the labour market. The articles are presented in an objective way, aiming the standpoint of both Western countries and the Romanian and Bulgarian authorities, through speeches and replies of representatives of these states.

Another two articles refer to labour market integration for Romanians beginning from 1 January 2014, making a parallel of what meant their integration in Spain and Italy, one of the articles having suggestive title: "The hand that helps an aging society".

It also brings into question the good preparation of young Romanians, the difficulty to find a job and also the discrimination they are suffering abroad.

An article that caught our attention, published on 03.11.2013 in "El País" has the title: "Anca Petrescu, Ceausescu's delirium architect ". It presented extensively Ceausescu's megalomaniac ideas and how managed a young architect of just 27-year-old to design the second largest building in the world; although in the beginning it was thought to be a kitsch, the time has proved its worth and value.

Another article that caught our attention, "Romanians and Bulgarians still believe in Europe, despite the hostility of the

associates", published in the same newspaper on 05/01/2014, brings to light the problems the Romanians and Bulgarians face as European citizens, when they leave their country. It presents in detail the story of a young Romanian, 29-year-old, graduate of a university in the Netherlands and speaking 3 foreign languages. The discrimination and negative experiences suffered and lived in countries such as Belgium and Great Britain, leads him to assert that "until now Romanians and Bulgarians have been second-class citizens of Europe."

Reaction of the Romanian media

For about three months we monitored the online publication "Ziare.com", they published over 30 articles of all areas about Roma and Romanians abroad, the situation they are in, our image created by France and Great Britain and also the attitude that they have since the liberalization of the labour market.

"Ziare.com" has taken over reactions and statements of British parliamentarians accusing that some Roma are already planning to come to the UK for "steal pocketing and aggressive begging" after lifting labour market restrictions for the two Eastern European countries from January 1, 2014.

A shocking story taken from the "Daily Express" by "Ziare.com" informs that the Roma were having a new method of burglaries: they use their children to steal from homes; the article contains details on how they were operating and the reaction of policemen when they found out what actually happened.

There are dozens of articles taken over by the site "Ziare.com" from UK, France, where they are outlining our

image through the actions of Roma, sometimes it is not specified clearly the difference between Romanians and Roma.

It is worrying the more frequent association of gypsies and beggars to all Romanians by the international media, the key word to describe Romania's image abroad being, briefly, "crime". Immigrants are labelled as parasites, freeloaders, spongers and scroungers, benefiting unfairly from state aid, particularly Romanian citizens of Roma ethnicity and other Eastern European countries citizens. The massive wave of illegal immigrants from Eastern Europe has led western citizens to find a scapegoat for the growing rate of crime and drug trafficking in major European cities, with serious repercussions that come to xenophobia and racism against immigrants.

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The implications of the conflict in Ukraine on regional security

Ionela-Alexandra Pană [*]

Abstract

My paper deals with a very important topic for the current security environment. In the context of regional security, the civil war in Ukraine has consequences in the economic, political and military area. Starting from an ethnic tension, the situation got complicated and generated changes on the global political scene. If the war extends to other countries too, the whole humanity would be affected. Besides the strained relations between the EU and NATO with Russia, the dispute has made millions of victims and alerted the entire region, which had to provide financial help to Ukraine.

Key Words: *rebels, Russia, military, conflict, Ukraine, EU, sanctions.*

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MOTTO:

"In an objective sense, security refers to the absence of threats to acquired values and in the subjective one, to the absence of fear that such values will be attacked."

Arnold Wolfers, 1962

I. The concept of regional security

Shortly, security can be defined as the absence of danger, the lack of threats to fundamental values or even as a guarantee of future welfare (Pâlşoiu, 2010: 7). But we are talking about a complex and also controversial concept that has preoccupied humanity since its inception and has evolved considerably in recent decades. Given these considerations, many experts in the fields of International Relations, Geopolitics and Security Studies analyzed and explained it from different perspectives. But we can't forget that the term in question is multidimensional, which means that risks and threats have overcome military barriers to penetrate other sectors. So now we can talk about many types of security: political, social, societal, cultural, ecological, cybernetic, legal etc. Besides this aspect, the multi-level of security is also reflected in the level in which it has implications: national, regional or international.

In this case, our attention goes to the regional dimension. But what do we mean by regional security? Regional security, called also continental security, requires that states from a specific geographic area are safe of "any aggression, act of force or threat of force in relations between them, any attempt on their national independence and sovereignty or territorial integrity"(Pâlşoiu, 2010: 125).

Theoretically speaking the region of Europe is safe, if there is no threat to the independence, sovereignty or territorial integrity of its member states. In addition, the European Security Strategy

from 2003 also emphasizes the following challenges: proliferation of mass destruction weapons, international terrorism, organized crime, cyber and energy security risks and climate changes (European Security Strategy, 2003: 11-14). The most convincing examples in this sense are represented by the terrorist attacks and the danger of activation of some conflicts considered frozen as those in Transnistria, South Ossetia, Chechnya and Karabakh, but especially the expansion of the war in Ukraine. In my opinion, these are the most important risks to the stability of the European continent because they are more dynamic and more dangerous than the others. In addition, regional conflicts may even lead to terrorism, degenerate into extremism and also feeds organized crime and proliferation of mass destruction weapons (Pâlşoiu, 2010: 226). In terms of building an organization the European security literature gives us information that has started a multistage security system which works on the principle of cooperation between the following international organizations: European Union, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations (Pâlşoiu, 2010: 221).

II.   Introduction to the issue

The powder keg of Europe or the burner conflict taking place today is the civil war in Ukraine. The special issue of this state is Crimea which, just two years ago, I read that it was "on the verge of an ethnic explosion maintained by Russia" (Brzezinski, 1995: 290). Today, we can say that this tension broke and its effects extend including countries located close to. But what is the history of this controversial territory? Why is it so played? It is important to know that Crimea belonged to Russia in the period 1783-1954, being annexed by the Tsarist Empire following the victory against the Ottoman troops. But given the

indisputable Russian imperialist trends, the curiosity is heading in a new direction. How this area did come to Ukraine? History shows the day of February 27, 1954 as decisive in this process of big "generosity". This is the day when the Russian newspaper Pravda published information about a decree approved by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of USSR, according to which Nikita Khrushchev decided the transfer of Crimea to the Ukrainian Republic (Danilov, 2014). But what are the real intentions that lie behind this act?

In the media circulated the following two reasons, which, in my opinion, are just official pretexts:

- The transfer was a "noble act of the Russian people" in order to commemorate three centuries of Tsarist Empire unification with Ukraine;
- The transfer was necessary because of the "territorial proximity of Crimea to Ukraine, the common points of their economies and their close agricultural and cultural links" (Lupşor, 2014).

Although at first view these are sufficient reasons to believe in the Soviet indulgence, rigorous analysis dismantles them categorically. First, 1954 really marks 300 years since the Treaty of Pereislav, but it was not the union itself, but a step towards its realization. From here it deduces that this theme was exaggerated. Secondly, the justification of the transfer through the territorial, cultural, economic and ethnic tight relations between the two is also overrated. Crimea is located near the Ukraine, but is also at a short distance from Russia. In addition, economic and infrastructural ties with Ukraine are less important than the cultural links with the Soviets. Moreover, Crimean population in 1954 was 75% Russian, only 25% were Ukrainians. Tatars who

had lived in that territory until 1944 were deported by Stalin to Central Asia, seeking an ethnic cleansing.

Once identified the pretexts, it is necessary to research the real reasons that lie behind the assignment. Certainly the main purpose of Nikita Khrushchev was not to make an act of charity, but rather to ensure for long-term the strengthening of Ukraine's Soviet control. The strategy used was extremely effective. Over 850 000 Soviet ethnics were encouraged to move to the territory ceded to Ukraine such as the percentage of Russian minority to grow and gradually shape a region which identify more and more with Russia.

In addition to the national interest, Khrushchev also took care of the personal side. He saw the transfer as a political tool through which he should obtain Ukrainian elites' help in the fight against the new Prime Minister, Malenkov. Currently we note that "noble act" did 61 years ago return against Ukraine, just for Russia to consolidate its control over this territory. So the official reasons communicated at that time were only lies used to hide the true negative intentions. Following the clarification of the transfer process is important to see the general course of Russian policy so far (Lupşor, 2014).

On December 8, 1991, at the end of the meeting that took place in the forest Belojevska, the leaders of Russia, Belarus and Ukraine found its dissolution and decided to create the Commonwealth of Independent States (Lucinschi, 1998:10). Many analysts consider this event as important as the collapse of the Tsarist Empire, cataloguing CSI as ineffective and incapable of assuming a preeminent role on the international political stage (Buga, 2007:171).

Russia's political and economic chaos ended in March 2000 with the appointment of Vladimir Putin as president. Since then that state began to reassert his work as a great power. Initially

Russia participated at the G-8 work and also collaborated for a while with both NATO and the EU. But gradually the desire to regain a former status increased and relations with the West became strained again. The refusal to respect the obligations assumed under the Treaty on conventional armaments in Europe is the Soviet response to the US decision to locate in the Czech Republic, Poland and Romania elements of the missile shield. This action is a clear evidence that Russia is now aware that his politically and military power has greatly increased.

The conflict in Crimea is another demonstration of power and inordinate ambition of the Soviets. This region has a significant geostrategic importance in terms of defending the southern borders of Russia and the CIS, being a "buffer" space between the Eurasian world and the West. And as Nikita Khrushchev had been premeditated, it was time to return it to the Motherland. The fragility of Ukraine was represented mainly by pro-Russian secessionist movement. The Yushchenko regime desires to join NATO and the EU has fuelled tensions between western and south eastern. First Ukrainian nationalists aspired to full independence from Moscow and get closer cooperation relations with the West; on the other hand, the Russophones advocated embedding the political, economic and security structures of the CIS.

In this context, the announcement from November 21, 2013 that the government in Kiev "suspended the negotiations for the Association Agreement with the EU citing reasons of national security and the intention to return to privileged economic relations with CIS member states" have rise to pro-European protests. Soon they were turned into an anti-government revolution which the press called the "Euromaidan movement". It led to the departure of President Viktor Yanukovych from power on 22 February 2014 (Racheru, 2014). This is the moment

when the internal situation of Ukraine started to change considerably. A specialized definition of crisis shows that it "represents a radical change in the national or international situation, characterized by the existence of direct threats to security objectives, interests and fundamental values of the parties involved in a conflict" (Manolache, 2004:11). In these circumstances, it can be said that the situation which is the subject of this study can be rightly called crisis.

But the fire that triggered the explosion of the powder keg was the repeal of the law on foundations of state policy in the field of languages. On February 23, 2014, Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine has given permission for Russian to become a regional language in 13 of the 27 administrative regions of Ukraine. In this manner several languages used in Ukraine, including Romanian, were officially removed from service. During a trip made in 1993 in Central Asia and Georgia, Zbigniew Brzezinski signaled complaints from political leaders in these regions according to which Moscow used Russian colonists as a pretext to intervene in those areas (Brzezinski, 1995: 284). The same tactic was used by President Vladimir Putin to justify the presence of Russian troops, unmarked what's right, in the territory of Crimea.

Based on the aid application of the Crimean Prime Minister, Sergei Aksionov, the leader of Moscow urged on March 1 and obtained in the same day the consent of the Russian Parliament to intervene with armed forces in Ukraine, although this happened since February 23. Once the permission was obtained, the Russian military forces that have headquarters in Sevastopol and the pro-Russian separatists took control of all the political, economic and infrastructure centres from Crimea. Meanwhile, the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol City Council decided to hold a referendum on the status of the region. Although the referendum was declared

invalid by the United Nations Security Council, the inevitable occurred. Crimean referendum on the accession to the Russian Federation was held on 16 February 2014 and the turnout was 83% of those who benefited from this law. Of these, approximately 97% were in favour of the annexation, which is why in February Russia integrated the Federal District Crimea.

Although we might be tempted to believe that military tensions have ended, given that the region was annexed, so the goal was achieved, they continued. Despite NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen warned that further escalation would have as immediate effect the international isolation of Moscow, Putin maintained its troops in Ukraine, considering that it has the strategic right to keep them there. Moreover, according to a report presented by UN Deputy Secretary-General on Human Rights, Ivan Simonovic, the army fighting between Ukrainian and pro-Russians rebels in eastern Ukraine has led to 423 deaths in the period 15 April-20 June 2014.

Early elections from 25 May were required. The new president, Petro Poroshenko, elected with over 56% of the vote signed the Association Agreement with the European Union on 27 June. This action has intensified the wave of violence. Donetsk and Lugansk were the most affected cities since their separation was insistently required. Besides shootouts there was also hostage taking by both sides. It had to be signed a ceasefire agreement in Minsk, Belarus, on September 5 for the situation to mitigate and 146 prisoners to be freed.

Ukrainians could not properly celebrate the fragile peace agreement because as soon as the rebels resumed hostilities, using heavy artillery and attacked a residential district of Donetsk. The attacks were more aggressive and the number of victims grew day by day, so Poroshenko has proposed a bill that contained a series of compromises that he was willing to make in order to stabilize

the situation. While the proposal provided for a special status of self-government of the two disputed territories, this was not fully satisfying for the separatists.

Given the circumstances, on September 20 there was signed a new ceasefire agreement with the hope that the two parties to the dispute would withdraw its weapons beyond the front line, thus respecting the demilitarized provided. The separatists did not meet the provisions of the truce. On the contrary, benefiting from humanitarian assistance, tanks, weapons and troops from Russia they sporadically continued the offensive. On January 22, 2015, they celebrated the conquest of the international airport of Donetsk.

The high level of concern for this situation was not without reactions from major world powers. While German Chancellor, Angela Merkel and French President, Francois Holland taking into account the possibility of a third peace agreement, the US proposed the provision of lethal weapons to Ukraine. By fear of intensifying the battles the European leaders chose the first option and started the negotiations marathon with Putin. They were completed on 12 February, when a new ceasefire was signed in Minsk. The novelty that distinguishes it from the previous consists in introducing a measure which provided the withdrawal of foreign armed forces, heavy weapons and the mercenaries from the territory of Ukraine, under the supervision of the OSCE.

Not even this complex of measures brought peace and the situation continued to be tense even today. While Russian separatists and Ukrainian military accused each other of escalating attacks, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reports that from the outbreak and until 9 April 2015 he armed conflict made 21 500 victims, of which 6 100 dead and 15 400 injured.

How many such reports will be necessary for the shootouts to end? In my opinion there are two possibilities. The optimistic scenario assumes that NATO, EU, OSCE and the UN will determine Russia decides to withdraw the pro-Russian rebels support and seeing him single in the battle, they will give up their aspirations. The second one takes into account the possibility that the separatists would end all attacks after they annex the territories they wish. They have already managed to impose their dominance in Lugansk and Donetsk, cities that they proclaimed independent. The fact that history has not repeated in Odessa and Kharkov does not mean that will prevent the intensification of the fighting until they achieve their purpose of creating a new state: Novorossyia.

III.   Implications of the conflict in Ukraine on regional security

Without any doubt the conflict in Ukraine has serious implications on regional security at politically, economically and militarily side. For this reason, it is in the attentions of NATO, EU, OSCE, UN and especially of all EU Members and US. Amid ethnic tensions between pro-Russian groups and pro-European population, it has triggered a veritable civil war that has claimed thousands of victims. Maintaining the status quo, the inviolability of the borders and the territorial integrity of Ukraine were flagrantly violated, with repercussions in the nations in question, but also in the European community.

On the economic level, the consequences were massive for Ukraine, Russia and also for the EU. As we have already known in Ukraine was a lack of economic reforms and with the war the situation considerably deteriorated. The economy declined by about 7%, while the national currency and exchange rates have depreciated up to 70%. Moreover, the territories occupied by the

separatists represent 60% of the Donetsk basin, so the Ukrainian coal mining potential has been severely affected.

Russia did not remain far from material losses. Addressing aggressive expansionist policies had big repercussions because economic sanctions were coming from two directions. At first instance the Council of Ministers adopted on 5 February first EU sanctions freezing the accounts and actions focused on Russian personalities and denial of travel visas. Following the annexation of Crimea, on March 20 the US has made the same decision and thus 20 Vladimir Putin's close people and Rossyia bank representing a real support for them were subjected to economic sanctions. But the wave of such measures did not stop there. While the EU has decided to maintain the sanctions, a few months later Canada adopted on 12 latest financial penalties this time against 12 Russian diplomats, but also Ukrainians. The impact of these pressures on Russia should not be neglected. They have pursued the political and economic isolation of that State on the international stage in order to determine halting the conflict in eastern Ukraine. Compared to the US dollar, the rouble has depreciated significantly since January 2014 and the exchange rate fell by 40 percent. From these sanction didn't have the expected success, but rather they fuelled pro-Russian aggression (Drăgoi, 2014).

Against the backdrop of civil war in the border of the Euro-Atlantic area, the European Union has made important efforts to contribute to the financial recovery of

Ukraine. The sanctions that Russia imposed on them haven't remained unanswered. A good example of this is the decree of Moscow's embargo on several non-agricultural products from countries that have taken steps against it. In addition, amid tensions between Gazprom and Naftogaz, the EU faced the suspension of gas supply to Russia, given that some Member

States are 100% dependent on Russian gas. The financial support of Ukraine fell all as the burden of the European Union. This support has resulted in a long-term preferential trade regime with Kiev, meaning that over 90% of customs industrial imports tariffs from Ukraine were abolished. Moreover, other member countries have suffered due to the fact that a significant sum of all direct foreign investments was directed to the Ukrainian industry.

The EU wants the politic and economic restoration of Ukraine. Given that this war is a struggle for the Russian Federation to maintain its sphere of influence in the former Soviet space, the political stabilization of the country and especially the ending of the conflict are the strategic objectives for the entire eastern coast of Europe. Ukrainian aspirations to join the European political and economic structure ambitions Russians instigated and led to territorial division, political, social and cultural. Ukraine became an object of contention between NATO and the EU on one side and Russia on the other, and the conflict has resulted in the deterioration of Russo-European direct. In contrast, relations between the US and the EU have experienced significant growth amid the common struggle to prevent the enemy's expansionist tendencies. Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and other western states are afraid for a possible invasion and the Americans do not want the Russian force to increase, in the context of control of Ukraine involves the possibility of involvement in "managing future oil and gas routes from the Caucasus and Near and Middle East and terrorism and other threats" (Leca, 2014).

The most ardent subject is the military one. The conflict in Ukraine shows no sign of drawing to an end, on the contrary, armed clashes are intensifying day by day and the old former US security adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski believes that Putin started a new Cold War. But this situation will bring a new world war?

Relating to the threats in March, Mikhail Vanin, said that "all member states of NATO missile shield will be targets of ballistic missiles owned by the Russian Federation, there is this risk. Personally, I believe that it repeat the nuclear deterrent strategy applied during the Cold War and the possibility of a new outbreak of global dimensions conflagration is just a grim scenario".

IV.   Conclusions

In the context of regional security, the civil war in Ukraine has consequences in the economic, political and military area. Starting from an ethnic tension, the situation got complicated, actually generating changes in the global political scene because, if the war extends to other countries in the European area, all humanity would be affected. Besides the strained relations between the EU and NATO with Russia, the dispute made thousands of victims and alerted the entire region.

In addition, the Crimean annexation by the Russian Federation is regarded by the international law as a serious violation of principles specific to this area such as the the respect of sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of borders, non-use of force or threat of its use and thus solve international disputes peacefully (Bogdan, 2012: 42-42).

In conclusion, the fight of Russia to maintain its influence in the Black Sea region generated in Ukraine a phenomenon of political, economic and social disintegration and alerted NATO, EU, OSCE and UN which make a lot of efforts to end this conflict and restore security in the region.

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The European Union's role in ensuring global security

*Ionela Minodora Rîpeanu**

Abstract

As a result of globalization the world has become flatter which is why the way the European Union will act regarding its vicinity and the efficiency of its actions will define the Union and its role on the international scene in the future. Unfortunately, while looking to the EU's neighbours there are not too many reasons to believe that the EU is seriously concerned, considering the unresolved bilateral disputes and political games of "all or nothing". The Policy of the Eastern partnership brought a change in the rhythm of the EU's relationships with its post-soviet neighbours and has developed an abyss in the relationship with Russia and the multiple crisis have seriously affected the Europe Union's role as a protagonist in the field of security. The Russian invasion in Ukraine represented a direct and very violent challenge for the juridical and territorial bases of the European region's security. This crisis in Ukraine sort of proved that the European Union has a limited capacity of exporting its model of governing to the territories at war, which leads to an increase in euro.

Key Words: *The European Union; global security; globalization; circumstances of security; international terrorism.*

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I. Introduction

It is a well-known fact that the European Union was initially created as an economic and political union and that it was developed in Europe, currently containing 28 states.

The European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) in 1951 and The European Economic Community in 1958 represent the origins of the current European Union. The following years represented the admissions of new states as EU members but also an increase in power for this community through the adding of new economic, social and political domains to its competences.

It's been known under the name of The European Union starting from 1993 through the adopting of the Maastricht treaty. The constitutional bases for the European Union have been modified to their current form through the Lisbon treaty, on the 1st of December 2009, therefore giving this community its international judicial personality.

Nowadays, nobody can deny the fact that the European Union represents an economical, commercial and even financial power, but regarding globalization, Europe has to survive the new stakes and challenges out of which we can mention the demographic evolution, climate changes, energy supply and even the security threats. The problem that the members of the EU are not capable anymore of promptly replying to these threats and risks regarding the security arises, which is why the idea of a collective effort, on an European level could result in a flexible, useful and innovative response.

Due to these conditions, the idea of a modernization or even internal reformation for Europe has emerged, as result and simultaneously with the process of attracting new members that would agree to become part of the European Union but that would, at the same time, take up the responsibility of finding and

applying new solutions to solve difficult situations as a result of the security risks.

In the current security environment, that is dynamic, complex and filled with risks, the European Union plays a major role specifically thanks to the fact that it has created its own instruments to prevent and solve conflicts and to combat non-military risks.

For a Europe with chances of becoming a global actor, that has to supply with an alternative for the new international order, the problem of security needs to be categorically assumed, the threats to security need to be cautiously and fastidiously evaluated, from a military analysis point of view as well as from a cost for human security point of view (Mostoflei, 2008).

II.The European security strategy - premises, context, necessity.

From an institutional point of view, the European Union is an organization that was formed and continues a complex, dynamic and progressive construction process.

Challenges can be identified in all the activity areas of the European Union, in all of the domains the EU approaches and even under all the dimensions, but the area regarding security and defence is, without a doubt, one of the most complex and the one where the challenge of integration is amongst the biggest and the most difficult ones for the members of the EU but especially for the institutions of the EU community.

Zbigniew Brzezinski once said that "Europe is the perfect ally, but still a subordinate" under the United States of America's influence (Brzezinski, 2000:89).

Therefore, during the time before the European Security Strategy was developed, The European Union was undergoing a process of transformation with the purpose of getting rid of the

statute of being a subordinate to the United States. The purpose of this process was to get the USA to consider the European Union at least an equal international partner and not just a "regional common market, containing states allied with the US through NATO" (Brzezinski, 2000:90).

The initiative for creating a security strategy came from Germany in the context of the informal reunion of External Affairs Ministers in May 2003 in Kastellorizo. The General Secretary of the European Union's Council, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy, Javier Solana, was chosen responsible for creating a security strategy and in June 2003, during the EU summit in Salonic, he presented the document entitled "A Secure Europe in a better World.", which would become the project for the European security strategy concept.

Until December 2003 the document had been revised with the help of research institutes, but the document didn't suffer radical or important modifications, instead being just refined and having changed the order of priority objectives and courses of action. The result was a perfectly put together document that kept its original name given by Javier Solana, "A Secure Europe in a better World. The European Security Strategy" The Solana Strategy started from the premise that "The Union is a global actor" and that "It should be ready to take responsibilities in the field of global security" (Solana, 2003:1).

The main idea about the security of the continent and global security, written in the European Security Strategy, are marked by the triplet security environment - strategic objectives of the European Union - political implication for Europe.

After analyzing the global security environment, there have been established the main threats and challenges to the security of the European Union through the European Strategy of

Security, as well as certain objectives and courses of action with the purpose of strengthening the European security. Thus, the main threats identified by the strategy are:

- International terrorism - it is seen as a threat that is permanently developing and is mainly linked to violent religious extremism;

- The proliferation of mass destruction weapons - considered the most important threat towards the European security;

- The regional conflict in the immediate vicinity (Middle East, Northern Africa, Caucasus, Transnistria), as well as in areas further apart - they can create insecurity and instability, violence and they can create the opportunity for organized crime and international terrorism;

- State instability - poor governing, corruption, power abuse, weak institutions, lack of responsibility, civil conflicts - these are threats that strike from the inside and lead to a degrading of the national authority, to state collapsing and regional instability;

- Organized crime - the main target of this is represented by the European states; it is an internal threat but it also has an external side manifested through cross-boundary traffic (drugs, human trafficking, weapons, etc.)

The European Security Strategy has the ambition of embracing all of the existing fields, but I cannot agree with dr. Alexandra Sarcinschi who said "The Solana Strategy identifies some threats and vulnerabilities, but does not offer any details about them." (Sarcinschi, 2005: 18) when vulnerabilities such as global warming and Europe's energy dependence are identified, but at the same time there are identified as vulnerabilities the elements that would be better considered risks: poverty, famine, the failure of economic growth.

The European Union has established, through the European Security Strategy, the following strategic objectives:

- The reactions to threats and fighting against them. The EU's Strategy reverts to moving the "first defence line" outside of its area but at the same time it is taken into consideration the fact that there is no solely-military threat, which is why a multilateral approach on the threats against security is considered the future solution.

- Creating security in the immediate vicinity. The main interest for the EU, in this case, is to have at its borders well-governed and well-managed states so that in the case of a possible enlargement of the Union, there wouldn't be any dividing lines. Moreover, there is also the idea that if the countries in the immediate vicinity are characterised by a state of security, the EU's efforts can be canalised to fight the internal factors that cause insecurity.

- The substantiation of the international order on effective multilaterism, which implies a strong international society, fully-functional international institutions as well as a governing in accordance with international law.

Regarding the implications on the European Union's policies, the European Security Strategy identifies four major aspects:

a. A union more active in following its objectives, wishing for the EU to become more than it has ever been.

b. A union more active not only in transforming the armed forces so they become capable of responding to new threats, as well as a better correlation between the civil, military and the capacities in other domains as well.

c. A more coherent union regarding the coordination of existing capabilities and instruments, starting from the idea that "we are stronger when we act together".

d. A union that is capable of cooperating with its partners, the transatlantic relationship being of utmost importance.

As a result of the analysis of the European Security Strategy, Fraser Cameron made the following statement: "The European Union is an actor with an increasing influence on the international and it has to take more responsibility in the field of its own security, as well as the regional and global security" (Cameron, 2003:20) in the context of "External relations that have to be mainly oriented towards the immediate vicinity of the European Union" (Cameron, 2003:20).

In conclusion, we can assess that the European Union has a privileged position, based on global organization, having all of the means - economical, diplomatic, civil and military - for external action, as well as a global vision and a security strategy moulded on its efforts of militarily-strategic modernization, in a world that has greater expectations from other international actors such as the United Nations and NATO (Mostoflei, 2008:31).

III. European Union's implication in global security

The European Union is an organism in a permanent evolution, regardless of the part of the history we are talking about. It is a well-known fact that one of the major objectives of the EU is the safeguarding of its values and interests, which is becoming somewhat dependent of a global governing through the prism of external affairs and the political-military dimension, thanks to the multidimensional nature of security.

Six years after legitimating the European Security Strategy, but before implementing the Lisbon Treaty, Javier Solana declared: "The role of the EU as a global actor has changed considerably in the past ten years. The European Union has become a global producer of security. There is an increasing

demand in the world for Europe and we have to continue developing instruments that are more capable of answering this demand. Once the Lisbon Treaty is implemented, we will be able to work more efficiently in the domain of crisis management, which means a better jointing of civil and military capabilities."

The creation of a cooperation mechanism in the field of security and defence had been a permanent wish but it only appeared with the signing of the Maastricht Treaty (1992) and the Amsterdam Treaty (1997). Thus, the Maastricht Treaty established a new pillar for the European architecture, the Common Foreign and Security Policy that also contained "the eventual creation of a common defence policy that in time, could bring the formation of common defence" (Dutu, 2011:39).

The Amsterdam Treaty continued the on the steps of the Maastricht Treaty, creating the position of High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and giving the European Council increased competences in its role as an authority that guides the measurements regarding security and defence, adopted on an European level.

By adopting the Lisbon Treaty, the solving of the multiple problems that the members had wanted to be solved, but especially, they wanted to increase the efficiency and the coherence in action, therefore changing the European architecture on three pillars, by fusing the first pillar (the European Communities) with the third one (Justice and Foreign Affairs).

The pillar referring to the field of security and defence has undergone some special rules and procedures.

In this context, security and defence remained one of those attributes and functions essential to the members, which made relevant the following paragraph of the Reformation Treaty: "The European Union's competence in foreign policy and common

security includes all of the fields of foreign affairs as well as all matters regarding the security of the Union, including the gradual creation of a defence policy which could lead to a common defence" (The Lisbon Treaty, 2007).

All in all, according to the Lisbon Treaty, the institutional framework for the Security and Defence Policy, as a part of the Foreign Affairs and Common Security, although it remains the same, a new series of novelties emerges, referring mostly to the external representation of the EU on an international scene. We must keep in mind that the additional value that the Security Policy and Common Defence brings to the international arena doesn't come from its capacity of military intervention, but from the civil dimension of crisis and international conflicts management.

I'm referring to it this way because, although the capacity of military intervention of the EU cannot be questioned, it is clearly surpassed by the military capacities of NATO.

In this sense, it is relevant the information according to which out of the twenty-five operations that have taken place until 2011 under the Security Policy and Common Defence, only eight have been military operations. Therefore, the EU Reformation Treaty created a favourable framework that would lead to an increase in the EU's coherence, efficiency and visibility on the international arena.

Although initially, the majority of the analysts have considered at the moment of EU's enlargement (2004 - 10 new states have joined; 2007 - Romania and Bulgaria joined; 2013 - Croatia joined), that it might become a new obstacle in the way of a good functioning of the institutions; time has proved that the enlargement had a strong impact on the security, unity and stability of the whole continent, but at the same time it positively influenced the world stability and security.

Part of the European specialists have assessed that the extension of the unique European space would strengthen the stability and the security of the continent thanks to having the superior political and structural capacities, therefore developing a proper environment regarding the strengthening of the geostrategic balances in the sphere of world stability and security.

Therefore, the EU acts on a regional scale through new instruments that, however have implications in the global security and stability, such as:

- The Instrument of Pre-Adherence Assistance - used for candidate or potential candidate countries;

- The European Instrument for Vicinity and Partnership - that will cover Third World countries such as Ukraine, Moldavia, Belarus and it is meant to support the strategic partnership of the EU with Russia.

- The Instrument for Stability - it guarantees a response to the crisis in Third world countries and even to trans-boundary problems;

- The Instrument for Economic Cooperation and Development - it is destined for the states and regions that cannot benefit from assistance through the first two instruments.

To these four instruments, two more older but still functional ones are added: The instrument for Humanitarian Assistance and The Instrument for Macro financial Assistance.

Continental and global security is the priority objective for the European Union as well as for NATO and this makes the reports between the two organizations to be cohesive and makes their basis the principles which would turn their partnership beneficial to both parties, but especially to the security and defence of Europe. As a part of this strategic partnership, each organization keeps its specifics, respects each other, is equal in decision making and is based on the necessity of mutual

consultation, dialogue, transparency and cooperation, respecting the interests of its members.

Thanks to the fact that the European Union and NATO have common responsibilities regarding the stability and security of the European and the global areas, this strategic partnership extended to a larger and larger display of problems, including crisis management, the fight against terrorism, against mass-destruction weapons proliferation and even in the sense of extending the two organizations.

The European Union exhibits a solid structure against the complexity of the world and the downfall of the old international balance or terrorism and the base that assured its role as a world power is represented by its gradual enlargement of the organization policy. An extension process like that, although considered by the European commissioner, Olli Rehn, as "our great European challenge" (Rehn, 2007), it can only keep on developing the peace, freedom and prosperity area that the European Union builds and to increase the organization's role as a stabilizer in global security.

The European Union has made decisive steps towards a globalization of the security through adopting the document entitled "The New European Vicinity Policy", which lead to an extension of the security, stability and the well-governing inside as well as outside the geographical borders of the Union. The New European Vicinity Policy, closely related to the strategy of the partnerships has helped in securing the southern border of the EU and in supporting the need of development and stability for the neighbours in the Middle East and Northern Africa, by creating an extensive cooperation and an advanced partnership.

With this initiative, the countries neighbouring the extended Europe are proposed a global objective: to develop to a level identical to the ones of the EU members, including in the field of

cooperation in security but excluding the financial obligations and the institutional participation. Considering the dimension of the European Vicinity Policy, the EU acts in the field of problems regarding conflicts and promotes similar reforms on both sides of the borders, hoping to increase the convergence of the political and economic systems, therefore contributing at the instauration of a climate based on trust.

IV. Conclusions

With a view to realising its objectives of security and defence the EU must not contest the necessity of privileged relations with the USA concurrent with the development of collaboration with other globally important actors: China, Russia, Japan, Canada or even India. Moreover, the EU should manifest an opening to developing partnership with any state which shares the same scopes and values and which is ready to act for their protection.

In the context of the new security challenges, a political frame of the EU regarding defence against cyber-attacks must be adopted, and co-operation in dealing with problems of energy security must be consolidated, alongside the development of new military capacities. The strategic and geopolitical environment of the EU is now more agitated and unpredictable that it has ever been in the last decades, the EU now being surrounded by an arch or crisis instead of the "circle of friends" from Romano Prodi's vision.

In the context of this crisis, the major problem is that European leaders have repeatedly shown that they do not have the will to use the means they have at their disposal in order to stop Russia's recurring infringement of international law. Putin has managed to successfully exploit the breach in security at NATO's and EU's Eastern borders. This collapse of the capacity of discouragement represents a serious threat to the European

order protected by NATO and built by the European Union, and a re-establishment of this capacity of discouragement would be a lot harder to achieve that it would have been to protect from the beginning.

The EU must resist the pressure coming from Russia, but the main problem in this context is that of maintaining its internal unity, a problem becoming more and more difficult. Treating Russia as a strategic rival, but occasionally as a tactical ally will be a challenge for the member states. The EU benefits from a strategic vision, as well as from the necessary means to play an operational role in crisis management, which leads to the organisation's active involvement in the development of a global profile for the architecture of international security.

In my opinion, an interesting attempt to define the EU is the affirmation that "the European Union is a project, not a territory" (Dumont, 2012:9). Therefore, the EU cannot simply stay a geographical object or territory, and the project of the European Union will only succeed if the organisation will know how to define its geography and to develop a project useful both to its citizens and for global peace and prosperity.

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Romania's National Energy Security Strategy in the Europa 2020 Strategy

*Trușcă Irina-Petria**

Abstract

In the context of the energetic commodities price and offer fall after the 2007-2008 crisis and the very few providers of such products for the European Union, there has taken place a massive change in the European leaders' view over our energy independence and self saving possibilities. Therefore, the theories of the world system have became hybrid in what European developed countries like to call the 2020 renewable energy strategy or the strategy of getting as many partners as possible in order to both diversify the number of out-side country partners and improve the energetic European infrastructure system of the old continent. Theoreticians, specialists and European leaders came out with the premises to stop the fall under the hand of the rising east facing over the last five years numerous internal and external geopolitical events. The hypothesis are multiple, the interests are "European", the help in this energy commodities war comes from our American and Arabian partners and the future still hangs in the hands of the European "lack of leadership" leaders in was is to become or not the European Federation.

Key Words: *energy security, dependency, European Union, Romania, strategy.*

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I. Energy security - a component of economic security

At the beginning of the XXIst century we witness the accentuation of energy dependence of world economies. The world economy is still dependent on oil, the central resource of energy and geopolitics dominate the battle for resources in the XXIst century. The problem of resources has many sides; their scarcity plays an important role in the initiation and escalation of conflict, polarization and/or catalyzing the forces (Tomescu, 2012:73). In this context, energy security is an important part of economic security and thus of national, regional and global security. In the contemporary energy security involves an intelligent policy that has a predominant diplomatic policy in order to achieve treaties, agreements or regional alliances to ensure the energy needs of the states and the use of military force to obtain protect and trade these resources.

The state of energy security requires overcoming some vulnerabilities, counteracting risks, dangers and threats to meet individual needs, welfare and security interests of the citizens that cannot be satisfied without economic security and thus energy security (Băhnăreanu, 2010:5). Energy was one of the main elements that formed and continues to support the European project, that bond that goes beyond national borders, the European market for joining fragile energy exchanges, the binder at regional, national and global but also one of most imminent risks that may affect both the economic and social security of ordinary people and national and European largest company. As energy consumer, the European Union is dependent on a few countries that succeed to meet its high demand, such as Russia, Algeria and Norway etc.

Energy security is a multidimensional and strong concept that evolved throughout history from the point of view of the

subject - the concept originally was attached to oil and gradually extended to natural gas and electricity, as well as to the area of significance, the physical supply chain related to all phases of energy (Tomescu, 2012:74). To better understand the current situation of our country it is necessary to present the situation of the European Union in Fig.1, as major energy consumer because it has a vulnerable position and its reflected on Romania too.

Thus, after the last economic crisis, the European Union has proposed to develop an energy strategy that takes in account reducing dependence on energy resources from the Russian Federation, and from a limited number of manufacturers, reviewing energy agreements in the benefit of all EU states and not just of those more developed, thus diversifying the energy mix, the renewable energies throughout the Union, and finding new suppliers to come up with new offers to lower the daily bill of over 1 billion that the Union pays for imported energy.
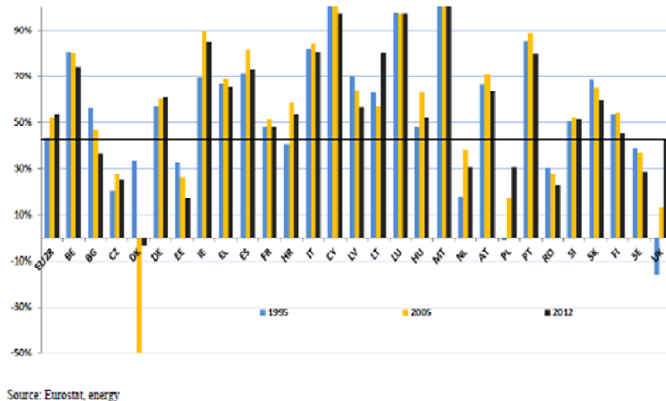

Fig.1 Energy import dependency, all products (Eurostat, 2013)

As we can see in the Fig.1 EU's internal energy production fell by almost a fifth between 1995 and 2012. Currently, more than 50% of the EU's energy needs are covered by external suppliers. In particularly, EU imports: 90% of the crude oil; 66% of the natural gas; 42% of the coal and other solid fuels; 40% of the uranium and other nuclear fuels. Over time we can say that on one hand, the European energy policy has been continuously adapted to the new geopolitical, geo-economics and geostrategic purposes affordable to the energy supply, promoting energy efficiency and environmental protection. On the other hand, Member States interests in the energy and delay implementation of strategies and action plans to ensure European energy undermines the need for sustainable, competitive and secure energy (Băhnăreanu, 2010:5-6).

In this context, Romania's energy security as a member of the European Union depends on agreements and partnerships that the union sets worldwide, plus the position of our country bordering the Black Sea, namely the Black Sea resources of hydrocarbon resources in its depths and the energy routes between East and West. In this situation, the best solution for our country is to capitalize its position on one hand, as member of the European Union, and on the other hand, it must consider the energy potential, develop new energy partnerships and invest in national energy infrastructure.

Our country hadn't had a real energy strategy until 2005, with all of its pioneering on mining in the nineteenth century, processing and use of oil resources discovered, but the situation changed with the entry into the European Union. Since 2007, our country has a national energy strategy that thus remain consistent with EU legislation and policy, also to pre-encounter Kremlin use of energy tongs to monopolize European energy market and therefore this industry, although Romania is just a small importer

of Russian gas compared to other Member States of the European Union.

In terms of energy resources owned, demand, supply and the entire energy chain, the last global financial crisis and the ensuing economic recession affected most European Union states, default and our country, both by the fact that demand for oil fell, bankrupting some businesses such as the many industry and operating activities decreased due to reduced orders and consumption, Europeans had to economize energy use or find alternatives to it. On the other hand, it has reduced CO_2 emissions because EU started a campaign to promote the use of alternatives to oil resources that can be found in limited quantities and uniformly distributed across the expanse of the Earth (Tomescu, 2012:75). The energy mix used after 2008 represents a significant share of natural gas and various forms of renewable energy and nuclear energy etc.

Worldwide EU's main partners were also affected; the United States were exceeded in their energy demand for the first time by China. Just as Russia and Venezuela were affected by lower demand for the products, they have been subjected to countless other pressures on the economic situation in these countries. International energy markets, the price of petroleum products and fossil fuels fell and oil stocks rose. Thus, in July 2008, the price of a barrel of oil reached the record level of over $137 versus $10 just 10 years ago. The effects of the financial crisis intensified further this volatility, oil prices dropping in half a year to over $100 (Băhmăreanu, 2010:15). Note that these sharp increases and decreases occur in the international events, be they economic crisis, political, terrorist attacks etc.

As it regards the energy dependence of our country in 2008, Eurostat report (Eurostat,2014:10) on EU energy dependency place our country among the few states with energy dependence

of less than 30% of total national consumption per year, respectively the imports percentage was of 29.1, along other countries as Britain, Poland and the Czech Republic. The average energy dependence of the Union this year was 53.8%, although a large share of the Western countries depend on external energy resources in excess of 50%. Romania has a wide range of energy sources but reduced quantity of fossil primary energy resources and minerals: oil, natural gas, coal and uranium, as well as a potentially important renewable resource capitalized (SNER, 2011:10).

II. Strategies and energy interests in Romania

II.1 Overview of the energy sector in Romania

In the long history of the energy industry in Romania were found that in addition to the unique results which it recorded in the second half of the eighteenth-century, 1857, the oil production was recorded for the first time at the refinery "Light" from Rafo, Pitesti. But the evolution of this industry continues to have spectacular results only until XX mid-century. Thus, in 1935, Romania reached the fourth position in the ranking of world producers with an oil production of 8.4 mln. tons. The 14.7 mln. tons of oil extracted in 1976 and 39.37 bln. m^3 of gas extracted in 1986 tops the hydrocarbon production of domestic industry. In the''80s, the planned economy of Romania had a strong energy sector, purpose-built to serve the socialist industry. Thus, at the end of 1989, 2,102 enterprises were operating in our country, of which 1,541 in industry and 561 in the cooperative state (Băhmăreanu, 2010:48).

What follows the 1989 revolution is a transition process in which Romanian authorities began the process of aligning to the free market economies of Western states, including in the energy sector. This process of transition in the energy industry involved

several steps, such as a reform of the entire national economic system, and in particular the energy sector which meant on the one hand, counting the number of refinements, factories, and industrial companies ineffective and shut it down. And on the other hand, those industrial sites, factories etc which have accounted for the decennial energy industry were privatized in order to encourage foreign investment, the development of a free and open energy Romanian market with the help of foreign capital to increase competition, improve services offered and energy sector development.

But all these steps taken by the Romanian state decreased activity not only in the national energy sector, but even more have decreased the value of the national energy resources on foreign markets, increased domestic consumer prices, led to increase of foreign capital that owns these resources and their management. However, it was noted that although the first years after the revolution of 1989 not only meant economic crisis, population disenchanted trying hard to reform a system which was applied to the entire society, a phenomenon of migration with a high share at the demographic level, but also attempts to obtain the acceptance of the western states in the European Union through a series of substantial reforms in the system occurring between 1997 and 2005-2006.

The energy market largely opened, so there has been a penetration of great capital and foreign investors, especially Western in the Romanian energy system: Petrom was took by OMV Austria; Distrigaz Sud by Gas du France; Distrigaz Nord and Electrica Moldova by E.ON from Germany; Electrica Banat, Electrica Dobrogea and Electrica Muntenia Sud by Enel from Italy; Electrica Oltenia by Czech CEZ; KazMunaiGas took Rompetrol Group. And our country's refining capacity was

privatized after 1990, so far that the Romanian state has no refining capacity in majority.

In our country the energy security is a part of economic security alongside food security, banking and financial security, transport security etc. as interrelated areas which relate to optimal functioning of the whole society, and any threat or malfunction of one of these areas is a problem for the entire economy. Uncertainty and risks of all kinds that occur in the transfer of resources from the source to the consumer are complex and numerous ways, such specialists talk about energy risks, political risks, economic risks and physical risks.
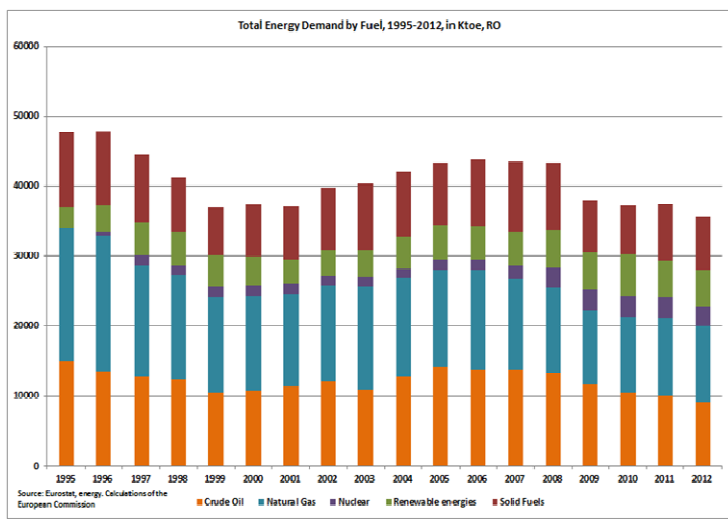
Fig.2 Energy Consumption by type of fuel between 1995-2012 in Romania (Eurostat,2012)

As we can see in Fig.2, the type of fuel in the energy mix is different every year and that is important that inside Europe, to

have a more unified energy market, with greater inter-connection, paying particular attention to the most isolated countries and crisis mechanisms to deal with temporary disruption of supply (ESES, 2009:16).

At the beginning of XXIst century, energy security is endangered by six major threats: 1) the finite nature of oil and natural gas resources; 2) global climate changes; 3) disruption of supply flows; 4) the high cost of energy for developing countries; 5) use energy revenues to support undemocratic regimes; 6) use energy as a tool of pressure (Băhmăreanu, 2010:13). Geographical regions where there are energy resources in our country, as Subcarpatii Getici, Romanian Plain, Transylvania Plateau, the Black Sea continental platform represents several decennial support poles of the industry at a disadvantage in this regard depicting the lack of studies the other reserves to be found both in our country and in the Black Sea, other than those already being exploited.

In the past another disadvantage was represented by the national infrastructure of extraction, production and transport to consumer that even after 2007 is in a continuous process of upgrading facing multiple obstacles that endanger the national energy industry productivity, raising problems in terms of environment, pollution and agreements signed and completed restructuring.

As we can see in Fig.3, Romania has a significant domestic production, therefore, Russia`s imports constitutes almost 10% of our country total demand. Maximizing imports from Hungary could cover the missing volumes, but in reality, Hungary also depends also in the Russian gas, it is therefore questionable whether this is a realistic option or not.
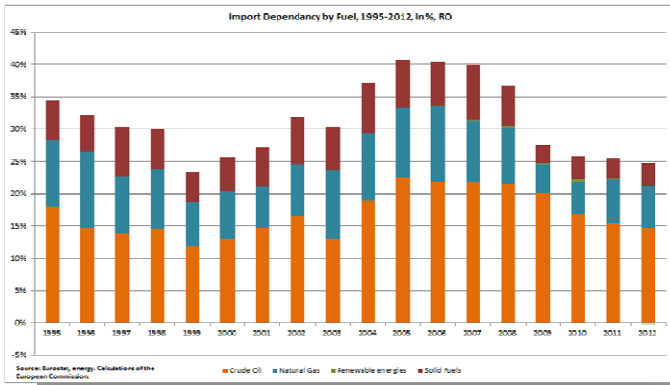
Fig.3 Imports dependency, Romania 1995-2012, (Eurostat,2012)

More important, in Romania there are deposits of oil, natural gas, coal, uranium, but mining is currently limited and, according to some studies conducted by the Romanian government those resources have a maximum life expectance of 30-50 years. Amid protect national resources and lower consumption of low energy resources as a result of the economic crisis of 2007-2008 and the recession, Romania has become increasingly dependent on imports of oil and gas from the Russian Federation.

II.2 Energy potential in the Black Sea Region

All actors in the Black Sea region are connected in one way or another by the energy circuits between East and West. They are both large producers such as Russia or primary intermediaries and consumers of energy resources. The Black Sea region is a major hub of supply routes for Europe with hydrocarbons from Russia, the Caspian and other producing countries in the East.

Otherwise, energy policies and strategies of the actors in this area focus on the realization of these opportunities and maximize the benefits which derive from it. In this region there are

hydrocarbon resources, namely oil and gas, and representing the shortest route between the resources that they hold and transport on this route both states in the Middle East and the Caspian. The potential of this area is overshadowed by unresolved conflicts in the region, environmental issues, poor control neighbouring border states, illegal migration and organized crime.

As for the states that have interests in this region specialists classifies them into several categories: 1) countries that do not depend on external energy resources, meaning that multiple energy resources, the only state that fall into this first category is Russian Federation; 2) states that partly dependent on external energy resources, such as Romania, Ukraine and Turkey dependent on foreign imports to different degrees; 3) states that depend almost exclusively on exports of energy resources, such as Bulgaria and Georgia. Currently, the energy mix of the modern economy relies increasingly on oil and gas, even showing some analyzes that gas will soon replace oil in consumer preferences.

The consequence of this phenomenon is the emergence of a transnational system of resources, with many ramifications. The Black Sea region has become an area of strategic importance for the economy of the region is marked by "war energy routes" between Russia and the West. A number of pipelines are already in operation in the Black Sea area, such as the Druzhba pipeline, Caspian pipeline CPC (Caspian Pipeline Consortium); Blue Stream pipeline; BTC pipeline; Baku-Supsa oil pipeline; BTE pipeline (Băhmăreanu, 2010:38-39).

Black Sea Security Strategy is not only a cooperation program in the energy interests of the countries bordering achievements, but is a project that both the European Union, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the Council of Europe promotes for cross-border crime reduction projects and trafficking in human beings, drugs and weapons, and

illegal migration and increased security at borders states. Is desired an extend cooperation projects in the field of environment, transport, marine policies, fisheries, trade, regional development etc. The Black Sea region is a production and transmission area of strategic importance for EU energy security. It has significant potential for energy supply diversification and is therefore an essential element of the EU's external strategy in the energy sector. Energy supply security diversification is in the interest of our partners in the region and the European Union (CCE, 2007:5).

III. Energy Strategy of Romania between EU interests and the interests of Eastern actors

After 2007, our country has adopted a legislation in line with the *acquis communautaire* in force towards adopting an Energy Security Strategy of Romania (2007-2020) which aims to develop programs and projects in the energy and related areas such as the environment, the to achieve the objectives proposed by Europe 2020. This strategy is in line with European documents, namely the Lisbon Strategy, the European Green Paper on energy sector reviewed annually on the priorities and policies of the Union and of our country in the field. According to the document, according to the European energy policy, Romania's priorities in the field are: 1) competitiveness; 2) diversification of energy supply sources; 3) environmental protection and 4) ensuring investments to increase production capacity and development (Băhmăreanu, 2010:5).

Romanian energy system vulnerabilities are found in all stages of resource extraction, storage, transport and distribution due to aging infrastructure, losses occurred in all these stages, but also due to increased costs. There is also a reduced efficiency throughout the chain of production, transport and distribution

until the final product reaches the consumer, plus an inability recognized in recent years that is determined by the fact that there are few studies conducted in the energy sector thorough which to be determined how to improve aging infrastructure, developing a coal sector infrastructure, the discovery of new deposits of energy and alignment with EU environmental standards. These vulnerabilities can add the lack of investment in the sector, lack of technologies for each energy sub-sector, the absence of fiscal instruments, and climate change etc.

Although there are many risks and vulnerabilities in this sector, Romania can meet its own demand from domestic sources over 60%, however national and European relations believes that dependence on imports of certain energy resources such as oil and gas will increase in the future. The situation of our country is actually one of the best of European Union states with a lower than average dependency across the Union, with reserves still untapped and export of primary or secondary energy resources to neighbouring countries, Moldova, Bulgaria or Serbia and also with a low dependency on the Russian Federation and its reserves.

The European Union promotes stable bilateral and multilateral relations with the purpose of diversifying routes and energy infrastructure. The Union has launched in recent years a new neighbourhood policy in the Caucasus, Black Sea synergy, a strategy for Central Asia, an Eastern Partnership with six former Soviet states, but also the Baku Initiative for the integration of energy markets. The EU also initiated a new dialogue and intensified energy cooperation with neighbouring countries of South Eastern partners in the Western Balkans, Central Asia and Middle East as well as China, Russia, Brazil, the US and the African Union (Băhmăreanu, 2010:46).

In accordance with EU policies, our country analyzed the causes, risks and vulnerabilities, opportunities and possible alternatives that it has in terms of improving the current situation, in decreasing the dependence on imports from neighbouring countries. Thus, besides the geographical location of our country in between the energy transit routes of pipelines coming from the Middle East or from the states of the Caspian region, which until now have been new territory of neighbouring states, can add energy market liberalization, European funds for scrolling technology investments missing in the energy sector industries, providing analyzes that new studies to be discovered oil, lignite and uranium etc.

In conclusion, what should be done in the future in Romania is to develop a national framework for eventual profitable foreign investors that can bring new funds and thus foreign capital to support the development of environmentally friendly energy
system given the interests of the Union for Europe 2020 of renewable resources. The stated aim of the Energy Strategy is to ensure the so-called energy independence in the context of sustainable development of Romania and the European Union. As for the 2020 strategy aims at aligning our country at 20% reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases, increasing the share of renewable by 20%, increase energy efficiency by 20% (Prisecaru, 2013:3).

In the future, our country options to ensure energy security could be: cover the needs of own resources; direct agreements with Russia; indirect agreements with Russia through the EU; agreements with other resource-rich countries of the East. Those options are not mutually exclusive but rather complement and can offer positive results if they are combined because it could provide the much-needed energy security of Romania in the medium and long term (Băhmăreanu, 2010:56).

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Societal stability, delinquency and public order in Europe

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Abstract

The notion of society must not be mistaken for the notion of country because the country is part of the society and the society is the last source of legitimacy for the country, an alternative to the country, even. In conclusion, the security of the country isn't the same with the security of the society. Europe must improve, it must create efficient and coherent instruments, adapted not only to the Union recently extended from 15 to 28 countries but also to the rapid changes the world goes through nowadays. This enlargement process generates risks if we take into account the particular situations of countries that became or are in the process of becoming part of the Union (economic and political disparity) and the institutional, economic, political and juridical threats at the moment.

Key Words: *Societal stability; security; globalization; delinquency; public order.*

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I. Societal Stability

Society is a human entity resulted after a process of cohabitation and association between people and groups with a series of common attributes (race, ethnicity, language, etc.) and with an expression of common sentiments (identity, values, symbols), as Ole Waever defined it.

The nature of the security element doesn't allow the acceptance of an unanimously definition, the acceptance depending on the level of analysis, but most of the definitions have in common terms such as "national interest", "risk", "threat", therefore Penelope Harthland-Thunberg considers that "national security is a nation's capacity to successfully follow its national interests, as they are conceived, anywhere in the world."(Buzan, 2000). Meanwhile, John E. Mroz defines security as being "the relative absence of destructive threats" (Buzan, 2000).

Societal security refers to that part left uncovered by national and individual security. While security, in general, refers to the freedom in the face of threat, then societal security therefore refers to the strategies where societies perceive a threat to their identity.

Generally, Europe rejoices in its political stability and social peace is the dominant characteristic, violent threats against societal security being reduced or even isolated.

The process of European integration has absorbed or even isolated political violence, such as the ones manifested in the Basque Country, Northern Ireland or Corsica. However, later on, as a result of creating the United Europe, a series of risks regarding identity has emerged, which is why the stability of the European society becomes definitely affected.

Instability emerges as a result of the consequences of the process of globalization. Societal stability is represented by a

nation strongly connected to the societal security so that each of the two notions influence each other and until the creation of the Copenhagen School and Barry Buzan's works, societal security represented the access to progress and to the necessary conditions to attain it.

Barry Buzan defined societal security as being "the countries' and societies' capacity of maintaining their functional identity, independence and integrity." Thus, the definition proposed by Buzan is nothing new for the European culture, the new element being the emphasis on the importance of the culture that the European intellect rediscovers at the end of the twentieth century.

The quality of the dominant idea in a society may be considered the main societal security factor and if that dominant idea has the capacity to organize the society, one may say that that society is secure and stable.

For a long time, the term "security" was assimilated with "national security" and it was considered that the only method or warranting security was to maintain large military expenses because military aggression was considered the only threats against a country's security.

The Copenhagen School considered the security studies as being "problematic if they are built limited, around the military dimension of security and excluding the others" (Croft, 2005).

A real benefit for maintaining the societal security is represented also by acknowledging the devastating effects of the manipulation and the application of scientifically groundless theories in the life of the international community and even the destinies of a nation.

II. Delinquency

Delinquency is one of the main factors of instability in a society and one that influences societal security.

As it is defined in the Explicatory Dictionary, delinquency appears as a social phenomenon consisting of committing crimes and even as an assembly of crimes committed in a certain area, during a certain period of time. In the Sociology Dictionary coordinated by Raymond Bondon (1996, p.78) under the term of "delinquency" we are directed to "murder" and "deviance". Deviant behaviour refers to a certain demeanour in discordance with the values and rules of a system. Therefore we can asset that delinquency could be a species of the phenomenon of deviance but with bigger implications for the individual and the community. The concept of social maturity has a great role for a better understanding of the term of "delinquency" because delinquency is a disturbance in the structure of social reports of an individual, caused by an insufficient social maturity.

In the past four decades, delinquency has become one of the major social issues that most of the current societies have fought and are still fighting against whether they are have a developed or a developing economy. During the entire time, the theoretical interpretations that considered delinquency as being a low-interest phenomenon, characteristic only to certain groups of social categories have been abandoned to make room for more profound and realistic approaches that show that delinquency is interpreted as being an important social problem determined by other social issues but that can decisively determine the stability and societal security.

A distinct segment in delinquency is represented by juvenile delinquency defined as the assembly of digressions and breaking social rules, sanctioned by law and committed by underage people, up until turning 18 years old. The society's evolution

attracts the evolution of delinquency which determines the evolution of the society, thus creating a mechanism that seems impossible to stop.

There are multiple factors that determine social behaviour and thus, the general appearance of delinquency and in certain cases, of juvenile delinquency. Out of those factors, we mention:

• A disorganized family - studies on juvenile delinquency showed that the atmosphere in disorganized families, lack of parental authority, of control and affection have determined the development of antisocial attitudes. However, these studies present the deficiency of associating delinquency with family disorganization, because even in the case of normal families, delinquency appears as a result of educational deficiencies in the family.

• Neighbourhood - It's another factor that determines the appearance of delinquency. Together with the family, it represents the primary environment of the child. Thus, the main causes of juvenile delinquency stay in the core of the urban community, which because of agglomeration of population, the diversification of commercial and social spaces and services, becomes, in itself, a criminogenic source by attracting and tempting the youth to commit criminal acts and offenses. During the teenage years, the youngsters feel the most acute need of belonging to a group and they adopt its language, capacities and aptitudes, assimilating a series of values and rules specific to the group.

• Violence in mass-media - can have harmful effects, especially on teenagers that are continuously trying to find themselves.

• Poverty - the ones living in poverty develop a system of values and beliefs that actually represent a solution to their

problems. Poverty, as a direct factor of juvenile delinquency, acts in a small percentage but grows alarmingly when associated with other elements. Ray and Ina Jeffery believe that poverty in family is associated with delinquency but poverty itself does not cause delinquency.

• The Educational Environment - may also be an element of delinquency as a result of the underage person's incapacity to adapt or become part of this environment.

• The psychic factor - is one of the causes of delinquency and it may be categorized in motivational factors (emotions, wishes, motives, necessities), cognitive factors (the ones that determine taking action towards making the wish or plan come true).

• Low intelligence - It's another element that causes criminality. Specialists asses that the reasoning might be the lack of one of the main inhibitive elements - they cannot anticipate the consequences of the crime, they cannot stop themselves on time, refrain from the social impulse.

Although delinquency emerges as a juridical phenomenon, controlled through the rules of criminal law, it is, mainly, a social phenomenon with negative and destructive consequences for the security of individuals and groups.

III. Public order in Europe

In a globalized, constantly evolving world, 21st century Europe must face new challenges, respectively the globalization of the economy, demographic evolution, climate change, energy supply and the new threats against security.

The beginning of the third millennium brought to the political analysts and experts in the fields' attention a human society full of transformation and in a continuous pursuit for

solutions to ensure a peaceful climate and stability around the world, capable of maintaining the trajectory of the process of edification of the new security architecture, conceived as a main necessity of the global society. A close and profound x-ray of the current society and the global security environment emphasizes not only the ample thought process in order to identify the most suitable ways of reaching durable peace and security that would take effect over all of the countries and nations of the world, but also a profound confusion especially manifested amongst the smaller actors of the power equation, that are still not integrated or allied.

It is also necessary to notice that the public order is a balance resulted after the interaction of reunited forces or forces created inside a group after their evolution. After presenting this ideas and concepts about public order and taking into account the terms established by the Constitution, through Public Order we understand the state of legality, of balance and social peace that can ensure public safety, personal security, security of the communities and goods, the health and mental health of the public and the maintenance of the aforementioned, according to the principles and laws of the Constitution is realized through restraining measures specific for the law enforcement orders.

Romanian public order, part of the national security and European public order is a state of fact in the social field, the protection of the lawful order in organizing and developing public state activities and it reflects the way of respecting the behaviour laws contained within the legislation, the rules, as well as the public and private properties.

From a systematic point of view, as an independent element, public order has three components:

- *social order* - it defines the peaceful cohabitation and concordant cooperation between the members of the society;

- *constitutional order* - it defines the normal functioning of the state's components created according to the Constitutional provision for elaborating, applying and assuring the respecting of the laws in a society;

- *natural order* - it defines the maintenance of a balance between the natural and environmental elements.

Public order is tightly connected to lawful order, representing its projection in the organizing and development of public activities in a country and consisting of respecting the rules of general behaviour and of social cohabitation, of protecting the citizens and their integrity, their legitimate rights as well as the public and private property.

Despite the efforts to create a legal system that would be capable of establishing the development of the social life and ensuring the respecting of public order, all the countries, even the ones with an advanced democracy and a very good economic situation are currently facing and will probably face in the future certain actions that disturb the public order. These actions, characterized by violence, destruction, law and human rights breaking have extremely varies causes, ways of manifesting and effects, but they all end in human suffering. The return to a state of normality is brought through firm measures, taken by the government through political, administrative and other types of institutions, with coercive rights and sometimes even through military action.

Starting from the probable causes of producing turbulence of the public order and from their own experience, countries have built specialized structures and have adopted strategies to maintain and re-establish public order.

Social and state order, together with the natural one, which comes before the two, create, put together, the public order, a

true synthesis of the three. Public order also contains lawful order, which is the supremacy of the law, in other words, the principle of legality, deeply rooted in the way of leading and developing a public life of the lawful state.

The concept of legality in a country equals the strict following of the Constitution, the laws, the other bills and juridical papers, of the fundamental rights and liberties, of the general social organisms as well as of the citizens.

What is order, after all? In order to ground the answers to this questions we must return to what the Romans said "ordo est anima rerum" - Order is the soul of everything - and to the mentions made by Vasile Barbu, according to which "order exists where people, as well as objects and events are grouped, but not by chance but in a conscious way, in a tight connection in order to reach a certain purpose" (Barbu, 1927).

There are attempts to define public order under the exclusive aspect of the interests of ideas that serve as inspiration for laws. By emphasizing the social interest, Hemard (cited by J de la Morandiere) claimed that public order would represent an assembly of the rules established by a legislator for the vital interest of the society.

For E. Bianu, public order is "that state of balance that needs to exist between the powers and the competent social factors in a society determined by time and space, in order to conserve its social development".

From the point of view of international private law, public order represents the "means available to the judge to help eliminate the foreign competent law according to the rules of international private law, when it is contrary to one of the fundamental principles of the right of the court or the authority that examines the causes with a foreign element" (Jacota, 1976).

The state, as the highest form of organizing the society, in order to fulfil its purpose of harmonizing the individual and collective needs, of ensuring a social cohabitation, it needs to be guided by the policy of order. In an evolutionary way, it has come to ensuring public order inside each state through educating the human relationships. Over time, habits (customs and traditions), religious prescriptions, moral precepts and court laws have conquered for this achievement. The notion of public order has evolved from state to state accordingly with the social-economical order in each country.

From the perspective of consolidating the protection of fundamental rights, the notion of public order in international private rights achieves new dimensions regarding its content and functions. It was not said by chance that the public order of international private law is a chameleonic concept with an appearance that continuously suffers changes in time and space in relation to what is, at a certain moment, a "fundamental principle" according to the system of law of the seized court.

Moreover, community laws to which the European states have to align to, emerge. International private law remains an intern law that reflects the national specifics but it will allow the assimilation of rules and regulations capable of getting closer to European legislations.

The new standards, obviously imposed by the high rank of the fundamental laws reconfigure the known term of public order by international private law and introduces progressively but firmly the new concept of public European order. So on, the 'Europeanization' and even the internationalization are two notions relatively new to the vocabulary of private internationalism.

All of them are realities of the times we're going through and the result of our social, political fretting. The national legislation

will assimilate the changes and they will adapt, as well as the instances that will solve litigations of private law that present a foreign element (Jugastru, 2007).

Among the "big" reasons that can affect the currently existing public order in Europe, we can mention smaller but still important causes, as follows:

✓ alienated minority groups - usually recruited amongst immigrants, marginalized inside the EU countries (jobless, homeless, with no access to education and health), that might develop violent behaviours;

✓ minority groups that react violently against the political ideas of the extremist political parties (for example the neo-Nazi groups);

✓ the large number of immigrants that arrive in EU countries as a result of a sudden deterioration in their countries of origin (for example the Albanian "invasion" on the coasts of Italy in 1997);

✓ ethnic groups that make partake in violent actions following the orders of their country of origin (for example the Libyan minority in France, the Islamic minority in Algeria).

IV. Conclusions

Since ancient times, the world needed to survive numerous constraints, some coming from their geographic living environment, generated by the fight for a certain way of living (that has become more and more complicated), others having to do with the laws of the composition and the functioning of the society - its organic process.

Social life is generally, a system of constraints in action. Humans are free as long as they follow the law and the natural and social constraints of the environment they live in. Hegel

defined freedom as understood necessity. It is not true that terrorism is defined as an action of a desperate man. A desperate man is not a terrorist. Terrorism is not just a reaction; it's a deliberate, thought through, calculated action that is a part of negative, perverse, criminal intelligence.

Delinquency, terrorism and public order and the factors that affect, one way or another, the stability of a society but they cannot be completely eradicated, the only solution being to maintain a balance that would secure the stability that is necessary to the development of a society in good condition.

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The relationship between work and family life. Comparative sociological research[*]

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Abstract: *The changes that occurred over the centuries led to higher requirements regarding the family life and the professional activity. Frequently, these requirements produce tension at the individual level, generating a conflict between work and personal life and vice versa. The role conflict represents a psychological tension caused by the simultaneous apparition of two or more roles, so that engaging in a role makes it difficult to participate in others. The Role conflict theory sustains that having more than one role in the society, that are incompatible, will have as a result the conflict between those roles. This research focuses both on the relation between the family life and professional activity and the individuals' satisfaction level regarding the personal life and work.*

Keywords: *work; family life; gender equality; equal opportunities.*

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1. Introduction

In the latest decades of the twentieth century, major changes have occurred regarding gender roles within the family so organizational psychology has turned its attention to the conflict between work and personal life. If in the past it was reduced to the role of women household activities and child care and education, today, her roles have multiplied so that women contribute to the family income equally with men. Also, regarding the situation in the workplace, employee expectations and prospects have changed. With the development of societies, traditional eight-hour work day is no longer a rule so that individuals no longer have enough time to meet the demands. Romania, Malta, Luxembourg and England, are the European Union countries in which the number of hours worked daily, by an individual, is the highest. Changes over time have led to higher requirements as regards family life and professional activity. Often these requirements produce individually tension generating on the one hand a conflict between work and personal life and on the other hand between personal life and work.

Political perspective known under the name "The Third Way", developed by Anthony Giddens, emphasizes changing gender roles in the family, which it considers crucial update. One of the objectives formulated by Anthony Giddens in "Third Way" (Giddens, 2001) refers to "egalitarian distribution of family responsibilities related to growth, care and education, but no legislation can determine which behaviours are mandatory for a father like him to take over a fair share of parental duties relating to children" (Pasti, 2003: 65).

Women are considered to have a greater responsibility than men in terms of family responsibilities so, in case of any conflict

between work and family; they tend to feel guiltier than their partner.

This research focuses both on the relationship between family life and professional activity and the level of satisfaction of individuals with regard to personal life and work.

1. Conceptual definitions

a. *Equal opportunities for women and men*:

"The equality of opportunity and treatment between men and women, means taking into account the capacities, needs and aspirations of different males, respectively women, and their equal treatment. Equality between women and men is a fundamental right, a common value of the EU and a necessary condition for achieving the goals of growth, employment and social cohesion in the European Union" (Popescu, 2013: 159).

b. *Gender equality*:

"We can say that there is equality between women and men when both sexes are able to share equally the power and influence; have equal opportunities in terms of financial independence through work and by building their own business, to enjoy equal access to education and opportunities to develop their skills and talents; to share responsibility for home and children and be free of any constraints, intimidation are related to gender violence at home and at work" (Guide to promoting equality between women and men in the labour market, p. 4).

Equality "between men and women is one of the fundamental values of the European Union which pre-date 1957" (European Commission, 2014: 1), as it appeared for the first time in the Treaty of Rome.

c. *The balance work-family*:

According to Marks and MacDermid (1996), the balance between work and family individual guidance above reflects the different social roles, a phenomenon of inter-role. The two sociologists balance the role defined as the tendency to be fully engaged in the performance of each role by carefully addressing the concern of any typical role. From another perspective, attention is an objective process called "mindfulness". This support the existence of two types of balance of role, a positive one in which the individual is fully engaged in role playing and its corresponding negative one individual does not fully assumes none of those roles.

The notion of "balance role" refers to the notion of equality between professional roles and family roles.

Studies have proposed three components of work-family ratio:

• a balance in terms of time for professional activities and those of the family.

• a balance in terms of the involvement of individuals; it is necessary that the psychological work involved is equal to that of the family.

• a balance on the level of satisfaction; job satisfaction to be equal to that caused by the exercise of roles within the family.

d. *Work-family conflict*:

According to Greenhaus and Beutell (1985), work-family conflict is a form of inter-role conflict in which the respective roles related to work and family life are those related to incompatible in some respects. "This means that participation in activities related to work-related role (family) is hampered by engaging in activities related to the role of the family (work)" (Dobriță et al, 2009: 97). The two specialists say there are three

forms of conflict: conflict based on time-based tension and conflict based on behaviour.

On the other hand we can distinguish between two types of work and family conflict aimed at: conflict arising from involvement in the family and at work, which is caused by family involvement in the work.

3. Sociological approaches

Over time numerous theories arose that took into account the conflict between family and work, explaining: role conflict theory; the rational perspective; resource drain theory; scarcity hypothesis.

3.1. *The role conflict theory*

Role conflict is a psychological tension caused by the simultaneous occurrence of two or more roles so that engaging in a role makes it difficult to participate in others. Role conflict theory argues that individuals engaging in several incompatible roles will result in conflict between those roles. According to this theory time spent in the family cannot be dedicated to professional activity between roles and activities that an individual holds a competition often arises about the time he devotes to each such participating in a role that will make it impossible compliance requirements of another role.

In conclusion, the conflict between family and work often occurs as a consequence of the fact that individuals do not have the ability to delineate the two spheres.

3.2. *The rational perspective*

The underlying assumption of this theory is: The more an individual will spend more time working and family activities will occur even more conflicts between work and family. With other

words, the longer an individual granted the professional activities he was unable to allocate specifically for the family.

Frone, Yardley and Markel (1997) argue that excessive involvement in a role can lead over time to a high commitment in this role. "Therefore long-term commitments in one area will lead to diminishing resources (e.g.: time, energy) required to achieve performance in another area" (Liberman, 2012: 17).

3.3. *Resource drain theory*

This theory argues that "the transfer of personal resources from one domain to another such as time, attention and energy (physical and mental) is exhaustible" (Liberman, 2012: 17). The concept "resource drain" was used to suggest a negative relationship between the two spheres: work and family.

Small and Riley (1990) state that work and family are two areas that interfere by three distinct processes: time, mental and physical energy. These three processes are considered to be exhaustible resource because of the amount used in an area not available to be used in another leading to a negative correlation between the two fields. For example the time that an individual uses for household activities and childcare grants will not be used to perform duties related to work.

3.4. *Scarcity hypothesis*

Similar depletion theory, this hypothesis argues that individuals have a limited amount of resources and engaging in multiple roles diminishes the resources available to satisfy other requirements of the role, provoking a conflict between work and family. Thus, work-family conflict is a consequence of the fact that there are insufficient resources to accomplish the all obligations related to the professional activity and family. Rarity hypothesis states that individuals make compromises in terms of

work and family to be able to use their time and energy in both areas.

3.5. *European statistical data*

In the EU, 64.2% of the population has a stable job, of which 19.2% are employed part-time. Work-family conflict is widespread across Europe, and it is estimated that more than a quarter of Europeans have been involved in such a conflict:

- 27% of those working, argue that they spend too much time at work;

-28% believe that they spend too little time in the family;

-36% say they do not have enough time to spend with friends or other social activities;

-51% consider that they have not enough time for their hobbies and interests.

A significant number of workers have great difficulty in fulfilling family responsibilities, difficulties are caused by intense professional activity: for example, 22% believe that work asks too much to be able to perform housework, 10% claim that time spent at work affects family responsibilities (European Agency of Safety and Health at Work).

Statistics show that both men and women are prone work-family conflict. An international study shows that 70% of employees are balanced life in terms of work and the private sphere (Galinsky, Aumann, Bond, 2011: 24).

4. Results of the research

4.1. Background. Facts about Romania

The study "Women's Situation. Socio-Professional Perspective", developed within the project "Promoting the woman", in the period 2010-2011, showed that the woman is

responsible for resolving domestic problems being supported where appropriate by their parents or in-laws and less by the partner. The only activity that man carries, mostly refers to the repair of household objects. Although women are engaged heavily in household activities they are involved to the same extent as men in administrative activities so that: 81.7% of women are in charge with the cleaning, 50.5% earn revenue in the house, 35.7% care for the children, 74.8% do the cooking. Regarding men, 8.4% are in charge with the cleaning of the house, 52.6% earn revenue, 18.9 care for the children and 6.1% cook (The situation of women- Socio-Professional perspective. Qualitative and quantitative research report, 2010-2011).

4.2. Research hypotheses

In the research that we realized we started from the following assumptions:

1. The individuals pay more attention to the business activities it provides, so family time is reduced.

2. Women pay more attention to household activities and caring / educating children than men.

3. The higher the education level of the individuals, the more varied are the activities undertaken during leisure.

4.3 Research Objectives

1. We intend to find out which of the two spheres: the family or working life would benefit from more time from individuals.

2. A second objective refers to the decision that individuals should take if a professional activity would affect family life.

3. With the ultimate goal we hope to find out whether individuals have enough time to meet all the proposed activities.

4.4. Research Methodology

This study was conducted on an exploratory group composed of 50 persons including 24 men (12 with secondary education, higher education 12) and 26 women (13 with secondary education, higher education 13). Participants in this research were aged between 18 and 50 years. As inclusion criteria we selected: *age* - questionnaires were applied to persons aged, at least, 18 years; *engagement in a couple relationship*; *the existence of children-* have been selected people who have at least one child*; the existence of a job.* The instruments chosen in the study were exploratory questionnaire applied to a batch of 50 persons and two interviews, applied to persons with higher education: a lawyer and a man with poor education, locksmith. Questionnaires and interviews were applied during 16 to 19 April 2015 in the city of Craiova, Dolj County.

4.5. Analysis of quantitative research results

1. *Do you have enough time to satisfy all the proposed activities?*

		Percent
1.	No	94,0
2.	Yes	6,0
	Total	**100,0**

C1. 94% of respondents believe that the time available is not enough to do all the proposed activities; while only 6% are satisfied with the time they have to conduct those activities.

2. If you had to choose between a children celebration and a work meeting, what would you choose?

		Percent
1.	Child Celebration	90,0
2.	Working meeting	8,0
3.	DK/NA	2,0
	Total	**100,0**

C2. Giving them the opportunity to choose between the celebration of the child and a meeting at work, 90% of respondents chose the first option and only 8% of them were in favour of the lob meeting. From this, we conclude that individuals tend to put family first, to the detriment of employment.

3. While attuned professional activities a day?

		Percent
1.	Eight to ten hours	44,0
2.	Over 10 hours	30,0
3.	Six to eight hours	26,0
	Total	**100,0**

C3. A 44 percent of respondents are working from eight to ten hours a day, 30% more than ten hours a day and 26% work six to eight hours a day.

4. To what extent are you satisfied with the work that you have?

		Percent
1.	Largely	42,0
2.	In small measure	30,0
3.	To a very large extent	22,0
4.	Very small extent	4,0
5.	Not at all	2,0
	Total	**100,0**

C4. Trying to find out the level of satisfaction of individuals in terms of work we found that: 42% are satisfied to a large extent on the work that they have, 30% said they are satisfied to a small extent, 22% are satisfied to a very large extent, 4% believe that the work brings them very little satisfaction, while only 2% are totally dissatisfied.

5. Are you satisfied with the time you spend with the family after cessation of professional activities?

		Percent
1.	No	56,0
2.	Yes	44,0
	Total	**100,0**

C5. After the cessation of business activities, 56% of respondents are not satisfied with the time they spend with the family, while 44% say that the time spent with their families is enough.

6. How much time you grant the following activities during the day? _
Housework activities

		Percent
1.	Little time	52,0
2.	Long time	20,0
3.	Very little time	16,0
4.	Very long time	10,0
5.	Not at all	2,0
	Total	**100,0**

C6. Asked how much time they spent doing household activities during the day, individuals responded: 52% give little time, 20% long time 16% very little time, 10% very long time and 2% not at all.

7. *How much time you grant the following activities during the day? _*
   Care / education of children

		Percent
1.	Little time	40,0
2.	Long time	38,0
3.	Very long time	10,0
4.	Very little time	8,0
5.	DK/NA	4,0
	Total	**100,0**

C7. For care and upbringing of the children, 40% of respondents grant little time, 38% long time, 10% very long time and 8% very little time.

8. How much time you grant the following activities during the day? _ Shopping

		Percent
1.	Little time	44,0
2.	Very little time	38,0
3.	Not at all	10,0
4.	Long time	4,0
5.	Very long time	4,0
	Total	**100,0**

C8. Regarding shopping, 44% of respondents said they grant this activity little time, 38% very little time, 10% no time at all, while only 8% dedicate to this activity long time and very long time.

9. How much time you grant the following activities during the day? _ Seating-Relaxation

		Percent
1.	Very little time	42,0
2.	Little time	42,0
3.	Not at all	14,0
4.	Long time	2,0
	Total	**100,0**

C9. For those surveyed, the time for relaxing activities is relatively short: 42% allocated very little time to those activities, 42% little time, 14% have no time for relaxation and only 2% of the respondents spent a long time relaxing.

10. What activities you carry out on weekends?

		Percent
1.	Domestic activities	28,0
2.	Family activities	14,0
3.	Walks	12,0
4.	Agrarian activities	10,0
5.	Activities with friends	6,0
6.	Job	6,0
7.	Reading	4,0
8.	Entertainment / Recreation	2,0
9.	Sport	2,0
10.	Movie	2,0
	Total	**100,0**

C10. A percent of 28% of the respondents claim that weekend is for domestic activities, 14% spend time with the family, 12% spend time outdoors. The rest of the respondents are concerned about reading, sports, films, recreation.

11. If you have more time, to whom you allocate it?

		Percent
1.	Family	98,0
2.	Job	2,0
	Total	**100,0**

C11. If individuals would have more time, 98% of them would spend it with their family, while only 2% would choose work.

12. Professional activity affects your family?

		Percent
1.	No	74,0
2.	Yes	22,0
3.	DK/NA	4,0
	Total	**100,0**

C12. A percent of 74% of respondents claim that work does not affect their family life, while 22% believe that work affects their family. A percent of 4% are undecided.

13. If the professional activity would affect the family you would be willing to give up work?

		Percent
1.	Yes	68,0
2.	No	24,0
3.	DK/NA	8,0
	Total	**100,0**

C13. More than half of respondents (68%) say that they would give up work for the family, 24% put work above family life and 8% have not answered.

14. If you were offered another job with a higher salary, but also longer working hours, you would accept?

		Percent
1.	No	52,0
2.	Yes	36,0
3.	DK/NA	12,0
	Total	**100,0**

C14. 52% of respondents would not leave the present job for another that would require longer working hours for higher wages, 36% would accept that job and 12% were undecided.

15. If you were offered a well-paid job, outside the city / country and would have to go alone, you would accept?

		Percent
1.	No	72,0
2.	Yes	16,0
3.	DK/NA	12,0
	Total	**100,0**

C15. A percent of 72% of the respondents said that they would refuse an offer for a well-paid job outside the city/country, which involves moving one, without their families, 16% said that they would accept such an offer and 12% declared themselves undecided.

4.6. Analysis of the qualitative research results

In our research we applied two interviews: the first respondent was a 30 years old woman, definitive lawyer in the Dolj Bar (CD). The interview aimed to discover the level of satisfaction at work, the time spent for activities with her family and how it influenced her professional work and family life.

Following the interview we found out that C. D. is satisfied to the work she performs while working more than 10 hours a day and sometimes on weekends, but only in exceptional cases. While she is satisfied by professional part, she considers that there is not enough time for family. However, after the end of the program, CD spends the time mainly with her child.

When asked how she spends the weekend replied: "A real weekend? Saturday morning after I drink my coffee (I have a habit, I like to drink coffee quietly), I am doing general cleaning, cook until lunch. Meanwhile the child goes out with his grandmother to play, the husband comes home from work, we eat, and the rest of the afternoon we walk in the park or out to visit relatives. On Sunday we relax and then prepare for the next day. "

Having a petitioner job the woman feels the need to spend more time with the family: "I want to spend more time with my family during the week, but when I get home I'm so tired that I cannot do anything."

Respondent said that in terms of effects of professional activity on the life of the couple and on the financial part: "The gains are not as expected. Because it is normal to have misunderstandings between me and my husband.", but not in the relationship to the child: "My girl even sees me as an example and I think she will choose the same profession as me although I do not want her to become a lawyer."

In terms of priorities both in personal life and professional life as she replied: "The family is the most important, after that is career, and then finally, me. I am my last priority."

Following the interview applied to the lawyer, we concluded that there is a conflict in terms of professional life and family life caused by the big amount of time for professional activity, limiting the time spent with family.

Role conflict theory finds its application in this case because there is a competition regarding the time given for the two spheres of activity (work and family), so intense involvement in professional activity makes it difficult to comply with the requirements roles within the family. In spite of the work-family conflict, C. D. tries to find ways for the two roles to work together, which leads to satisfaction in terms of work and family life.

The second interview was applied to a 50 years old man (VV), with secondary education, a locksmith, mechanic. The level of satisfaction with work is reduced, by working more than 10 hours a day and having an unsatisfactory salary: "I work a lot for very little money". The interviewee claims that time spent with family is not enough.

Asked how he spends his weekends interviewee answered us: "Usually after the work, if I do not go to work on Saturdays I go in the countryside. There I do housework. I intend to build myself a house, but I have no time to take care of this. I'm still at the stage of building the fence. I work too much and do not have time for anything".

The respondent revealed to us that he wants to spend more time with his family but he has no time, because of his professional work: "I would like to stay longer with my wife and child and it hurts so bad when I get back home, and all I can do

is to put myself to bed to sleep. I am so tired, that sometimes I do not even eat".

As regarding the couple life, he revealed that it was influenced by the work: "My wife told me that I bring home too little money, that I stay all day at work and I do nothing in the house". As in the previous case, there is a labour- family conflict that has the same causes: reduced time spent with family is time for professional activity. Since the study is average for the respondent, he is unable to find a satisfactory job and the current job does not thanked him in any way.

In conclusion, we can say that there is a work-family conflict caused by too much time dedicated to the career part and obviously, individuals reduce the time dedicated to their family.

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