

NOUA STRATEGIE DE LA LISABONA, UN DOCUMENT IMPORTANT PRIVIND CERCETAREA ȘTIINȚIFICĂ ACTUALĂ

THE NEW LISBON STRATEGY, AN IMPORTANT DOCUMENT REGARDING CURRENT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

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The European Union, through the European Council which took place in Lisbon between the 23rd and the 24th of March 2000 has elaborated a 10 year long strategy, meant to transform the economy of the European Union into the economy of knowledge, the most dynamic and competitive economy of the planet. With this occasion it has been decided the implementation of a strategy to cope with the competition coming from the knowledge based economy in globalizing circumstances. The above decided strategy mainly pursued:

- the preparing of a transition towards a knowledge based society and economy;
- the acceleration of structural changes to consolidate innovation and competitively
- the completion of the internal market of the Union
- the modernizing of the European social model through investments in human resources and the fight against social exclusion
- maintaining conditions for a healthy evolution of the economy and accomplishing the favourable growth perspectives through reasonable macro-economic policies
- the implementation of political means which comply with the needs of the society of information as well as with the development-research.

At the Council which took place in Goteborg between 15-16 June 2001, to these objectives has been added a new dimension, that of the environment. This new approach, a three - dimensional one, to examine in a coordinate manor the economic, social and environment related consequences and to take them into consideration, represents the concept of “durable” development. Between the 25th and 26th of March 2004, the chiefs of states and governments, reunited at Bruxelles, debated upon the economic, social and environment related situations of the European Union and about the means to achieve the objectives of the Lisbon Strategy. To achieve the objectives established in Lisbon, the members of the Council have set five priorities:

- the acceleration of the reforms rhythm
- the reinitiating of growth and development
- the improvement of jobs, regarding both quantity and quality
- the creation of partnerships
- the commencement of a route paper to keep track of the UE enlargement

The revised Lisbon Strategy has the following general objectives:

- investing 3% of the GDP into research and development;
- a more substantial, durable economic growth, more and better jobs;
- a governing mechanism, at a European level, as well as a national level, within a partnership for the growth and superior use of the labour force

The three important reinitiation axes are:

- knowledge and innovation are the engines of durable growth;
- Europe must become more attractive for investments and work;
- The necessity of more jobs in order to achieve a better social cohesion.

The three axes conjugate themselves in ten domains of action:

1. The realization of the European Research Area;
2. Promoting innovation under all its forms;
3. Promoting technologies and the existence of a solid industrial network;
4. The extension of the informational society;
5. Always take into consideration the environment dimension;
6. The consolidation of the internal market through the unitary transposing of the directives, the granting of national aids, a better regulation of the actions, more attention given to small and medium enterprises, the actual materialization of the internal market;
7. The consolidation of the foreign dimension;
8. The employment of the work force market and social protection reform;
9. To make a reality out of the European Education Area;
10. To put the social dimension in use for developing human resources.

The revised Lisbon Agenda or “The New Lisbon Strategy” does not underline anymore the fact that the UE economy should become till 2010, the most competitive and dynamic economy on a global scale. The Lisbon Strategy, regarding the competitiveness of the European Union, revised, could allow, till 2010, the creation of the announced jobs and a medium European economic growth, of almost 3% per year.

In his first annual report regarding the progresses towards achieving the Lisbon objectives, the current European Commission, lead by Jose Durrao Manolo Barroso, defined in January 2006, four main domains, which need urgent measures: the growth of investments into education and research, more support for the medium and small enterprises, higher employment rates and the defining of an energetic policy.

As a result, the following actions need to be taken:

- The diversification of the European investment fund’s activities in favour of financing small and medium innovative enterprises;
- The development of support mechanism for innovative small and medium enterprises;
- The extension of the European Investment Bank’s financing methods regarding riskier research and development projects;
- The rationalization and strengthening of innovative technical support networks in enterprises;
- The development of partnerships for innovation and of innovative poles at a regional and local level;
- The multiplication and supporting appearance of technological platforms;
- The amelioration of the mobility conditions of researchers;
- The development of research with partnerships between enterprises and universities.

Starting from these motives, *the European scientific research has set out, among other things, to take the following measures:*

- The evaluation of national policies performances regarding research-development to the extent of a better coordination of national and European programs;
- The creation of a trans - European network of high speed for scientific communication by connecting the research institutes, universities and afterwards, schools;

- The elimination of obstacles which stand in the way of the mobility of researchers in Europe to lure and keep highly ranked scientists here;

- The creation of a European patent with the purpose of cutting down on protection costs.

In EU-25, according to the available numbers, the total amount of spending on research and development represent 1,95% of the GDP, out of which the private companies provide 1,26% of the EU member nations GDP, and the governmental sector offers 0,67% of the GDP, out of which 0,42% is for research regarding development in the superior teaching sector; the rest of 0,02% of the GIP represent the scientific research conducted by non-profit organizations. Currently, EU gives approximately two percent out of the GDP of the member states for C-D. *In the spirit of the revised Lisbon Strategy, the European Council adopted at the end of the year 2005, a set of rules which aims to lure the researchers from outside the EU, into the member state laboratories.* The member states are urged to facilitate and accelerate the admittance procedures of the scientists. Based on a residency license, the researchers from the new member states benefit from an almost equal treatment to that of the researchers from the old EU member countries and can move freely on the entire European territory. The initiative aims to transform the EU into an attractive international research and development centre and also to achieve the objectives set by the revised Lisbon Strategy, which set out to make out of Europe, the most competitive economy in the world, till the year 2010.

According to some reports of the Commission, until the year 2010, the EU will need approximately 700.000 scientific researchers and the member states should allocate to research, out of the budget, 1% of the GDP.

The revised Lisbon Strategy is important for Romania too, as a member state of the European Union. The average annual investments in research and development from the last two years are around 0,6% from the GDP, and they are predicted to increase. As a result, the financing and administrative structures of the research programs but also the Research-Development and Innovation consultative structures must be consolidated.

It is necessary that a better stipulation of how to use the new technologies exists, as well as a guidance of the national aids towards innovation and discoveries. Other tracked objectives could be: the amelioration of the effectiveness and utilization of intellectual qualities, the coagulation of an attractive market for the scientific researchers, the broader use of fiscal facilities in the domain of research and development.

Out of the possible routes there are: the increase of the medium and small institution's access to research and development financing, the mobilization of financing through national programs, as well as other financing resources in favour of European innovation and research, putting research on the top of the preoccupations list of companies, the development of partnerships universities-industry, the creation of dynamic services to sustain enterprises, to stimulate research and development, as well as some techniques of evaluating research and innovation, of managing innovation and social mutations. The potential of innovative services must grow massively, and Romania must take part to the creation of an innovative European program to sustain innovation and industrial research, to the amelioration of innovation and research policies, considered as a priority on the national programs of the member states, of better and more efficiently using the human resources. In this sense it is needed that a high level working force from Research-Development and Innovation be established.

The 9th action domain, the achieving of the European Educational Area correlated with domain 1, the European Research Area as well as the assurance of human resources closely related to the superior teaching level.

Universities are bestowed with a special role, being obliged to evolve in correlation with society and with the new missions of the institution to provide public services in a competitive environment.

Universities, through the specific functions they assume in society, are called upon to achieve scientific research programs oriented towards new directions and priorities in science, to manage research groups and elite schools, optimizing resources through an advanced management of knowledge and resources.

As shown in the European Social and Economic Committee note on the Green card *European research space: new perspectives*, COM (2007) 161 final.”... the consolidation of research institutions is necessary... the creation of inciting and promoting methods for excellence, stipulating supplementary financing for research, attributed based on a contest”.

“Vasile Goldis” Western University of Arad has a well-organized strategy in regard to scientific research, and by realizing what it set out to do, it brings its contribution to the national Research-Development and Innovation system.

The Research-Development and Innovation national system is tracked through evaluation and impact indicators, and universities must increase their scientific production and visibility to achieve the stipulated indicators.

By promoting a new quality standard in the research and education system, we must ensure that the competitiveness of Romanian education and research reaches the demands of the European Higher education.