

**THE EUROPEAN UNION ENLARGEMENT (THE V-TH WAVE)
AND THE GLOBALIZATION PROCESS
SUMMARY**

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Cuvinte cheie: Uniunea Europeană, integrare europeană, instituții și politici europene, Uniune Economică și Monetară, teorii sistemice, sistem politic internațional, centrul sistemului politic internațional, periferia mondială, instituții internaționale, transformarea sistemului politic internațional, globalizare, regionalizare, risc.

Key-words: European Union, European integration, institutions and European policies, Economic and Monetary Union, systemic theories, international political system, the center of international political system, world periphery, international institutions, transformation of international political system, regionalization, risk.

All the notions presented below are assigned to globalization domain and European Union's enlargement, as well on a national, regional and international scale. The features that approach, the concept of globalization, menaces, dangers, risks refers to origin (internal or external), nature (political, economical, social, informational, ecological, s.o.) character (direct or indirect). The sum of all this represents the "historical circumstances" or the scale that are they exploited and used .

In the introduction I have exposed the motivation of this work, namely without globalization we could not exist in this era, I've called it the globalization one, the same, without globalization we could no longer distinguish the European Union.

In the first chapter I've presented the features of the small countries regarding the globalization processes, the economic globalization, where I've analysed the sources and causes of the globalization processes ,the main features and effects of the international globalization, the obstacles emerged in the path of the small countries participation to the process of globalization. Throught the entire process of globalization the word risk has a major semnification, especially in the economic globalization, but also in those political, social, cultural and security ones. The sum of all this represents the "historical circumstances" or the scale that are they exploited and used. Overall, the globalization can be defined from the perspective of three main theories, theories that I've described widely into the first chapter: the theory of a mondial system, the theory of a mondial political organization, and the theory of a mondial culture. I've described the globalization being not as a today's process, but also being known in the past since the XVII-th century. In its historical evolution the globalization presented to steps : the first one took place in the second half of the XIX-th century, and the second since the second half of the XX-th century being present today and presumed to be in place long time from now regarding the unstoppable

evolution of the globalization. Adoption and tolerance on a base of a longer term of lacking still governance precipitates usually to the appearance of real crisis situations that can be overcome only with difficulty. Commonly, the governance crises get the expression of a generalized political corruption, a social public services inefficiency leading to the expansion of poverty.

”The Globalization keeps firstly by a increasing interdependency between individuals ,nations and regions (...) Involves the existency of a accelerate and universal comucation regarding in the same time the political and cultural dimensions”.¹ So I’ve considered that a debate over this phenomenon must be answered considering concepts like time and space.

Process whereby world tends to became a unique space the globalization is either contested (by conservatives) ,boldly promoted like a measure of prosperity, peace and universal liberty (by liberals), or treated like a danger from the overterritoriality and planetar dimensions of the social relations points of view (by critics).²

The most synthetic expression of this complex process is given by „The United States National Security Strategy: A new era”2002, defining it like a process” of acceleration of the economical, technological, cultural and political integration alongside the democratical governance, market economy, human rights respect ,economical dynamism and the communicational revolution”. Globalization also emerges of the imperative of combating threats, which themselves are on a global scale. The proportions study between globalization and reconstruction or reconfiguration will create new forms of social organization and eventually replacing traditional nation-states.³ The new political, economic, cultural identities, multinational military aliances and power centers extremely enlightens the impact of this all-inclusive process in a globalised world. There are new global strategic aliances and new actors wishing to became global competitors.⁴

The globalization process depends firstly by economical and cultural interdepency and less by economical and cultural dominance, mostly by diversification than unification and

¹ Anthony Giddens, *Europa în epoca globală*, București, Editura Ziua, 2007, p. 20.

² După Jan A. Schulte, „Beyond the Buzzard: Toward a Critical Theory of Globalization”, în: *Koffman, Eleonore, Youngs Gillian (eds.), Globalization. Theory and Practice*, Printer, London, 1996, p. 53.

³ David Held, Anthony McGrew, David Goldblatt, Jonathan Perraton, *Trnsformări globale. Politică, economie și cultură*, Editura Polirom, 2004, p. 27.

⁴ Dan Nica, *Uniunea Europeană în era societății informaționale și globalizării*, pe www.mie.ro, accesat 12.04.2011, ora 10.00.

integration, depends by decentralization, by a much deeper participation than centralization and mobilization.⁵ We must not forget that “the globalization involves the appearance of differences too.” as R.Koolhaas said.

Accordingly, the globalization should be the only way leading to the reunification of the world, to the uniformity, we could say, of both “worlds”.⁶

The biggest and most urgent issues of the globalization are:

- the continuous and fast development of technology and science leading to improve people’s lives,
- the alimentary crisis and lack of drinking water resources leading to underdevelopment,
- the fast degradation of the environment and its resources,
- the increasing costs to various military and security units,
- the increasing lack of energy resources and raw materials,
- the financial crisis, inflation ,lack of the cash flow, the economic crisis,
- the expending of the urbanization increasingly less controlled.

The globalised issues for the mankind is based on the unicity of the mondial economy and is related by the fact that, in some extent, these appear in almost all countries, containing commune technical, social, economic, political, and ecological elements, being into a permanent and stronger interaction. This leads to a chain propagation of the effects and asks joint efforts to solve them⁷.

An other known specialist coauthor to “Human Development Report 1999” J.Mohan Rao⁸ approaches the concept of the globalization considering three premises. We mention them for their heuristical value.

The first premise: in the past two decades, many countries, especially emerging ones, had rapidly accumulated strong internal and external imbalances, fact which imposed the need for reforms meant to form their external opening in a way to promote economic growth and decrease poverty.

Second premise: Even the imbalances were the trigger of the reforms, yet, their content

⁵ Chai –Anan Samudavanija, “Eludarea statului Asiatic”, în: *Schimbarea ordinii globale* de N. Gardels, Editura Antet, București, 2000.

⁶ Mariana Lupan, *Globalizarea economiei*, Editura Universității Ștefan cel Mare, Suceava, 2009, p. 4.

⁷ John Tomlinson, *Globalizare și cultură*, Timișoara, Editura Armarcord, 2002, p. 32.

⁸ J. Mohan Rao, “Openness, Poverty and Inequalitz”, în: Human Development Report 1999, vol. I., Oxford, p. 294.

has been modeled by the long- term structural problems. In their most, the structural problems converge to an insufficient external integration, this becoming the first structural constraint. Therefore, the external trading reform and the financial liberalization oriented outside become the boundary stone of the structural adjustments.

The third premise: The convergent structural policies in the favor of the external integration of the countries - or so called "opening" – represents ,in our time, a major vehicle of the globalization. But this vehicle ,although major, is not the only one. The globalization is required and hurried also by the: international coordinated exchanges; substantial improvements in the field of communications and technologies; oportunities exchange for a new international division of the labor between nations. These are ,punctually presented, the premises from which Mohan Rao started to address and describe the globalization⁹.

In the current international context, has been seen a global approach in the favor of promoting the human rights into the United Nation Organization system, among some local and regional materializing trends oportunities, manifested through some national identities defining elements with the motivation to prioritize the individual rights in relation to society¹⁰.

To become a social practice, to bring a concrete shape and semnification exceeding the imaginary, the globalization and the mondial era need, on the one hand, a teritorial fixation, a spatial integration, and the other hand, a cultural, political and religious mediation. They represents major present and future challenges and sit in front of us a new mirror where we rediscover ourselves, even if this thing generates a lot of anxiety.¹¹

There is a regional mediation of globalization transiting regional spaces identified more or less explicit with the comunities: Europe for the Romanians, Maghreb for the Moroccans, Asia for the Chinese. The best example for us is one of the European integration whose success represents a major stake ensuring necessary beneficial connections between its own citizens and the global society.¹²

The changes that we are living are so great and fast that seems the world has gone wild. Thanks to the newest techonologies we are living increasingly more virtual in a dimension

⁹ Mariana Lupan, *Op. Cit.*, p. 10.

¹⁰ Lazăr Cârjan, Aurel-Vasile Sime, "Dreptul la libera circulație în contextual globalizării", în: *Globalizare și identitate națională*, București, Editura Ministerului Administrației și Internelor, 2006, p. 27.

¹¹ Rodica Zaharia, *Modul Uniunea Europeana În economia mondială*, Iași, Universitatea "Alexandru Ioan Cuza", p. 99.

¹² Rodica Zaharia, *Op. Cit.*

in which all seems to be possible, cloning human beings, filling the universe with ghosts, while fabulous richness circulates freely into the geofinance's cyberspace maintaining a lot of illusions which are assigned from us with a reality status. A world increasingly devoid of stable landmarks and clear horizons.¹³ A world built from emotional energies and passions which provide living souls that are contained an illusory charm in the manner in which our nocturnal dreams imitate the reality, but untrue in fact.¹⁴ The globalism like ideology seems like a dangerous post-modern utopia.

The process of *globalization* it's not a new one, it is the result of some changes occurred in the mondial economy and soared in the recent years. Lifting of the customs barriers, the appearance of multinational firms, the increasing competition of the external and internal markets associated with the increasing importance of the resources, and how they are consumed, all of those represents both, causes and effects of the globalization. The globalization is accompanied by major changes, its impact being felt upon firms strategies and sectoral balances. The corporate activity is changing: on the one hand, they have the possibility to extend on the foreign markets, and on the other hand, domestic companies are in front of a higher competitions from foreign companies.¹⁵

In the work *Perpetual Peace*, Immanuel Kant¹⁶ has proposed the implementation of the perpetual peace through a union of free states where the democracy and the governance of the law had to be the binder that hold them together. The interaction of the union with other states had to lead to the promotion of the pattern, and then, to a gradual extension of the federation implying achieving peace all over the planet. The globalization and computerization, already influencing our lives, mostly recently, didn't generate extremism, terrorism and organized crime, but are people who believe that they can favor them.¹⁷

More, the globalization already causes economical problems into a region of the world, and it is presumed a future spreading of those into entire world. At the end of 90's there were signs of recession in Latin America, and South-East Asia suffered as well a severe economic downturn.

¹³ Rodica Zaharia, *Op. Cit*, p. 100.

¹⁴ John Godolphin Bennett, *Maestrîi înțelepciunii*, Londra, Turnstone Books, 1977, p. 153.

¹⁵ Mihail Epuran, Alina Almășan, *Societatea cunoașterii și economia comunicațiilor în România*, Timișoara, Editura Universității de Vest, 2007, p. 86.

¹⁶ Immanuel Kant, "Perpetual Peace", în: *Classics of Modern Political Theory: Machiavelli to Mill*, Oxford university Press, London, 1999, p. 57

¹⁷ Richard Kugler, "National Security" in a: *Globalizing World of Chaos: The US and European Response*, The Marshall Paper no.4, 2002, pp.39-42.

In the second chapter, The Integration and globalization, I have already shown how the XIX-th century can be considered a century of the nations and revolutions. As well, the XX-th and the XXI-th centuries can be considered centuries of integration and globalization. Those two aspects, the integration and globalization, could be appreciated like positive aspects if we have in mind, that on the course of the last two centuries, the greatest military conflicts from the history of the mankind took place, and also then, occurred even two of the most evil ideologies: the fascism and the comunism. I have described how the globalization aims to concentrate the capital in the hands of a few international corporations belonging to some very rich countries, and I have compared it with USA.

I've still showed, that by added value that must to be brought together with the other community policies, the cohesion policy contribute to a substantial decrease of inequality between rich and poor in the European Union, issuing and developing increased possibilities especially in the innovative fields of competitiveness, productivity and sustained economic growth in the frame of various partnerships that asserts the joint efforts of the parts, local ,regional ,national and European interests complying with those of private companies in the fulfillment perspective of the EU's ambitious programme conceived in Lisbon for the EU' s economy.

The globalization uses a highly developed system combining the economical power and influence with diplomatical pressure. The capitalist decentralization, on the base of the development particularities of each country, doesn't fit with the globalization. The globalization aims to concentrate the capital in the hands of a few international corporations belonging to a few very rich countries. The globalization, as a whole, on a global scale, is a process that enlarges the settled frames of the social changes.¹⁸

The differences between the richest and poorest countries represents the source of the mondial conflicts. Does not exist any organization making a prosperity and peace distribution in the world.¹⁹ As megatendency which affects not only the economic, but the social, informational, political, ecological, in a word, the entire existency of human civilization, the globalization, into a equal manner, frightens ,fascinates and excites. We have to do with a inevitably and inexorably event, something truly, like a "historical fatality", governed by the efficiency and rationality principles. It is everywhere, and can't be stopped. The globalization integrates mentalities,

¹⁸ Camelia Popescu, *Elemente de economie mondială*, București, Editura Economică, 1999, p. 68.

¹⁹ Serge Cordellier, *Globalizarea dincolo de mituri*, București, Editura Trei, 1998, p. 62.

values, frontiers in a fight lacking of , what we ordinarily call, consciousness.²⁰

The main consequence of the globalization and integration represents the newest security architecture in the world, which will see profound mutations, both, structural and especially strategic and conceptual, mutations that, on the one hand, must resolve the great problem of disparities between richest countries, considered first size military powers, and those, less developed contries whose military potential is lower, and their contribution in achieving the global act of security.²¹ The globalization, like integration, represents an objective of the present world, one of the concepts frecvently used in the political, economical and academical environments.

Although, it's a fashionable concept that headline all the analysies, conferences and congresses performed at the high levels, sometimes, it is used with some superficiality denoting that the phenomenon is not sufficiently crystallized. The literal equation of the globalization process contains various unknown factors, issuing various challenges and trends. If they are not lost by the authority of a rational and participative control, this could lead to a random mondial disorder wich can not predict the winners or the losers.²² EU is a supreme sacrifice of the European states ,a unprecedented attempt to face the fight with the globalization on a continental scale, to form well-defined multi-sectoral spaces in front of the newest “barbarial invasions”, feeds and transnational actors.²³

Initial, the natural apptency of the traditionalist trans-theoretical school was to deny even the existency of economic globalization treds. Recently, its argument leads to a challenging direction over the effects of the globalization on the role of the state, involving the politico-economical attributes of the suveranity.²⁴ It can be argued in a contesting sense of the globalization only if we define it in a maximalist manner.

²⁰ David Held, Anthony McGrew, David Goldblatt, Jonathan Perraton, Jonathan Perraton, *Transformări globale. Politică, economie și cultură*, Editura Polirom, 2004, p. 47.

²¹ Ovidiu Pop, “Dinamica modalităților de manifestare a globalizării”, în: *Provocări la adresa securității și strategiei la începutul sec. XXI*, București, Editura Universității Naționale de Apărare, 2005, p. 89.

²² *Ibidem*.

²³ Mădălina Virginia Antonescu, “Relația dintre stat și Uniunea Europeană în contextul globalizării”, în: *Provocări la adresa securității și strategiei la începutul secolului XXI*, București, Editura Universității Naționale de Apărare, 2005, p. 117.

²⁴ Dorina Năstase, Mihai Mătieș, Viitorul Suveranității Naționale a României în perspective Integrării Europene”, în: *Globalizare și identitate națională*, Iași, Editura Polirom, 2002, p. 22.

Romania is facing the greatest integrational and development opportunity in an increasingly globalized economy. Romania's future is that of a dynamic, competitive and innovative economy, running in the world's and EU's economical, social and political structures. Regarding Romania, as the Prof. Constantin Popescu has pointed out, "the economy and society(...) are not enough prepared to participate in the edification of the most ambitious project from the history of mankind that Lisbon Strategy has been conceived, like durability of a sense for the prosperity of the European citizens and environment health, for the institutional governance competitiveness and business world, for the territorial communities, economic and social cohesion."²⁵ In this context, we can say that „the reconstruction we need for the postintegration period, is, firstly, a institutional spiritual process which must include all the carriers of the public and private interests.”²⁶

The EU's enlargement is the most ambitious project undertaken by now: it represents in fact, the reunification of the European continent divided after the Second World War. In the past, there were other waves of enlargement into a divided Europe, but the present enlargement process helps to fulfill a dream of the founding parents of the EU: a united and free Europe.

The European Council of Copenhagen has recognised for the Central and Eastern European countries the right to accede to the European Union if they meet three criteria:

- political: stable institutions, guarantors of democracy, rule of law, human rights and respect for minorities;
- economic: a functional free market economy;
- adoption of the *acquis communautaire*: adhesion to the EU 's political, economical and monetary objectives.

Considering the sensitive differences on their free market economics, even if the whole candidate states of the EU have started with equal opportunities, their accession in the comunitary structures will be done gradually.

The economic integration represents a key theme of today's global era. In a general form ,the economic integration could be defined like an interactional and development process of the economical interdependences between states by shapes and methods, that allows, on the one hand, the continuity and aprofundation of the intertrade ,and, on the other hand, the

²⁵ Constantin Popescu, *Raționalitate și speranță. Paradigma întregului viu*, București, Editura Renaissance, 2006, pp. 73- 75.

²⁶ *Ibidem*.

increasing interpenetration grade of national economies into a living body,divers by presentation, but unitary and homogeneous in its functionality.²⁷

Competition policy plays a fundamental role in the European construction: the basic postulate is that an effective free market economy is the most efficient mean to achieve the economic objectives of the EU.

There are three problems:²⁸

- the legitimacy of a competition policy,
- its orientation,
- the legitimacy of a commune competition policy.

The EU's economic policy has drew its objectives and structure a uniform coloration, with the ramification on international role: a single currency Europe with a more cohesive and coherent economy (with much stronger macroeconomic instruments) has a stronger voice on the international scene. We can appreciate that, in the present, EU can be seen as a crucial actor of the actual international economic environment.²⁹ The global largest economic bloc, the EU must use its strongest tool (economic weight) to guide the results of the political processes towards pace and stability, both, international and regional.

Such, EU has managed to restore the confidence in the Eurozone public finances and in its single currency. As well, EU has promoted taking of the responsibility, especially among its very indebted members to act the in favor of consolidation of their public finances.³⁰ Has become increasingly clear that the future of the EU and its citizens depends on the firmness with which its member states deal with their national economies. The crisis has issued the acts of violation of the rules of the financial discipline and ability to guarantee that the member states apply sound economic policies oriented to competitiveness. During 2010, the Parliament, the Council and the Commission had worked to build a new architecture in order to remedy these deficiencies.³¹

As final, the territorial integration will be, never the less, an economical, social and

²⁷ Gheoghe Crețoiu, Ioan Bucur, *Economie politică*, București, Editura Șansa SRL, 1995, p. 518, și *Economie București*, Editura All Beck, 2003, pp. 582-583.

²⁸ Mihaela Vartolomei, *Cultură și civilizație europeană contemporană*, Timișoara, Editura Politehnica, 2009, p. 68.

²⁹ Vasile Pușcaș, *Identitate Internațională a Uniunii Europene*, www.mdrl.ro, accesat în 01.08.2011, ora 12.32

³⁰ Raport general privind activitatea Uniunii Europene 2010, Comisia Europeană, Direcția Generală Comunicare, Publicații, 1049 Bruxelles, Belgia, Raportul general privind activitatea Uniunii Europene – 2010 a fost adoptat de Comisia Europeană la 16 februarie 2011 sub cota SEC(2011) 189, p.10, disponibil pe: <http://europa.eu/generalreport/ro/welcome.htm>.

³¹ Raport general privind activitatea Uniunii Europene 2010, *Op. Cit.*, p. 12.

political one, a process oriented in all three directions.

Even until today there is no explanation widely accepted and a unitary point of view between the authors that analysed the integration causes. The authors who have written on this topic accent numerous causes that have caused or favored the integration process. Some of these causes were objective, and some were subjective. We believe that, we can synthesize these causes into three main categories: political, economical and military. Political and military causes must be treated together, because we can not precisely define the politics and military. In the practical history and reality of the past times, those two categories of causes were presented together, often closely linked together.³² In my opinion, those categories of causes were mutually interconditioned, and in reality, they can't be separated and therefore I'll treat them together.

In terms of its content regarding the nature and report between countries, the advanced economic integration breeds following categories.³³

- preferential reports between member, the countries members of groups or organizations but protectionist in the relations over against other countries;
- relation of cooperation between member states, and competitiveness or concurential relations between some of international organizations;
- specific relations of cooperation and tension release between regional organizations and those with a global nature.

The conclusion reached by Perroux is that the fundamental problem that constitutes the problem of integration of different economic areas and especially of the eniqual developed ones, is to avoid exercise, by one of the parts, of the integrator role in its own benefit disadvantaging the other parts.³⁴

In the third chapter I have defined the competency transfer implications in terms of economic policy, from a state level to a transnational one, the phenomenon of Europeanization. I've presented the arguments of the champions of economic and political integration used to determine the beginning of new series of intergovernmental negotiations finalised with the Treaty of Maastricht. I've presented the three basic reasons that we need the Treaty of Lisbon namely: a improved efficiency of decision-making processes, more democracy giving a prior

³² Grigore Alexandrescu, Gheorghe Văduva, Mihai Ștefan Dinu, *Studii de securitate și apărare*, Vol. 3, București, Editura Universității Naționale de Apărare, 2005, p. 34.

³³ Gheorghe Crețoiu, *Economie politică*, București, Editura Universității Titu Maiorescu, 2007, p.283.

³⁴ Gabriela Carmen Pascariu, *Integrare Economică europeană*, Iași, Editura Universității Al. Ioan Cuza, p. 43.

role to the European and national Parliaments; a better external consistency. I've still shown that, by the fear of turning the new European community into a European superstate, the authors of the treaty kept to set clear limits to Community actions, reason for that they have provided the subsidiarity principle whereafter the superior level of the Community can not intervene than there where it brings a added-value in relation to national or regional actions. The main objectives of the Treaty of Lisbon are establishing of a more democratic European Union to respond to European citizens, to meet responsibility, transparency, and participation, as well, a increased capacity of the Union to respond efficiently to global challenges.

After heated negotiations and painful concessions, the Europeans leaders have agreed at Lisbon, for a new treaty wich will help the extended European Union to work better. The treaty brings new rules for the institutions and decizional processes of the European Union, the details being intensively discused by the prime ministers untill the end. Lisbon could be seen like the moment from which Europe finally lives at the height of its economic appearance and became a real power on the world's stage. From 2014 the European executive will have a number of commissioners equal to two thirds of number of member states, which means that not every state will have a commissioner. The atributions of the European Parliament will expand.³⁵

Stopping the ambitions of a constitutional vision of the Union, the future Treaty of the Reform follows to improve intergovernacy, hopes to streamline the decision-making mechanism of the beureaucracy in Brusseles, and to strenghten the Community method. To the European citizen, in whose name was convened a Convention regarding the future of Europe, now it promises that this institutional reform will bring a "Europe of results". But, before he could see concrete results, the European citizen saw that some European Union leaders just mimic "Europe", fact that should express the meaning of the "national interest" of a one or another Member State. The Union crisis is not explain by highlighting the national interests of Member States, but unharmonizing the specific interests in order to achieve the assumed commone objective.

In the fourth chapter The European Union Enlargement I've shown that in time of crisis the task of the Committee is to exercise the political control and strategic direction of the The European Union operations. The Committee must examin all posible options to formulate a European Union response in any situation and submit them to the Council. I've described the

³⁵ Vasile Ivanoff Ivan, *Drept Administrativ European*, Târgoviște, Editura Universității Valahia, 2008, p. 13.

intelligence, and especially in the XXI-st century, the intelligence seems to be fundamentally different requiring a new evolutive approach regarding the training of the personnel. It must be developed and organized involving the methods, the data collection system, and especially the analysis process and technologies, which in the current appearance, no longer cope to a accurate and timely intelligence that must deal with the appearance of new sorts of threats. The conditions that must be satisfied by a Member State to accede to the European Union are the criteria that were approved at Copenhagen and confirmed in December 1995 by the European Council of Madrid. This, in addition, has pointed the importance of adapting of the administrative structures of the candidate states to a gradual and harmonious integration. I've shown that bedraggled European political landscape after the fall of communist regimes from Central and Eastern Europe, has led to a rethinking process of the European Community structure, in a way that creates the economic and monetary union.

The immediate objective of the Treaty of Rome was the creation of a “common market” and the progressive approach of the economic policy of the Member States as means to obtain a continuous and balanced accelerated growth of the living standards, and a closer cooperation between Member States. The European Union is the most actual formula of European construction.³⁶

The evolution and development of the European political-military institutional frame proves, on the one hand, the will of the leaders of the Member States of the EU to create a mondial geopolitical actor –Europe, and on the other hand, by the shortcomings and weaknesses manifested during crises and conflicts, highlights the fact, that a super-national European system is a system accepted by all.

In the V-th chapter, The enlargement process of the European Union –The V-th wave, I've shown that the transformations and reforms that Romania together with the former communist countries had to do, were part of a complex process of socio-economical, cultural and political development in order to accede to European Union. I've still debated the status of the candidate countries wishing to accede to the European Union. They need to align other Member States in the process of completion of the political, economical and monetary union. The issue of evolution and results of the European integration in economical and political aspects benefits

³⁶Augustin Fuerea, *Manualul Uniunii Europene*, București, Editura Universul Juridic, 2004, p. 183.

of an wide interest in the actual mondial configuration. We can say that, in the fifty years of institutional construction and economic European integration, the European Union has become a historic success, a pole of attraction, converging the expectations of a few nearer or distant countries that pay attention to the dynamics of Union and will to consolidate their reborn democracy or to rebuilt an efficient economy.

Once received in the Union, unable to qualify to the pre-accesion assistance, the new Member States receive for a period a financial assistance through the Tanzition Facility³⁷ stipulated by the Accesion Treaty.

The fifth wave of EU's enlargement has a major importance even because it coincided with NATO's enlargement. Starting with the Proposal from Vilnius from 2000 on the extension of NATO³⁸, according to the proposed "open doors" policy and with the USA's urge to a *free and peaceful fulfilled Europe*, during the November 2002 summit from Prague, seven new states were invited to accede to NATO. The fifth extension wave has a major importance for the consolidation of the EU. The difference between the last expansion and previous ones, is that the majority of the new members cross a transition phase, from a type of planified economy to a market based one, going through difficult economic reforms regardless their efforts to integrate in the EU.³⁹ Political criteria is a prerequisite for the accesion negociation opening, the accesion decision being taken by the European Council.

In the annexes I've exhibited in the figures the conclusions of the chapters described in the work.

In the Conclusions are shortly included the chapters of the work and the conclusions that I've reached.

The Bibliography contains three sections: documents, General works, Specialised works, Studies and Articles, newspapers, reports, conferences, encyclopedias, dictionaries and electronic sources.

³⁷ Consiliul European, *Concluziile Președinției*, Edinburgh, 11-12 Decembrie 1992, Bol. CE 12-1992 și Bol. CE 4-1993.

³⁸ La conferința Rolul NATO în Schimbarea Mediului de Securitate din Europa, ținută la Vilnius, Lituania, 18-19 mai, 2000, și-au exprimat intenția de a adera la NATO guvernele următoarelor țări: Albania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Letonia, Lithuania, Macedonia, România, Slovakia, și Slovenia.

³⁹ Alina Buzăianu, „Continuarea procesului de extindere a Uniunii Europene - micro-analiza economică", în: *Sfera Politicii*, nr. 120-122.

