

The European Union in the face of the prospect of achieving major objectives in the conditions of the pandemic and economic-financial crisis

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Abstract. *The Member States of the European Union aim individually and at the same time in a complex way to achieve superior results, in order to ensure sustainable economic growth, which would be the main factor in improving living conditions. In this sense, that of the economic growth of the European Union and of all the Member States, it is important to initiate economic objectives with the participation of as many Member States as possible. At the same time, the individual development of each stratum is important so as to ensure harmonized growth in order to pursue the second objective, which is to bring the level of economic growth closer to all Member States.*

Member States' individual investments, as well as those harmonized in the context of economic objectives, are the steps by which this challenge could be achieved, could be met. There are enough contradictions in the European Union, in the sense that some states that have entered the last tranche or the last stage in the European Union, have yet to set a series of individual objectives to ensure the elimination of dysfunctions and consequently, creating a harmonization of economic developments.

The question is whether the European Union is an appropriate framework, so that actors and partners can look with confidence and confidence to achieve major goals. The example of Brexit is one that brings a new possibility of insecurity, in the sense that the United Kingdom leaves a gap in terms of individual participation in the Community budget. Under these conditions, it is likely that the annual and multiannual budget will be slightly smaller and the lack of Great Britain in the entourage of the Member States will be able to be covered only by a sustained activity on multiple levels by the Community countries.

We have in mind the destructive effects that the economy of the member states will have, globally and individually, in the conditions of triggering and propagating the pandemic and economic-financial crisis.

There are a number of objectives in the European Union's strategy that must be pursued in full accordance with the national strategies of the Member States. Only a harmonized policy can ensure a development closer to the aspirations and wishes of the Member States. The European Union is also manifested in a series of contradictions that exist between some Member States, which arise between what each Member State pursues and the global policy promoted by the European Union. In this regard, in this article we will seek to identify those points that may be positive aspects of harmonization of efforts or that are discordant and should be eliminated in order to reach a possibility of correlating the intentions and measures taken, so that it can be achieve some of the challenges facing the European Union. It should also be noted that between the United States and the European Union in economic, trade, tourism there are some different positions that can have an effect on the development of the European Union and its Member States within it.

Keywords: European Union, economic objectives, challenges, economic growth, harmonization of economic growth.

JEL Classification: F02, F40.

Introduction

The Member States of the European Union aim individually and also through the Union's strategy to achieve economic growth as consistent as possible by capitalizing on the internal potential of each country, but especially by initiating large-scale economic objectives to be achieved bring as many Member States as possible.

The European Union has directives in this regard, suggesting that economic objectives must consist in the initiation of economic objectives based on advanced technology, which will ensure consistent economic growth. These are priority areas in which this individual and communal research of the Member States needs to be directed. Thus, in the field of energy there are limitations in terms of current resources, but which must on the basis of an extensive study and research program lead to the discovery of new resources, to the expansion of existing ones, so that in the context of coal resources, oil and gas are depleted over time, to provide a replacement based on other energy sources, so as to ensure the potential of the European Union.

Individual investment by Member States can play an important role in this area, but at the same time other objectives may be to work together between Member States, to ensure more consistent funding and to meet the conditions facing all mankind. I said about energy resources, food resources, the exploitation of land fertility in countries that have a penchant for this possibility of evolution, is another goal. There is also high potential in the field of transport and other areas. The efforts of several Member States must be combined in order to increase the technological potential, adjust the industry and other branches of national economies, the technological conditions offered by the present, but especially the future based on extensive research, which can be triggered.

There are a number of objectives in the European Union's strategy that must be pursued in full accordance with the interests and strategies of the Member States. This relationship between the European Union and the Member States is unequivocal in the sense that the Member States must also adjust their investment and development strategies according to the conditions and guidelines that the European Union launches in this regard. We can point out that only a harmonized policy in the field of multi-level research can provide potential in increasing the prospect of initiating objectives, let's say quite important, which will lead to the growth of the economies of all states.

We must also take into account the possibility of cooperation between the European Union as an entity of all the Member States and the other states that have great potential, with which we can work in multiple directions to achieve the objectives we were talking about.

At this point in the study, to the question *Is the creation of major objectives in the European Union an objective that can be a challenge for the Member States of the European Union?* Yes but only through a coherent, well-developed European Union strategy and at the same time through the widest possible participation of the Member States, both in the development of their own research and innovation and in the participation of to the development of research and innovation within the European Union.

Literature review

In the development strategy of the European Union, the directives highlight the need to make better use of resources, technological development, the prospect of initiating major objectives, so that member countries achieve better and consequent results and consequently the European Union is in line with this pace of progress and ensuring additional income in order to achieve the goal of ensuring a higher standard of living. The issue of these challenges for Member States to start new projects is addressed extensively in the literature. Analyses, interpretations and attempts are also made to identify the current situation, especially in which the European Union and the Member States, as well as all the countries of the world, are facing a major pandemic coronavirus crisis, which will have particularly serious effects in the context of it will be combined with the effects of the economic and financial crisis, it will produce great disturbances and especially reductions of the individual economic development.

A number of authors, respectively Anghelache (2013) made a comprehensive analysis of the evolution of the national and world economy under the effect of the crisis that was in 2008-2010, foreshadowing the prospect of new delicate situations in the current context of the coronavirus pandemic crisis and especially in the perspective of the economic and financial crisis be long lasting. Anghelache and Anghel (2017) and Anghelache et al. (2016b) they focused on using the possibilities of the evolution of the member states, in a concrete case of Romania after ten years from the accession, in the conditions in which they still felt the effects of the economic-financial crisis from 2008-2010.

A number of models have also been suggested that can be used to identify the development prospects of a country's economy, but also of the European Union economy as a whole. Anghelache et al. (2016a) they extended an analysis on the platform used in the financial projects that can be carried out in the individual interest of the engaged countries, but also of the European Union. Barbosa and Faria (2011) stresses that innovation must be a key, factor in the technical and scientific development and economic consequences of the European Union. Berezin and Diez-Medrano (2008) in their work they focus on the need for a legitimate policy to support European integration. Chalmers, A.W. (2013), addresses the issue of information strategy as a need to support the practical application of advanced technologies. Dachs and Pyka (2010) it refers to an answer to be given to the question of where the innovation is headed. Farole et al. (2011) refers to the need for political cohesion in the European Union, so that regional development is a priority objective, through the implementation of projects aimed at reducing the differences that exist between Member States. Goldberg and Pavcnik (2007) extends its analysis to the process of globalization, which at the present time of the two mentioned crises seems to be out of the picture, but which must nevertheless be considered as a variable to ensure further economic growth. Lane (2006) addresses the issue of the effects of the European Monetary Union, which creates advantages for some Member States and makes other Member States somewhat difficult, from which point of view there are some difficulties for the participation of states with limited financial resources or low technological potential in large European projects,

Lima and Cardenete (2007) considers the role and effects of European funds which are likely to strike a balance in the development of the Member States and to lead to their greater participation in the initiation of major projects. Tosun (2014) and Voigt and Moncada-Paternò-Castello (2012) addresses issues relating to the importance of the absorption of regional funds by the Member States, as well as to the prospect of intensive growth of the economies of the Member States of the European Union. The question arises as to whether the structure of the European Union can be considered in order to take action through some projects to ensure the approximation of the Member States' level of development.

Methodology

In the study we aimed to use a series of research methods, to extract the essence from the data series we took from the European Union, to analyse from the future perspective the proposals for evolution and development of the European Union in accordance with the approved strategy by 2030. The term appears longer, but no longer in a perspective in which the pillars of a complex research program are put in place, solutions can be obtained based on which to initiate large-scale economic and social objectives, which will have the effect on the one hand, economic growth of all Member States and the European Union at the same time, but also of social and consequent conditions of increasing incomes and improving the quality of life.

We used the methodology of the comparative study that put us in possession of ideas for future evolution, but taking into account the concrete conditions that are currently encountered. We have also made extensive use of induction and deduction, exploring the resources available to the Member States of the European Union, trying to identify the major needs that Member States and the European Union as a whole strictly need, but also more broadly in terms of regarding the exchange and extension of research with other non-EU states.

We have widely used data series, graphical representations, evolution based on dynamic models, but also spectral models that can highlight at the inauguration of projects if they are seasonal, cyclical and how they can influence to some extent more or less the evolution of the development of the Member States of the European Union.

From a methodological point of view, we used interpolation and extrapolation syntheses of data series, as well as estimating the evolution perspectives of some fields of activity using statistical-econometric methods that led us to obtain parameters used to estimate the future perspective.

As I mentioned, an important thing is the research, innovation and complex development of the European Union, but also the individual of all the Member States associated in this context in the perspectives offered by the European Union.

Data, results and discussions

Any economic objective that is set in motion must continue to benefit from new funding opportunities in the first place. That is why the theory of the existence of two speeds of development of the European Union in the field of research and innovation and consequently of development, can actually be combated by major projects that can be initiated by Member States. Of course, going and adapting the research topic to the current conditions, we specify that the objective is a challenge for the Member States of the European Union, but it is not easy, unfortunately becoming more and more difficult in the current context determined by two major events. Firstly, Brexit will have an effect on the prospects of launching major targets as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had a rather delicate word to say in initiating such targets. On the other hand, the sanitary pandemic crisis (coronavirus) is likely to hamper the prospect of initiating major objectives, primarily due to diminished funding resources of individual member countries, but also of the states included in the European Union. Of course, without a doubt, for a period of time, the health crisis will evolve in conjunction with the economic and financial crisis that is in progress and with negative effects for the future. However, the problem is even more acute for the Member States to join forces, for the European Union's leading institutions (the Council, the European Parliament) to review the development strategy, adapt it to current conditions and identify additional development resources during the period next. Undoubtedly, the development of research and innovation, the progress of multilevel progress with the combined efforts of all Member States, is all and perhaps the basis for these evolutionary opportunities.

Starting from what I mentioned in the introduction, it follows that the European Union has now entered a cone of uncertainty due to the effects of Brexit and especially the crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic, which will be followed by an economic and financial crisis perhaps unprecedented.

Based on studies of data series and individual developments in the Member States, it is anticipated that in 2020 there will be many falls in the area of total and structured growth. A number of phenomena such as unemployment and inflation, which are detrimental to economic growth, will have a much more consistent effect in the coming period. We anticipate on the basis of the results obtained by regression functions that the level of unemployment may be more than double at the end of 2020, of course, with a not very uniform distribution among the Member States. The countries that entered the European Union after 2004 and left with a lower level of development economy, which do not have sufficient resources for major investments and thus do not have the opportunity to absorb unemployment will be most affected. Inflation, rising prices, whether it is the consumer price index or the harmonized price index, will have a destructive effect on the economy of most Member States.

The problem of retraining remains only theoretical, as the economies of the member countries are restructuring their ability to create jobs in another field, being positive and only if they could resume work in all areas of the economy gradually.

Simultaneously with the reduction of production potential, the reduction of agricultural incomes as a result of a subsidy not exactly at the level of needs, as a result of the cyclicity in a year 2020 which is affected by an unprecedented crisis, the reduction of tourism and other activities. as a result of strategies to stop the infection of the population with the COVID virus 19, will lead to additional costs and thus reduce the individual and global sources of the European Union in terms of improving research, innovation and development and consequently even the initiation of large-scale objectives. There may be some possibilities to reconsider the role of the European Union in the context in which each Member State will primarily want to secure financial resources, to attract more financial resources in order to return to macrostability. Macrostability will be seriously affected by the effects of the economic and financial crisis. That is why the EBRD (European Bank for Reconstruction and Development), the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank should reformulate their strategies a little in order to be able to provide sources of financing for major projects. Here an important role belongs to the European Union, which through its own strategy ensures the perspective that at least for the common objectives that can be identified by the Member States and triggered, to obtain cheaper, more attractive sources of financing in order to make progress wanted.

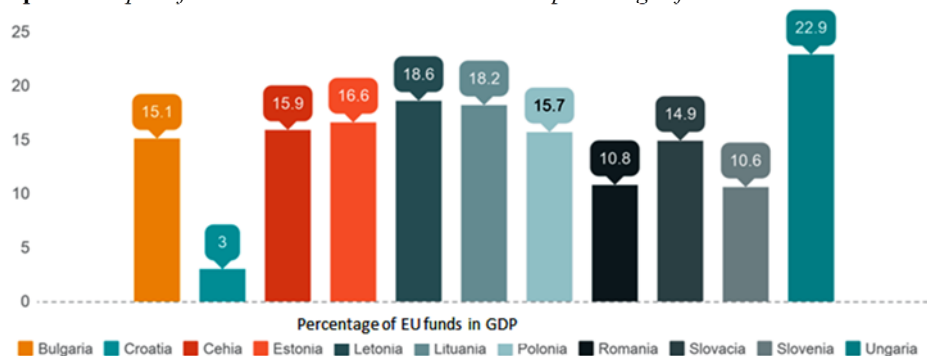
We are currently witnessing, at least in the geographical area of Eastern and Central Europe, differentiated interest rates that Member States obtain from the banking system, either nationally or in Europe. Thus, Romania pays an interest of 3%, Bulgaria of 0.2%, Poland of 0.77%, Serbia of 0.8%, Hungary of 1.2%, these are figures taken a little behind and maybe more changed over time. These conditions do not ensure equality between Member States wishing to participate in projects and to finance their projects in part, as appropriations are no longer a major source of funding for projects in some countries. Therefore, we believe that the European Union should make a complex analysis of this situation in the program of projects and objectives to be achieved to address the issue of uniform funding, from own funds or from attractive sources, which should then be provided to Member States. Member States as an attractive source of funding. Of course, the European Union can participate directly even by allocating resources from the annual and multiannual budget to finance major investment projects.

The multiannual financial framework 2014-2020 and 2021-2027 must provide sources of funding so as to ensure the economic growth of the Member States. There is a need for projects in transport infrastructure, environmental projects, projects on the rehabilitation of historical and cultural sites, expansion of utility infrastructure in urban areas, but especially in rural areas. Projects on human resource development must be initiated through the active involvement of the population in the labor market, the development of skills in this regard to ensure the most consistent development in each country. Research projects need to be launched and some objectives set out to reduce the gap between village and city, especially in some Eastern European countries. The implementation of e-government solutions or ICT infrastructure investments must be considered.

The previous financial framework 2007-2013 took place in parallel with a global financial crisis and the effects were seen. In the perspective of 2020-2027 or 2030, it seems that we will again have to bear the effect of another economic and financial crisis that will be reflected in the evolution of the Member States, not only in the European Union, but in the world, which will have a combined effect of reducing economic growth.

The current state must allow the completion of the research, development, innovation project 2014-2020 and ensure the perspective of their evolution. Graph 1, regarding the European funds allocated to the Member States as a percentage of the Gross Domestic Product until 2019, shows that the stars also had different allocated funds available.

Graph 1. European funds allocated to Member States as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product by 2019



Source: Eurostat (data are processed by the authors).

Most of the funds are aimed at improving living standards and living standards, so that by 2025 it will increase by an average of up to 25% in most Member States. It is difficult, but action must be taken. European co-financing remains an essential element for the development of the Gross Domestic Product, so for the economic growth in each country, but also for the provision of resources to be used by the Member States in initiating other projects that ensure on the one hand the approach of the development level, at the top of the developed countries in this respect, but also individual and complex advantages for all Member States. Table 1 presents some statistical data on the multiannual financial framework (MFF) in the period 2013 to 2019.

Table 1. Multiannual financial framework (MFF) in the period 2013-2019

ECE Member State	Population (millions)	GDP Billion Euro	GDP per capita Euro	EU funds Billions Euro	EU funds per capita Euro	EU funds for GDP % Euro
Bulgaria	7.2	42.00	5833	6.67	927	15.9%
Croatia	4.24	42.96	10129	1.27	299	3%
Czech Republic	10.51	154.94	14700	26.30	2502	17%
Estonia	1.32	19.53	14849	3.40	2588	17.4%
Hungary	9.88	103.00	10458	24.92	2523	24.1%
Latvia	1.99	24.06	12099	4.53	2278	18.8%
Lithuania	2.94	36.29	12329	6.78	2302	18.7%
Polonia	38.48	403.08	10474	67.19	1746	16.7%
Romania	19.95	150.66	7553	19.18	961	12.7%
Slovakia	5.42	75.21	13875	11.65	2149	15.5%
Slovenia	2.06	37.25	18067	4.10	1989	11%

Source: Eurostat (data are processed by the authors).

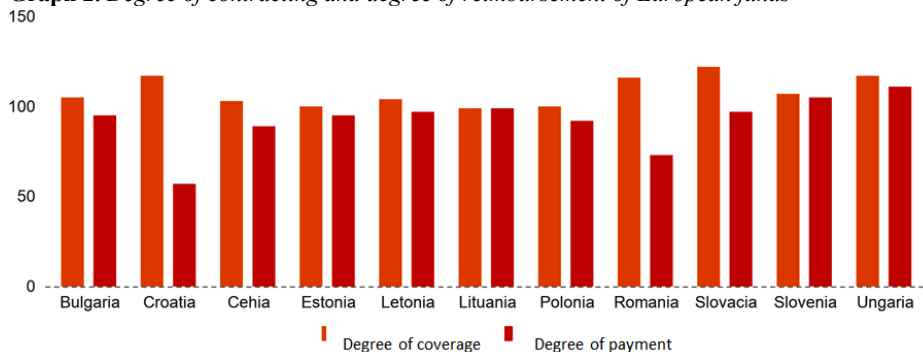
It is found that Member States had different participations, received differentiated funds and the implementation of the MFF program until 2015, failed for the Eastern European states of the European Union to ensure a guarantee of economic growth.

In terms of the degree of contracting and reimbursement of funds, there are differences between Member States depending on the objectives they have set for themselves, but especially in terms of the future perspective.

Currently, the official data from the 2014-2020 multiannual program highlight discrepancies in the evolution of states and access to, use and attract new funds to ensure the perpetuation of major objectives. It is important to note that in this region of the European Union, European funds continue to be an important segment of public existence. A comparative analysis of the states of Eastern and Central Europe with those of Western Europe that are much more economically and industrially developed reveals large discrepancies. Eastern European countries benefit from European funds, but there are still other conditions that often make it difficult to analyse the results of the funds used.

The following graph shows the difference between the degree of contracting and the degree of reimbursement, making it clear that the states that approached and the possibility of reimbursement of funds had evolution possibilities clearly superior to other states that encountered great difficulties in this respect.

Graph 2. Degree of contracting and degree of reimbursement of European funds



Source: Eurostat (data are processed by the authors).

In the case of Eastern European countries, operational programs were launched late due to lack of funding. In the absence of co-financing, beneficiaries submitted requests for reimbursement more often than necessary, which led to delays in the implementation of those programs. And from the point of view of the public procurement process, despite some managerial deficiencies, there were also financing deficiencies, which should be the basis for creating the foundation in order to relaunch the respective projects.

There is a lack of expertise on the part of managing authorities so that some evaluations have been delayed and other aspects have also been a brake on the harmonious evolution of the initiation of common programs and objectives.

At the level of managing authorities, the following causes may explain the low rate of absorption and utilization of resources available for the initiation of projects to deepen

research in areas of utmost importance to the economy. Thus, there have been fluctuations in specialized staff, there are still not enough concrete guides and methodologies, programs and projects are sometimes not sufficiently anchored in the realities of that objective, in many cases technical assistance has been deficient, the mechanism of operation of the projects was hampered by many other possibilities that led to an even lower rate of absorption of fixed assets.

The level of absorption increased after the enlargement of the European Union from 2004 and then 2007 and continued along the way, but the efforts to ensure that the targets set by the European Union were met were delayed. Thus, action still needs to be taken to reduce the period of analysis of reimbursement requests, the allocation of funds from the Community budget needs to be increased, these funds need to be channelled into those areas where Member States can make individual contributions and ensure development consistency.

The indicators at the level of the main targets are still quite far in the field of transport infrastructure, road infrastructure in the first place, environmental investments, renewable energy projects, the achievement of economic and socio-cultural objectives. Social infrastructure has not been rehabilitated to the extent of the objectives of the directive aimed at increasing the income of the population and consequently the quality of life.

In the field of complex pre-university, university and post-graduate education, there are still difficulties that must underlie large-scale European Union projects, which must ensure not only the Bologna program but also the raising of the quality of complex education in all Member States.

The development of human capital requires the creation of new jobs and these can only be achieved at the expense of research projects, which ensure the creation of new jobs, which ensure the prospect of obtaining additional income and consequently to achieve with increasing proximity to the level of states with a high quality level of education.

We must not forget that this pandemic coronavirus crisis has highlighted a number of issues regarding the standard of health. In this field, national projects must be undertaken, with the support of the European Union, in order to bring this medical capacity (hospital capacity, quality of medication capacity) to a level as close as possible to the requirements of today's life. The coronavirus pandemic is just an acute fact that can deepen, can continue, but which in turn must be substantially controlled.

We are in the third millennium and this pandemic can be repeated even further through other developments that can be even more harmful, destructive. In the period 2020 and the following years, the member countries of the European Union need operational programs approved by the European Commission and completed to meet the 23 mentioned conditionality's and three other conditionality's still on the way. The Infrastructure Operational Program and the Competitive Operational Program must be financed in the Member States of the European Union, so as to eliminate all shortcomings encountered during this period.

In the following table we have highlighted the stage of absorption of funds in the period 2014-2020 by Romania, specifying that the same trend is manifested for the following periods.

Table 2. *Absorption of funds in the period 2014-2020 by Romania*

Programs 2014-2020	Allocation 2014-2020	Payments to beneficiaries (EU)		Amounts requested by the EC within the EU allocation of OP (current absorption rate)		Reimbursements from EC (effective absorption rate)	
		Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
OP Regional	6600000000	51476744	0.78	26969422	0.41	24272480	0.37
OP High Infrastructure	9418524484	968827098	10.29	953653087	10.13	858287778	9.11
OP Competitiveness	1329787234	146572615	11.02	86143549	6.48	59118754	4.45
OP Human Capital	4326838744	25014473	0.58	3892197	0.09	0	0
OP Administrative capacity	553191489	24709051	4.47	22964870	4.15	20668383	3.74
OP IIMM	100000000	93090000	93.09	93090000	93.09	83781000	83.78
OP Technical Assistance	212765958	49706461	23.36	49540248	23.28	44586223	20.96
Subtotal	22541107909	1359396442	6.03	1236253373	5.48	1090714619	4.84
NP Rural development	8127996402	2141031435	26.34	2106616091	25.92	1991025758	24.50
POPAM	138421371	14892225	8.84	12237475	7.27	9785156	5.81
Totl FESI	30837525682	3515320103	11.40	3355106938	10.88	3091525533	10.03
FEGA 2015-2020	11196040258	3950185560	35.28	3950185560	35.28	3282437931	29.32

Source: Ministry of European Funds.

The field of research and innovation must play an important role in the European Union's strategy for the immediate future. The year 2020 can be considered one in which not all the objectives that the European Union and the Member States have set for themselves can be met due to the impact that the health crisis will have, combined with the economic and financial crisis that will break out.

Some countries, such as Germany, Denmark and others, are heavily funding the research system and have thus easily overcome the economic and financial crisis of 2008-2010 and are likely to do so now to overcome the effects of the coronavirus crisis and the ensuing economic and financial crisis. It should not be neglected that other countries and especially those in Central and Eastern Europe due to limited resources will encounter difficulties in proposing and initiating new programs.

Research and development policy in the field of technology and innovation has so far been achieved through important projects in sensitive areas of economic life in each country. Each country has its own priorities that must be combined with the priorities of the European Union in the 2020 strategy and the period up to 2027. These priorities of the European strategy must mean an increase based on intelligence, sustainability and inclusion, as well as cooperation Member States.

The European Union's target of allocating 3% of Gross Domestic Product in all Member States to investment in research, development and innovation is an important step that must be supported in order to achieve the objectives that currently constitute individual priority objectives, and complexes of the whole union.

All countries must make a significant contribution to finding those forms of increasing economic competitiveness. The National Strategy for Research, Development and Innovation (SNCDI) must be ensured through funding contracts, which must be supported by all countries by the European Union as a whole.

It must be borne in mind that in the economic field, growth potential depends on a number of factors. The structural analysis of each national economy of the member countries of the union leads us to the conclusion that each country has a strength in the intra-community market and hence the possibilities in the interest of each country, but also in the European Union is to develop those branches, those areas that are beneficial. Of course, there have been in the past, but from completely different criteria, a policy of geographic-economic zoning of the states of the European Union. I do not refer to opinions that have a deep political character, but to some they were even worthy of consideration.

For example, we can consider as priority area of the European Union the agricultural area, of the countries that have a special natural potential and which, through national and European Union subsidies, can lead to massive growth, ensuring the internal market, the community market and for the countries respectively the increase of the international potential.

The Gross Domestic Product in each country from a factorial point of view has a different structure on resources and utilities. These resources can be the elements that underlie the economic growth of each country. Combined economic growth would have the effect of improving living conditions, raising the national standard of living that must become European.

The *PHYSICS* nuclear infrastructure project is one of the utmost importance that was given attention in the financial year 2014-2020 and will have to be continued, as it offers a high potential of all states contributing to this project and of course, to increase European performance. In other words, the European Union was created, consolidated, developed, precisely in order, on the basis of honest cooperation, to ensure the individual economic growth of each country and consequently the development of major investment projects and finally ensuring the increase of the quality of life.

It is worth considering that this *DANUBIUS* program is a European one, through the involvement of several countries, but also in the general European interest.

ELI-NP is selected and considered the most important scientific forum in the field of nuclear physics in Europe.

A major infrastructure is emerging in the long-term plan for nuclear physics in Europe. This infrastructure is *LI-PHI* which comprises two components:

- a laser system of great importance, with two laser bridges capable of reaching very high intensities;
- an intense beam that can ensure extremely high performance.

This infrastructure will create a new European laboratory with a wide range of fields of science, from basic physics to innovative nuclear physics and auto-physics with material applications that depend on a management that must be true. Of course, this project is a major one in the opinion of the authors for the European Union, but it will be able to evolve, to take a special shape in the context in which the European Union that integrated it as a program of the European Union will make the necessary efforts to reach a peak of physical engineering with extraordinary results for the large population.

The *DANUBIUS-RI* project will be a pan-European research infrastructure dedicated to the interdisciplinary studies of the appropriate system. The research will have to be a symbiotic one between the European scientific forces and those on other meridians, so as to ensure effective cooperation so that the final results benefit all Member States.

This *DANUBIUS-RI* program has funding arrangements that have been granted so far by a number of four countries Germany, Italy, Romania and Spain. It is a political commitment of seven other states, namely Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Moldova, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. There are also expressions of interest and support from the scientific community that have been launched by these countries and in sixteen other European countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, China, India, Morocco and the USA).

Points of interest are also expressed by other prestigious international organizations, as a process of developing renewable energy resources will be a huge resource for humanity given that non-renewable resources are particularly significant but in a negative sense. Crude oil, natural gas and coal resources are quantified at the level of international explorations as sufficient for 43 years for oil, up to 100 years for coal and natural gas. Under these conditions, there is a very serious question of how humanity will be able to regenerate new resources, ensure national consumption and produce substitutes that will give essence and perspective to the evolution of humanity. After all, the European Union's challenges in initiating projects with global validity are not their own. They are also considered by the rest of humanity.

A number of leading researchers from around the globe have expressed in papers, some quite deep the perspective that humanity will reach a terminus. Probably the millennial evolution of mankind will lead to new scientific discoveries, will lead to new adjustments in world relations, but all must be based on the correlation between population growth and the level of resources producing goods and services in the interest of the whole mankind.

The environment, the soil and the subsoil, the riches that are in this natural environment, the scientific capacity to capitalize on resources, human intelligence, the robotization of economic processes and all these together are nothing but factors that must underlie an evolution, we dare to -we call it special, of the correlated development of the population and of the resources.

In this way, a number of projects have been discussed, some objectives that need to be considered, and perhaps even stand before the European Union. They are challenges which in the European Union, in the opinion of the authors, despite other views expressed in relation to the cohesion of the European Union, must be the support for future developments within this European Union.

The study shows that no state has joined and is not trying to join the European Union in the future, except from a simplified point of view and the individual advantages it would gain within the European Union. This is a principle that must underpin the leadership, through its institutions, of the European Union in order to unite and bring together research efforts aimed at meeting the challenges ahead.

We are going over the effects that will be quite pronounced of the sanitary crisis (coronavirus) and of the financial-economic one that will follow and we believe that nevertheless by coagulating the resources and the interest of the member countries special results can be reached.

To the title question, we now answer that yes, the European Union is the appropriate framework in which the Member States and the Union as a whole can set themselves and fight for this goal, which should be pursued with interest and skill, so that coagulation can be achieved the interest of Member States to increase the European Union's individual and concentrated economic and social needs.

Conclusions

The study that formed the basis of this article, quite extensive and somewhat controversial due to the last two events – Brexit and the health crisis (coronavirus) combined with the economic and financial crisis – lead to a series of conclusions. First of all, the European Union needs challenges in order to achieve a higher level of individual economic growth of each stratum and of the European Union as a whole.

Secondly, it is easy to identify the number of challenges or the combination of challenges that must underpin the strategies to be pursued by the European Union. Member States need to align with the European strategy, taking into account the effects of a crisis, such as the one we are going through at the time of writing, with a somewhat changed idea of overcoming these difficulties and moving towards net results for the benefit of the Member States and the European Community as a whole.

Another conclusion is that without cohesion and objective analysis of the situation of the European budget, the situation of the level of development of each country, the general interest of the European Union, but combined with the individual interest of each country, the forces cannot be coagulated to overcome these challenges.

In other words, the economic and financial crisis will trigger great difficulties for most states, especially those that joined the European Union after 2004, in terms of financial resources. Therefore, the European Union must make a special effort to reconsider the

multiannual budget for the period 2021-2027 so that the correlation between the contribution of the Member States and the benefit obtained by them through the funds allocated to each state is at least neutral, not producing losses. We are thinking first of all of the countries with a lower level of development that have entered the European Union with thoughts and hopes of being better.

A final conclusion is that the European Union is a community of states based on the principles of independence of each, but combined with the common effort to produce a better world with superior results that will gradually but continuously affect the quality of life, the standard of living of the population of this European entity. We do not want to, we resort to the material principle namely that only making progress in economic development and in the results obtained can coagulate that European communion that militates to meet the challenges that lie ahead.

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