

## ASPECTS CONCERNING THE ENVIRONMENT POLICY IN ROMANIA

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*The present changes of the environment are generated both by natural phenomena and by the human practices and life style. Not only the environment must be adapted to the human needs, but maybe most important, the man has to adapt to the environmental conditions in order to protect it. Romania, as a member state of EU must fulfill its obligations in protecting the environment and to implement the EU policy for the environment protection in order to support a durable development of the European space. The purpose of this study is to “make an inventory” of the present situation at European and national level taking into consideration the following problems: 1.the EU vision concerning the ecological policy; 2.the appliance in Romania of the community policy from this domain; 3.the presentation of the National Strategy concerning the climatic changes in Romania in the period 2005 – 2007. In the present days, knowing the global characteristic of the environment crisis, it is important to identify the interdependencies between the nature protection and the economical activities. involved. The study is based on consulting the specialized literature, some juridical provisions, web addresses, which helped to make a general image of the present situation of the knowledge from this domain.*

**Keywords:** program, environment policy, changes.

The first signs at international level of the global ecological problem appeared starting with the '60s. By 1980 these problems got worse. The governments of the world countries were conscientious about the problems which occurred and started various special programs related to the climatic and pollution problems of the environment. In these conditions the environment became a problem both for science and for politics. After the '80, with all the measures taken related to the environment protection, control and decrease of pollution, the problem did not diminish, but, in contrary, it kept growing.

In these conditions, the international politics and law concerning the environment, being relatively new areas, the developed based on some decisions, resolutions and declarations of the United Nations Organization for environment, of the International organization of health, of the International agency of the atomic energy, etc.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study analysis the environment problems from three directions:

*1.U.E. and the environment policy* – According to the information from the last 10 years, the durable development and the environment protection at national and international level represents the most serious problem of the human kind in the last 50 years. In EU, starting with the '90s up to date, a series of standards were adopted which tried to stabilize the environment and pollution problem (124 legal provisions, 318 decisions, 708 standards). In the period 1973 – 2001 the EU member countries adopted six Action Programs for the environment protection (PAM 1-6). In the present, the essence of the community environment policy is represented by the program "Environment 2010 – Our future – Our choice" (PAM 6) – where EU elaborated a control system to protect the environment against pollution and other threats, having as basic principle the idea "the one who provokes pollution will pay", which is against to the non-appliance of the EU standards concerning the environment policy.

The appliance of PAM6 is considered a success, even if in some areas the results were modest. The most important progresses were registered in the area of the air and nature protection and in the domains which are considered "sensitive" for the European countries which joined EU recently: soil protection and rational usage of pesticides, waste recycling, urban environment protection, sea environment protection, etc.

The objectives which stood at the basis of the EU environment policy were established by the Unique European Document (Luxembourg – February 1989) and the Treaty of Maastricht. The Europeans consider that at national level the environment policy must be based on three directions:

- Environment management;
- Durable development;
- National priorities and objectives.

The most important evolutions considering the principles of applying the community environment policy are:

- To include the environment protection in category of "strategic" objectives (art. 2 of the EU treaty);
- To intensify the precaution, preventive and control measures of the pollution;
- To increase the role of the individuals as producers and consumers, by applying some legal decisions, changing the attitude of people, by education and by making people responsible;
- The external dimensions – the need to take actions at international level in order to solve the environmental problems which are more and more serious.

There were also some factors which restrained for a period, the development of a policy for environment at European level. Here we can mention:

- The important differences between the environment standards of different countries, EU members;
- The opposition between the economical development objectives of each country and those of environment protection;
- The low level of the results from the scientific research domain concerning the eco-technologies, etc.

The international debates concerning the environmental problems from the last 10 years led to the establishment of a general agreement related to the following problems:

- The environment has to represent a common concern for all countries, whatsoever the development level;

- The answers to the problems related to the environment can be found only by international cooperation, by integrating the social – economic development with the environment protection, in conformity with the approached based on the durable development.

## *2. The appliance of the community policy in the environment area in Romania*

In our country the environment protection was established as part of the national policy after 1990 when the Environment Ministry was founded.

In 1992 was established the National Strategy for Environment protection – finalizing the national objectives in this area.

After 1996 started the adoption, alignment of the National strategy to the community requirements concerning the principles and priorities in this domain.

The principles are:

- The preservation and improvement of the health conditions of the people;
- Durable development;
- Pollution prevention;
- Preservation of the biodiversity;
- Appliance of the principle “the one who provokes pollution will pay”;
- The stimulation of the environment recovery by granting some advantageous credits, subventions to the companies which deal with this problem.

The priorities from this domain reflect not only the national and community needs but also the tendencies and initiatives at international level:

- Maintenance and improvement of life quality;
- Maintenance and improvement of the existing natural potential;
- Defense against natural disasters;
- Compliance with the programs and conventions concerning the environment protection.

Some measures had to be taken in order to apply these priorities:

- The National strategy for the environment protection and the National strategy for waste management were established;
- The environment authorities at local level were consolidated (Environment protection inspectorates);
- An auto financing mechanism was created for the above institutions which should ensure the supplementary financing resources in order to deploy an efficient activity (example – fees – for issuing environment authorizations, technical expertise for laboratory analysis, etc);
- The environment guard was established (Governmental decision no. 1.167/2001) – a control institution of the environment inspectorates, with important control responsibilities in this area.

As a member of EU, Romania is obliged to adopt the community environmental acquis. This includes over 200 legal documents, covering the following areas: air and water pollution, waste and chemicals management, biotechnologies, nature protection (flora and fauna), industrial pollution, protection against noise and radiations, etc.

Even if there were significant progresses in our country in this domain, there still are problems related to the integration of environmental aspects into the other politics and the insurance of sufficient budget resources for this sector.

## **3. The National strategy of Romania related to the climatic changes (SNSC)**

Includes the Romanian policy related to the compliance with the international obligations established by the United Nations Frame Convention on the Climatic Changes (UNFCCC) and by the Protocol from Kyoto related to the climatic changes at global level and to the national priorities from this domain.

The general objective of SNSC is focused on two directions:

- our country should take the responsibility and fulfill the obligations and commitments concerning the climatic changes;
- adapt as fast as possible the Romanian economy to the climatic changes (eg. To reduce the carbon intensity, to start some ecological programs). Among these programs we can mention afforestation of the southern areas affected by the desert phenomenon (eg. Dabuleni area), the "Green House" National program – to replace and complete the classical heating system – according to the model apply in Germany, voluntariate actions to clean some areas (eg: Danube Delta, river Jiu).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

According to the information presented above, we would like to highlight the following:

- without an appropriate protection of the environment, the durable development can not be realized; in fact the durable development, environment protection and the decrease of pollution condition each other;
- the environment problem is a component of the present European policy;
- the climatic changes became a challenge at international level and imply correct and immediate measures

## CONCLUSIONS

- occurred initially from esthetical and educational reasons, the protection of nature and environment became a vital necessity for the entire planet;
- in the last years the environment policy passed from the approach based on constraints to an approach based on motivations;
- in our country, the National program for environment protection is established as part of the Restructuring and Development program;
- the climatic changes are caused mainly by the human activities; the people are the main responsible for their occurrence but also they are those who will resent the effects.

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