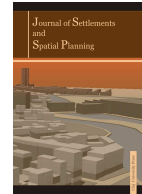




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# Rural Space Regeneration in Romania

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## ABSTRACT

After the communism system collapse in December 1989, the Romanian rural space has known a continuous decline from both economic and demographic points of view. About 70% of Romanian agricultural land is out of work and the majority of food production for population is coming from abroad. There is no governmental economic and politic strategy for the revival of the economic life in our villages. At the same time, the process of decreasing rural population as a result of high rate of mortality, accompanied by migration abroad, both represent the main causes for rural general decline. For stopping this phenomenon it is obviously necessary to begin one broad action at the national level which must involve the central administration and the entire society to properly establish a new way of rural development, process which can be named rural regeneration.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Romania has witnessed a slower transition from the primary to the tertiary economy, due to socio-historical and political particularities the country has faced in the last century.

Before the Great Union of 1918 almost 80% of the population lived in rural areas. Small rural land was accompanied by large "boiereşti" (nobility) farms, worked by millions of landless peasants or by peasants that used to own little land. Economic rural life had its course based on the "natural schedule" specific to characteristic seasons at medium altitudes, with interruption of the production cycle during the winter. The village was an oasis of calm, with little perception of any external "shocks".

Romanian villages had no electricity at the time, technical and management infrastructure being weak or nonexistent. Sloppy, earth and watery roads, completed the picture of an almost isolated rural world dominated by an agricultural system with little autarchic performance in terms of production. Physical work of people and animals was dominant, as opposed to the consolidated mechanic agriculture of Western

Europe and North America. Buildings were made from locally extracted materials (wood, stone, clay, straw and reeds). Rural population was largely illiterate and lacking health care, reflected in reduced average life expectancy (45-50 years) and high index of infant mortality (40%). In contrast, the rural family was strongly consolidated, with many children and an accidental perception of divorce.

Habits and trends, inspired by and often linked to religious holidays, ennobling those charming idyllic villages, were well reflected in the novel and poetry of that time (see Octavian Goga, Libiu Rebreanu etc.). Simple food was dominated by products of plant origin. Milk was the only animal product used systematically in association with polenta (hominy).

The spiritual life of the village and its healthy life customs had the priest and the teacher as the dominant figures, the only recognized intellectual models for the entire village community.

Field work, animals' care, the presence of the entire family, ephemeral joy related to agricultural occupations and specific handmade clothing, all completed the picture of a rural area where care for daily food dominated the entire community.

Men, women and children from an early age, were all involved in farming and household chores. The only situations that could severely disturb the relatively quiet balance of the village were the states of belligerency, when men were called in the army, part of the agricultural production being directed towards the need for defence. Horses were used in war, while the young boys who were doing military service using their own horses used to benefit of lower stages of military training. The Romanian Army of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was an army of peasants supported by the cavalry.

This is a succinct picture of the Romanian village between the two World Wars (1914-1918 and 1939-1945).

By the end of the Second World War, Romania was declared an *“aggressor country”* by the great powers and ordered to pay the massive war damages, although in the end it has participated, along with allies, with over 30 divisions to defeat the Axis powers.

## 2. MATERIAL AND METHOD

For the elaboration of this work paper we used statistical data and historical information about the main political, economic and social events that characterized Romania after the second World War, as well as the control of national economy by the Soviet Union, the collectivization of agriculture, the massive industrialization and eventually, general economic collapse at national level, including agriculture, as well. At the same time, we choose a model about the village state, inspired from our territorial reality.

In connection with the major political and socio-economic events we determined the main stages of rural revolution in Romania after the Second World War. At the same time we try to define the notion of *“rural regeneration”*.

## 3. RURAL EVOLUTION AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR

After 1945, rural development in Romania was marked by five distinct phases:

- the stage of war dues payments to the former USSR (1945-1958);
- the stage of massive collectivization (1957 - 1962);
- the stage of accelerated industrialization (1963-1984);
- the fortuitous external debt payment stage (1985-1989);
- the stage of economic and structural socialist disruption of the countryside (December 1989- present).

*a). The stage of war dues payments to the former USSR (1945-1958)* represented a heavy burden for the rural population. Vigorous male workforce

surviving the deadly war had to carry on, next to their women, the heavy agricultural chores in primitive, rudimentary ago-technical conditions. For the most part, yields took the road to the former USSR. The economy as a whole was controlled by a body of Soviet advisers, doubled by a strong army corps stationary in Romania until 1958.

*b). The stage of massive collectivization (1957 - 1962).* Collectivization of agriculture began in 1948 when the first collective farms (G.A.C.) were established in Romania based on the Soviet model. The action consisted of peasant dispossession of land, farm animals and tools. The so called *“chiaburime”* of the villages, in reality the elite Romanian peasantry at the time, was soon decimated. Opponents of the collectivization were beaten inside the police stations, deported to Bărăgan area or sent for exhausting work at the Danube-Black Sea Channel, designed as effective means of physical decimation of the opponents of the communist regime. A tiny part of the peasants fled to the mountains, enlisted into groups of partisans who fought openly with the new political system, pending for the Americans in hope of the restoration of democracy in the country. After 1956, once the systematic payment of war reparations had ceased, the Romanian village lived a revival of its economic life, which was then hampered by the widespread of the collectivization movement in the spring of 1962. This was *“The Moment”* that opened the swinging doors of the rural-urban migration in Romania. Mountain areas, hardly accessible, characterized by low soil productivity, as well as some isolated settlements from the hilly areas were not collectivized. They had not prospered, being economically wiped out and rushed into the general wave of rural-urban migration.

*c). The stage of accelerated industrialization (1963-1984).* This had the *“demographic desertion”* of the countryside as a direct effect. Working in the industry was the dream and the goal of any young of the village, the rural environment and ambiance becoming repulsive for the increasingly better educated and informed youth. Parents urged their children and supported their establishment in the cities where work was easier and where they could earn higher and more secure monthly wages. City blocks of flats and rentals were offering more comfort and facilities as compared to country homes and living. The social status of the worker was also insuring considerable political capital in relation to the peasant or the intellectual. Consequently, the rural life was wiped out systematically, slowly losing its young and vigorous population. This trend was later registered by a drastic reduction in the school age demographic quotas. The mechanization of agriculture largely filled the labour shortages in rural areas, agriculture being mainly driven by agronomists, under systematic interference of the *“political party commanding”*.

d). *The fortuitous external debt payment stage (1985-1989)*. The efforts toward extensive industrialization and achievement of the great irrigation systems were fully supported at the time, in addition to massive exports of agricultural products, and massive foreign loans, which resulted in unprecedented growth of foreign debt, mainly as a consequence of interest rate increases at borrowing. It was estimated that by the end of 1984 Romania's foreign debt amounted to 13-14 billion U.S. \$. Romanian industry found in almost every county, with a low technological level, highly intensive and obsolete, with a high dependence on imported raw materials, was unable to secure loans to pay back its own creation. The large irrigation systems that provided approx. 3 million hectares of arable land with water (about one third of the country's arable land) were made on all foreign loans as well. There was only one alternative left for a fast payment of such large debt, namely the full exploitation of agricultural potential and massive exports of agro-alimentary goods. During this period the food supply for the population dropped to alarming levels, one of the key factors that have eroded the credibility of the communist system in Romania. In the spring of 1989, the full payment of external debt was announced with an estimated positive balance of 3.5-4 billion dollars. The communist leader, Nicolae Ceaușescu, announced on March 1989 that Romania will grant loans to poor countries with reasonable interest, which led to his physical decimation by the end of that year.

e). *The stage of economic and structural socialist disruption of the countryside (December 1989 - present)*. This stage has begun in December 1989 when the communist political system was abolished by violence, continuing until today (July 2010). It is a stage marked by strong convulsions of the rural environment, generated by the re-possession of rural land. The Law no. 18/1991 has generated by its content, and especially by its application, frequent dissatisfaction among the rural population. The nominated committees at each commune and county level have been noted for frequent abuses and misrepresentations, "awarding" with farmland the political party "customers" and those closest to local and county boards. The process has not yet ended, thousands of peasants being still dragged through the courts seeking justice, or quietly suffering while accepting the cunning schemes of the system.

After 20 years since its enactment, one can say that Law 18/1991 has been and still remains an undisputed tool of diversion through which governing political parties have gained power and "awarded" their political "*clientele*" with farmland and forest. Functional agricultural areas and facilities were dismantled, and major irrigation systems in Southern Romania and Dobrogea, made with huge amounts of foreign borrowed currency have been virtually destroyed. De facto, the number of farm animals and sown areas are

rapidly decreasing, together with the general agricultural production. As a consequence, Romania is forced to rely on massive imports of agro-food. It is estimated that over 70% of Romania's current food needs come from imports, given that, if Romania would apply a medium level of agricultural production, it could feed a population of 80 million people, four times larger than its entire population.

The agro-food commercial trade deficit reached 2.06 billion Euros in 2008, over 60-62% of food imports being represented by products that could be produced at home: meat and meat products, flour, vegetables, fruit, sugar, tobacco, flowers etc. [7].

Romania, mainly its political leadership at that time, has chosen the safest and quickest route toward the widespread disaster of the Romanian agriculture and village! It has not seen or learned anything from the experience and practice of its former system "*sisters*" (Hungary and the Czech Republic, for example).

#### **4. THE CURRENT PICTURE OF THE ROMANIAN COUNTRYSIDE**

Romania's surface is of 238 391 km<sup>2</sup> with a population of over 21 million people, representing 6% of the EU's surface and 4% of its population. From the administrative point of view, 90% of Romania's territory belongs to the countryside. Today in Romania there are 12,945 villages (with 153 villages less than in 1990), grouped in 2,851 administrative units (communes), which include about 9.7 million inhabitants (45% of the population). The average size of a village is of 725 residents and of 3,325 in case of commune. A commune incorporates 4.5 villages in average, with a large gap value (one village = one commune, 41 villages = one commune). Over 50% of Romania's current villages register below 500 inhabitants, which constitutes an alarming sign in terms of demographic quantity for the next 15-25 years. A medium synoptic picture of a village looks like this:

- a community with less than 500 inhabitants, of whom 60% are older than 60 years;
- 60% of the village population consists of women, mostly elderly and widows;
- the village has 1600 ha of agricultural land, 60% of which is arable land, but only 20% of the existent arable land is cultivated, usually with wheat, corn and potatoes;
- the village has five tractors plus as many ploughs, used by land owners only for their own work and eventually for that of their relatives;
- the average size of the land is of 2.5 ha, divided into 15 plots;
- in addition to land, the village has also 80 cows and about 1 000 sheep (the latter belonging to the three owners), plus 15 additional horses, used in traction and agricultural work;

- the percent of single persons households is of about 40%, with people usually over 65 years old, receiving a monthly retirement equivalent to U.S. \$ 75 as a result of the work done for the “*cooperative*”;

- household farmland is not cultivated for the lack of money and machines;

- usually, near the house there is a fruit trees garden and a smaller area used for growing vegetables (onion, garlic, carrots, cabbage etc.) and ornamental flowers;

- every household includes a home built after 1965, usually composed of 2-3 rooms and with no running water, plus a barn and a house for birds;

- more than 50% of the family heads are women;

- 25% of the families add to their “*cooperative retirement*” the state retirement, derived from former work in the industry as a commuter, earned by the husband;

- the village has received 31 more people returning from the city and receiving monthly state retirement;

- every fifth inhabitant consumes alcohol daily, either produced in the house, or bought from the village shop;

- the village is fully electrified;

- the connection with the centre is made through a 5 km long road with no access by car during rainy weather;

- village streets are unpaved and hardly practicable;

- the village has a centralized water supply system, using water from wells and local sources;

- the village has an ABC store, privately owned;

- the village school, with its own separate building, is frequented by six students (grades I-IV), and other 4 (V-IX), commuting daily to the school situated in the village centre and using the school minibus;

- the village schoolmaster is an urban commuter;

- the village has a church for its Orthodox majority, and a house of prayer belonging to the neo-protestant cults;

- 70% of the households have television and only watch the national channel;

- the village has no bank or pharmacy;

- in about two weeks' time, the village bells announce one's death in a specific way;

- 92% of family heads do not want to develop a household or to start their own business;

- there are 8 secondary residences in the village belonging to people from the city, which only occasionally interfere with neighbours during the weekends.

Out of these summarily listings defining the current state of the Romanian village, the incapacity and failure to recreate and redirect rural life on an

upward path by using factors and local empowerment is strongly evident. The Romanian village is currently unable to renew through its own efforts.

## 5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

First of all the concept of rural regeneration must be defined and then highlight the multiple relations established between the State and rural society and the general economic environment, from the theoretical point of view.

### 5.1. The concept of regeneration

The definition of the word “regeneration” in the Explicative Dictionary of Romanian Language (DEX) is “*recovery*”, return to a new life, a cleaning process, refreshing of a suffering body. From a technical standpoint, regeneration means the thermal treatment of a material in order to transform a coarse structure into a refined one by “*restoring*” a worn material in order to be used (the Romanian village) through techniques and processes that reproduce the material in question, or one of its parts to its original properties. In other words, the Romanian village is like a fire to be extinguished, but has little embers that can bring it to life. The treatment of the embers in order to renew the fire can only be done by the blast, an external stimulus. A fair wind can bring fire back to life!

Regeneration is a process of restoring the previous state parameters by external stimuli, a system that is in its extinction phase. Without external stimuli regeneration will not be started by not reaching the homeorhesis phase. The homeorhesis phase requires state parameters capable of regeneration and progressive support of all reference components.

In our case, the concept of rural regeneration requires rapid implementation of a set of external shock stimuli, general, powerful and synergistically lucrative, able to bring back on track the progressive development of the Romanian villages. The “*shock*” and “*time*” elements are critical in triggering the regeneration process, and then achieving the homeorhesis status. The regeneration process must begin in force in all of its aspects (economic, administrative, technical and infrastructural), with continued support.

To summarize, the Romanian village regeneration needs immediate implementation of a set of economic, political, social and legal mechanisms able to trigger a rapid recovery of the countryside in Romania. Regeneration involves the implication of all the levers and functions of the state in order to achieve a major goal, saving from extinction the Romanian village, as well as organically involving the rural environment into the social and economic life of the country. Romanian village regeneration must be addressed as a matter of national security! Here are

quartered main subsistence resources (soil, forests, useful minerals etc.) and 45% of the population. Here as well is the area of “perpetual urban discharge”.

To neglect the Romanian village means to irresponsibly consent to the disappearance of a world that is the basic foundation of national support! The State’s role in the rural space regeneration is crucial and mandatory.

## 5.2. The state and the economic environment

Typically, in the macro-economic systems, the relatively equilibrium state is to be achieved where between administrative and organizational capacity of the State (Ks) and the economic environment (Mec) there is a relationship of equality and mutual support.

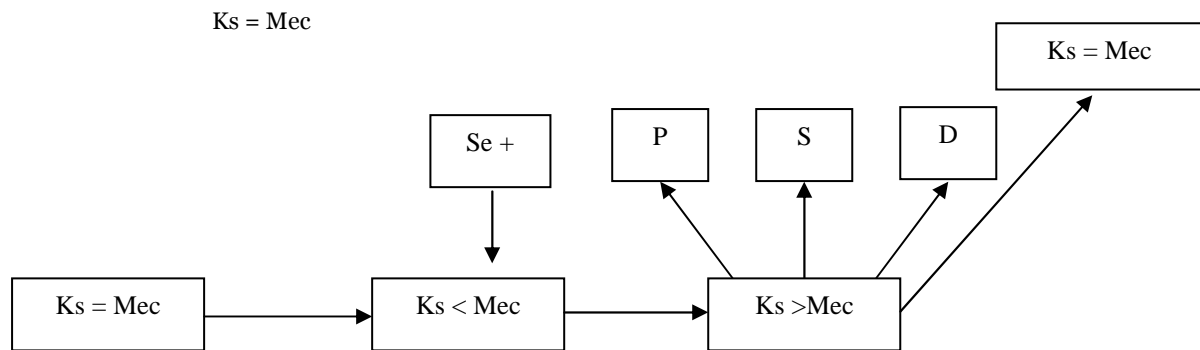


Fig. 1. Equilibrium state reached through evolution [1]: P - growth and diversification of production; S - amplification of services; D - demographic stability.

The system is calibrated and adjusted to the equilibrium state superior level. Likewise, negative external stimuli will lead to new environment equilibrium, hence at inferior performance parameters. In this case we speak of balance by involution.

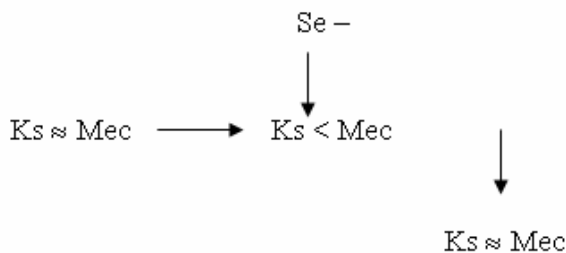


Fig. 2. Equilibrium state reached through involution [1].

The equilibrium through involution can be achieved until before the last phase, that of extinction and environmental destruction.

Negative stimuli may be given by the State’s indifference, of its managerial failure, low concern for specific tasks, neglect, and institutional corruption up until its legalization, its inefficiency and slowness of legal documents, local government exceeded by the needs of the community.

Environments, regardless of their nature, enjoy relative stability in time. They respond more slowly or quickly to external stimuli, depending on the duration and intensity. They have a certain temporal inertia. The relative equilibrium of such a system may be affected due to interference with external stimuli. They (external stimuli) are of two categories: positive external stimuli ( $Se +$ ), negative external stimuli ( $Se -$ ).

Out of the positive external stimuli one can mention capital injections, building new production units, new infrastructure, whereas some of the negative external stimuli might be the sudden change of political codes, belligerence etc.

The equilibrium state of the system can be achieved in two ways, depending on the type of stimuli, namely through development and involution:

For the Romanian village, the most sparkling negative external stimulus occurred in December 1989, generating changes of the previous “political code”. Unfortunately, this “stimulus” has not been exploited for the benefit of the country, but in favour of a political category starving for political power.

Economic structures, in general, were disaggregated, “scrap economy” was destroyed and, in rural areas, agriculture was brought to the wood engravings. A national uprising of stupidity and individual greed has risen from one end to another of the country. Modern irrigation systems, anti-erosion works largely executed with money borrowed from abroad, pasture systematized etc.

All were destroyed and stolen by political command! The stimulus of the original “dâmbovițean” type democracy is now working with decisively destructive forces! (dâmbovițean derives from Dâmbovița river, which crosses the Romanian capital city, Bucharest, where political decisions are made).

## 5.3. The state and citizens

As mentioned above, the state is the main administrator of the country. The status and wealth of a

nation depends on how it is organized, on how the basic institutions of the state fulfil specific functions. The current Romanian State is paternalistic and ineffective, closely controlled by a party “camarilla” devouring the “*gift of the state*”.

Today's Romania is a country of two worlds: he, the State, and we, the large majority, the state which by all means and methods collects money from the many, and we who are the many, Romania's population, who bear in silence and obedience the state's “*commands*”! The State which is not accountable to anyone for how the public money is spent! The Romanian state has become a S.R.L. whose main concern is to collect taxes from its citizens and to discretionary redistribute them to their political clientele.

This explains the fact that Romania has given birth in record time to a caste of rich people which does not bear comparison with the rich class of Western Europe and America who have accumulated wealth along three, four generations. Public funds do not return in an organic way to serve the basic needs of the nation. On the basis of power agreements that have been going on in the last 20 years, Romania has turned into a banana and mafia state, as part of a Europe which has early held the values of a pleasant democracy and has provided its citizens with a decent everyday life.

Villages became quickly emptied of their demographic pillar, its young and vigorous population, capable of further supporting the rural economy, now in collapse. That is why today millions went into deliberate exile, desperate of the “*home wellbeing*”, working for the prosperity of other countries of the western part of the continent.

Border crossing is simple enough to perceive the “*Romanian heaven*”, the “*new territorial order*”! Deserted uncultivated fields covering the horizons, invaded by weeds, waste water, and sloppy roads, hearths of settlements chaotically expanded as a consequence of lack of built land planning and control! Romania has become a state of systematic inequities! What other example could be offered, other than the fact that institutions and individuals highly positioned in at a state level (ministers, prefects, mayors, officials from municipalities and prefectures, of justice, etc.) knowingly ignore and violate state laws while their role is to serve them. Obvious cases of corruption visible in the daylight are not being penalized. Always and everywhere the one who is found guilty is the simple citizen. He is the perpetual loser in relation to State!

In relation to the citizen, the State expressed its rather persuasive function. The State is never to blame! The citizen is always at fault before the state institutions, he is their humble server. He has no say. It is overlooked by the fact that the state should be a living organism consisted of millions of citizens who form the true state. The separation of a parasitic and corrupt

caste that has assumed the role of the state, leads to a carcinogen development of the society. Parasites only disappear with the death of the body (the State). Social osmosis, much needed for the healthy functioning of the system (State) has disappeared and the body (state, citizens) is suffering. What was the abolished communist regime than a closed system, unable and incapable to respond to external stimuli, to the information coming from down-up (from citizens)? A “*love*” consumed by force!

Against this background of smouldering discontent, centrifugal forces are created and amplified, country longing for home and native places disappearing. Final and enforceable court decisions, bearing the Romanian Presidency logo on them, are not applied and not respected by the Romanian state officials! The ordinary citizen has lost confidence in the basic institutions of the state, which he is called to serve and defend if necessary.

#### 5.4. Citizens and the state

Every four years the Romanian citizen is called to the polls. He usually votes what he sees, and what he drinks and eats. A frequently occurring pattern at the national television and another local one accompanying the former, with a bowl of beans and a glass of brandy insuring high chances of victory. Another magnet that attracts the Romanian peasants to cast their votes is poverty and hope, the elected class of the nation being nothing but the condensed expression of vain hope and poverty, of the glass of brandy and the bean dish served at the election feast!

The ordinary citizen was used to acting only to “*orders*” from above. His organizational ability and knowledge have been atrophied during the 50 years of communist indoctrination. He does not clean the street, nor supports his school; he does not drain his ditch, nor cleans his pasture. He is ... waiting for orders (constraints)!

Moreover, the local administration (mayor) shall not take decisions and initiate actions for the direct community benefit, for fear of being repudiated at the next election. He did not bother the citizen with chores needed for the well being of the communities. He does not act as a competent manager, but rather as a local distributor of indulgences (wood aid, welfare, etc). He is always on the lookout to his chair and with his back turned on the community. He, as well, expected signs and orders from the “*above*”, and projects funded with community money!

A vicious circle, a deliberately obstructed system, which systematically surmounts and blocks potential local energies for modernization and well being. Insurmountable stone mountains sitting around our villages, while rural people remain covered in mud! There is no one to send them to work!

### **5.5. The village and its influent institutions**

The church and the school had a positive influence on rural communities for always and in every rural community. Since 1989 we have been witnessing an explosion of the national religious phenomenon. Thousands of churches and monasteries built in record time and thousands of students in the theological schools of all kinds are called in to satisfy the insatiable thirst of faith of the Romanian! All this theological effort, with frequent consecration ... of holy places, with refined clergy and eternal political figures at the heart of magic glass box, has not been translated into material wealth, nor into the moral cleaning of the society.

On the contrary, as the religious enthusiasm becomes more obvious, the social drift is more frequent. Faith in better living in the world "*beyond*", in the "*Eternal Heaven*", is taught across all TV channels and all church messes. We believe that is time for a change of doctrine. Church should first preach of the edification of the heaven here on earth, a heaven for simple, ordinary people. I don't think it would be a sin in heaven if priests and parishioners would become systematically involved and join the local public affairs (general cleanliness of villages, afforestation, local road repair etc.).

Rural school can support, within certain limits, the process of local development. But how to mobilize students and teachers for an ordinary action of planting trees when for 20 years it has been continually advertised that this is a business of communist origin? Another pillar of local support is represented by the local population, the category with secondary residence in the villages being mainly composed of intellectuals. They are usually avoided by local governments, although some might put on place some secondary activities and services in the rural areas. In addition, they could be factors of a better connection with urban areas (health care, access to projects, education etc.).

As commonly known, the Romanian village leads an acute lack of intellectual stable models. Neither the statist economic system nor the current one has solved the problem of highly qualified specialists in rural areas.

Thousands of young agronomists should find their place in the agricultural economy through the establishment, supported and commanded by the state, of functional farms, managed and operated on scientific grounds. Municipalities might offer young agronomists land and support with the construction of modern houses in a short time. It is also available for doctors, dentists, pharmacists and teachers.

And last but not least, mayors must be selected and elected on the basis of managerial competence, the position being restricted to college graduates with good communication skills in a widely spread language. They

should pass a proficiency contest before entering the electoral race. Otherwise, our villages will be driven by long waiters and drivers, who have systematically built "electoral power" in the countryside.

### **5.6. Countryside and college**

Two of the weakest factors involved in the economic development of the country are represented by higher education and academia. Nation's scientific expertise is not exploited enough, efficient intellectual talents being often attracted by the rich countries' economy. The inclusion of science in the political and administrative governing is weak, the scientific approach being often avoided. From here, a world of incompetence has been installed at the top governing levels, from top to bottom!

The Romanian Academy, which brings together the leading national intelligence, forms a weak influence cell, modest, inefficient and unable to insert its ideas and actions for the national welfare. The Romanian Academy has not come out to "*fight*" in order to help the nation in times of trouble! It chose to contemplate the "*world*" from the soft chair of the intellectual comfort! Closed in its ivory tower, it rarely appears in the public arena, and shyly expects special waltz invitations from the Cotroceni and Victoria Palaces, both honoured with glasses of champagne, snoring speeches and careful brushing of the hosts' tails!

### **5.7. We and Europe**

With all the theoretical efforts to prove state's dilution within the new political and economic European context, the State must be the guarantor of the party it represents in the European Union - namely the Romanian people, to skilfully and with devotion serve the interests and needs of its own citizens, to continuously and unconditionally support their aspirations to a better and more dignified life, and to a true freedom. Without fundamentally reforming anything healthy and stable will move in this country, and implicitly in the countryside.

Approximately 3 years ago, Romania was admitted to the select club of the European Union member countries. This moment has been and still remains a landmark of hope for millions of Romanians to have access to a better life and real freedom. Today Romania is part of this body, the European Union, which is gradually strengthened by improving its management systems and position. It is therefore unjust and unfair that the economically more advanced countries to passively attend this show of impotence that has been affecting Romania for 20 years! Romania, a full member of the European Union (sounds nice, huh?) is, unfortunately, a key exporter of instability on

the continental level through its systematic depletion of its population. Millions of Romanians are seeking for economic salvation on the Western continent, while others, more numerous, are eagerly waiting for a signal, an aid for recovery.

Can anyone, ever, quantify the dramas and traumas of millions of our people, separated from their families for a long time or forever?

It is equally immoral to adopt the formula of indifference toward a population seeking for affirmation and collaboration, as if you would declare them war while being kneeled “*in their own juice*” by their leaders elected on “*democratic*” grounds! Poor people cannot fully and fairly exercise their democratic rights, neither inside its country nor within the Union!

Without being interpreted as interference in internal affairs, the EU should act systematically and effectively through specific control levers when internal state factors fail and cannot properly manage the country affairs. In a more radical way, the EU could temporarily replace this carousel of corruption, poverty and misery, with a temporary administration, called at the Union level, capable to restore the country on a path of normalcy toward the consolidation of a real democracy in Romania.

Thus, like a sick body, the country will struggle in sufferance for an uncertain period of time, with incalculable negative consequences for its citizens.

Therefore, the EU approach will prove its ability in improving the evil inside her vigorous and dynamic body, proving its institutional effectiveness in achieving the goal of building a “Great European State”, the United States of Europe.

## 6. CONCLUSION

Our analysis reveals very bad results in agriculture production, in connection with the practice of autarchic rural economy and incapacity of the state to put in the normal way the entire national economy. All

functional agriculture structures from the former economic and politic system have been destroyed, and new investments are necessary to rebuild our main rural economy.

Also, the high level of corruption in the main structure of the state and the rapid succession of governments (political instability) result mainly in a thick perception about the entire rural development. Obviously, all state structures must be involved in radical and rapid measures for the improvement of the entire rural structure.

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