

## EDITORIAL EJAFB (7) THE PROBLEMS OF EUROPE TODAY EDITORIAL

It is easy to see and understand for any EU citizen that the European unification process is in a very critical situation. On the one hand, in the nearly seventy years of the integration process, the slow and gradual progress that began with the Schuman Declaration of May 9, 1950, has made it possible to achieve extraordinary results that can be summarized as follows: in pacifying Europe after centuries of interstate wars, of which the last two (first and second world wars) brought us to the threshold of the end of European civilization; in an economic-social progress that made Europe the most advanced region in the world; in the political progress characterized by the general spread of the democratic system organically integrated by the right to freedom and the right to social solidarity.

In Krugman's opinion, (2018) „Many of the problems facing Europe stem from the disastrous decision taken a generation ago to adopt the single currency” [1]. The process of economic recovery of the euro area, especially the states that have signaled that they have managed to overcome the shock of the debt crisis, such as Ireland, Spain and Portugal, is called into question by the too fast appreciation of the single currency, warns more economists [2]. Therefore, it can be appreciated that the adoption of the euro is a compulsory step in the foundation of the post-national European political construction, but the most important steps, towards the internal adjudication of the common values, will not be done neither through politically correct symbols, nor by currency, nor by continental marketing strategies, but by honest citizen mobilization and mutual knowledge [3].

Another problem is immigration. Today this is a problem of the nations that have the borders exposed to the extra-European areas, in particular: Italy, Croatia and Spain. Germany has no exposed borders, which means that the interests of German immigration are not so sharpened compared to the countries mentioned above.

In addition to this, according to a statement [4] economic growth in Europe and Central Asia has slowed to 3.1% in 2018 and is expected to reach 2.1% in 2019, in the context of slowing global economic growth and of uncertain prospects, according to the World Bank's "Economic News for Europe and Central Asia" document. Economic growth in the countries of the region has varied. The positive evolution of the GDP data of Russia, the largest economy in the region, contributed greatly to the regional growth, together with the accelerated growth

of Albania, Hungary, Poland and Serbia. Meanwhile, Turkey has experienced a significant slowdown, triggered by pressures on the financial market and on the currency - growth is estimated at 1.0% for 2019, a major decline from 7.4% in 2017.

### Notes

[1] Paul Krugman, I problemi dell' Europa e il disastro dell'euro, Sursa: I Diritti globali, Retrieved April 15, 2019 from: <https://www.dirittiglobali.it/2018/05/i-problemi-delleuropa-e-il-disastro-delleuro/>.

[2] Capcana euro: Aprecierea monedei unice pericliteaza revenirea economica a zonei, Retrieved April 15, 2019 from: <http://www.business24.ro/articole/probleme+economice+euro+pa>.

[3] Brasoveanu, I., Pinzaru, F. Piata si moneda: instrumente economice ale Europei politice, Retrieved April 15, 2019 from: <http://store.ectap.ro/articole/139.pdf>.

[4] Comunicat de Presă NR.: 2019/eca/103, Retrieved April 15, 2019 from: <https://www.worldbank.org/ro/news/press-release/2019/04/05/as-growth-slows-in-europe-and-central-asia-financial-inclusion-can-play-key-role-addressing-long-term-challenges>