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Dear reader:

This book is the result of student's work during 2014-2015 academic year under the Module Jean Monnet financed by European Commission Erasmus + initiative.

Under the title "*The Europeans facing new integration challenges*" this project has as a main aim the promotion and active participation of students in all activities programmed.

European Union Policies (II) book is a part of project outputs. A digital library based in all student's academic activities of the Project has been created each academic year. Some of digital books are the results of tasks developed as a part of subjects taught by the Faculty of Economics Students about European Unión topics.

One of the main goals of the Module is the use of new teaching methodologies in learning student's process. For this reason, *European Economy Integration* and *European Economic Analysis* subjects has been taught during the duration of the Project using Learning Based on Task teaching methodology.

This methodology means that students must do a wide variety of tasks based on the main units of the academic programme: History of EU, EU institutions, macroeconomic indicators, welfare state, demographic trends in EU and European Union Policies.

In order to improve student's interaction and develop their personal skills, academic program includes four working group tasks and individual one.

Together learning based on task, students have completed the activities with oral presentation in "*Pecha Kutxa*" format and have designed one poster for annual exhibition in the Faculty under the general title "*Founding Fathers of European Union*" (see Poster's book).

This book is a compilation of individual students works about one European Union Policy chosen according to their individual preferences. All these works are the result of their personal effort under teacher direction. These works has been processed using *turnitin* plagiarism software in order to warranty the originality of them. All of works included in this book have been written in English language because of all students were from international exchange program and classes were taught in English too.

The result is a book that illustrates the variety of European Union Policies and the role played by some of the most important in the develop of European Union Integration process.

Nuria G. Rabanal

Director of Ule Module Jean Monnet

Organic Farming

Agricultural within the European Union



Måns Sandman

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European Economy Analysis

Spring 2015

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Organic Farming

Background

Even though the concept of organic farming has existed for more than 80 years through the general CAP that was established at the end of World War II, it is only during the last 20 years that the concept has gotten any attention from policy-makers, consumers, environmentalists and farmers across Europe. Because of this recent attention, several different policies have been developed as a result of the social movement against mainstream farming and its consequences (Stolze & Lampkin, 2009; Moschitz & Stolze, 2009). The first program to deal with organic farming was introduced in Denmark in 1987 and was shortly followed by other European countries (Sanders et al, 2011). But it took a couple of years until organic farming was first introduced to the big European scene. In 1991 the European Council of Agricultural Ministers agreed to implement the Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91. It was first a way to regulate the production and labelling of plant products, but since then further rules on animal products has been introduced in order to cover animal feed, prevention of illness, veterinary treatment, animal protection, livestock breeding and the use of livestock manure (The historical background).

In the following year of 1992, another reform of the Common Agricultural Policy called The MacSharry reform highlighted the importance of organic farming. The reason for supporting organic farming was due to two reasons, protection of the environment and reduction of production surpluses in order to spare the public some expenditure (Sanders et al, 2011; Michelsen, 2009).

Organic production was defined as production without any use of genetically modified organisms and derived products. And at the same time, the regulation approved importing organic products from non-EU countries with certain criteria's concerning the production as well as inspection systems similar to the ones in the EU.

The importance of the first regulation in 1991 was that it introduced some minimum standards concerning organic products, making people within the

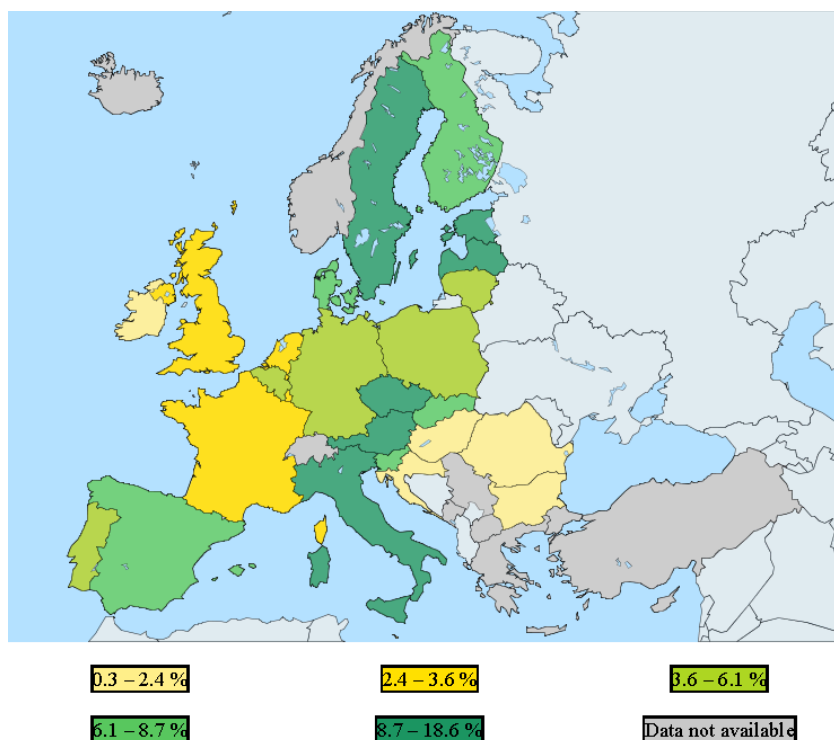
union able to buy products that met the same minimum requirements regardless of where they were bought within the Union. Because the regulation only concerned minimum standards, the governments of the member states, as well as private organizations, had the possibility to introduce even more strict standards. Many additions to the first regulation during the years have now made it a very long and complex one (The historical background). These minimum rules are what differs the regulation for organic agriculture from other environmental and animal welfare regulations because the regulation for organic production only has to be followed by those producers that choose to be organic, while other regulations specify minimum rules for all operators (Padel et al, 2009).

Within a decade after the MacSharry reform the Common Agricultural Policy went through two further major reforms. The first came in 1999 and the second one in 2003. Both involved price cuts to near-world prices, cuts that were compensated by direct payments to farmers. These reforms have led to the CAP as it is today and consists of two pillars. The first concerns direct payments and the cost of the remaining price supports and the second one is called “Rural Development” (Baldwin & Wyplosz, 2009; Cuenca, 2007). The second pillar focuses mainly on improving the agricultural competitiveness, creating a stronger agricultural and forestry sector and to maintain the environment and preserve Europe's rural heritage (Muns, 2005).

Recent development

The organic market within the European Union has quadrupled during the last ten years, proving the increasing demand for healthy and eco-aware food (EU reforms organic farming). The increasing demand and supply led to a new Council Regulation (Council Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007) in 2007, defining some new rules of organic production and how those products are supposed to be labelled. Even though further regulation was being implemented, the positive trend concerning organic farming continued. Between 2007 and 2008 the organic farming increased by 7,4 %. Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, Spain, Hungary, Slovakia and the United Kingdom were the countries that accounted for the biggest growth, over 10 %. But it was not only

the total share of all the farming within the Union that increased. Even the number of producers using organic farming methods increased by 9,5 % during the same period and in 2007, the area under organic farming accounted for 4,1 % of the total cultivated area within the European Union. Cattle and sheep are the most popular species for using the methods required for organic farming. As can be seen in the picture below of every member states total area under organic farming in 2012, Sweden, the Czech republic, Austria, Italy, Estonia and Latvia are the countries with the biggest share of the total utilised agricultural area occupied by organic farming. Even though Italy has been up front in the organic farming sector for many years, the area cultivated with organic crops actually decreased by 12,9 % between 2007 and 2008. Even though organic farming seems to be slightly less used in Spain, the country still accounts for 17 % of the organic area in EU-27. The size of the organic area varies a lot between the member states. A good example of that is that only four countries, the UK, Germany, Italy and Spain, accounted for about 50 % of the organic area in 2008 (Rohner-Thielen, 2010).



During the years, the expansion of organic farming has become a goal in itself in several countries across the EU. The positive trend has however not been

the case in every member state. This implies that an expansion of organic farming is sometimes only one of a number of options and strategies for policy makers. Member states have therefore a large room for different actions, which is why the support for organic farming differs between countries. Therefore it is not surprising that organic farming has followed different trends across Europe, indicating that organic policies have a significant impact on the development of the organic sector (Sanders et al, 2011). At the same time, various research have failed to find any direct links between political decisions and the growth of the organic sector as a way to explain the differences in size of the organic farming sector across Europe (Michelsen, 2009).

The Organic Logo

The organic logo is a way of guaranteeing that the product lives up to some minimum standards set up by the European Union. All the intermediates it takes to deliver a product, for example farmers, processors, distributors, retailers and importers, are all under strict rules if they want to put the organic logo on the final product (The Organic Logo of the EU). The logo guarantees for example that:

- The product respects nature.
- The products are produced in a sustainable way.
- The production is controlled at least once per year by control bodies or control authorities to certify that they follow all the rules that underlie the organic production.
- Farm animals are freely grazing outside in open areas and are treated according to current animal welfare conditions.
- Any genetically modified organisms are not allowed in the production.
- There are strict limitations to the use of chemical pesticides and fertilisers and antibiotics in food.
- The majority of the input used in the production comes from the farm in itself, using local both resources and knowledge.

(The Organic Logo Guarantees)

Regulation on livestock

The chart below shows the percentage out of total organic animal heard in EU-27 2010. As can be seen the organic farming varies between the different animal sectors. The pig sector constitutes the smallest part of the organic farming. Out of the total share of pigs within the EU, only one in one hundred is living under organic conditions. The explanation for these large differences can be the difficulties of feeding the pigs with organic feed, which is one of the requirements for organic farming. But still about one million pigs are considered to be organic today.

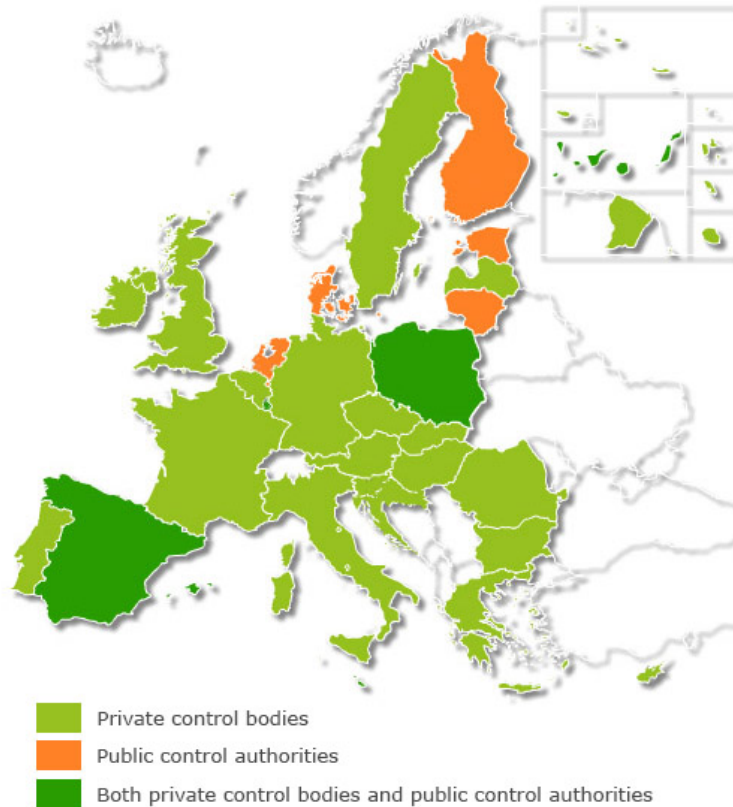
EU-27	% organic out of total
bovines	2.90%
sheep and goats	2.82%
pigs	0.33%
poultry	0.95%
animal production (total)	0.96%

Source: Eurostat FSS data.

(Facts and figures on organic agriculture in the European Union, 2013)

Control System

In order to ensure that the production is meeting all the requirements, a well-developed control system is a necessity. Therefore every member state must assign one or more authority/ies that is responsible for that control. Generally the authority is a department of the Ministry of Agriculture or Public Health. However, they are able to delegate all or part of the control to either private control bodies, public control authorities or a combination of the different methods. The graph below shows the different method used within the European Union. As can be seen, private control bodies are currently making the majority of the controls.



(Control system)

Each member state has to report the results of the controls of every organic operator to the European Commission every year. In order to ensure that the member states meet the requirements, the Commission controls the operations based on their annual reports and audits that are carried out.

Every farmer, processor or trader have to report their activity to the authority that is responsible for the control in the member states they are operating. After this a control has to be made before they can get an approval that their products meet the requirements for using the organic logo. Operations that prove not to meet the requirements will be banned from marketing their product as organic. If they prove that only one batch is affected, it must be ensured that there are no references to organic when that product is sold to the customer (Control System).

Import of organic products

But not all the organic products that are sold within the European Union are produced there as well. This is because of the demand for organic products are bigger than the supply within the union.

In order to import organic products into the EU, the importer must first register with a control body or control authority. All the delivery's into the EU from countries outside the EU, except from countries within the European Economic Area and Switzerland, must be made together with a certificate of inspection. Usually this certificate is checked upon entry into the EU by the local authorities (Import/Exports: Trade in organic products).

The reason for all these strict regulations is that it's important that the product provides equivalent guarantees as the products produced within the borders of the union. The Commission has therefore set up a list of countries that provide products that have been produced in accordance with the production rules and subject to control arrangements that are equal to the ones established in the EU. Currently those countries are Argentina, Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, India, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Tunisia, Switzerland and the USA (Commission Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008; Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007).

Some organic products that usually are imported into the EU are coffee from Brazil, kiwi fruit from New Zealand, rice from Thailand, bananas from Costa Rica, cocoa from Peru and pineapples from Uganda (International Trade in Organics).

Transition from conventional to organic farming

The process of transition the production from conventional farming to production certified as organic is a very complex one. It is estimated that it takes about two years for crop production and about half a year for cattle. The production is supposed to be supervised by the control body during the process of transition. It is possible to get environmental support during this period, but the farmer can only sell the products as organic until the transition

to certified production is complete. But there are two situations that may make it possible to sell the products as organic even though the transition is not yet finished. This is the case if the farmer owns land that is included in the payment for the management of organic production methods, or owns land that already has been considered to be organic during the last three years even though it has not yet been certified (Jordbruksverket, 2015).

EU funding

For more than two decades, organic farming has been supported through different policies in order to increase the growth of the organic sector in the European Union (Sanders et al, 2011). On the 18th of November 2010, the European Commission presented another reform of the Common Agricultural Policy as a way to respond to all the challenges of its time (The Common Agricultural Policy after 2013).

The consumer demand for more environmentally friendly products is one of these new challenges that the European Union are facing right now. The new CAP will promote sustainability and combat climate change during the period 2014-2020. As a way to do this, over 100 billion euros will be invested to support the farming. According to the EU, at least 30 % of the budget will be allocated to support farming that is organic (EU Funding under the new CAP). The policy concerning the rural development is a very important one in order to support the sustainable development in rural areas and organic farming across the EU. Supporting the organic farming is a way to improve the environment and the competitiveness within the agricultural sector (CAP and Rural Development).

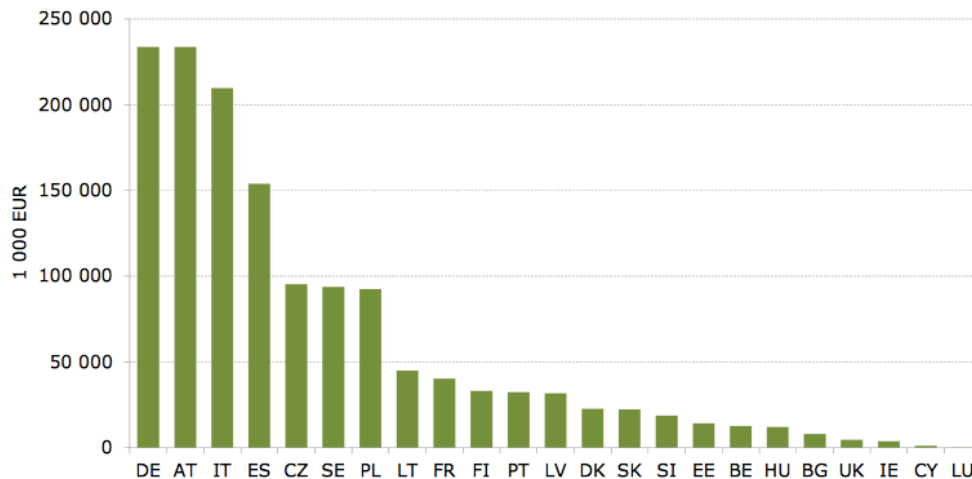
The support is seen as one way to achieve sustainable development in the long run. Beyond the support from the EU, the Member states are even encouraged to further reinforce the support of the organic sector. This support can be divided into three different groups. The first one is about improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector. The second one, and the most supported one, concerns payments in order to improve the environment and the countryside. The last one concerns payments with the

intention to improve the quality of life in rural areas and to encourage diversification of the rural economy. The recommendation for additional support has been followed by all the member states, states that are now providing specific area payments for organic farming to the different groups. Here in Spain, Cataluña is for example providing additional support for organic livestock farmers to cover extra costs that are related to feeding facilities and free outdoor access for the animals (Sanders et al, 2011).

But the most relevant measure is considered to be agri-environment payments and belongs to the second group, *improving the environment and the countryside*. These payments mainly help farmers to adopt production methods that are considered to be sustainable for the environment and accounts for 24 % of the total *European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development*. Even though it is considered to be the most important support measure of the rural development programs, neither France or the Netherlands have yet implemented it in their specific area payments (Facts and figures on organic agriculture in the European Union, 2013; Sanders et al, 2011).

The New Common Agricultural Policy

Compared to the 100 billion-budget that have been set up for the period 2014-2020, the support for the rural development during the period 2007-2013 was about 96.3 billion euros. This increase highlights the increasing attention to organic products. The new budget also introduces a specific measure for organic farming, which the old budget did not. Therefore, payments for the change to or maintenance of organic farming should work as an incentive for farmers to participate in those schemes. The chart below shows the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development payments to organic farming from 2007-2011 per member state.



(Facts and figures on organic agriculture in the European Union, 2013)

One of the new things about the reform is how direct payments are made. This is a way to guarantee a more fair and targeted distribution of the support. It rests on the idea of genuine convergence of payments. This will not only be the case between Member States, but also within Member States. The new system will for example ensure the provision of environmental public goods. Another new way of funding is the one to young farmers (under 40 years of age) in order to encourage a new generation of farmers (Direct payments schemes, 2015).

Why does the funding exist?

From the European Union point of view, the organic funding can be economically justified in several different cases.

- Earlier government interventions that have had a negative effect on the market need to be corrected.
- Imperfect competition can lead to significant market failure.
- Lack of information and transparency prevent important market functions.
- Market failure due to provision of public goods.

The first policy by the European Union was intended to correct previous government funding that had lead to over-production. Therefore, lower productivity was seen as a positive advantage and a way to affect the surplus.

The most obvious explanation for the state intervention has been targeted to the market failure due to the provision of public goods. All the member states support organic farming in some way because it is seen as an act that contributes to sustainable development as a way to preserve the natural environment and to protect and improve natural resources (Stolze & Lampkin, 2009).

EU funding problems

The MacSherry reform has been subject to some criticism regarding the funding to farmers. Since the payments were made to compensate the farmers for income losses in order to meet the world-prices, big productive farms got large payments and small farms got small payments (Baldwin & Wyplosz, 2006). Except for the unequal treatment of these farmers, the most productive farming is often industrial farming which involves chemical and energy usage that are not associated with sustainable development (Baldwin & Wyplosz, 2009).

Another problem has been highlighted by the non-governmental organization called Compassion in World Farming. According to them the CAP has encouraged the industrialization of agricultural, giving rise to factory farming practices and widespread animal suffering. Because of the CAP, animals have been deprived their right to free grazing and been put into buildings that are overcrowded and animals that are alive have been transported over greater distances when they are taken to be slaughtered (Baldwin & Wyplosz, 2006).

From an organic farming perspective, this seems rather contra productive. The CAP provides subsidies that have a negative effect on the environment and animal welfare, while at the same time they are supporting organic farming in order to counter these problems.

Potential future problems

As mentioned earlier in this paper, there is a growing demand for organic products within the European Union. But according to several critics, this positive trend can soon come to an end. The production of organic products is associated with higher costs than conventional agriculture, which results in a

much lower yield mainly due to that chemical pesticides and fertilizers are not allowed in organic production. The difference has been proved to be larger in crop production than in livestock production. The reason for this concern among critics is that the European Commission presented several legislative proposals for new regulation concerning organic farming in March of 2014. These proposals are expected to take effect in 2017 and will contain stricter rules for both the production and the imports of organic products. This will have a negative affect on the agriculture because it can make it difficult for conventional farmers to shift their production to be organic. Critics in Germany claim that the sector has been growing far more slowly than expected and that there is now a greater demand than there is supply (Sagener, 2015; Rosenqvist, 2003). As a result, these new rules could support this negative development with even greater absence of organic products, while at the same time there is an expected increase in demand (Jonsson & Brynell, 2014).

The growing demand is actually one of the reasons for the new regulations. There is an assumption that there is a decreasing confidence in organic products among the consumers. Stricter regulation is therefore a way to guarantee the label of quality for all the new consumers as part of making them confident about the products they are buying. The commission wants to prohibit farming business pursuing both organic farming and conventional farming, banning dehorning of cattle and the use of conventional seeds when there is a lack of organic seeds and introduction of thresholds for prohibited substances in organic products. Because of this, the French member of the European Parliament, José Bové, stresses the importance of understanding how difficult it is to produce organic food. Regulation should make it easier for the organic farmers, not implement new restrictions that will increase the cost of the production. He refers to the case where conventional farmers are polluting the organic plots that are situated nearby. The extra costs of testing that this implies should therefore be borne by the responsible farmers (Thomas, 2014; Jonsson & Brynell, 2014).

According to Jonsson and Brynell (2014), farmers in Sweden have the knowledge to handle methods for both organic and conventional productions. They have to combine the two products in order to meet the market demand. To convert the whole production into the organic requirements will increase the risk and make it even more difficult to convert than it is today. At the same time, banning dehorning of cattle will probably increase the injury of both farmers and other animals, which in itself is not a way to reach sustainable development and increase the living standards. The problem is that the incentive to invest will probably decrease when the conditions concerning the production is so uncertain.

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Individual task: Enlargement policy of European Union

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Map 1: Successive enlargements, 2014

Map 2: Countries that give most to the EU budget, 2013

Map 3: Existing Schengen States and Schengen non EU states

1. Introduction

Since the foundation of European Union in 1958, the EU has been regularly welcoming new members in expectation of bringing vibrating economies to create a greater and much powerful union, economically, politically and militarily. After eight major enlargement processes, there are in total 28 member states inside EU compared with the original 6. Beyond all doubt, the union is creating a different Europe, an entity much stronger than separated states in combating with United States and other powerful economies in this brand new era. Europe is never intensely allied like this in its long history. However, this union is not that stable as it appears, conflicts have existed since the day it was born. The diversification of language, culture, economic status, geographic location and even their attitude towards external affairs are the main reasons for the conflicts. Currently, the focal points of the enlargement include the necessity of keep enlarging since the union is already big enough, and the pro and con of the joining of the new members. As we are familiar with, the countries in the waiting list are both culturally and geographically distant from the heart of the Europe, will they bring opportunities or challenges is still unknown to the union. Not just economical issues, but also religious and ideological issues. And the original EU members are mostly capitalized and developed countries; they share some quite identical developing processes while some newcomers used to be under the influence of Russian pattern. Will they successfully adopt the EU pattern of development we have no clue yet. At the same time, a quite opposite phenomenon emerges as counteract to the enlargement. There are countries that want get in while some other countries are debating on getting out. As the cost of joining a union, each member country has to sacrifice some of their central power in legislation or in the scheme of development. Sometimes it means a stronger resistance to the external crisis, but occasionally it also signifies a weaker and passive position in self-adjustment in crisis times.

2. The explanation of the enlargement policy

2.1 General Terms

The approval procedures are comprehensive and complicated, and it differs largely when applied to each member state depending on its current situation. However, there are general policies and conditions that can be used in every case and they are not negotiable.

General terms to demonstrate that they are capable of playing their parts as member states¹:

- Complying with all the EU's standards and rules
- Having the consent of the EU institutions and EU member states
- Having the consent of their citizens – as expressed through approval in their national parliament or by referendum.

We need to note that, the terms appear in a very simple and understandable way but it can prove to be extremely difficult when put into practice. Take the example of Turkey case, recently inside Germany, who is the biggest receiver of Turkish immigrants and labors, emerges many demonstrations against this trend of immigration. Meanwhile inside Turkey, the willingness of joining in EU is also unclear. According to Transatlantic Trends' report from 2014, for the first time in five year, more than fifty percent of Turks believe that it would be a good thing to join EU, an increase of seven percent compared with in 2013 (Net.1). At the same time in Britain, the debate over whether they should stay in EU or withdraw from it is really a hot topic. Compared with the benefits it brings to the free flow of trade and labor, more social problems related to immigration and job market are also irritating the British citizens. The drawbacks in economic development can be made up by correspondent policies and the help of other countries, for example, there are many

financial supports from EU for countries in the waiting lists to help improve their economic conditions to meet the requirements of EU, but the consent of all member states can be really demanding.

2.2 Copenhagen Criteria and enlargement procedure

Theoretically, according to the Treaty of European Union states, any European Countries that respects the demographic values of EU and are promoting them inside their country has the right to apply to be EU member state, the first step is to meet the criteria for accession which are defined and specified at the European Council in Copenhagen in 1993, namely Copenhagen Criteria²:

- Stable institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, human rights and respect for and protection of minorities;
- A functioning market economy and the capacity to cope with competition and market forces in the EU
- The ability to take on and implement effectively the obligations of membership, including adherence to the aims of political, economic and monetary union.

The steps towards joining can be concluded into three steps, the application of a membership, the accession negotiations and lastly the admission. However, the formal procedure can be really comprehensive and complicated, and nearly every step involves in the unanimous agreement of all 28 countries and the candidate itself. During the accession negotiations, the Commission initiates a Screening process in order to have a complete assessment of the candidate country, of each policy field, to examine the current status of the candidate and then decides to put it in the correspondent position in the waiting list. This negotiation process differs for different countries for they are currently at distinct position of preparation.

During this process, they have to adopt massive EU treaties, laws and regulations,

which consist of 144,000 pages of rules and regulations, within 35 chapters, known as the *acquis communautaire*. Furthermore, there are also some additional terms for the western Balkans, like stabilizing the countries politically and encouraging their swift transition to a market economy, promoting regional cooperation. Take the example of the newest EU member Croatia; it first concluded a Stabilization and Association Agreement known as SAA with EU. (Archick, Morelli, 2014:6)

During the whole process of admission, we should pay attention to three points:

First, the adoption of current EU laws and regulations, the purpose of EU commission is to reduce the differences in political, economical and even ideological areas between candidates and other EU members, and also serves for testing whether this candidate can adopt itself well in EU system, like a pre-test before entrance. There are many successful examples of amazing development of new members during this integration process, and their advancement in minority rights, in economical developments are quite impressive. However, caution is still needed, as the process proceeds, some of the value, culture, religion issues are not so easily transformed as in the economic areas. Either it takes years to accomplish this goal or it arouses serious unexpected yet reasonable conflicts against this integration.

Secondly, the unanimous agreement of both 28 EU members and the candidate itself is needed. The impeding forces come not only from other countries, sometimes it also comes from inside the country. In Iceland case, despite that they have long and actively participated in EU's economic and political activities, there exist divisions of opinions in different parties. The accession negotiations were put on hold in May, 2013 when a new government took over.

Thirdly, additional terms are required for the western Balkan countries. Unlike relatively peaceful western and northern Europe, the shadow of war and conflicts still linger around western Balkan countries, for example, the unsettled Kosovo problem. In that case, special requirements for stabilization are among those principal issues in

this area.

^{1,2}European Council Conclusions, Copenhagen, Denmark, June 1993.

3. Enlargement history and current situation

3.1 Enlargement history

Since European Union was established in 1957, it has gone through eight major enlargements and expanded from the original six countries to twenty eight for now. We can have a look at the map of successive enlargement below:

Map 1

Successive enlargements



Source: European Commission

The original six countries are France, West Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg, almost all located in the central-western part of Europe. These six countries also belong to the traditional industrialized and developed countries; their alliance was quite natural because at that post-war period, the only way to unite and to develop this area without provoking any conflicts was to form a union. Initially it was only economical union and later entered into political and military union. The Second World War almost shattered the Europe into pieces and left it a very passive position between the United States and Communist countries led by the Soviet Union. In this sense, the formation of the union is inevitable.

Later in 1973 joined the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark, however worth noticing that, the UK and Denmark still haven't joined in Euro Zone, and apparently they also have no intention to do so. In that case, unlike the original six countries, their integration degree in EU is relatively lower and more financially independent.

Greece was officially accepted as a member in 1981 and the only one in that year. However, even though it joined in the EU as early as 1981, Greece now is among those most troublesome countries inside the EU and euro zone. Due to the impact of financial crisis, it almost has the worst economic expectation and a very high unemployment rate. To some degree, the Mediterranean countries share the most wonderful climates and gastronomy for living; as a consequence, it is not so motivating for the people who want to work hard. As one of the major receiver of financial funds to overcome the crisis, Greece is always complained by the German people who think that they work diligently to pay the tax to help Greek people, while they are using this money to enjoy life and vacation.

In 1986 Spain and Portugal together integrated in the EU, and in 1995, almost ten years later, joined Sweden, Finland and Austria. 2004 was an important year for the enlargement of the EU, in total ten countries became new EU members, and also since then, the diversification of economic development among EU member countries

was ever notable, at the same time, many countries were originally communist countries. EU spent many years to help them adopt EU legislations and regulations; to some degree it really helped them in their economic development to shorten the distance with other member countries. That year joined Poland, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Slovakia and Slovenia. After 2004, EU slowed down a little bit its enlargement pace and only accepted Rumania and Bulgaria in 2007 and Croatia in 2013.

The enlargement goes in a radical way, from the Central-Western Europe to its borders and gradually made the free flow of goods, intelligence, labors and everything possible. Maybe there are people who are repulsive towards these enlargements, but the fact is everyone inside in the union is literally enjoying the convenience it brings to the old yet brand new European continent.

3.2 Current status and candidate countries

The current candidate countries are Iceland, Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey and Albania. Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo (under UN Security Resolution 1244) have the status of potential candidates. For Bosnia and Herzegovina and other Western Balkan countries, they were identified as potential EU members in 2003 and after that, a series of agreements came into force. Most recently, the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA) has been ratified and enters into force on 1 June 2015. Compared with the former members, the road to EU for Western Balkan countries is quite long and complicated, but yet it is still ongoing. (Net 2) Montenegro only declared its independence in 2006 and it applied for the membership in 2008, currently the negotiation goes into the external relations part. (Net 3) Serbia was granted candidate status in 2012 and most recently in 2014, its accession negotiations formally started. (Net 4) In 2014, Albania officially got its candidate status (Net 5) and for the Former

Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, its candidate status was granted back to 2005(Net 6), but later it has some dispute with Greece concerning its official name, so the negotiation process was delayed. Among all these candidate countries, Iceland has the biggest potential to be a new member since its official application in 2009, however, the bankruptcy crisis and the election of a new government made this process unlimitedly postponed, right now, since 2013, its accession negotiation was put on hold. (Net 7) Lastly, Turkey applied for the membership long back to 1987 when EU was not officially formed and was then called the European Economic Community. (Net 8) Further its attempt to integrate into the union even dated back to 1959. The accession negotiations started in 2005, but there was a premise, Turkey had to accept the Ankara Protocol before eight negotiation chapters were opened. Currently, some negotiations like food safety are opened, but since Turkey had refused the Ankara Protocol in 2006, the process could be really endless. (Archick, Morelli, 2014:10)

4. Turkey case

The Turkey-EU relationship has long being complicated and unpredictable; the key obstacles of Turkey joining in EU are its political system, human rights record, economy and large Muslim population. However, I think its way to the union is still positive, at least both sides are sparing their effort. For Turkey, it has being putting its effort in adopting EU regulations for many years, for example, it abandoned death penalty. At the same time, EU annually gives Turkey \$1 billion in order to help it meet EU standards and implement political and economic reforms. On the other hand, their economic tie every time gets tighter, Turkey is gradually becoming one Europe's main foreign direct investment center, and its strong and growing domestic demanding also provides a huge market for Europe. However, Turkey is big country and also it's a big economy, the reforms meet resistances from both inside and outside the country all the time, in that case, the negotiation process still goes on

without knowing the exact date of admission even though Turkey required so many times before.

4.1 Cyprus problems

Turkey's lack of legal recognition towards the Republic of Cyprus is one of the reasons why EU refuses to accept it as a member. Cyprus is divided into two parts, the northern part is controlled and dwells Turkish Cypriots, while the southern part dwells Greek Cypriots. The southern part was officially accepted as EU member since 2004 and it is also UN member, while the northern part's authority is only recognized by Turkey. The problem is, until now, Turkish government still refuse to recognize the southern part authority, and the official enlargements we mentioned before, any enlargement requires the unanimous recognition of all EU members. Consequently, even though several accession negotiations have been opened between EU and Turkey, the Cyprus-related issues basically have no progress.

4.2 Muslim population

Even though Turkey is unlike those Islamic countries in the middle-east, it is a secular republic country; it still has a big portion of Muslim population, around 98% percent. According to the figure of Muslim populations in EU in 2014, there are overall 56.19 million Muslims live in the European countries outside Turkey. And in EU members, France has the biggest figure of more than 6.13 million and in Germany there are more than 4 million. (Net 9) It is unfair to directly link Muslim population with social unrest and terrorism, because in the world we still have peaceful Muslim countries like Malaysia, and it is ridiculous to conclude that all Muslims are bad people. However, EU members do have their concern, for example there surges demonstrations against Turkish migrations recently from the fertility rate figure we can tell that the immigrants contribute a lot to Germany's population growth. Once

Turkey joins into EU, it would mean the free flow of a large portion of population seeking for better education, work opportunities and better life, however, some EU member states are concerning about whether they are capable of accepting such a big amount of people. Recent years, the surging Islamic States is quite a big headache for western countries and it is active in Turkey border areas. For the EU members, they do not want risk the danger of letting terrorism sneaking inside EU.

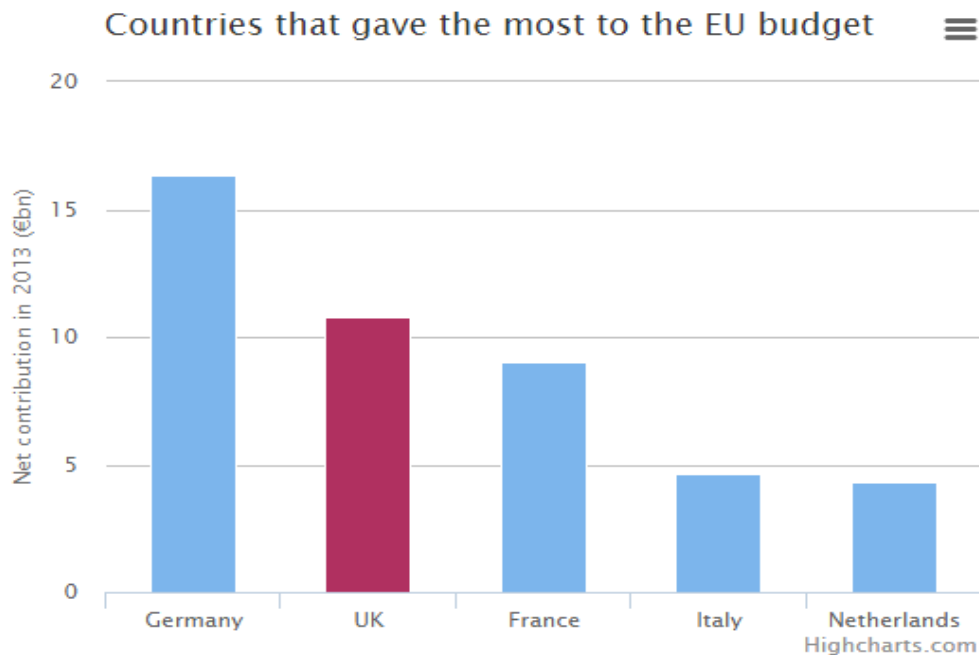
In recent years, many Turkish people are actually losing their confidence and interest in joining in EU as well. So generally speaking, even though hope remains for Turkey to become EU member, it still has a quite long and unknown way to go to meet all the requirements and settle its economic and political issues.

5. British case

Many countries are applying for a position in the EU, but at the same time, not everyone wants to stay inside the union, and they are even concerning about the withdrawal from EU. The most prominent case is the United Kingdom. The UK was one of EU's earliest member states; however, it is also a unique one. For example, the UK refused to join euro zone as other countries like Germany, France, Italy and Spain do, they choose to remain their own monetary system and it proved to be a good strategy when the 2008 economic crisis hit the European continent. Moreover, the UK stays out of Schengen Area where abolishes internal borders and enables total free passport movement. The convenience it brings to the integration of European economy is unimaginable, however, along with the outburst of "Arab Spring", many African migrants poured into Italy and France, and once France even shut its borders to trains that carry African migrants.(Net 10) It is quite difficult to judge whether should or should not Europe receive migrants from Africa or other middle-east countries especially in the humanitarian sense, but the reality is also cruel that many European cities are becoming less secure than before, to be honest, I think if we only compare big European cities and Chinese cities, I would say for sure China is a lot

safer than cities like Paris. The migration problem is partially explains why the UK refuses to join in Schengen Agreement. Another support the withdrawal of the UK from the EU is that, UK makes more payment to the EU than it gets back, for example in 2013, it pays €10bn more into the EU. Once the UK leaves EU, this imbalance in payment will no longer exist. (Net 11)

Map 2



Map 3



Source: BBC.com

6. Conclusion

Even though the EU now faces great challenges, it is the rhyme that accompanies the EU since the day it was born. Yet nobody can deny the opportunities and changes the EU brings to this old but passionate land. It also helped EU recover from the damage caused by Second World War and to some degree prevents the probability of future European war. So, in that case, with no doubt, the process of enlargement will further on yet the speed of integration will also gradually slow down because the candidate countries are having more complex internal and external issues that need to be dealt with.

The enlargement policy needs further polishing as well, for they have already encountered intractable issues that the current policies are not able to cope with. And it is updating actually, just like the additional terms for the western Balkan countries. And at the same time, the coordination with the euro zone and Schengen area is also significant. Examples like Norway and Switzerland, they are not EU member countries nor in the euro zone but they are inside the Schengen area, and It proves that they still have a close economic relationship with EU and function well.

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Analysis of the EU Energy Policy with a special focus on Renewable Energies



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2 Introduction

In this paper we are going to discuss a topic of significant importance, not only for Europe, but for the whole world. It is increasingly important especially in the last years. The topic we are going to talk about is energy. In a world of a growing energy demand, a need for energy security and at the same time environmental friendliness, it is very important for the European Union, to have a future oriented, ambitious, but very clear energy policy.

In the first part of the paper we are going to look at the development of the EU energy policy from its beginnings in 1951 with the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community, going through several modifications until the signing of the Lisbon treaty in 2007.

The second part of the paper discusses in more depth the matter of renewable energy sources, why we actually need them, what is their influence on the environment and energy security, the history of their introduction into EU energy policy and what is their status inside the before mentioned policies today.

At the end we will see some conclusions, which can be derived from the discussed topic and relate them to some possible future outlooks regarding EU's energy policy and RES being part of it.

3 The history of the EU energy policy and its development

To gain a better understanding of the Energy Policy the EU is implementing and carrying out today, we need to go back to its very beginnings. We are going to take a look at two main periods in the history of the EU energy policy development.

These periods are:

1. The early beginnings and first intents of introducing energy matters in policies (began in 1951 with the beginning of European integration and lasted until 1987, with the first international oil crisis in 1973 as a turning point);
2. The introduction and implementations of the first independent energy policies (began in 1988 and lasted until 2007, with the signing of the Maastricht Treaty in 1992 as a turning point).

The time after 2007 is going to be explained in the second part, where we are going to take an even closer look at renewable energy as part of the EU energy policy.

3.1 From the early beginnings in 1951 until the Single European Act in 1987

After World War II the western European States did not find having a common energy policy was an important matter at all, so there were no big attempts to create an independent energy policy in the during the period 1951-1973.

The European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) established in 1951 was basically just aimed at linking French and German key economic sectors in so to avoid potential armed conflict between the two countries. Coal had been satisfying most of the energy needs of that times and while energy sources such as oil and natural gas did not play an important role in the global economy yet.

In 1957 six European countries signed the Treaty of Rome and with that established the European Economic Community (EEC Treaty) and the Treaty with which the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) was established. For the following more than 20 years the interest of the member states in energy regulation was limited to the aims and reach of the ECSC and the EURATOM. The EEC did not directly include any

energy related topics in the text of its treaty. Just occasionally they tried to regulate certain specific issues.

The oil crisis of 1973 brought an end to the careless oil consumption in most western countries. The Council of the European Communities therefore decided to establish a Special Energy Committee. Its task was to prepare draft documents on energy policy and to monitor its implementation in the member states. After that in 1974 the European Commission presented a communication named “Towards a new energy policy strategy” for the Community and so the Council adopted a new energy policy strategy for the Community. At that time renewable energy sources (RES) did not play any significant role in the EEC’s policy.

Only in the 1980s some member states had started to recognize renewable energy sources as a real alternative to conventional (non-renewable) energy sources. Not even the 1973 oil crisis had led to changes in renewable energy development at the European Communities level. At that time energy concerns as electricity, gas and oil were still exclusively national issues.

Even though we can say, that the oil crisis actually gave the member states the right push to continue programs indirectly contributing to the evolution of RES. However a common European policy at that time did not exist, some member states, with the purpose to secure their own supplies, had been forced to look for non-conventional energy sources. Regarding to that turning their individual energy policies to a great extent in the direction of their own coal and gas supplies as well as to nuclear energy development. Some member states, however, to much lower extent, began to emphasise national development programs leaning on the use of renewable energy and investing in their research and development. The first to focus on wind energy were Germany and Denmark - they developed the first wind energy programs in the middle of the 1970s, but it took another two decades for RES to become a priority in the EU.

3.2 From the Single European Act in 1987 until the Treaty of Lisbon in 2007

After the adoption of the Single European Act (SEA) a stronger, even though still indirect, legal base for European energy policy was created. The SEA established the objective to complete the creation of the internal market by 1992. After that the

Commission began using internal market provisions as a legal basis for legislative initiatives in the gas and electricity sectors. Another important change brought by the SEA was the introduction of particular environmental objectives into EU law. In line with this, Article 130r stipulated a prudent and rational utilization of natural resources. This objective has proved to be of immense importance for the adoption of energy efficiency and other energy-related legislation and programs inside the EU.

The second half of the 1980s brought significant changes to the field of renewable energy. In 1986 a resolution was adopted by the Council, in which renewable energy for the first time was announced among policy objectives. The objective that the use of new and renewable energy sources should be substantially increased and so make a more significant contribution to the total energy balance. Concerns of the member states were still to a great extent related to issues regarding energy security.

In 1988 the Council also adopted a recommendation on developing the exploitation of renewable energy sources in the Community, which underlined the need for changes in policy and legislation in the field of energy. But on the other hand in the 1980's the development of energy policy in the EU still did not state renewable energy sources as an independent subject.

The Maastricht Treaty signed in 1992 extended the area of Community action on energy and introduced a new title: "Trans-European Networks". Besides that the treaty enhanced the legal basis for the environmental protection by adding the integration principle into the general provisions.

The White Paper on Energy Policy (1995) introduced three new long term objectives of the EU's energy policy:

- 1) environmental friendly use of energy,
- 2) security of energy supply, and
- 3) improved competitiveness

The paper confirmed, that the legislation in the field of energy was not extensive and partially outdated and recognized considerable gaps in the Community's instruments.

In the first decade of the 21st century new concerns about sustainability and climate change pushed the member states to revise and reconsider their energy policies in

order to create something called greener solutions. Some countries introduced feed-in tariffs long before the adoption of the framework RES directive.

The Altener multiannual programme for the promotion of renewable energy sources was introduced in the Community in 1993, with the objective of reducing carbon emissions through the promotion of renewable energy. It aimed to double the share of renewable energy used from 4% in 1991 to 8% in 2005, triple the production of electricity generated by renewable energy sources and increase the share of biofuels to 5% of vehicle fuel consumption. Besides that it also introduced some targets, but could not be referred as a general policy on RES.

Four years later the 1997 White Paper “Energy for the future: Renewable Sources of Energy” is actually being considered as the birth of the Union’s RES policy. It was the first comprehensive framework initiative for RES policy in the EU. However, the strategy had an important disadvantage - it did not contain any legal or regulatory provisions, but just included an indicative target. The strategy and action plan were directed towards the goal of achieving a 12% penetration of renewable in the Union by 2010, which was an ambitious, but realistic target.

At the beginning of the new millennium also significant changes in the EU’s legislative framework for renewable energy sources started. A directive on the promotion of electricity produced from renewable energy sources in the internal energy market was accepted in 2001. This directive provided indicative targets to be achieved by the year 2010 and proposed several principles for national support systems. In 2003 the framework was supplemented with a Directive on the promotion of the use of biofuels or other renewable fuels in transportation.

4 Renewable energy in the EU

4.1 Why a shift towards renewable energy sources is needed?

According to Zillman, Redgwell, Moore and Barrera-Hernandez, there are at least five reasons why the shift towards alternative energy sources was is and will be needed:

1. Climate change,
2. Security of supply,
3. Increasing demand for energy,
4. Investments needed for maintenance,
5. The needs of the undeveloped world.

Out of these five reasons two (environmental sustainability, which includes climate change and energy security) are among the three European long term objectives in the field of energy.

The other three reasons include a substantial increase in global energy demand, due to the higher needs of not only Europe, but even more importantly the emerging economies such as China and India. In addition to that an even bigger problem may be the huge investments required for the maintenance of existing energy supply facilities in all sectors and for meeting new demands.

And finally we know, that one-third of the world's population lacks access to modern energy services and a lack of energy supply is a serious barrier in development. Therefore alternatives must be introduced to satisfy the energy needs of all regions of the world.

4.2 The role of renewable energy sources in climate change and energy security

As a matter of fact the EU energy security and climate change policies in the 20th century were going against each other being almost mutually exclusive. In 2007 the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) linked temperature increases with the growing level of global greenhouse gas emissions.

Since 80% of Europe's emissions are related to the energy sector, a significant change in this field had to be achieved to stabilize global warming. This requires developed countries to reduce their emissions by 25–40 % by 2020 and 80–95 % by 2050 in comparison to 1990 levels.

All these factors have forced the EU to concentrate on creating a policy that promotes energy efficiency and develops renewable energy sources and clean technologies, which will reduce the overall greenhouse gas emissions.

The Climate and Energy Package, which has been adopted in 2009 is the foundation of a strategy, which objective is the fighting against climate change and a change in the European energy mix. By setting a binding target of 20% use of RES in the EU energy mix until 2020, the Union is trying to raise its share of domestic energy production without increasing greenhouse gas emissions and at the same time reducing the EU's energy import dependence in the long run.

We also have to admit, that the promotion of renewable sources is not the only alternative to heavy fuels, which the EU has in mind. The Union is also expanding its energy efficiency policies (part of the same package) and developing innovative technologies such as carbon capture and storage (CCS) to improve its chances in the battle against the high fossil fuel dependency. Even though not being well accepted in some countries, nuclear energy also remains an important alternative all around Europe.

4.3 Introduction of RES into the EU energy policy

Attempts to develop renewable energy had been undertaken by individual member states as a response to the oil crisis already in the 1980's. These first attempts did not have anything connection with minimizing the negative effects of the energy sector on the environment, because they were only focused on ensuring energy security.

The first serious and ambitious attempts to introduce renewable energy sources into the Union's energy policy began in 1997 with the first White Paper on RES, which was later followed by two important Directives in 2001 and 2003, and finally by the Climate and Energy Package that included the 2009 RES Directive.

The EU's energy policy is described in a number of both long and short-term strategies. By creating a future oriented policy the EU is preparing the ground to face the global challenges of the 21st century, such as climate change and the quickly rising energy demand.

According to the European Commission the EU has the powers and instruments needed to implement an energy policy geared towards:

- securing Europe's energy supplies,
- ensuring that energy prices do not make Europe less competitive,
- protecting the environment and in particular combating climate change,
- improving energy grids.

Energy policy goals being included also in the Lisbon Treaty is showing a wish for further advancement towards policy coherence. Despite that the EU energy policy is still far away from being a common policy. For now it is a coordinated action of the EU and of its member states, that is defining the Union's energy policy, and its governance essentially relies on the cooperation between all parties.

Within the EU policy renewable energy resources occupy a very special place. The Commission has states, that the EU is highly driven towards the establishment of a common framework that promotes the use of renewable energies by various factors:

- can mostly be produced within member states,
- do not rely on projections about future fuel availability levels,
- as they are decentralized by nature, they are less of a threat to society.

According to Bechberger, the promotion of renewable energy sources is the only right strategic option for a rapid reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the energy import dependency of the EU. Taking this into consideration we can assume that renewable energy is able to avoid much of the costs, which in total would be much higher than the financial support, which is needed for its massive deployment.

4.4 The Renewable Energy Road Map

In relation to renewable energy sources in 2007 a new strategy was presented. The Renewable Energy Road Map introduced the renewable energy sector as the only energy sector has the ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and pollution, will

manage to exploit local and decentralized energy sources, and could stimulate world-class high-tech industries.

The Road Map established key points that were included in the later RES directives, explained that all previous intents and legislation were completely insufficient at meeting targets and causing major change towards a greener Europe.

To improve the previous efforts it proposed a 20% mandatory target by 2020 for the renewable energy share of the EU's energy use, explained why it was necessary, and established a way for common inclusion of renewable energies into the EU energy policies and markets.

It is based on some key principles for the development of renewable energy sources such as:

- long term mandatory targets and stability of the policy framework,
- flexibility in target setting across sectors,
- comprehensiveness,
- efforts to remove barriers to renewable energy use,
- considering environmental and social aspects.

Besides the sustainability of biofuels a reference to the protection of the environment is made only in terms of positive air quality - a benefit that comes by replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy sources.

4.5 The Climate and Energy Package

The Communication 20 20 by 2020: Europe's Climate Opportunity, which was introduced in 2008, proposed a set of mutually supportive measures to in order to turn political plans and ideas into action.

The document introduced a strategy, which 2020 target for the EU member states is to achieve the following situation:

1. Combined greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by a minimum of 20%;
2. Renewable energy share is increased to 20% of total energy used;
3. Energy efficiency is increased by 20%.

After going through intense intergovernmental negotiations, the Climate and Energy Package became EU law in June 2009.

The main elements of the package were published in the OJ L 140, 5.6.2009 and include:

- The Renewables (RES) Directive;
- The EU Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) Directive;
- The Fuel Specification Directive;
- The Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Directive;
- The Passenger Car Regulation;
- The Effort-sharing decision.

The package made renewable energy sources the center of attention, thereby calling the 21st Century the new era for renewable energy. The Package managed to introduce climate change considerations into a wide range of sectors, which was very important taking into account the many kinds of activities and actors who have to cooperate in order to effectively diminish negative climate effects.

About the issue of environmental integration Kulovesi, Morgera and Munoz argued that the fact the EU decided to adopt the package of legislative measures that jointly address climate change and energy clearly shows the intention of adopting a comprehensive and highly integrated approach. The package in many aspects includes innovative legal measures that support the mainstreaming of climate change and besides that also the environmental sustainability of proposed climate change measures.

Because of the before mentioned reasons the implementation of ambitious goals should lead to positive results. Adopting the package, especially in such a difficult economy, can indeed be seen as a great success for the EU.

The above mentioned authors made an analysis of the environmental impact of the package and came to the conclusion that it represents an innovative and comprehensive approach, focused on the integration of climate change considerations into various economic sectors and activities within the European Union and its member states and also ensuring the compatibility of climate change mitigation with other environmental objectives.

4.6 Towards a new greener Europe

The Climate and Energy Package and the solution that are adopted with it are essential for the further introduction and development of renewable energy sources in the EU. Despite having achieved its adoption, the EU does not stand still and continuously prepares and adopts new strategies and forecasts created to improve actions regarding the development of RES..

One such document is a Communication from 2012: “Renewable Energy: a major player in the European energy market”. It aims to explain the amalgamation into the single market of renewable energy. It also provides an amount of guidance on the current framework until 2020 and sets out the potential options for policy reaching further to the future, than just 2020, to guarantee the continuity and stability needed, to assure the expansion of European renewable energy production towards the year 2030 and beyond.

The European Commission underlines the importance of renewables once again in the energy policy of the EU and promises to conduct more research, as well as to publish more reports and evaluations of the current solutions, especially on sustainability of biomass, which is a hot topic in the last years. When comparing it with the Road Map and the Energy 2020 strategy it is hard to find any new ideas for potential solutions in this document.

Another document relating to the energy policy that has recently been introduced by the European Commission is “The Green Paper 2030 framework for climate and energy policies”. It discusses the progress that has been made on the way of achieving the 2020 targets and presents some key issues that should be consulted in order to assure a future development of the strategy.

These key issues include:

- a. Coherence of policy instruments,
- b. fostering the competitiveness of the EU economy, and
- c. acknowledging the differing capacity of Member States.

Environmental issues were not included in the document. It focused mainly on economic development and the limits of member states.

5 Conclusions

In this paper we got more familiar with the EU Energy policy - its development since the very beginnings in 1951, when nobody thought about energy as an independent issue, until the first decade of the 21st century, when it seems to be one of the most important issues, not only for the EU, but for the whole world.

We also introduced the importance of renewable energy sources inside the EU energy policy. It seems that in the long run, the EU foresees a significant jump towards the development of RES and sets renewables as the main supplier of electricity in the EU.

A number of important documents in the EU consider renewable energy sources to be a key element in the development of EU energy policy - for example: the Energy 2020 strategy and the Energy Roadmap 2050, which focus only on the development of RES.

To conclude we can say that the EU is now equipped with policies, which do not only allow, but even prefer the development of renewable energy sources instead of other alternatives.

Finally, the Renewed Sustainable Development Strategy is considered to be a coherent strategy on how the EU will more effectively achieve its long term commitment of meeting the challenges of sustainable development.

In summary we can say, that the analysis of the EU energy policies leads to the conclusion that they are in compliance with the principle of integration, especially when talking about the aim of fighting the climate change.

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Analysis of European economy

European Tourism

Policies and Statistics Analysis

Jianqiao Zhang

2015/5/26

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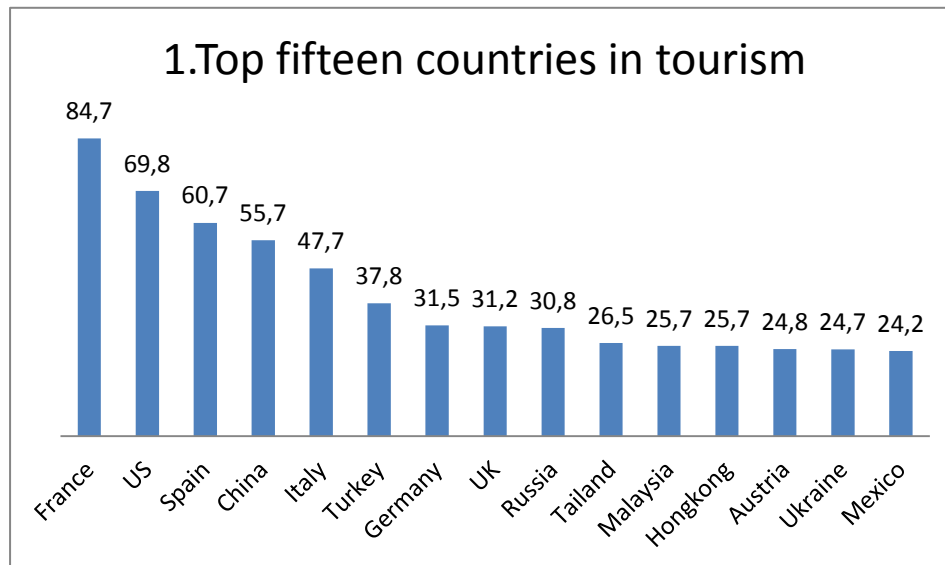
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European tourism

0. Why tourism?



(number of arrivals, millions)

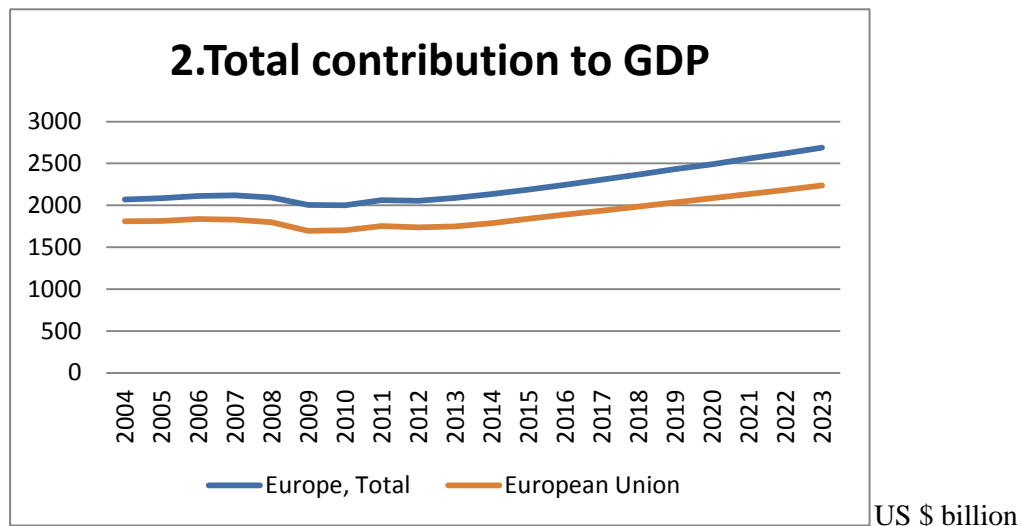
Source: World Bank.

From the graph, we can see there are seven European countries in the top 15 countries in the tourism sector. France, Spain, Italy, Turkey (pending), Germany, UK, Austria.

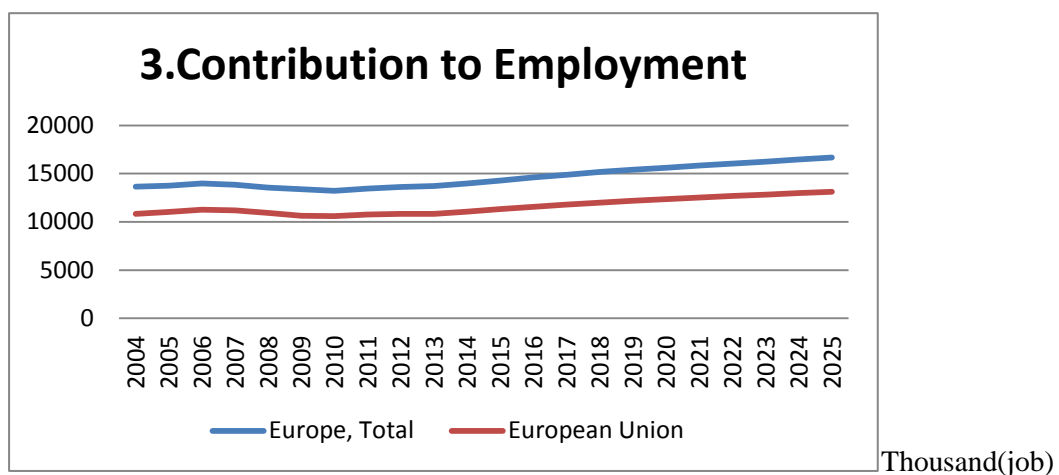
Europe is the number one destination of the world tourists, and as the third largest socio-economic activity of Europe after construction and trade and distribution sectors, tourism has become an important sector of the European economy system, so tourism study is a hot topic to study. This paper is dedicated to study European tourism policy development and analyze statistic related to tourism in recent years. To begin, the importance of tourism should be stated:

Tourism makes great contribution to:

- employment and regional development
- sustainable development
- an enhanced cultural and natural heritage
- shaping of a European identity
- promoting European image



Tourism contributes more than 10% of the total GDP in Europe. (Source: WTTC)



Tourism employs more than 10 million citizens in 1.8m businesses (Source:WTTC)

As tourism plays a significant role in the society and economy, official policies should be employed to maintain the current number one position of European tourism in the world and to maximize its contribution to growth and employment.

1. Tourism policy background

1.1 Early stage and 1980s

Though there was a European Travel Commission set up in 1948, in the early stage of development of European Union, tourism had been developing steadily but without the politics interaction. It was only after countries like Greece, Spain, Portugal joined European Union in the 1980s did tourism draw attention of the politicians, because in these countries, tourism has a large share of the economic

system. After these countries joined EU, Single European Act was signed to integrate the new-join countries and the old members, and made the planning for better future development of EU. In this Single European Act, EU structural fund was one of the main tools to facilitate the development, and many countries used such fund to carry out a series of development programs, in which tourism was included.

1.1.1 First framework making- Treaty of Lisbon

And also, tourism became an issue that received institutional attention, new organization was set up, and series meeting and policies were made to boost the development of tourism. The treaty of Lisbon made a large step in respect with tourism, for in the article 195, the importance of tourism was acknowledged, and the real institutional legal support began to take place. In the article 195, the following was written:

1. The Union shall complement the action of the Member States in the tourism sector, in particular by promoting the competitiveness of Union undertakings in that sector.

To that end, Union action shall be aimed at:

(a) encouraging the creation of a favourable environment for the development of undertakings in this sector;

(b) promoting cooperation between the Member States, particularly by the exchange of good practice.

2. The European Parliament and the Council, acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure, shall establish specific measures to complement actions within the Member States to achieve the objectives referred to in this Article, excluding any harmonisation of the laws and regulations of the Member States.

Though this article just provided a formal basis of tourism development, but not detailed reform, European Commission, Council and other legislation department later responded to the call of the Lisbon Treaty, for the Lisbon Treaty, to some extent, granting the power to European Union on the field of tourism. More clear and complete regulations were made. Just as the 195 article of TFEU (Treaty on the functioning of European Union) laid down: the European Union can:

- a. promote the competitiveness of undertakings in this sector and create an environment conducive to their development;
- b. encourage cooperation between the Member States, particularly through the exchange of good practice;
- c. develop an integrated approach to tourism, ensuring that the sector is taken into account in its other policies.

1.2 Challenges and new framework making

1.2.1 Challenges

So with the treaty of Lisbon came into force, the European framework of tourism management is set, but tourism industry still has to face many problems later on, as many aspects of the society do have impact on it. For example, after the economic crisis of 2008, though people still went travel, but the destination choice, the days it lasts, the spending of the trip would be effected due to the crisis. According to the data, tourist activity fell approximately 5.6% in 2009. And other issues also influence tourism industry, such as environmental issue (climate changes), growing international competition, etc.

1.2.2 Aim of new framework, and the process of making

These all require tourism industry make some structural changes accordingly and fully integrate into tourism policies. Thus, the framework made after the treaty of Lisbon is not enough for the new challenges tourism faces. A new action framework needed to be made. At the beginning, the policy of tourism focus more on how to encourage a prosperous tourism, now the new framework should be and indeed dedicate to how to maintain the prosperity and develop sustainable tourism, which is linked to “the Union's new 'Europe 2020' economic strategy, and in particular the flagship initiative 'An industrial policy for the globalization era'.”

The ambitious aim to develop a competitive, sustainable, modern and socially responsible tourism sector is recognized in the informal meetings then the high level conference. The 2010 conference of tourism was held in Madrid in April. In which the Madrid Declaration was adopted, which “establishes a series of recommendations concerning the implementation of a consolidated European tourism policy, stresses the need to strengthen sustainable competitiveness in the sector and recognizes the added value of action by the EU on tourism, providing a worthwhile complement to action by the Member States through an integrated approach to tourism.” There are four priorities of this declaration:

- a. stimulate competitiveness in the European tourism sector
- b. promote development of sustainable, responsible, high-quality tourism
- c. consolidate Europe's images as a collection of sustainable, high-quality destinations
- d. maximise the potential of EU financial policies for developing tourism.

The Commission has developed a rolling implementation plan, to be updated regularly, outlining major tourism-related initiatives to be implemented in collaboration with national, regional and local public authorities, tourism associations and other public/private tourism stakeholders.

1.2.3 Detailed examples of implementation plan

Different measures regarding different aspects of the goal are included in the implementation plan, for example, in the aspect of competitiveness, the following measures are concerned:

- a. Promoting diversification of the supply of tourist services
- b. Developing innovation in the tourism industry
- c. Improving professional skills
- d. Encouraging an extension of the tourist season
- e. Consolidating the socioeconomic knowledge base for tourism

When comes to the aspect of sustainability: the actions are:

- a. Develop, on the basis of NECSTouR or EDEN, a system of indicators for the sustainable management of destinations. Based on this system, the Commission will develop a label for promoting tourist destinations.
- b. Organise awareness-raising campaigns for European tourists concerning the choice of destinations and means of transport, relationships with the local population in the destinations visited, and combating the exploitation of woman and children.
- c. Develop a European 'Qualité Tourisme' brand, based on existing national experience, to increase consumer security and confidence in tourism products and reward rigorous efforts by tourism professionals whose aim is quality of tourism service for customer satisfaction. (14) Facilitate identification by the European tourism industry of risks linked to climate change in order to avoid loss-making investments, and explore opportunities for developing and supplying alternative tourism services.
- d. Propose a charter for sustainable and responsible tourism and establish a European prize for tourism businesses and destinations respecting the values set out in the charter. (16) Propose a strategy for sustainable coastal and marine tourism.
- e. Establish or strengthen cooperation between the European Union and the main emerging countries (China, Russia, India, Brazil) and Mediterranean countries to promote sustainable and responsible tourism development models and the exchange of best practice.

And there are also other aspects considered in the detailed implementation plan of tourism.

For now, the basic framework is set, and under the framework, there is thousands of policies that consider every small aspect of tourism, such as how the foreigners apply for the visa to come travel in Europe, or how can Europeans citizens travel within Europe or to other countries. Many policies are designed clear to explain such questions. It is hard to list them all, but in the following of this paper, together with the statistic analysis, some major policies that concern travelers would be discussed.

2. Other policies that affect tourism

Other EU policies and programs impacting tourism include:

- a. European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) – supporting more sustainable patterns of tourism to enhance cultural and natural heritage, etc. Environment and transport are also financed by the Cohesion Fund.
- b. European Social Fund (ESF) – co financing projects to enhance productivity and quality of employment and services in the tourism sector through education and training. Targeted training & small start-up premiums for tourism micro-enterprises.
- c. European programmes for life-long learning and Erasmus for young entrepreneurs – enabling people to travel abroad to learn or train, for example in the tourism sector.
- d. European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) – support for improving the quality of agricultural products and the rural environment, and encouraging tourism as a way to diversify the rural economy.
- e. European Fisheries Fund (EFF) – encouraging diversification of fishery dependent areas through alternatives such as eco tourism.
- f. Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme – supporting the competitiveness of EU businesses, especially SMEs.
- g. Research supported under the 7th EU framework programme for research & technological development (ICT, satellite applications, cultural heritage, land use) may help the tourism sector

These policies would not be discussed in detailed in this paper, but we should have a basic idea of them.

3. Tourism activities

Before we analyze the data of European tourism, we should be clear what tourism activities include, though not all of these aspects have detailed data. (Eurostat)

IRTS / TSA:RMF tourism characteristic activities	ISIC Rev.4 ⁽¹⁾	NACE Rev.2 ⁽²⁾	Description (NACE Rev.2)
1. Accommodation for visitors	5510	5510	Hotels and similar accommodation
		5520	Holiday and other short-stay accommodation
	5520	5530	Camping grounds, recreational vehicle parks and trailer parks
	5590	5590	Other accommodation
	6810	6810	Buying and selling of own real estate
		6820	Renting and operating of own or leased real estate
	6820	6831	Real estate agencies
		6832	Management of real estate on a fee or contract basis
2. Food and beverage serving activities	5610	5610	Restaurants and mobile food service activities
	5629	5629	Other food service activities
	5630	5630	Beverage serving activities
3. Railway passenger transport	4911	4910	Passenger rail transport, interurban
4. Road passenger transport	4922	4932	Taxi operation
		4939	Other passenger land transport n.e.c.
5. Water passenger transport	5011	5010	Sea and coastal passenger water transport
	5021	5030	Inland passenger water transport
6. Air passenger transport	5110	5110	Passenger air transport
7. Transport equipment rental	7710	7711	Renting and leasing of cars and light motor vehicles
		7712	Renting and leasing of trucks
8. Travel agencies and other reservation services activities	7911	7911	Travel agency activities
	7912	7912	Tour operator activities
	7990	7990	Other reservation service and related activities
9. Cultural activities	9000	9001	Performing arts
		9002	Support activities to performing arts
		9003	Artistic creation
		9004	Operation of arts facilities
	9102	9102	Museums activities
		9103	Operation of historical sites and buildings and similar visitor attractions
	9103	9104	Botanical and zoological gardens and nature reserves activities
10. Sports and recreational activities	7721	7721	Renting and leasing of recreational and sports goods
	9200	9200	Gambling and betting activities
	9311	9311	Operation of sports facilities
		9313	Fitness facilities
	9321	9321	Activities of amusement parks and theme parks
	9329	9329	Other amusement and recreation activities
11. Retail trade of country-specific tourism characteristic goods	-		
12. Other country-specific tourism characteristic activities	-		

⁽¹⁾ Source: IRTS 2008 – Draft Compilation Guide (November 2010) – unpublished ; Annex 3, p. 130.

⁽²⁾ Source: conversion table ISIC Rev.4 – NACE Rev.2 (<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/cr/registry/regso.asp?Ci=70>)

4. Data analysis and policy explanation.

4.1 The importance of tourism in economy

As I mention in the beginning of this paper, tourism plays a significant role in European economic system, this can be further proved from the data below.

Number of enterprises related with tourism (2013) (Eurostat)

	Total non-financial business economy ⁽¹⁾	of which: Tourism industries ⁽²⁾	Tourism industries, of which:		Tourism industries, of which:					
			Mainly tourism ⁽³⁾	Partially tourism ⁽⁴⁾	Transport related ⁽⁵⁾	Accommodation related ⁽⁶⁾	Food related ⁽⁷⁾	Real estate ⁽⁸⁾	Car and other rental ⁽⁹⁾	Travel agencies and Tour operators ⁽¹⁰⁾
EU-28	21 927 107	3 389 515	329 319	3 060 196	340 455	269 634	1 494 827	1 146 330	46 741	91 525
BE	538 545	84 893	:	:	2 723	3 274	41 971	33 852	1 210	1 862
BG	313 079	:	4 560	:	:	3 472	22 492	17 903	1 060	1 556
CZ	968 121	117 606	11 176	106 430	5 839	9 923	:	45 002	:	6 130
DK	208 237	41 839	1 925	39 914	3 435	1 503	11 335	24 691	365	510
DE	2 073 915	426 330	53 755	372 575	23 844	44 768	168 380	174 515	4 374	10 449
EE	52 180	7 684	865	6 819	380	597	1 343	4 634	400	330
IE	152 693	25 744	2 487	23 257	:	2 136	12 799	8 428	:	463
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	2 500 574	473 932	30 639	443 293	62 067	23 197	:	120 815	3 324	10 798
FR	2 513 679	438 861	40 388	398 474	38 833	36 650	195 552	149 724	12 140	5 962
HR	165 490	29 589	4 234	25 355	2 309	2 631	16 663	5 483	592	1 911
IT	3 867 813	561 319	54 335	506 984	28 864	44 498	247 773	222 083	3 815	14 286
CY	46 354	7 881	950	6 931	1 150	543	4 799	683	187	519
LV	81 319	17 230	1 312	15 919	714	765	2 323	11 868	927	633
LT	114 511	12 517	1 541	10 976	651	1 194	2 791	6 706	453	722
LU	28 345	5 922	412	5 510	188	319	2 489	2 714	109	103
HU	554 886	:	4 288	:	:	3 456	29 087	33 196	1 094	1 927
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	777 869	81 345	10 113	71 232	6 442	7 157	33 047	29 917	1 511	3 271
AT	301 739	68 638	15 634	53 004	5 350	14 934	28 936	17 163	701	1 554
PL	1 480 097	139 018	17 414	121 604	47 415	13 114	33 525	36 140	2 151	6 673
PT	861 135	128 736	7 823	120 913	11 679	6 478	78 473	29 019	724	2 363
RO	447 091	48 429	5 665	42 764	7 591	4 918	19 038	13 586	727	2 569
SI	115 243	12 205	1 455	10 750	1 150	1 011	7 091	2 135	181	637
SK	406 084	29 699	:	:	4 100	2 627	13 572	7 511	781	1 108
FI	224 505	39 323	1 488	37 835	9 562	1 724	9 102	17 081	431	1 423
SE	618 478	90 068	7 402	82 666	9 671	5 176	:	48 979	1 063	3 333
UK	1 649 086	219 659	20 704	198 955	11 299	15 077	107 022	75 289	4 607	6 365
NO	268 022	62 397	3 604	58 793	7 114	2 827	6 873	43 147	663	1 773
CH	135 532	21 143	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Note: Due to unreliable data at country level and rounding, deviations can occur between total and subtotals.

(¹) NACE sections: B-N_S95_X_K - Total business economy; repair of computers, personal and household goods; except financial and insurance activities.

(²) NACE classes: H4910, H4932, H4939, H5010, H5030, H5110, I5510, I5520, I5530, I5590, I5610, I5629, I5630, L6810, L6820, L6831, L6832, N7711, N7712, N7721, N7911, N7912 and N7990.

(³) NACE classes: H5110, I5510, I5520, I5530, N7911 and N7912.

(⁴) NACE classes: H4910, H4932, H4939, H5010, H5030, I5590, I5610, I5629, I5630, L6810, L6820, L6831, L6832, N7711, N7712, N7721 and N7990.

(⁵) NACE classes: H4910, H4932, H4939, H5010, H5030 and H5110.

(⁶) NACE classes: I5510, I5520, I5530 and I5590.

(⁷) NACE classes: I5610, I5629 and I5630.

(⁸) NACE classes: L6810, L6820, L6831 and L6832.

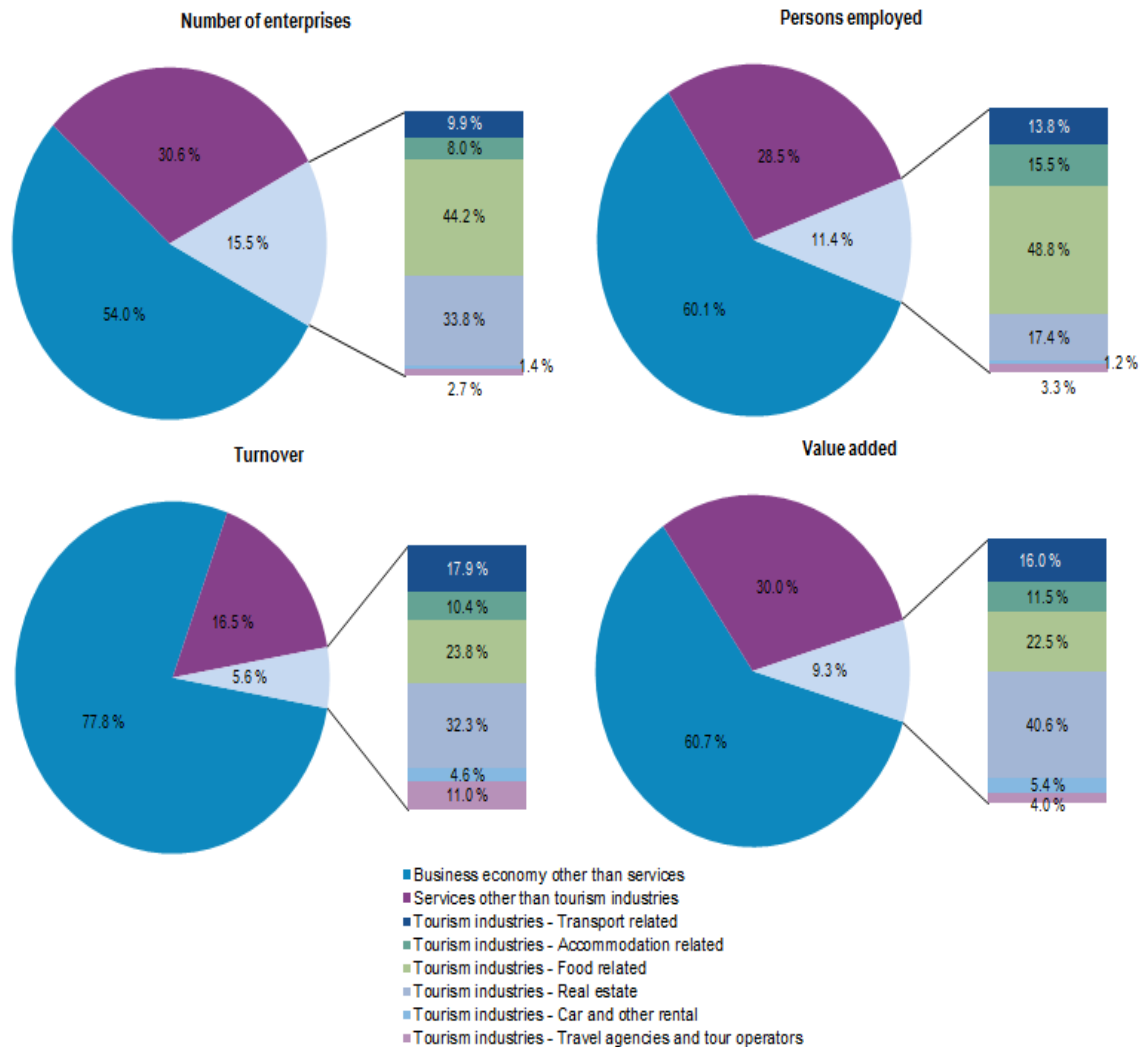
(⁹) NACE classes: N7711, N7712 and N7721.

(¹⁰) NACE classes: N7911, N7912 and N7990.

": Aggregate not available due to one or more unreliable components at NACE 4 digit level.

From the statistic above, we see how the tourism industry is separated into different sectors, in which food related and real estate related sector have the largest number of enterprises in the tourism industry. In this chart, partial tourism means

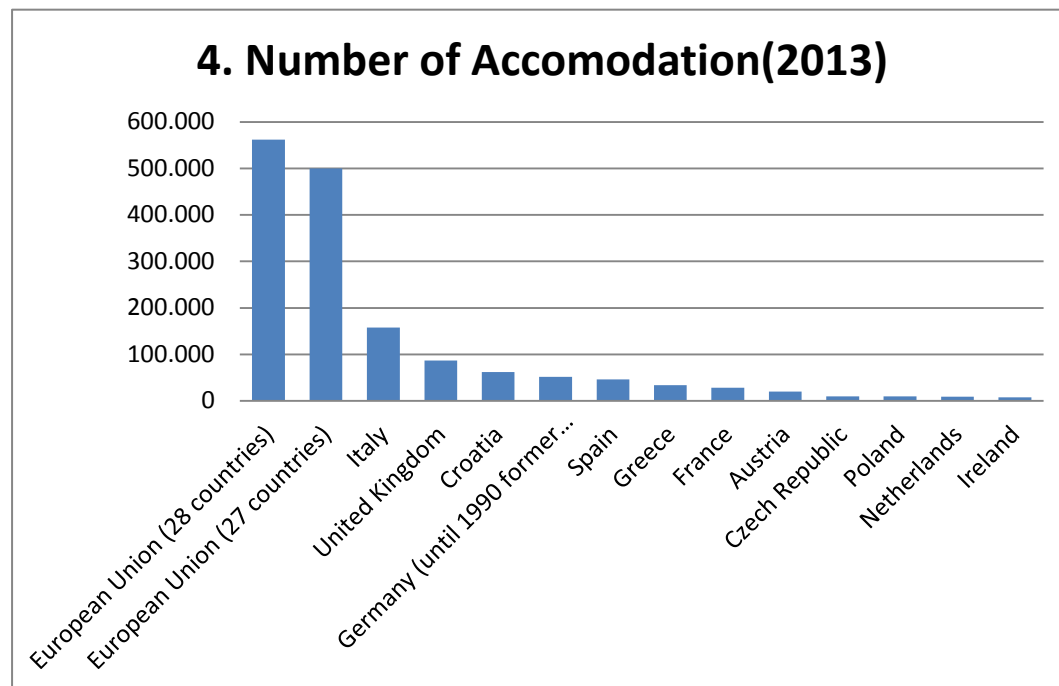
companies that not only serve tourism but also other service industry. According to the data of 2013, Italy, Spain, and France have most enterprises in Europe, and indeed, these three countries are the most popular destination of tourists.



Eurostat

In this picture, we see the percentage of enterprise number, employees, turnover, and added value tourism industry takes in business economy of Europe, and data of detailed sectors (transportation, accommodation, food, etc) can be seen, food related and real estate sectors contribute the most to these four dimensions. From these graph and the data shown in the beginning, we know how important tourism is to Europe, for it does contribute a lot to the economy and the employment.

4.2 Tourism capacity- accommodation establishment

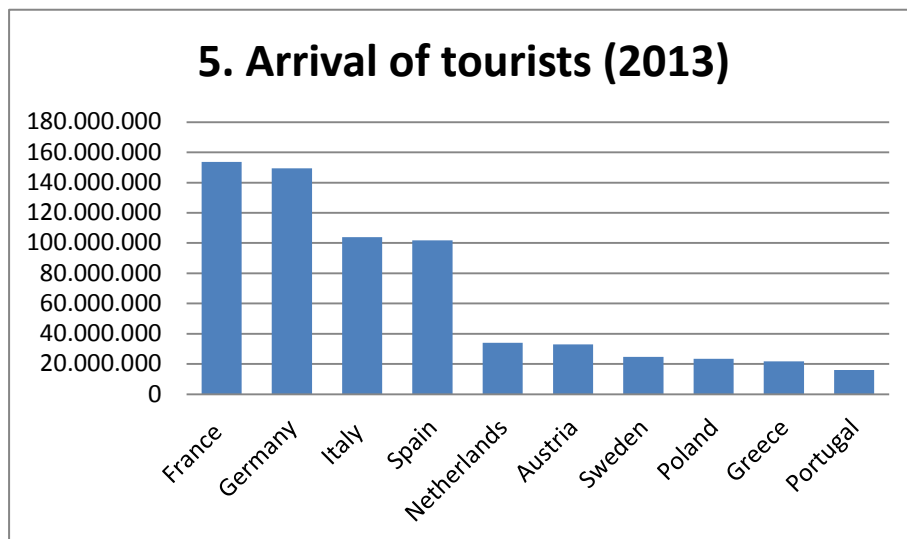


Curiously, in this chart, we can see the countries with most accommodation (including hotel, hostel and so on that offer bedrooms and bed-places) are Italy, United Kingdom, and Croatia, except Italy, this ranking is different from the most destination countries ranking, in which Italy, France and Spain are the top three. We see the Spain ranks the number five, while France ranks number seven in this list in 2013. This imbalance can be caused by many reasons, maybe people prefer to stay with local friends in their homes, or they have properties in Spain or France, etc. However, maybe this also means there should be more accommodation for tourists in Spain and France, but we also know that there is of little possibility that all hotels and hostels are full even in the busy season: there always have some left, thought they may be of poor quality or too expensive for normal tourists.

4.3 Favorite destination of tourists in detail (residents and non-residents together)

In this part, there are three important indicators that can show which the most popular countries of tourism are; they are: a. arrivals of tourists, b. nights spent in the accommodation, and c. occupancy rate of accommodation.

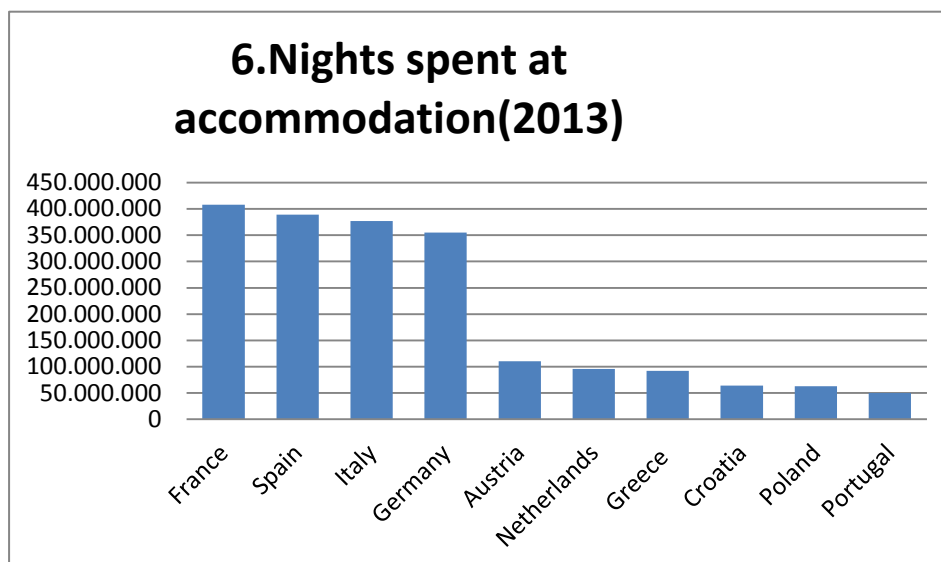
a. Arrival of tourists (Eurostat)



This chart is the data of the top ten countries that received most tourists in 2013, France, Germany, Italy, Spain are the top 4 in that year.

Noticeably, the gap between Spain, the number four, and Netherlands, number 5 is quite big, which can prove that the top 4 did received the most tourists to Europe, far more popular than other European countries.

b. Nights spent in accommodation (Eurostat)



In this graph, we see France, Spain, Italy and Germany are still the top four countries, though the order is a little bit different, but the trend is the same.

c. Lack of detail data.

From a, arrivals of tourists and b. nights spent in accommodation, we know the main trend of the tourists choice of destination, as the top ten countries are the same, despite the little difference of order, France, Germany, Italy, Spain are always the hottest destination for tourists.

Though the top countries are more or less the same, the trips made by tourists from European countries and tourists from outside of Europe have different features, they may have different favorite countries; the number of days they travel may be different, the sum of money they spend on travelling may be different, so let's confine our attention the European resident and non-European residents.

4.4 European residents

4.4.1 Schhengen Agreement

When we comes to this part, it's important to mention some policies related to the regulation of Europeans residents travel to other countries, especially within Europe, as we know, the Schengen Agreement influence a lot in this aspect, and it is a very important agreement that benefit every European residents and non- Europeans who travel in Europe.

Schengen Agreement is perhaps one of the most important achievements since the EU was set up, as it guarantees free movement of European citizens within the Europe, and make Europe without borders between countries in Schengen Zone.

Facts of Schengen Zone and cooperation:

- a. Founded: The Schengen area and cooperation are founded on the Schengen Agreement which was signed in 1985.
- b. Meaning: The Schengen area represents a territory where the free movement of persons is guaranteed. The signatory states to the agreement have abolished all internal borders in lieu of a single external border.
- c. Operation: Here common rules and procedures are applied with regard to visas for short stays, asylum requests and border controls.
- d. Security: To guarantee security within the Schengen area, cooperation and coordination between police services and judicial authorities have been stepped up.
- e. Incorporation: Schengen cooperation has been incorporated into the European Union (EU) legal framework by the Treaty of Amsterdam of 1997.

- f. Notice: However, not all countries in Schengen belong to Schengen area, as some of them don't want to eliminate border control, or some of them do not yet fulfill the required conditions for the application of the Schengen *acquis*.

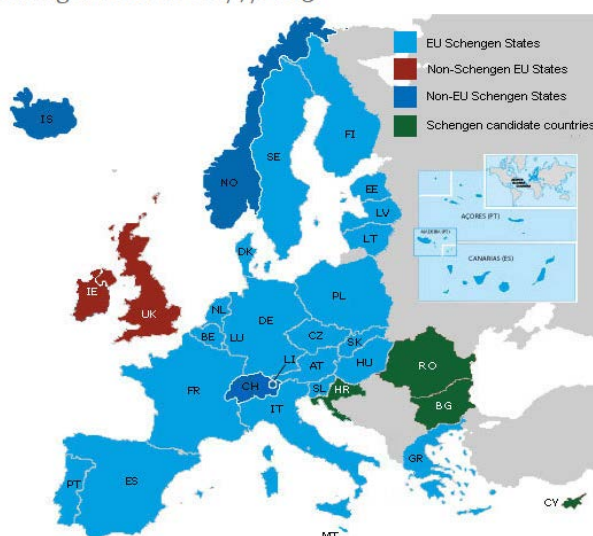
During the 1980s, a debate about whether all people can have the right to move freely within Europe was held. Some Member States felt the concept should apply to European Union (EU) citizens only, which means there should be security check for the non-European citizens, while European citizens can enter another country without security check. Others argued in favour of free movement for everyone, which would mean an end to internal border checks altogether for all people travelling within Europe. Since Member States failed to reach agreement, France, Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands decided in 1985 to create a territory without internal borders. This became known as the "Schengen area", after the town in Luxembourg where the first agreements were signed. Following the signing of the Treaty of Amsterdam, this intergovernmental cooperation was incorporated into the EU framework on 1 May 1999."

(Official introduction of Schengen Area and Cooperation from EU-Lex)

Under the Schengen Agreement, there are various system working to ensure the policy is working, and more importantly, to ensure the security of the Europe, because with this policy, it's more possible for the criminals or other illegal immigrants to hide. Below are two important systems to guarantee the healthy operation of this policy.

- The [Visa Information System](#) (VIS) allows Schengen States to exchange visa data, in particular data on decisions relating to short-stay visa applications.
- The [Schengen Information System](#) (SIS) allows Schengen States to exchange data on suspected criminals, on people who may not have the right to enter into or stay in the EU, on missing persons and on stolen, misappropriated or lost property.

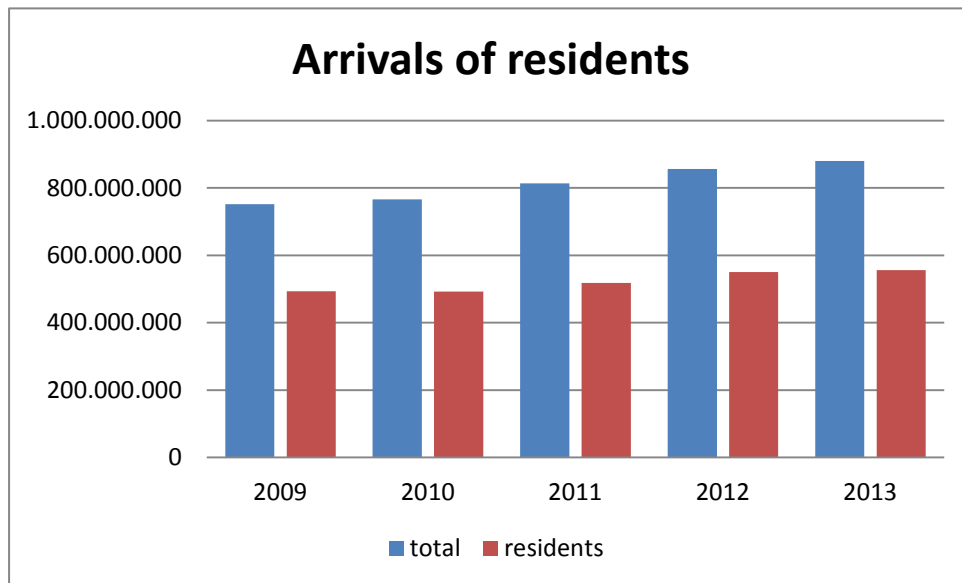
Schengen Area as of 1/7/2013



(European commission)

4.4.2 Features of trips made by European residents (within Europe)

So in short, the Schengen Agreement benefits the Europeans residents and non-European residents a great deal in terms of travelling within Europe. Now let's see some data related to the features of the trips made by European residents. There can be many aspects of trips made by residents, including purpose of the trips, the demographic features of the tourists, the most popular destinations, etc. In the following, only some of them are discussed.



Eurostat

First of all, we should know that the number scale of EU-residents tourists. Europeans themselves actually contribute the most part of the tourism of Europe, thanks to the policy, as according to some research, many Europeans say the policy makes their travel as easy as travel within their own countries.

26. The most popular destination of Europeans (Eurostat)

Arrivals of residents at accommodation

Arrivals at tourist accommodation establishments
Last update: 12-05-2015
Table Customization [show](#)

TIME: [] + GEO: [] + INDIC_TO: Arrivals of residents
UNIT: [] + NACE_R2: Hotels; holiday and other short-stay accommodation; campir []

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
European Union	:	:	:	490,859,440	493,570,539 ^(e)	492,515,102	517,979,514	550,028,904 ^(e)	555,540,702 ^(e)
European Union	:	:	:	489,267,759	492,203,520 ^(e)	491,248,205	516,695,641	548,623,947 ^(e)	554,109,994 ^(e)
Germany (until	99,073,807	101,667,384	103,281,137	105,907,463	103,434,669	107,776,798	113,476,253	116,701,525	117,987,824
France	83,356,860	84,925,658	86,588,313	87,133,556	88,157,660	89,134,956	107,184,891	106,527,156	107,692,846
Italy	50,213,324	51,850,572	53,276,961	53,749,362	54,375,079	55,019,507	56,263,060	54,994,582	53,599,294
Spain	50,151,920	56,747,094	57,828,280	56,429,185	54,470,376	55,617,853	55,430,798	52,308,531	51,874,205
Netherlands	16,182,100	17,764,700	19,252,200	18,997,700	19,039,000	19,125,200	19,367,400	19,517,001	21,267,283 ^(b)
Sweden	17,681,825	16,917,687	17,961,507	17,727,970	17,949,438	18,480,781	18,818,412	18,930,725	19,578,317
Poland	12,286,801	13,198,537	14,559,756	15,509,790	15,491,770	16,326,526	17,067,066	17,656,094	18,158,166
Austria	8,427,848	8,946,111	9,450,445	9,756,462	10,032,283	10,490,006	10,726,060	11,113,924	11,157,528
Finland	7,009,123	7,317,909	7,626,946	7,745,964	7,544,726	7,885,936	8,103,982	8,109,244	8,043,589
Greece	6,063,890	6,233,813	7,083,835	7,127,227	10,038,968	9,349,344	8,534,191	6,881,001 ^(e)	8,033,020 ^(e)

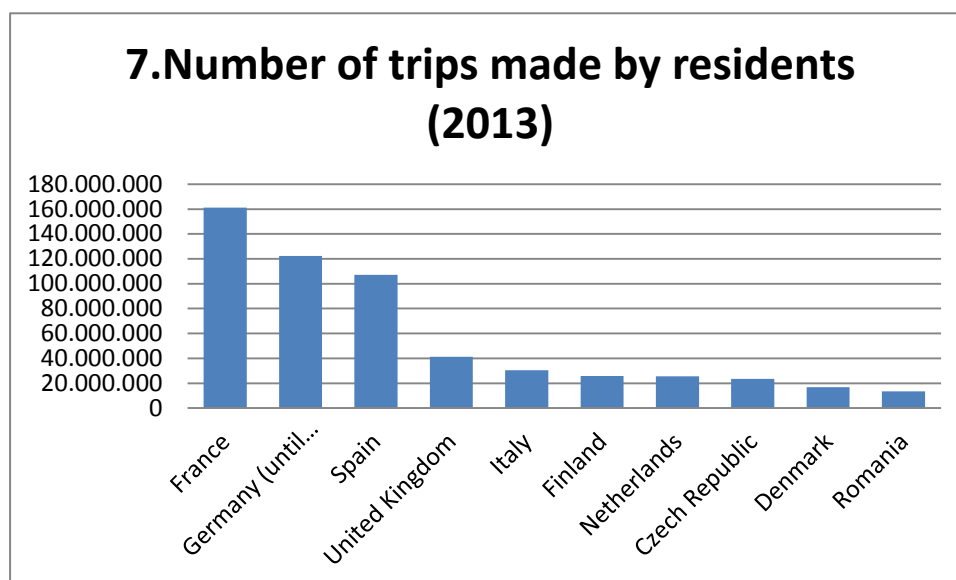
This is the picture of the data of arrivals of residents. As data shows, most European residents like to travel to Germany, France, Italy, and Spain, which is also the most popular top 4 of total arrivals.

Nights spent at tourist accommodation establishments
Last update: 12-05-2015
Table Customization [show](#)

TIME + GEO + INDIC_TO
+ UNIT + NACE_R2
Number + Hotels; holiday and other short-stay accomr + Total nights spent by residents

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
European Union	890 1,344,223,242	1,339,650,072	1,342,535,645	1,389,114,366	1,398,681,230	1,450,091,949 ^(€)	1,453,431,371 ^(€)
European Union	282 1,339,606,329	1,335,020,735	1,338,408,868	1,385,340,066	1,394,819,442	1,444,987,991 ^(€)	1,448,391,975 ^(€)
Germany (until	597 262,820,456	267,636,330	260,021,970	265,780,765	275,939,999	282,187,922	283,679,063
France	135 193,395,605	194,048,978	195,984,460	270,832,690	277,779,224	275,487,105	275,874,900
Italy	437 213,176,071	211,869,278	211,268,511	210,340,052	210,420,670	200,116,495	191,992,233
Spain	459 156,462,217	151,937,093	148,002,725	151,514,295	150,489,310	139,281,970	136,764,221
Netherlands	800 60,314,800	59,184,600	59,502,400	58,073,400	57,629,400	56,204,466	64,303,624 ^(D)
Poland	846 44,035,622	46,472,281	45,410,620	45,729,839	46,527,989	50,138,291	50,488,184
Sweden	578 37,404,874	35,620,762	36,073,474	36,715,303	37,078,238	37,286,517	38,267,737
Austria	457 29,145,715	29,978,727	30,608,853	31,356,359	31,692,337	32,382,289	32,253,827
Czech Republic	449 20,220,886	19,296,452	18,915,299	18,542,864	18,810,249	21,484,472	21,163,383
Greece	170 17,338,763	17,650,614	26,949,442	24,559,423	22,036,946	17,354,346	20,372,898
Denmark	024 18,740,015	19,108,832	18,192,060	18,164,955	18,719,949	18,432,111	18,586,564

Another data that can show which are the favorite destination of European residents is nights spent at tourist accommodation establishments. The top 4 are the same countries. However, we should notice the slight difference here, Czech Republic in this list enters the top 10, which suggest that maybe people tend to stay longer in the this country while travelling.



Eurostat

Curiously, in the data of the trip number made by European residents is different from the data above.

United Kingdom became the number 4 most popular country of destination. The difference here might be caused by the fact that people go there without staying the accommodation but in their own properties or other private places. Both data should be taken into consideration of what countries most European residents travel to.

27. Top 10 member states of origins for outbound holidays (2013) (Eurostat)

	Nights abroad	Share (%)
EU-28 (*)	2 361.5	100.0
Top 10 (°)	2 111.8	89.4
1 Germany	745.6	31.6
2 United Kingdom (°)	546.5	23.1
3 France (°)	211.7	9.0
4 Netherlands	168.0	7.1
5 Italy	93.2	3.9
6 Spain	91.3	3.9
7 Belgium	85.5	3.6
8 Austria	65.9	2.8
9 Denmark (°)	54.6	2.3
10 Finland	49.6	2.1

(*) Estimate made for the purpose of this publication, based on available data.

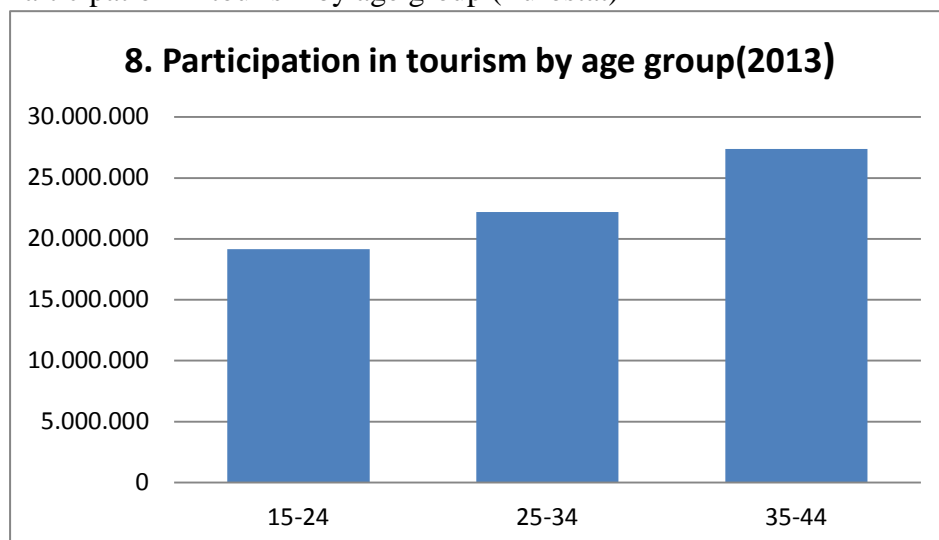
(°) Sum of the available information.

(°) 2012.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_dem_tntot)

So, the data shows that people from Germany, United Kingdom and France love travelling abroad the most. And the top 10 countries have already taken nearly 90% of the total. In my opinion, this number can be influenced by the population and the wealthy level of the people. For example, if one country has more people, and people tend to be rich, then naturally, more people in this country go travel. But of course, this data is the result of the combination effect of many aspects.

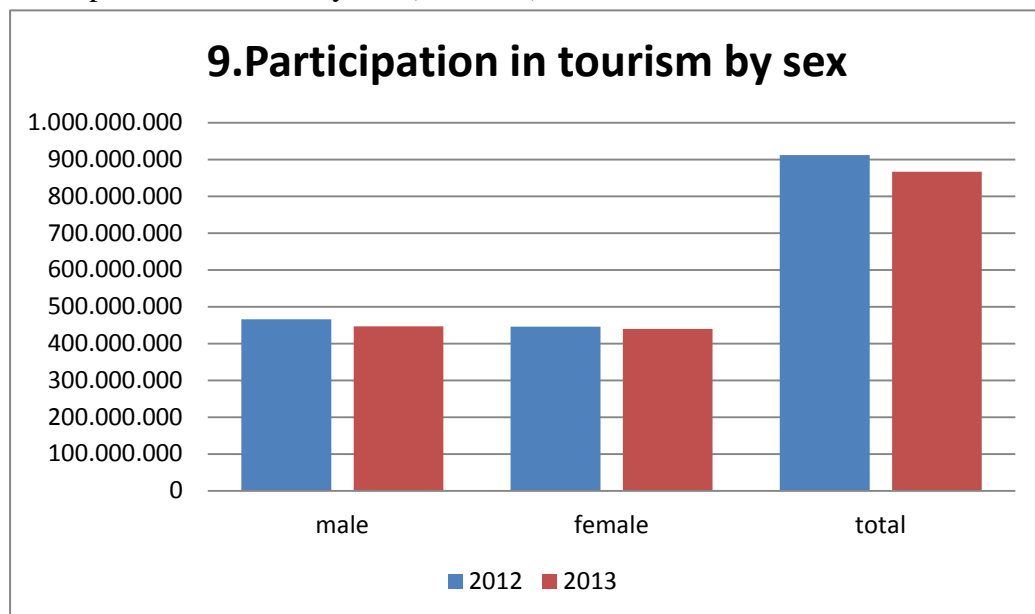
28. Participation in tourism by age group (Eurostat)



Participation in tourism by age group can be influenced by many aspects, for example, the purpose of the trip, age 15-24, apart from the fact that they go travel in holiday with family, they may be go to another country to study. And the age group

above 25 can be people who have business trips.

29. Participation in tourism by sex (EUrostat)



In this graph, we can see the comparison between trips made by male and female. Generally, male travel more than female within Europe. This also can be caused by many reasons, for example, more men are sent for business trip than women. And we can also see that total number of 2012 and 2013, which are the only data available in total number in all these year, the total number of trips made in 2013 is smaller than the one of 2012.

4.5 Non-European residents

4.5.1 Basic Policy

As a non-European resident, to get a visa to travel to European countries can be a lot more complex. Getting a visa is the most important step of course.

Here are the basic procedures one should follow if he/ she want to travel to Europe.

Prepare a passport that is:

- valid for at least 3 months after the date you intend to leave the EU country you are visiting,
- which was issued within the previous 10 years,

Then apply for Visa

- Apply for a visa from the [consulate or embassy](#) of the country you are visiting.

- If your visa is from a "[Schengen area](#)" country, it automatically allows you to travel to the other Schengen countries as well. If you have a valid residence permit from one of those Schengen countries, it is equivalent to a visa.
- You may need a national visa to visit non-Schengen countries.
- Border officials in EU countries may ask for other supporting documents such as an invitation letter, proof of lodging, return or round-trip ticket. For the precise requirements contact the local [consular services](#) of the EU country in question.
- There are a [number of countries](#) whose nationals do not need a visa to visit the EU for three months or less. The list of countries whose nationals require visas to travel to the United Kingdom or Ireland differs slightly from other EU countries. (Europa.eu)

4.5.2 Features of trips made by non-European residents

The same with the features of trips made by EU residents, just some of the important features are discussed in this paper.

a. Favorite destinations (Eurostat)

Arrivals at tourist accommodation establishments

Last update: 12-05-2015

Table Customization [show](#)

TIME

+ UNIT

Number

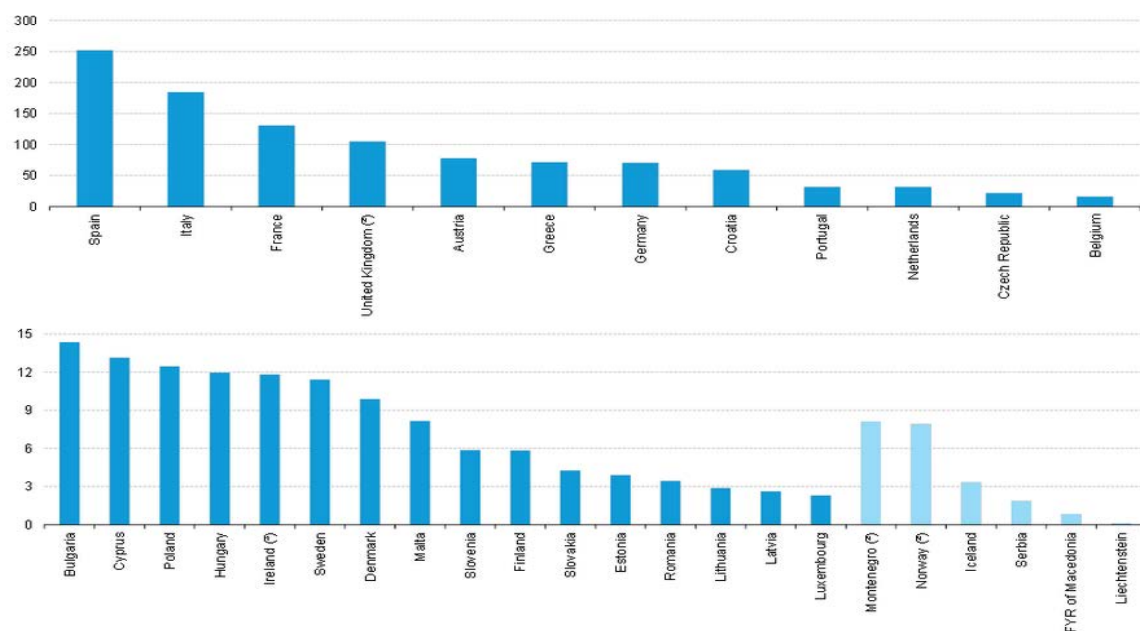
GEO

+ NACE_R2

Hotels; holiday and other short-stay accommodation; car

<div><div>TIME</div><div>GEO</div></div>	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
European Union	: 257,724,888 ^(e)	273,121,793 ^(e)	295,830,452 ^(e)	305,932,506 ^(e)	323,935,660 ^(e)	
European Union	: 250,762,437 ^(e)	266,468,961 ^(e)	288,593,375 ^(e)	295,793,810 ^(e)	313,160,660 ^(e)	
Italy	41,796,724	41,124,722	43,794,338	47,460,809	48,738,575	50,263,236
Spain	43,718,233	39,204,146	43,182,778	47,652,545	48,100,647	49,798,884
France	39,122,038	35,881,647	36,729,444	41,607,105	42,327,929	46,001,492
Germany (until	24,857,752	24,125,057	26,764,892	28,264,456	30,299,258	31,407,471
Austria	19,076,785	18,534,306	19,210,106	20,180,138	21,211,722	21,782,737
Greece	8,886,342	10,861,300	11,285,916	12,548,811	11,461,751 ^(e)	13,785,706 ^(e)
Netherlands	10,104,300	9,920,700	10,883,100	11,299,400	11,633,584	12,782,900 ^(b)
Croatia	7,081,920	6,962,451	6,652,832	7,237,077	10,138,696 ^(b)	10,775,000
Portugal	6,961,718	6,439,022	6,756,354	7,263,644	7,503,252	8,400,252
Czech Republic	6,649,410	6,032,370	6,333,996	6,715,067	7,647,044	7,851,865
Belgium	7,164,765	6,813,664	7,186,419	7,494,141	7,560,025	7,684,285
Poland	4,046,312	3,861,942	4,134,970	4,409,550	4,979,294	5,242,972

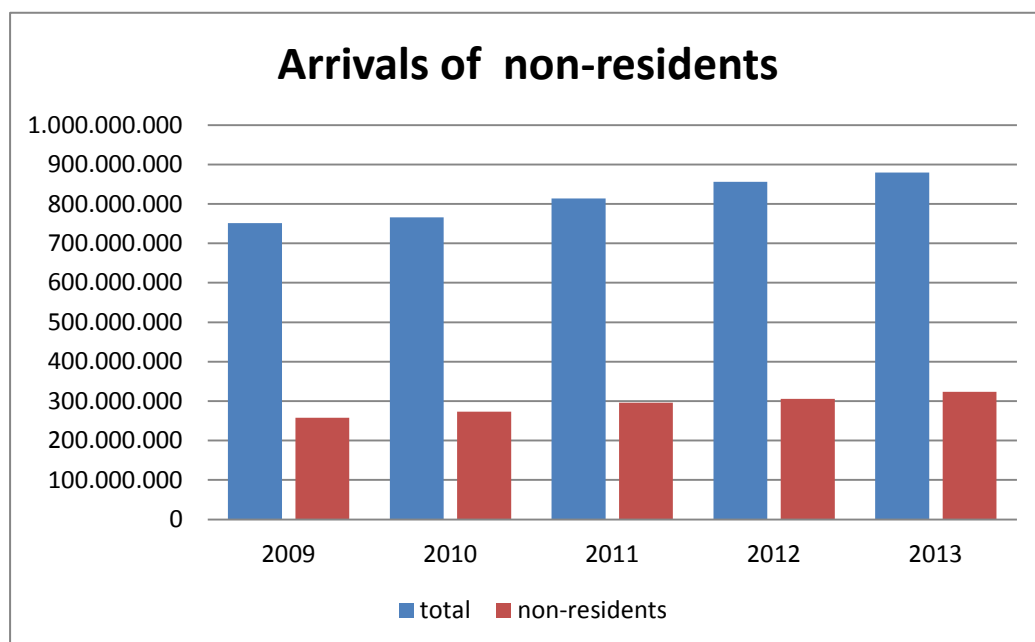
Nights spent at accommodation by non-residents (million nights) (Eurostat)



So, according to the data here, Spain, Italy and France are the top three most popular countries for non-residents travelers, which is more or less the same with the EU-residents. One thing should be noticed is that the scale of the figure of the graph above and the graph below are different.

b. Origin of the tourists.(Eurostat)

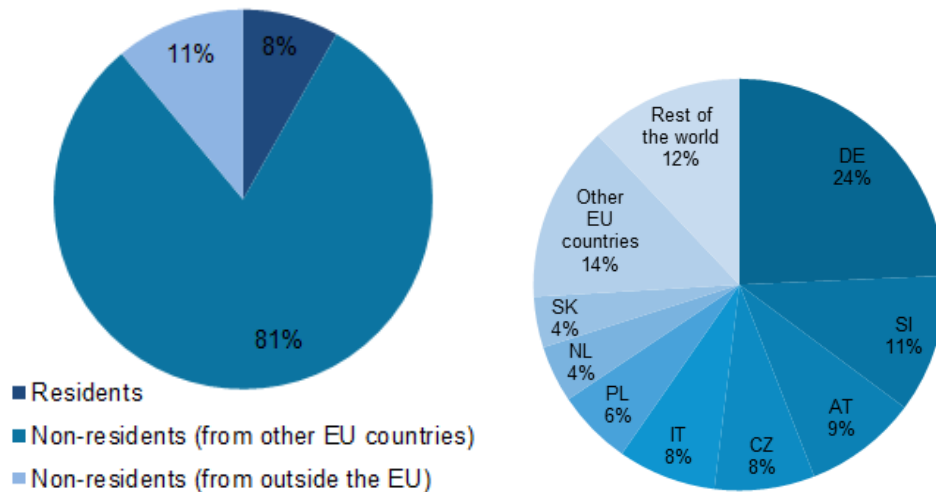
As no detail data of where exactly the most non-residents tourists come from, we can just know how many people visiting Europe are residents and how many of them are from non-European countries.



Form this graph, we see the number of non-resident tourists to Europe is

increasing in recent years, but apparently, EU-residents are more than non-residents visitors, and the increasing rate is higher as well.

In the following we can see a detail case of Croatia.



Eurostat

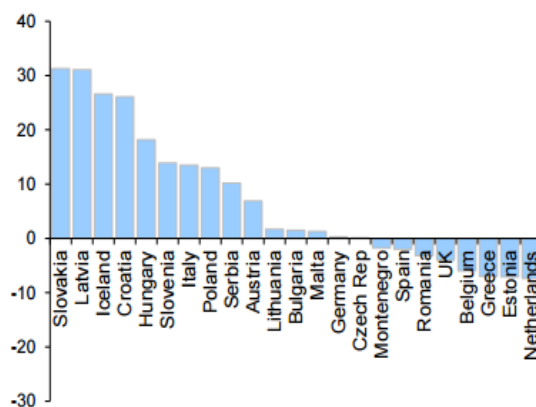
In these two picture, we see the distribution of the tourists of origin, only 11% of the tourists to Croatia are non-EU residents, and 81% are EU citizens, in which people from Germany has already take 24%. Maybe Croatia is a special case, but to some extent, the data reflects the fact that most visitors are Europeans.

As no further detail of non-residents, we can only see some special case of foreign visitors, in which we can see how the popular countries have changed in 2013 for non-residents tourists.

US visitors:

Visits from US to select destinations

2013, year-to-date*, % change year ago

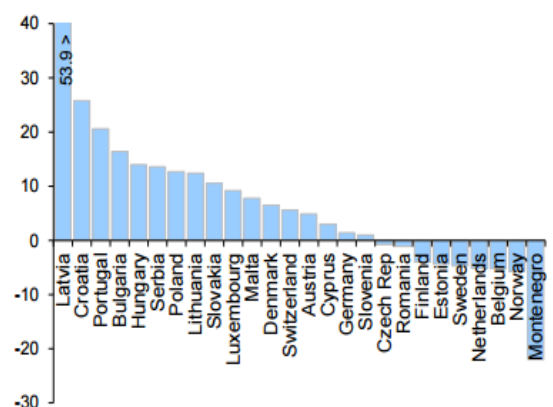


Source : TourMIS

*date varies (May-Aug) by destination

US visitor nights in select destinations

2013, year-to-date*, % change year ago



Source : TourMIS

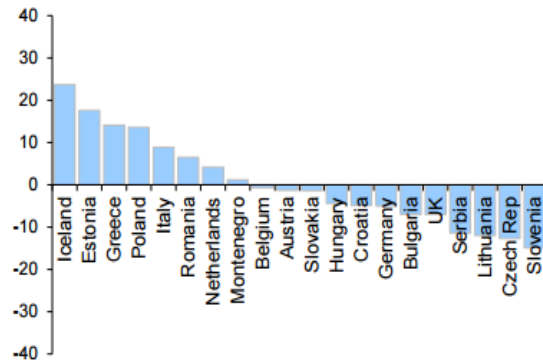
*date varies (May-Aug) by destination

From these two picture, we see in 2013, more US visitors travelled to countries like Slovakia, Latvia, Iceland, while the number of US tourists to countries like Spain, UK, Greece decreased.

Japanese visitors:

Visits from Japan to select destinations

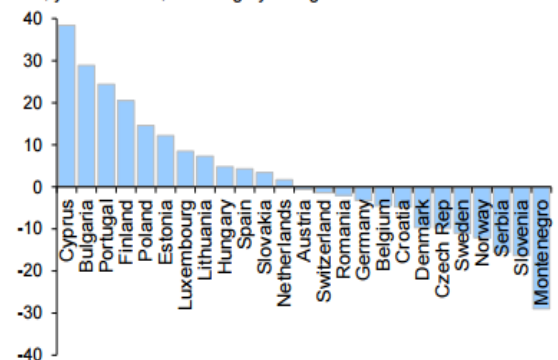
2013, year-to-date*, % change year ago



Source : TourMIS *date varies (May-Aug) by destination

Japanese visitor nights in select destinations

2013, year-to-date*, % change year ago

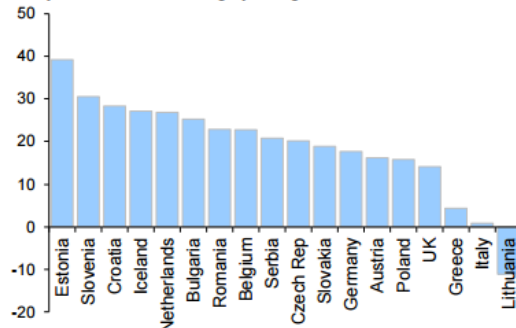


Source : TourMIS *date varies (May-Aug) by destination

Chinese Visitors:

Visits from China to select destinations

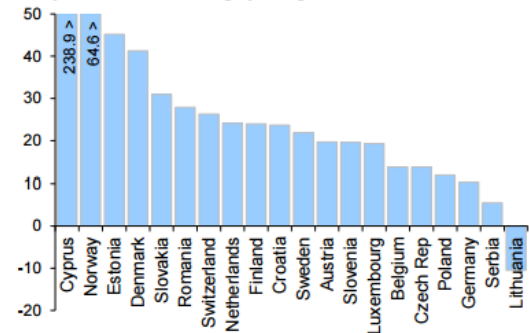
2013, year-to-date*, % change year ago



Source : TourMIS *date varies (May-Aug) by destination

Chinese visitor nights in select destinations

2013, year-to-date*, % change year ago

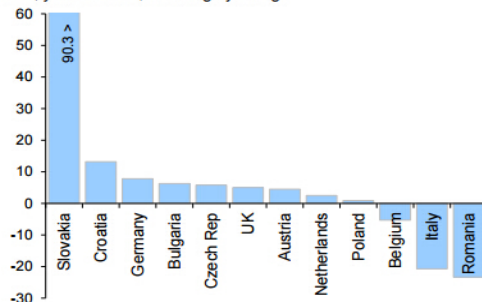


Source : TourMIS *date varies (May-Aug) by destination

Indian visitors:

Visits from India to select destinations

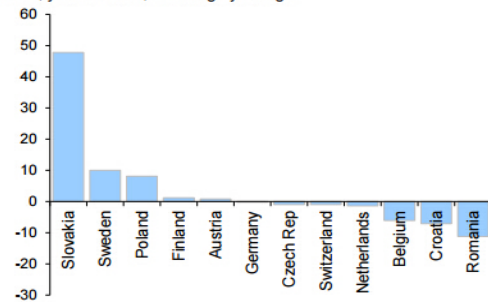
2013, year-to-date*, % change year ago



Source : TourMIS *date varies (May-Aug) by destination

Indian visitor nights in select destinations

2013, year-to-date*, % change year ago



Source : TourMIS *date varies (May-Aug) by destination

The travel demand of different countries can be affected by many factors, such as the exchange rate of home currency to Euros, the economic environment of the domestic market, the new travel policies, etc. For example, China, in 2013, has the highest increase rate, in terms of trips made to Europe. This is because of the dynamic domestic market, the increasing value of Chinese currency and increasing number of rich people. So as we see in the graph, most of the hottest destinations in the past few years still get an increasing of arrivals of Chinese tourists in 2013, which is different from the US data and Japanese data.

5. Conclusion

This paper covers the background and the development of tourism policy making in Europe, and some important indicators of tourism industry. From the data above, we know how important tourism is to Europe, and how important Europe is as a favorite destination for tourists from all over the world. Though tourism in Europe has been prosperous in the recent decades, there are still improvement needed for further development and more aspects needed to be focused on tackle the new problems. These improvements require the continuous revision of the policies, the strengthening cooperation of the Member States, and of course some detailed construction and study programs. And we know Europe has been working on it all the time.

In the end let me remind you the goal of the European tourism:

- stimulate competitiveness in the European tourism sector
- development of sustainable, responsible, high-quality tourism
- consolidate Europe's images as a collection of sustainable, high-quality destinations
- maximise the potential of EU financial policies for developing tourism.

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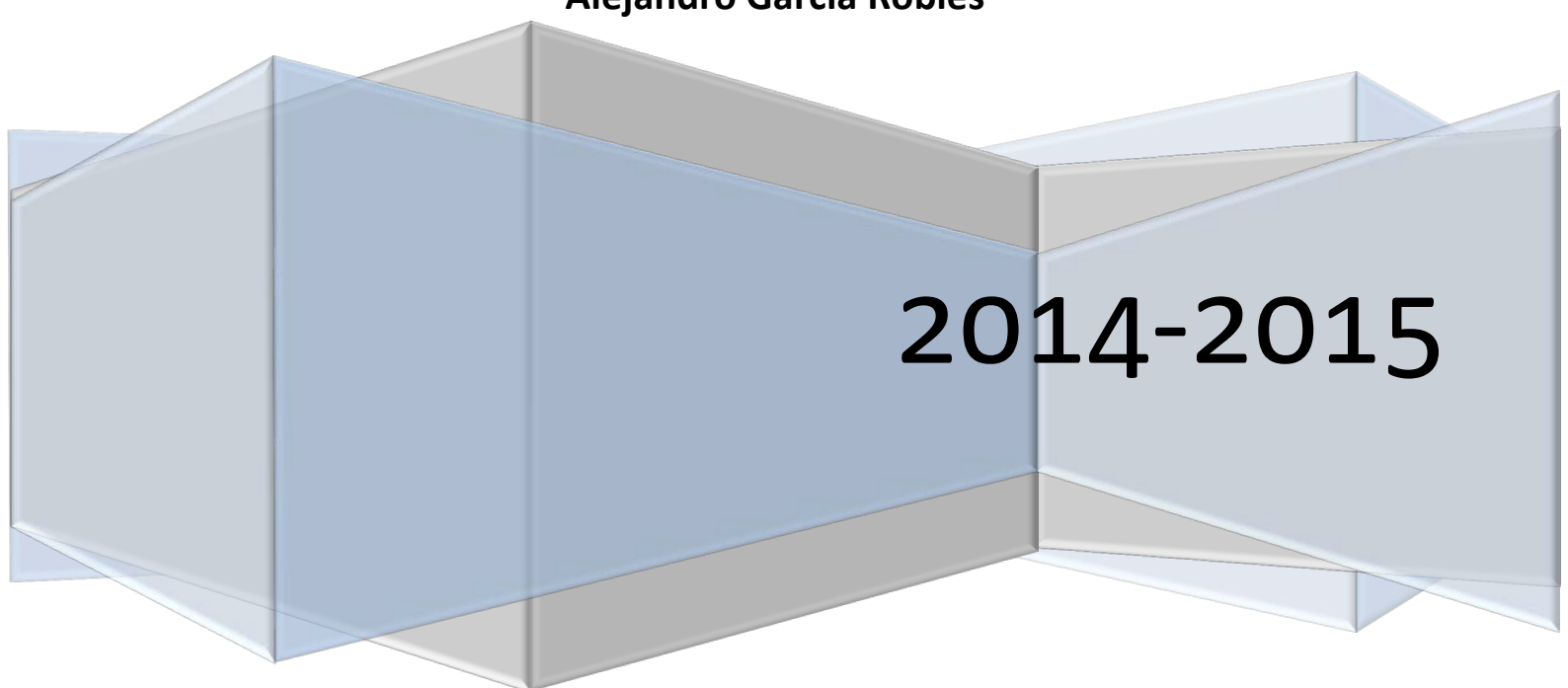
Individual task. European Economic analysis

New technologies in the framework and the European Union

Degree Marketing and market research.

University of Leon

Alejandro García Robles



2014-2015

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6. Bibliography

NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Today, new technologies are part of the day of public and private institutions of the European Union. We wanted to highlight three temporary approaches; from a vision of the past, to what it can be implemented in the future; very keeping in mind the work carried out continuously the countries of the European Union to incorporate this theme into their plans of development and competitiveness



Source: Google Images

2. Background and need for development

The technologies of information and communication (technology ICT) affect all levels of society, from professional life to private life. It is essential, therefore, to analyse and anticipate its consequences on education. The arrival of the technology to the educational environment is not limited to a question of equipment but above all a question of teaching methods.

During the past two decades, attempts to introduce microcomputers in schools have provided results little satisfying about who should be thinking not to make the same mistakes again. First and foremost we must highlight that the timescale between education and technology is not rhythmic: while the technological tools needed, by definition, a constant renewal, the educational system moves over the long term. This last must therefore cope with the immaturity and instability of solutions whose cost is very high. The report calls for coherent strategies in time.

In addition to this problem, also arises the limitation of the software proposed in the educational environment. Indeed, educational computer programs require much larger than recreational programs requirements or that programs office spreadsheets and text treatments. Anyway, the decrease of costs and the generalization of Internet should allow quickly to ICT fully entering the field of education.

As far as infrastructure is concerned, lower communication costs and quickly and reliability of access constitute the necessary conditions of that evolution. Today's infrastructures do not allow now to meet these conditions, so it is important to improve them from this perspective. The high difference in prices of telecommunications that continues to exist between the United States and Europe - and their consequences at the cost of use of networks - cannot but harm the European educational system.

The type of information provided by Internet is not necessarily to what you need the education system. Indeed, while teaching demands quality and consistency information, which gives Internet access is an almost unlimited amount of information of diverse interest and therefore requires a previous selection. The best sites devoted to education and training should provide content worthy of interest but also services that prevent the user drown in the mass of information.

It should also ensure that these sites comply with an ethics allowing to prevent the abusive use of personal data, exposure to advertising messages or purely commercial use.

It is still difficult to clearly assess the current use of ICT in teaching. The report stresses that the data are still rudimentary and that should provide as soon as possible at European level of reliable quantitative and qualitative indicators. You should also have methodologies that allow to scientifically study the link between ICT investment and school results. Despite the

scarcity of statistical data, the report reveals major disparities between the Member States. Analysis of ratios relating to the number of users per computer in a given region has a limited scope, insofar as it would be at least equally important to know the type of computer and connection and the way it is used.

The analysis of the situation seems to indicate that while secondary education remain important obstacles to the use of ICT, primary education is more advanced in this field.

Instead of replacing traditional teaching, the use of ICT in the school system allows to enrich it, by fostering curiosity, discovery and experimentation. The role of teachers should evolve significantly and it would be convenient to develop their competencies, in particular through the regular use of the computer tool, teamwork and exchanges of information among colleagues.

The diffusion of ICT in all educational disciplines - mainly the transverse use within the framework of interdisciplinary projects - has been slowed down by the absence of recognized methodologies of evaluation and certification of competencies. This question is fundamental. It is suggested, as recommended in the Commission communication «Strategies for jobs in the information society», create accreditation systems specifically adapted to the needs of the teachers to help them learn how to use ICT.

The evolution of technology tends to make the educational market evolves, in turn, in two directions. On the one hand, the costs of development and commercialization of the educational software (derivatives, for example, of competition requiring developers of products or of the management of intellectual property rights) dragged the market towards an organization oligopolistica which, therefore, must be subject to surveillance by public authorities so it refers to the access to information. On the other hand, the costs of connection will be, in the medium term, minimum, so the "free" software creation can provide even broader prospects for the future creators who do not respond to the logic of profit. Public authorities should recognize and promote those initiatives.

3. What are the TIC's today?

The technologies of information and communication (the union of computers and communications) unleashed an explosion without a history of ways of communicating to the beginning of the 1990s. Starting from there, the Internet went from being an expert instrument of the scientific community to be a network of easy to use which modified patterns of social interaction .

Information and communication technologies is understood as a term to designate the computer connected to Internet, and especially the social aspect of these terms. The new technologies of information and communication at the same time choose a set of technological innovations but also the tools that allow a radical redefinition of the functioning of society.

Information and communication technologies are those computer and computer tools that process, store, overview, retrieved and information is represented in the most varied manner.

It is a set of tools, stands and channels for the treatment and access to information. They constitute new media and channels to give shape, record, store and disseminate informational content.

Examples of these technologies include the whiteboard (personalcomputer + multimediaprojector), blogs, podcast and of course the web .

For all types of educational applications, ICT are a means and not the end. I.e., are tools and materials of construction that facilitate learning, the development of skills and different ways of learning, styles and rhythms of apprentices.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of ICTs?

Advantages:

- Provide great benefits and advances in health and education .
- Developing individuals and social actors through networks of support and Exchange and discussion list.
- Support persons entrepreneurs, local to present and sell their products via the Internet.
- Allow interactive learning and distance education.
- Deliver new knowledge for employability, requiring many skills .
- Provide new forms of worksuch as telework
- Give access to the output of information and knowledge to improve the lives of the people.
- Facilities
- Accuracy
- Reduced risk

4. The future of new technologies in the European Union

The Member States are abreast of new updates that are going to produce in a few years or, better said, that already are being implemented through various studies. All of this is focused within the programme Horizon 2020 EU and new technologies that stand out are the following:

1. clean energy or Clean Energy. It is the biggest challenge. Sectors of energy: solar, wind, biofuels, bioenergy, capture and storage of carbon, nuclear fusion power, and storage of batteries (including plutonium and strontium batteries). The new powers will improve the living conditions of developing countries.

2. nanotechnology. It is new technology that is based on the manipulation of microscopic materials and enabling work and manipulate molecular structures and their atoms. Thanks to nanotechnology important innovations are developed in areas such as carbon nanotubes; the desalination of the water thanks to Graphene and 3D printing with claytronics, as well as major advances in medicine, surgery and new industries that will change a lot of products.

3. education in the cloud. Companies such as Coursera, Udemy, Udacity, Code Academy, Skillshare and non-for-profit Khan Academy and EDx are allowing anyone in the world with a connection to the cloud, receive education of high quality of Harvard, Stanford, and MIT! The accessibility to the Internet with broadband will reach places that now can not dispose of it. Another example is the free Womenalia MOOC

4. water desalination. Thanks to recent research at MIT, Graphene has been used to create an energy-efficient way to remove salt from water. As the human population grows, you will reach 9.5 billion in 2050, it will ensure access to drinking water for one of the villages that lack it. Something vitally important to allow both the improvement of health and the power and geopolitical stability.

5 convergence mobile and PCs. our smartphone will soon be also our PC. You only have to connect the phone to a HDMI monitor into a full PC. Once the smart phones are powerful enough to run Excel, there is no reason to have an independent team for the larger monitor unit. Already at this time, in India,

59% of Internet users have access only by mobile. There are also essential mobile applications for your business

5. Quantum Computing. In 2013, Google bought an II DWAVE Quantum Computer and in collaboration with NASA, created the Artificial Quantum Research Center (QUAIL). Unlike binary computers, in which bits should be in State 1 or State 0, technology Quantum computers use overlap to allow all stages between 0 and 1, which allows much faster processing. Studies on quantum particles multiply greatly the speed of computers, which will also accelerate the possibilities for researchers.

5. Case study: Malta, the example of the evolution within the EU in new technologies

Malta has become an important center of technological development and at the same time a perfect test bench to create, for example, an excellent infrastructure of e-Government (eGovernment). The commitment of this country with research in ICT (information and communication technologies) has resulted in the emergence of many companies facing this sector of activity.

Some people consider Malta as one of the best vacation destinations in Europe by the Sun that enjoys all year, a unique culture and its numerous historical and architectural monuments. However, the island has become an important center of technological development and a perfect test bench to create, for example, an excellent infrastructure of e-Government (eGovernment).

"The dimensions of the island are ideal to develop e-government initiatives," explains Professor Ernest Cachia, Dean of the Faculty of ICT at the University of Malta. "We have all the services of public administration but scaled-down, so that we can get results more quickly. Being small has its advantages".

Thanks to its characteristics, Malta can boast of possessing one of the best systems of electronic administration of the European Union. The country earned a score of 94 in the category of management electronics in the marker of the Digital Agenda in 2012-2013, much higher than the average of the European Union of 70 and 96 in the category of transparency in eGovernment, well above the average of the European Union, 49.

In practice, almost all the services of the public administration are currently performed through the Internet and is considered a world leader in this field to Malta. "EGovernment is a reflection of the deep culture of planning of ICT to Malta," explains Alexander Borg, consultant for research and innovation in the MITA (Malta information technology Agency).

«Investment has also contributed to major companies that have emerged from the field of research and to reactivate the economy. «EGovernment is also a very effective way to reach citizens and shows the world that ICT are important for the country "says.

Without going any further, the Cabinet of the Prime Minister is currently participating in a Community-funded ICT project that receives the name of IDEALIST2014. The objective of this initiative is to strengthen the network of PCN (national contact points) of ICT within the framework of the FP7 (7 framework programme) to promote increased cooperation between countries in areas such as security, transport, energy and health. PCN in twenty-eight Member States of the European Union (and in some other countries) have been created to provide support and promote the participation in the financing of the EU ICT regimes. This project will conclude in September 2014.

Develop the potential of the private sector

Malta's private sector has also benefited from significant investment in ICT. «ICT have become certainly a sector with significant growth», says Ernest Cachia. "We have seen exceptional growth in various activities, from the sector of video games to bookmakers, passing through the portals on the Internet». Companies that settle on the island ask about the quality of the training of

graduates and all without exception are impressed by the variety of skills that we possess.

The Faculty of ICT at the University of Malta has contributed to generate a wealth of expertise on the island and the staff of this Centre has been involved in numerous projects financed with Community funds.

In addition, the Maltese companies have actively involved in international research projects funded by the European Union. A good example of this is the VENTUREGATE ICT project, which concluded in 2012. This initiative, aimed at promoting cooperation between SMEs and investors in innovative activities, was coordinated by the Maltese organisation Paragon. In the framework of this project several tools e-learning for SMEs developed successfully on your disposal with regard to investments and, more importantly, a virtual platform dedicated to boost contributions.

Today it carries out a similar project, the EIG EUROPEAN INVESTOR GATE, which runs until 2015. The purpose of this project is to mitigate the fact that Europe is lagging behind in terms of commercial exploitation of the technology; for this purpose, is provided to entrepreneurs greater access to funding resources. "One of the main advantages of FP7 is collaboration," explains Alexander Borg. «Being a small country, we depend enormously from exports and trade. Thanks to the participation in FP7, we can expand our competences'.

A social investment

Malta has also been implicated in a series of projects financed by the European Union and directed to social purposes. In fact, the participation of Malta in the seventh framework programme of the European Union has focused primarily on the strategic objectives of ICT for learning and ICT for health.

An initiative that is being carried out with Community funds and involving the University of Malta is the project "Integrated Intelligent Learning Environment for Reading and Writing» (ILEARNRW). The purpose of this project, which runs

until 2015, is to develop new generation learning software to help dyslexic children. Another important ongoing project is "Translational Research and Patient Safety in Europe ' ((TRANSFORM), whose objective is to develop an infrastructure of data that integrates clinical activity and research for the sake of the safety of patients and clinical research.) The Mediterranean Institute of primary care has been part of this project financed with 9 million euros.

Whether leading e-government infrastructure or participating in some far-reaching pan-European projects, Malta has managed to reinvent itself as an essential actor in advancing the technological competence of Europe. He has played the trump card of the small size of the island and, as a result, the country continues to be a leader in the international scene.

In a globalized world, Malta has demonstrated that to create jobs and growth in an era of extraordinary technological changes requires flexibility, vision and investments. Demonstrated by the commitment of this island with the collaborative research.



Source: <http://www.euroxpress.es/index.php/noticias/2014/8/27/malta-a-la-cabeza-de-las-nuevas-tecnologias-en-la-ue/>

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Tiina Ristilä

ANALISIS ECONOMICO EUROPEO

Individual work: Education policy

Spring 2015

Faculty of Economics

Erasmus exchange program

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1 GENERAL OVERVIEW OF EDUCATION POLICIES

According to Finnish Opetus- ja kulttuuriministeriö, the aim is to develop the education in the European dimension's point of view, to advance the mobility of teachers and students in the European Union. Also the aim is to advance the language studies and support the cooperation between educational institutions. To advance the cooperation, EU has action plans:

- Lifelong Learning Programme
- Erasmus Mundus
- Juridical documents (recommendations and notifications)

Every member country has the responsibility about the content of education and the educational system (Opetus- ja kulttuuriministeriö). The aim of education policy is to support the national actions and help its member countries to solve common problems, for example aging, the lacks of workforce skills and worldwide competition. EU advance the change of good operational models and it collect statistical information. Additionally, European Union support and advise the member countries to implement educational reforms. (Koulutusyhteistyön strategiset puitteet 2020)

1.1 Organising cooperation

Member countries meet in the council. The chairmen of the council are member states and they take turns in six months periods. The meeting deals with the initiatives of commission to be new programmes and recommendations. The chairman country can raises the issues of which council can give common resolutions. Educational issues are discussed and decided in the council of education, youth, culture and sport. The council of education meet in Brussel 2-3 times per year. The decision will do with a qualified majority. In some cases the decisions will do together with European Parliament. (Opetus- ja kulttuuriministeriö)

The recognition of qualifications under the relevant legislation is part of the internal market legislation on the free movement of persons in the community. Its basic

principle is that a person, who is qualified to practice the profession in one member state, is qualified to exercise the same profession in any member state. (Opetus- ja kulttuuriministeriö)

1.2 To advance lifelong learning and develop the education sector

When developing the education, the lifelong learning is became the main principle. The lifelong learning is formed of four sub programs; Comenius, Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci and Grundtvig. Target group for Comenius program are pupils in school education from pre-school to the end of second degree. Erasmus program is targeted to tertiary education degree and Leonardo program focused on developing the vocational education. Lastly mentioned, Grundtvig program is targeted to develop the adult education. In addition to these, the transversal program and Jean Monnet –program includes to the program. The goal of the transversal program is to advance the European cooperation in the fields that cover more than one program's target groups. (Opetus- ja kulttuuriministeriö)

1.3 School policy

EU commission cooperates with its member states to develop the school system, but every country is responsible of organising the education and the content of education. European commission has two main lines in supporting the member countries.

- The commission is working closely with national authorities and help them to develop school policies and school systems. It collects and analyses information and encourages national bodies to exchange information about successful practices
- The commission is funding through the Erasmus+ program millions of euros in each year to pupils exchange, the development of schools as well as continuing education and other similar activities

The educational ministers of member state have determined the primary targets for the school policy:

- All students have to learn essential basic skills; reading skills, writing skills and numeracy. Trying to achieve this goal by renewing curriculums, teaching materials and student assessments.
- Every students must to receive high quality of education – including immigrant children
- Opportunity to go to pre-school should be wider
- The support of pupils with special needs, need to be improved in general school education
- To reduce the number of school drop-out rates
- Teachers, school leaders and teacher educators must support more, need to ensure effective recruitment and personal choices, as well as vocational training

European commission publish investigations about school situation and follow the progress in the field. (Koulupolitiikka)

1.4 Vocational education

The European commission advance the vocational education in cooperation with EU countries, employers- and employee organizations and with third countries. The target is to improve the quality of education, to increase the competence of teachers, trainers and other professionals. Also the development of learning content to answer the needs of the labour market includes the targets. European commission has organized skills competitions, as WorldSkills which is professional skills competition. (Ammatillinen koulutus)

1.5 Tertiary education policy

As mentioned previous chapters concerning the responsibilities, also in tertiary education member countries has the responsibility about the content of education

and the educational system. However the challenges of tertiary education are equal all over the European Union and the cooperation is beneficial. The tertiary education, which has connection with research and innovation actions, it's crucial to both individuals and the development of society. It creates human capital and top experts, which are needed to create workplaces, economic growth and wealth. (EU:n toimet korkea-asteen koulutuksen alalla)

By modernization European commission strive to achieve following targets:

- To increase the amount of tertiary education graduated
- Improve the learning results, as well as the quality and usefulness of teaching
- Advance the mobility of students and academic staff and international cooperation
- To strengthen the links between education, research and innovation
- To create working administrative and financial systems to higher education institutions

To achieve the targets European commission has developed different tools, such as European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) and for international use "Diploma Supplement". Led by the commission, are developed professional qualifications and the diplomas of recognition methods, as well as enhanced communications of higher education institutions. The commission support the Bologna's process which target is establishing European high education area (EHEA). Furthermore commission manages the Erasmus+ program, which offers a wide range of study and training opportunities to tertiary education pupils. Also commission support the cooperation projects with third countries. (EU:n toimet korkea-asteen koulutuksen alalla)

1.6 Adult education

The adult education is an essential part of European commission's Lifelong learning policy. Substantially it affects to competitiveness and citizen's employability, social inclusion, active citizenship and personal development across the Europe.

The challenge is to offer learning possibilities to everyone, particularly to vulnerable groups that need those most. Adult learning can take place within the formal or informal education system. It can also be informal learning to improve the basic skills, training for new profession, supplementation of skills or employment aimed at re-skilling. Nowadays the demand of adult education is growing. Due to this commission is committed to help all EU countries to create flexible and high quality systems that offer adult education. (Euroopan aikuiskoulutuspolitiikka)

2 THE HISTORY OF ERASMUS PROGRAM

The commission proposed to establish Erasmus program in December 1985. Proposal was not easy to implement; 18 months negotiations were needed. The main problems were legislation base and budget. Germany, France and Great Britain were the countries that expressed most suspicions. The opinion of Spaniard Manuel Marín was, that the proposal for the Erasmus program should be discounted, as it did not correspond to the targets of proposed methodology. (The history of European cooperation in education and training, 2006)

Luckily, the Frenchmen Francois Mitterrand and Jacques Chirac disagreed and they had an important role to play in changing attitudes. In the meeting in May 1987 discussed the agreement's legal point of views that the program could be adopted by simple majority. Some of the member states opposed this method and required consensus. Finally, the 14th of May ministers agreed the budget of Erasmus program and the program was officially adopted on 15th June 1987. (The history of European cooperation in education and training, 2006)

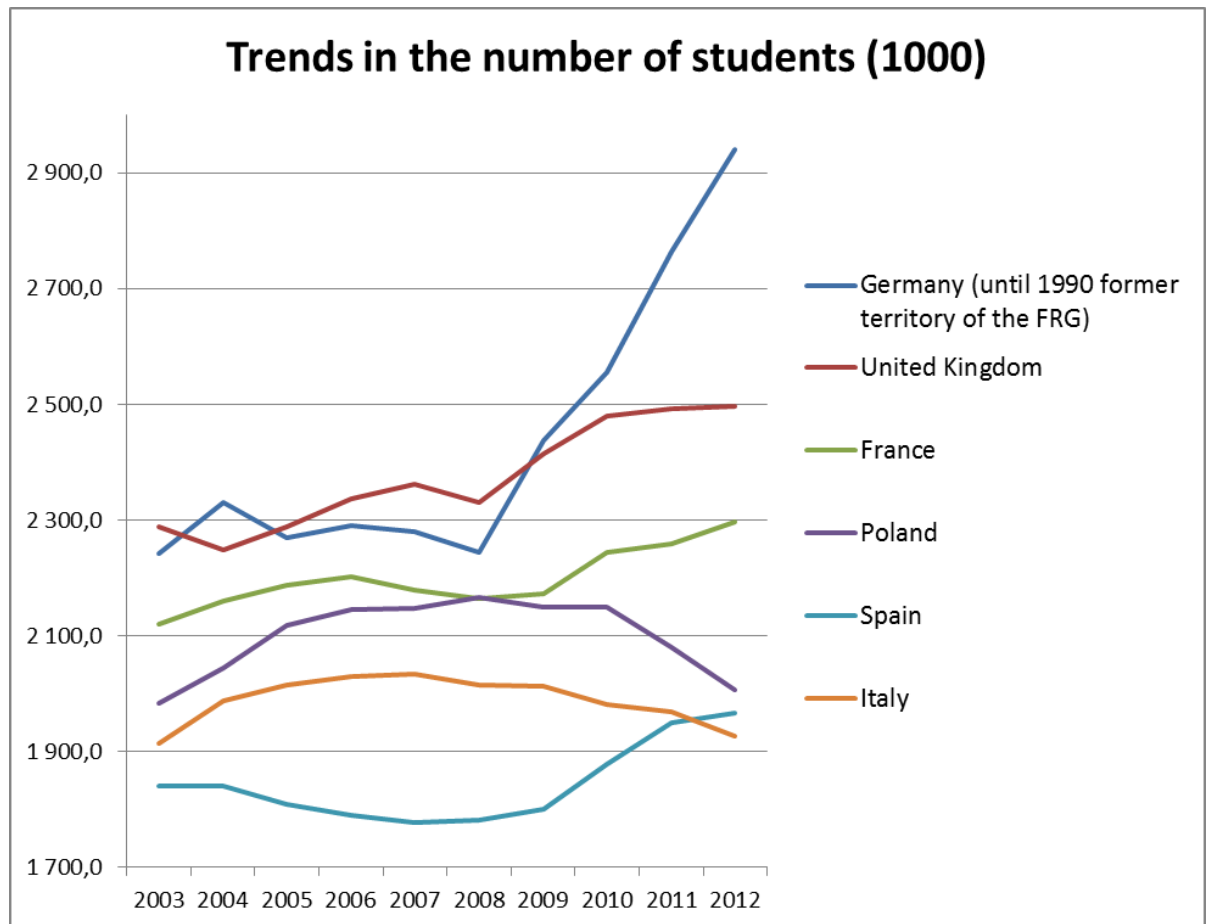
According to the publication of European Commission (2006), the Erasmus program was characterized by three important spheres of operations; to develop a network of cooperation between universities, to give economic support to the mobility arrangements and improving the recognition of academic qualifications and study periods in another country. Due to this Erasmus developed European Credit Transfer system (ECTS). This system forms a key part of the program because it allows transferring the credits between institutions which ensures that mobility programs are useful and attractive.

3 TERTIARY EDUCATION AND ERASMUS+

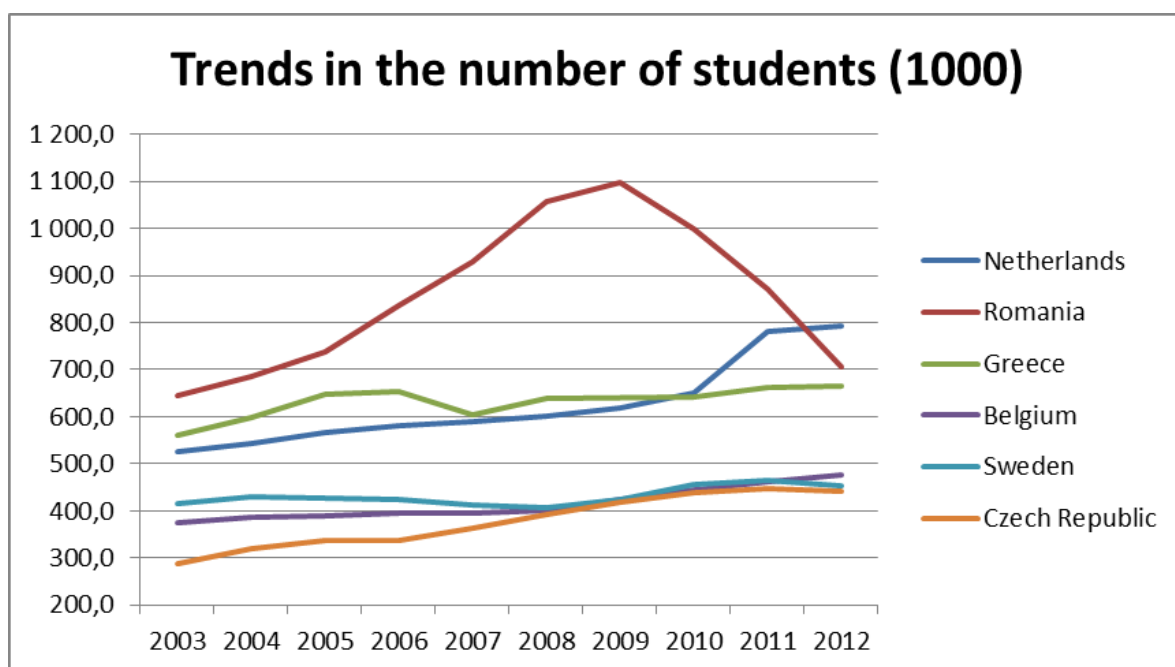
In the chapter three, author will focus on to tertiary education and to Erasmus+ program.

3.1 Tertiary education

Author has divided the tertiary education participation into five tables depending on the number of students. Below is the table of number of students in tertiary education. As we can see that in Germany the amount of students is increased sharply and Poland has suffered the drop of students.

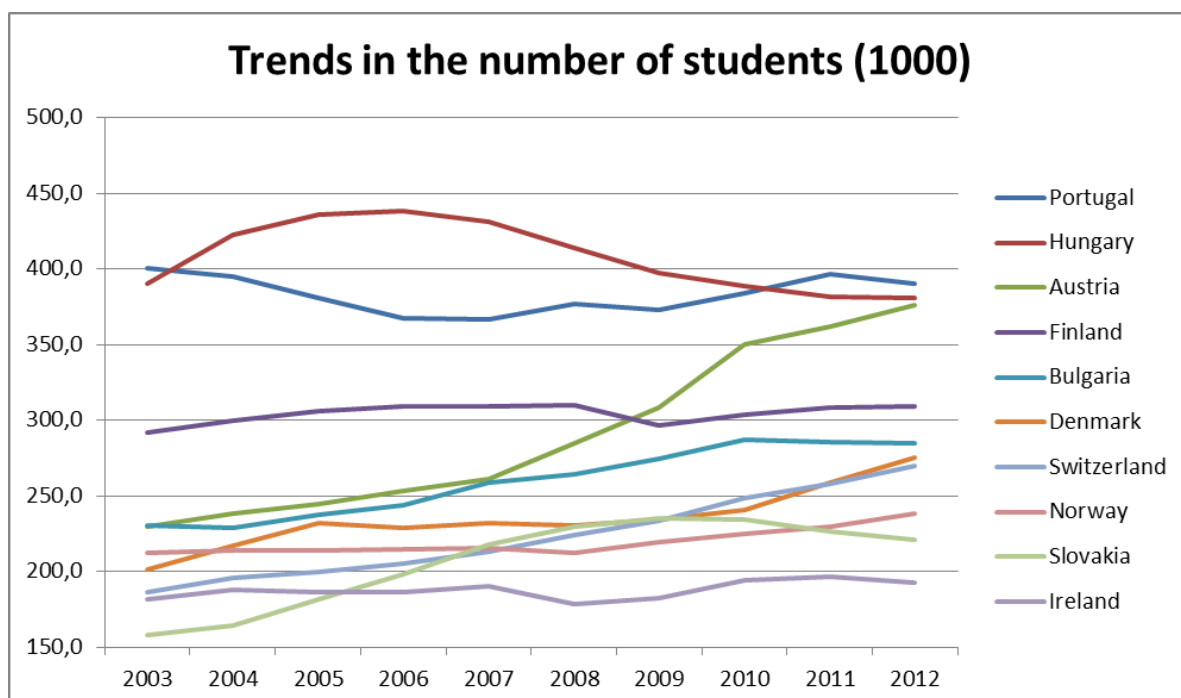


1 Trends in the number of students in Germany, U.K., France, Poland, Spain & Italy
Source: Participation in tertiary education



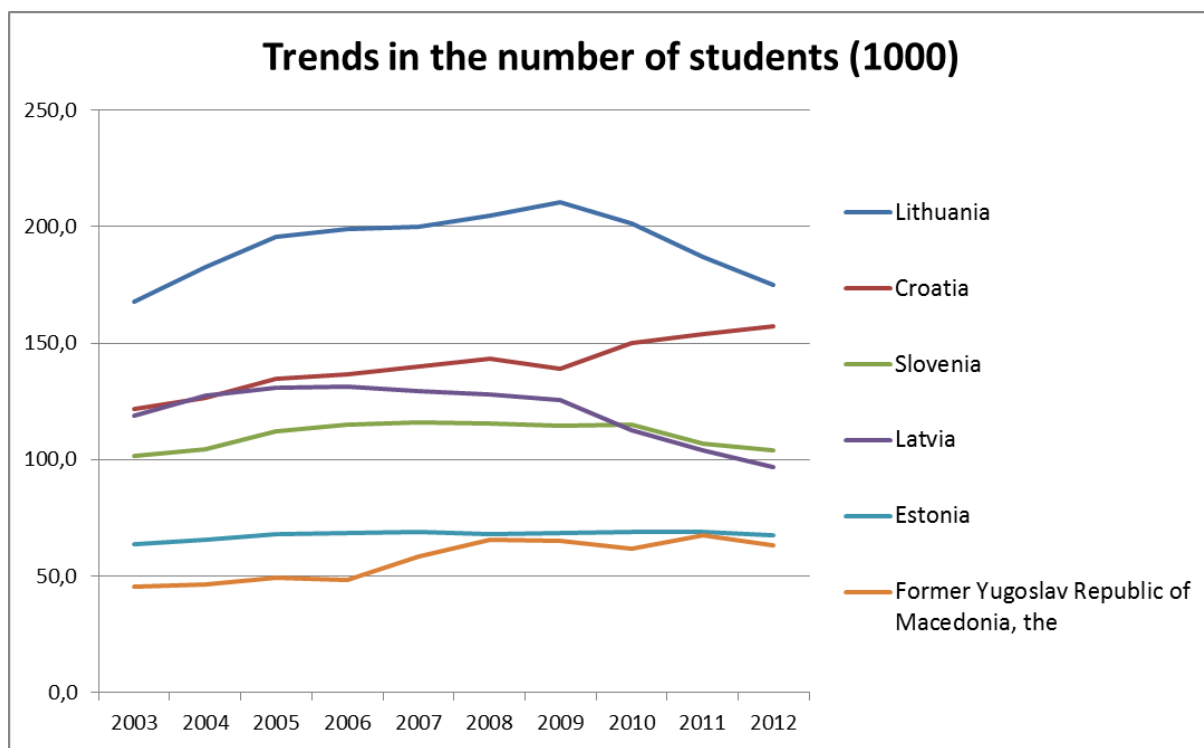
2 Trends in the number of students in Netherlands, Romania, Greece etc.
Source: Participation of tertiary education

As we can see from table two, Romania has suffered a drop between 2009 and 2012.



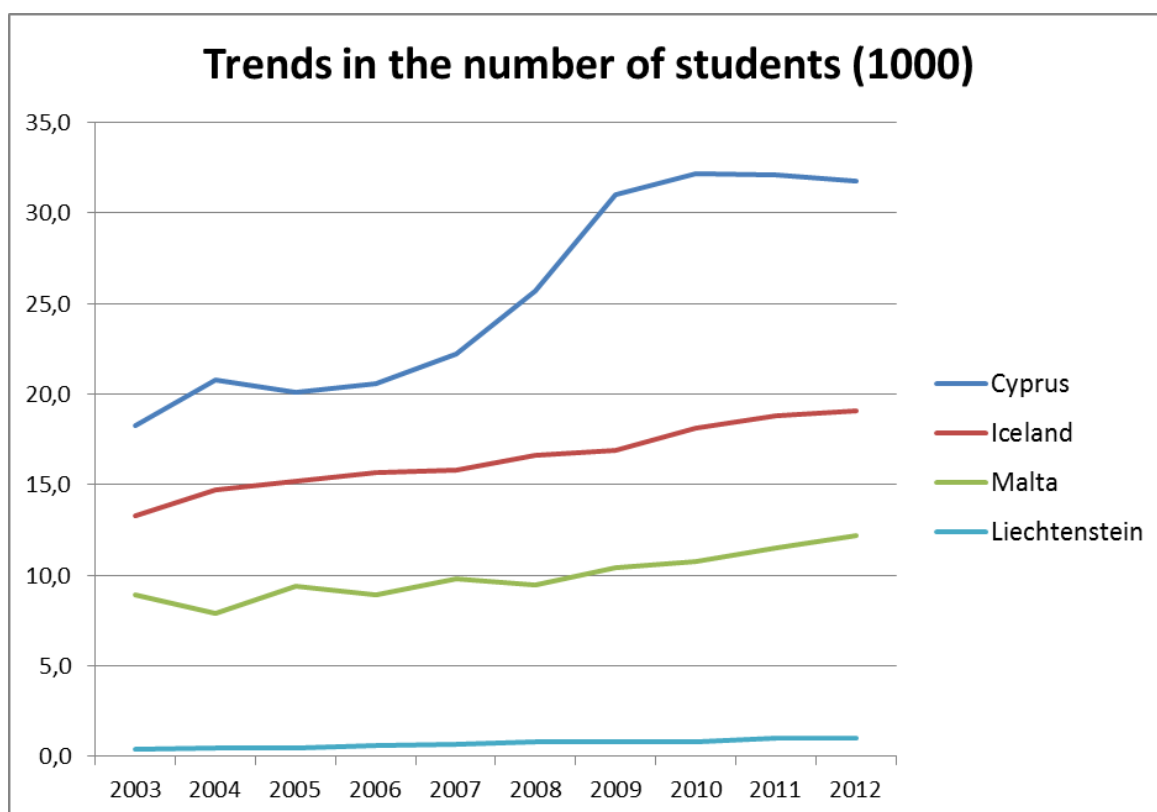
3 Trend in the number of students in tertiary education
Source: Participation of tertiary education

The third table shows the number of student's participation growth in tertiary education in Austria. Other countries do not have so dramatic changes in this table. Author would like to mention the steady line of Finland.



4 Trends in the number of students in Lithuania, Croatia, Slovenia etc.
Source: Participation of tertiary education

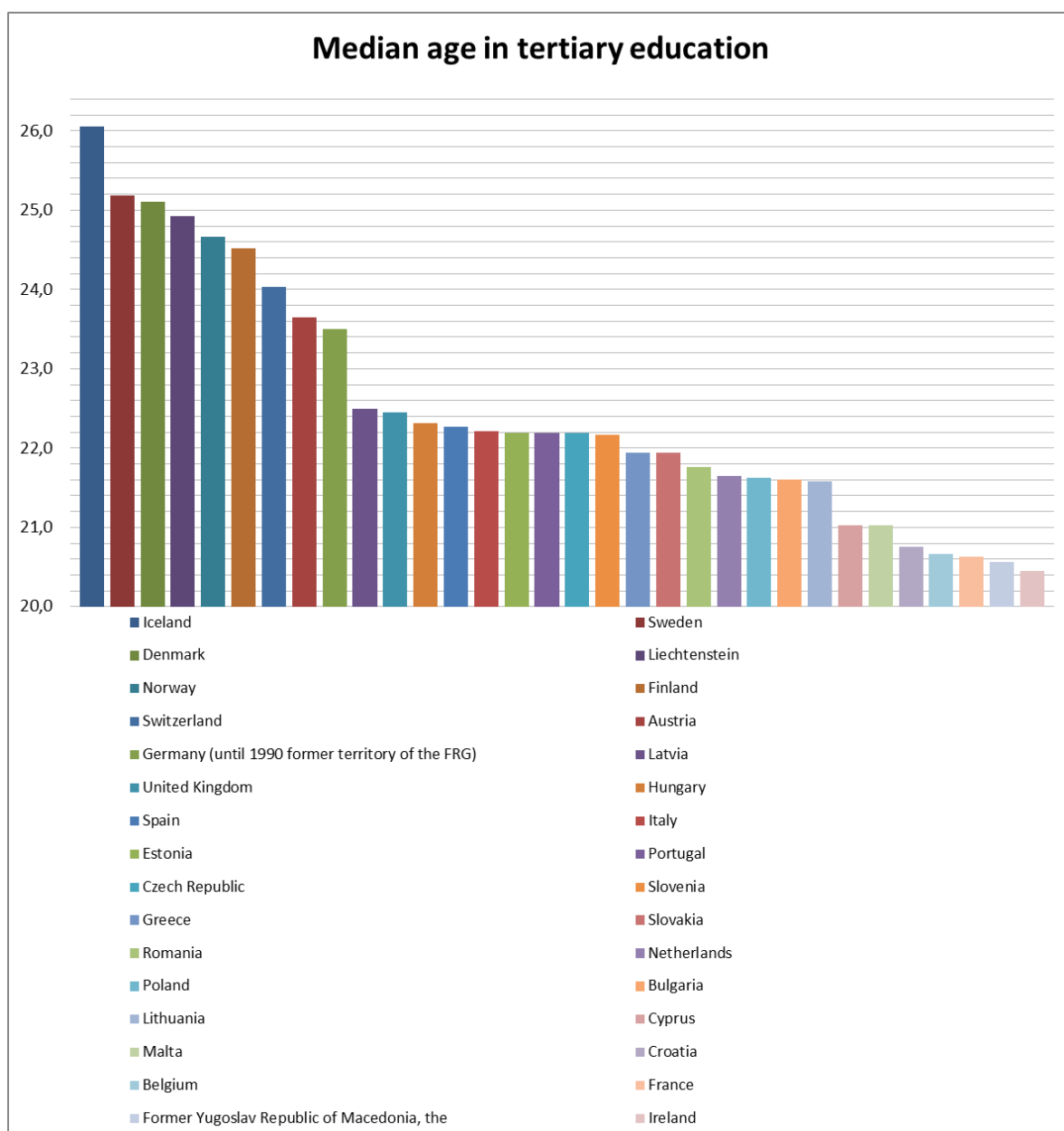
Latvia has suffered a drop in number of students in tertiary education while Croatia has grown.



5 Trends in the number of students in Cyprus, Iceland, Malta and Liechtenstein

Source: Participation of tertiary education

The table five shows the increased number of students in tertiary education in Cyprus between years 2008-2012.



6 Median age in tertiary education

Source: Participation of tertiary education

From table 6 shows us the median age of students in tertiary education by countries. Iceland's students have the highest age while the Ireland's students have the lowest age in tertiary education.

3.2 Erasmus+

The target of new Erasmus+ program is to improve the employability, know-how and reform the education and youth work. The budget for seven years period is 14, 7 billion euros. EU considers it is an important to invest to education and to the youth. Due to this grants have been raised 40 % from previous amount. Erasmus+ makes it possible for over 4 million young to study, work or do volunteer work at abroad. Additionally Erasmus+ grant support the international cooperation between youth organizations and the institutions of education, to aim is to convergence the institutions and work life. Also, from Erasmus+ program is supporting national actions to modernize vocational education and youth work. First time the sport is part of Erasmus+ grant. In the field of sport, it grants "grassroots" level's projects which aim is to prevent match-fixing, doping, violence and racism. (Erasmus+)

Below is the table of numbers of Erasmus+.

Mobility opportunities in total	4 million people
Tertiary education	2 million students
Students in vocational education	650 000 students
Staff mobility	800 000 lecturers, teachers and youth workers
Volunteer and youth exchange programs	500 000 young
The loan guarantee scheme of master's studies	200 000 students
Common Master program	25 000 students
Strategic partnerships	25 000 partner projects, including 125 000 institutions, youth organizations and companies
Information alliances	150 information alliances, including 1500 universities and companies
Industry-specific knowledge alliances	150 industry-specific alliances, including 2000 vocational school and companies

7 The numbers of Erasmus+

Source: Erasmus+ keskeisiä tilastoja

4 FUTURE PLANS

European Union has determined strategic objectives, which should be achieved by 2020. These objectives are:

- More than 95% of 4-6 year-olds children take part to the early childhood teaching
- The share of low-achieving 15-year-olds students is less than 15% in reading, mathematics and the natural
- The share of interrupted students is less than 10% of young
- More than 40% of 30-34 year-olds has tertiary education
- More than 15% of adults take part to the adult education
- More than 20% of tertiary education degree, and 18-34 year-olds in vocational degree, have undertook studies or training abroad

Each EU country's progress in achieving these benchmarks are estimated annual in the country-specific analyzes. The EU will also provide recommendations of the objectives to the member countries. (Koulutussyhteistyön strategiset puitteet 2020)

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1 Introduction

It's no secret that the human activity and the rapid development of industrial technologies help to make life more comfortable and pleasant, and have a strong negative impact on the ecological situation in the world. Despite the fact that people almost become the so-called kings of nature, people and the environment continue to interact with each other. Due to the bad ecological situation, people and the environment are suffering. People need to take responsibility for the environment and society. The main task of policy in the field of environmental protection is to ensure sustainable development.

Our behaviour makes huge demands on the planet. During the 20th century, the world increased its use of fossil fuels by a factor of 12 and extracted 34 times more material resources. Demand for food, animal feed and fibre may increase by 70 % by 2050. If we continue to obtain resources at the current rate, we will need more than two planets to sustain us. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.3)

To maintain a sustainability and well-being of the society the environmental policy was created.

2 Environmental policy

The key objective of the environmental policy is to improve the quality of the environment, protect human health, achieve rational use of natural resources, and promote international measures to address global or regional environmental problems. A coordinated environmental strategy across the Union ensures synergies and coherence between EU policies and, given the relevance of environmental legislation for many business sectors. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.3)

Important to say, that efforts must be made to raise general awareness, use resources more efficiently and eradicate damaging and wasteful behaviour. Otherwise, future generations will be deprived of their legitimate inheritance. This requires collective action involving the EU, national, regional and local governments, businesses, NGOs and ordinary individuals. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.3)

Environmental quality is considered central to health and well-being. Since the 1970s, the European Union (EU) and its member countries have introduced laws to ensure the careful use of natural resources, to minimize adverse environmental impacts of production and consumption, and to protect biodiversity and natural habitats. Based on Title XX of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, EU environment law covers aspects as wide-ranging as waste management, air and water quality, greenhouse gases and toxic chemicals. The EU integrates environmental concerns in its other policies, e.g. transport and energy, and is a major global force in pushing for tighter environmental standards and for effective action against climate change. (Environment, 2014)

2.1 Evolving strategy

The major environmental challenges facing Europe have evolved since the early days of European environmental policymaking. In the 1970s and 1980s the policy focused on protecting species and improving the quality of the air we breathe or the water we drink by reducing emissions of pollutants. Now, emphasis is on a more systematic approach that takes account of links between various themes and their global dimension. It involves ensuring that other areas such as agriculture, energy, transport, fisheries, regional development, research, innovation and external aid take fully into account the environmental consequences of their policy and funding decisions. This mainstreaming will maintain a better approach towards environmental challenges and maximise synergies. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.3)

Also it is so significant to encourage not only citizens of European Union to take care about the environmental issues, but also the neighbouring countries, and the whole world, with the key objective to create the well-being of the society.

2.2 Environment and economy

Needless to say, that environment and economy are like two sides of the same coin. Greening the economy reduces environmental costs through more efficient use of resources, when new environmentally friendly technologies and techniques create employment, give a boost to the economy and strengthen the competitiveness of European industry. The European Commission is showing the way with its Europe 2020 strategy, the EU's growth strategy for the coming decade. Environmental policy is created to meet the strategy's overall objectives of moving to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth that will transform Europe into a knowledge-based, resource-efficient economy. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.4)

3 The way EU developing environmental policy

Since the 1970s, the EU has agreed over 200 pieces of legislation to protect the environment. But legislation alone counts for little if it is not properly applied and enforced, as the failure to implement legislation has many adverse consequences. It can undermine fundamental environmental objectives, harm human health and present industry with regulatory uncertainty as agreed standards are applied unevenly across the Union. Meanwhile, proper implementation can bring financial benefits. If EU waste legislation is fully applied it would generate 400 000 jobs and reduce annual net costs by EUR 72 billion. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.5)

The European Commission attaches greater importance to helping Member States with effective implementation. Capacity-building and financial support are available, alongside better knowledge of the state of the environment as well as information on the way Member States deliver on their EU commitments in practice. It has recommended that each Member State should establish an independent national review body, such as an ombudsman, to handle environment-related complaints from the public. (*Ibid.*)

3.1 Using the market

The market is one of the ways to protect and improve the environment, as the axes and subsidies can be used to act as incentives to encourage companies and consumers to act for greener manufacturing methods and products. The European Commission would like to see the gradual removal of subsidies for industry, transport, farming and energy that encourage use of polluting or energy-intensive products and processes. Policies must be based on sound evidence that provides an understanding of the causes and impact of environmental change so that appropriate responses and strategies can be devised. Much of this data comes from national sources complemented by Pan-European datasets and is analysed by the European Environment Agency, which provides input into the EU's environmental policy. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.5)

3.2 Encouraging innovation

Encouraging innovation is the way to develop environmental policy. Environmental technology industries are already an important part of the EU economy. To encourage greater use of green technologies, the EU is promoting green public procurement, costing products over their life-cycle and eco-labelling. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.7)

However, with the exception of renewable energy, eco-innovation has penetrated markets relatively slowly. Bottlenecks include the failure of market prices to accurately reflect environmental costs and benefits, and incentives and subsidies that sustain wasteful practices and rigid economic structures. The EU's Eco-innovation Action Plan shows us the specific drivers of eco-innovation and barriers to its uptake. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.7)

3.3 Increasing awareness

The European Commission promotes awareness of the environment in many ways. An annual highlight is Green Week in Brussels when thousands of participants over 4 days debate a key environmental issue. Competitions are another popular way to raise awareness. The EU's Green Capital Award showcases the environmental care and imagination which cities across Europe are making. To win the title, a city must show a consistent record of achieving high environmental standards, be committed to further sustainable development goals and serve as a role model for others.

For instance, the winners:

- 2010: Stockholm
- 2011: Hamburg
- 2012: Vitoria-Gasteiz
- 2013: Nantes
- 2014: Copenhagen

— 2015: Bristol

— 2016: Ljubljana

(A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.7)

The Europe's greenest cities (The Europe's greenest cities, 2010)



1 The Europe's greenest cities

The picture above shows us the greenest cities of EU.

Copenhagen's extensive energy conservation and climate protection efforts make it the most eco-friendly city in Europe. The city plans to become completely CO₂-free by 2025. (The Europe's greenest cities, 2010)

4 EU institutions and bodies

There are a lot of institutions and bodies which are responsible for environmental policy such as:

- European Parliament: Committee on environment, public health and food safety
- Council of the European Union: Environment
- European Commission: Environment; Climate action
- European Economic and Social Committee: Agriculture, rural development and environment section
- Committee of the Regions: Commission for environment, climate change and energy (ENVE)
- European Investment Bank: European Investment Bank and environment
- EU agencies: European Environment Agency

(EU institutions and bodies, 2014)

For example, The European Environment Agency (EEA) collects national data to produce European datasets. It develops and maintains indicators and reports on the state of the environment. Based in Copenhagen, it began work in 1994. Its mandate is to help the EU and its member countries to make informed decisions about improving the environment, integrating environmental considerations into economic policies to move towards sustainability and to coordinate the European environment information and observation network. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.6)

5 Phases of development

Policy of the European Union on the environment is remarkable phenomenon. It is one of "common policies" of the EU, the establishment and development of which takes more than a quarter century. Today it is one of the priorities of the EU, according to Art. 3 of the Amsterdam Treaty, 1997. Environment - current issue for the European region. Europe today is a zone of ecological disaster. Further economic growth and political cohesion of the Member States, is not possible without taking into account environmental factors. (EU policy on the environment, 2014)

5.1 The first phase (1957-1972)

Initially, the "environment" has not been allocated by the Treaty of Rome, 1957 as the scope of integration. However, environmental issues defined the boundaries of legal regulation of the establishment of the common market, such as it is reflected in art. 36 of the Treaty, which allows Member States to impose restrictions on import, export, transit commodity turnover for reasons of environmental safety. Overall, despite the absence of a common policy in this area during this period, the Community was prepared to expand its activities in it. Environmental problems were addressed by the secondary Community law, in particular in the documents for the implementation of agricultural and energy policy of the EEC. (EU policy on the environment, 2014)

5.2 The second phase (1972-1986)

In 1972, the Council of Heads of State / Government of the Member States decided to extend Community competence in new areas, in the area of environment too. All decisions in the new field of activity were adopted by Article 100 and 235 of the Treaty, which allow EEC to achieve the objectives of the Community to take action in areas not designated in the memorandum. Such self-expansion of competence has been called "spillover". Regulation of the new field of Cohesion conducted mainly through the issuance of directives - acts of harmonization of Member States' right. In

those years first program of Community action was taken in the field of ecology, the first judicial precedents appeared. (EU policy on the environment, 2014)

EEC has acceded to a number of important international conventions on the environment, such as the Convention for the Protection of wild flora and fauna and natural habitats in Europe, 1979, the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983, the Convention on Transboundary Air Pollution on Long-range 1979 and etc. This period is marked by the emergence of Community policy on the environment and ways of its regulation. (EU policy on the environment, 2014)

5.3 The third phase (1986-1992)

The Single European Act of 1986 showed changes of the Treaty, establishing the EEC, in 1957. Articles 130 r-t defined the objectives and tasks, principles and directions of Community policies on the environment. In relations between the Community and the Member States on environmental protection the principle of "subsidiarity" has been embedded. This principle means that the activities of the Community in the environmental field is carried out to the extent that the purpose of the considered policy can be implemented at Community level in the best way, than by Member States on an individual basis. (EU policy on the environment, 2014)

In secondary law during this period, we can see the increase in the legal regulation of environmental activities on the basis of regulations - acts of unification of the law of the Member States. During this period, questions of introduction of the system for evaluating the likely environmental impacts, monitoring, dissemination of environmental information and public access to it and, in particular, financing of environmental protection measures have the utmost importance for the Community. (EU policy on the environment, 2014)

In the third stage the process of establishing a Community policy on the environment, legal regulations in this area were completed.

5.4 The fourth phase (1992-present)

According to EU policy on the environment (2014) this stage is the stage of development of environmental policy of the Community. Treaty on European Union in 1992 made adjustments to Articles 130 r-t. Today, the goals and objectives of EU policy towards the environment are:

- Preserving, protecting and improving the environment;
- Concern for the protection of human health;
- Achievement of prudent and rational utilization of natural resources;
- Promoting measures at international level to address regional and global environmental problems.

Community policy on the environment is based on the principles of prevention, precaution, compensation of damages, and responsibility of pollutant. (EU policy on the environment, 2014)

6 EU environmental policy achievements

Every day, the global population increases by 200 000. By the end of the next decade, an additional 2 billion people may have joined the high-consumption middle classes in developing countries. Population growth and rising living standards are increasing demand and raising the price of natural resources. Demand and supply are increasingly going in different directions. If resource use continues at the present rate, mankind will require the equivalent of more than two planets by 2050 to satisfy its needs and the hopes of millions for a better quality of life will be dashed. However, by the help of environmental policy we can save our planet, create well-being and sustainability. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.8)

The author would like to mention such examples as biodiversity, chemicals, waste, air and water.

6.1 Biodiversity

Biodiversity — the term used to emphasise the richness of the natural world with all its species and genetic variety — and ecosystems by 2020. In 2011 the EU adopted an updated biodiversity strategy. This has as a headline target halting the loss of biodiversity and degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, restoring them as far as feasible and increasing Europe's contribution towards averting biodiversity loss globally. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.10)

6.2 Chemicals

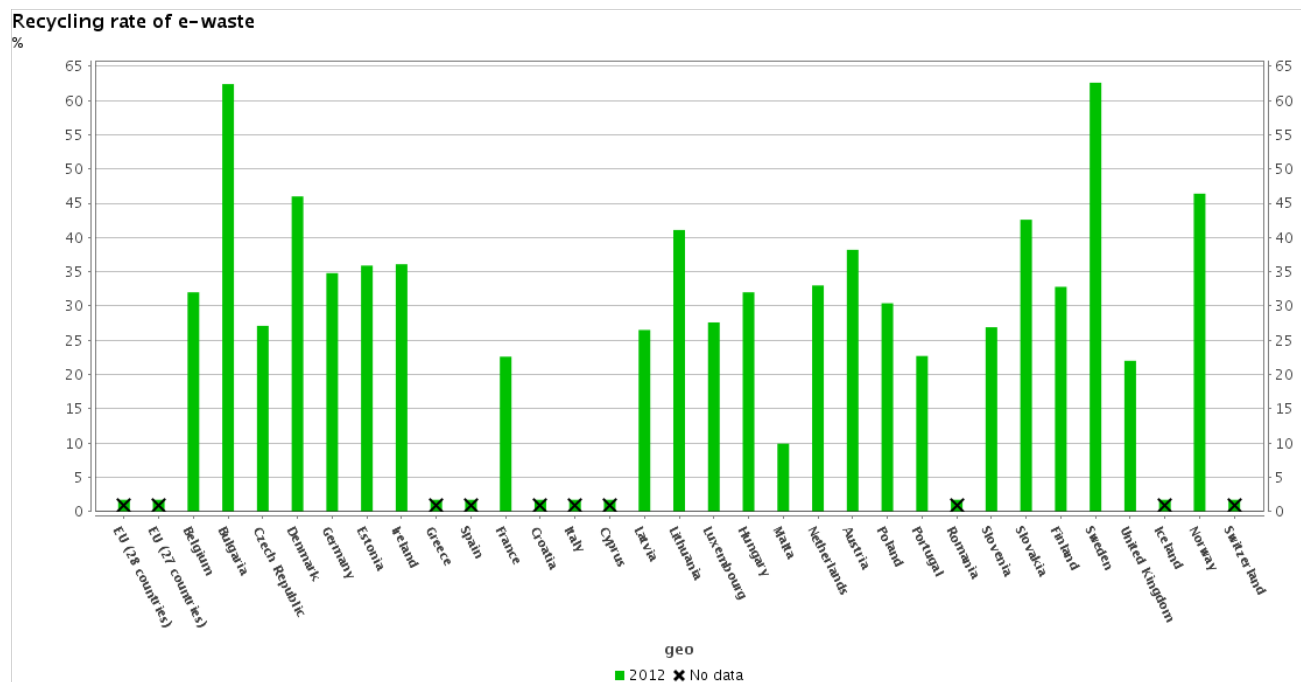
All chemical substances manufactured or imported into the EU must be registered with the Helsinki-based European Chemicals Agency. By 2018, every chemical used in the EU will have to comply with this requirement. If not, it cannot be sold in the Union. Particularly strict rules apply to the most hazardous products. Companies are responsible for the managing any risks from the chemicals they use or sell in the Union and for providing customers with the appropriate safety advice on how they

should be handled. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.12)

6.3 Waste

The EU's economy uses 16 tonnes of materials per person per year, of which 6 tonnes becomes waste, half of it going to landfill. If waste cannot be avoided, then the European Commission's message is to reuse, recycle and recover what can be a valuable resource. Landfill taxes and 'pay as you throw' schemes can help achieve this. Some Member States have already achieved recycling rates of over 80 % and have virtually eliminated landfill. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.12)

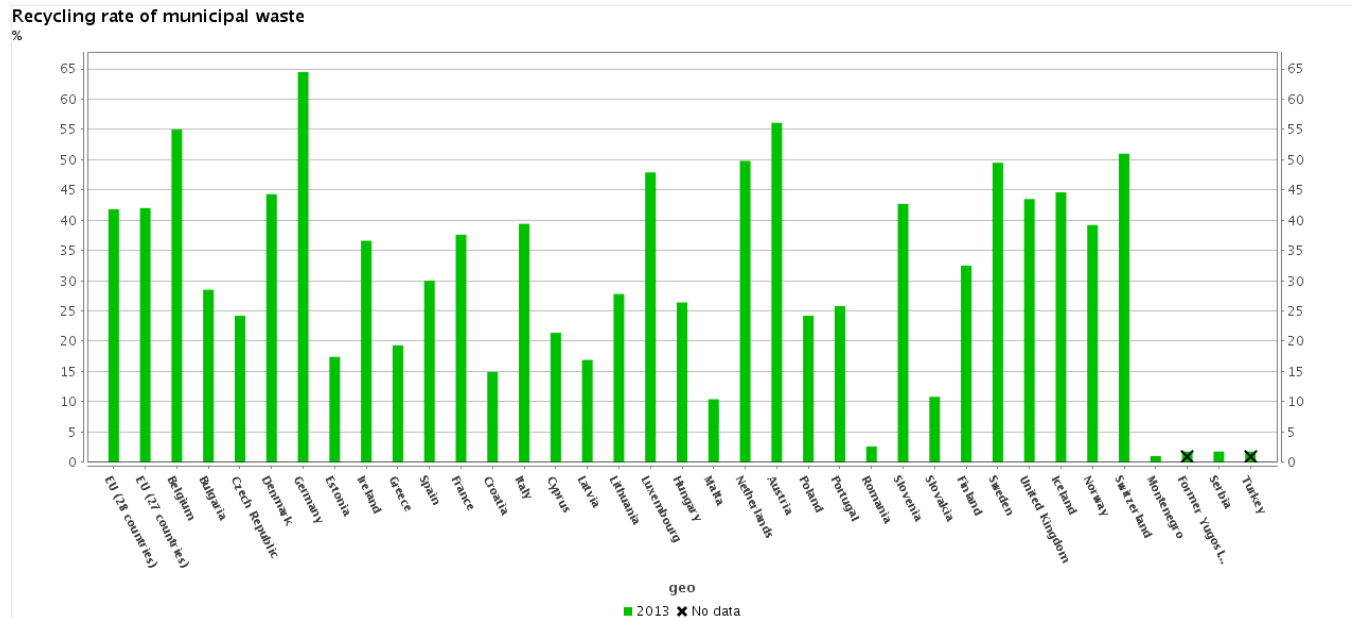
Recycling rate of e-waste - % (Recycling rate of e-waste, 2012)



2Recycling rate of e-waste 2012

On the bar graph we can see the percent of recycling of the electrical and electronic waste (e-waste) by EU members in 2012. Important to mention, that Sweden, Norway and Bulgaria have the highest indicators of recycling rate.

Recycling rate of municipal waste - % (Recycling rate of municipal waste, 2013)



3 Recycling rate of municipal waste

The bar graph gives a rosy picture of the percent of recycling of municipal waste by EU members in 2013. Important to mention, that Germany, Belgium and Austria show the highest indicators of recycling rate.

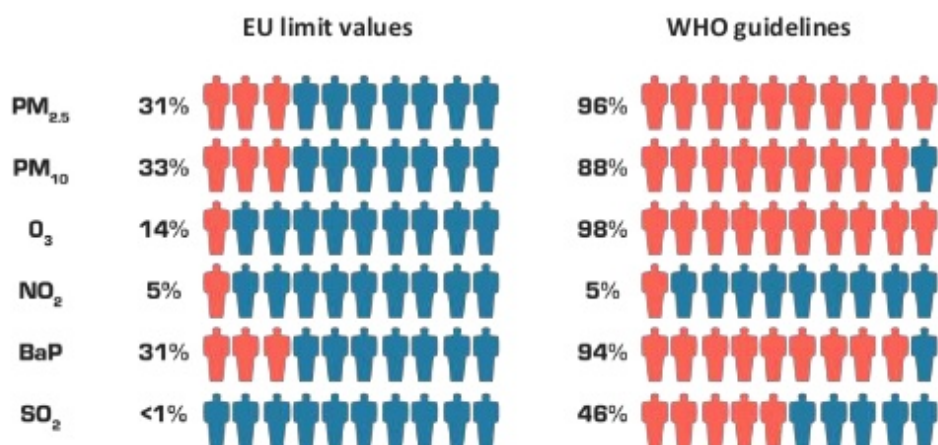
6.4 Air

Over the past 20 years, the EU has successfully reduced the levels of a number of pollutants. Lead emissions, for example, have fallen by some 90 %. Despite the progress made, air pollution ranks high among Europeans' environmental concerns and causes many premature deaths every year. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.12)

Exposure to harmful levels of air pollution (Exposure to harmful levels of air pollution, 2013)

Exposure to harmful levels of air pollution

EU urban population exposed to harmful levels of air pollution, according to:



Up to a third of Europeans living in cities are exposed to air pollutant levels exceeding EU air quality standards. And around 90 % of Europeans living in cities are exposed to levels of air pollutants deemed damaging to health by the World Health Organization's more stringent guidelines.

4 Exposure to harmful levels of air pollution

In 2013, the Commission presented a 'Clean Air' policy package of measures to further improve air quality, updating existing legislation and reducing harmful emissions from industry, traffic, energy plants and agriculture, with a view to lowering their impact on human health and the environment. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.12)

6.5 Water

In recent decades, the EU has put in place a comprehensive policy to ensure the quality of Europe's water due to health concerns. The EU's main piece of water legislation, the water framework directive, requires all rivers, lakes, coastal waters and groundwater to be clean by 2015. Member States have to check the state of their waters and draw up plans explaining how they will clean them. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.12)

Another piece of European legislation, the marine strategy framework directive, adopts a coordinated approach to managing human activities that have an impact on the marine environment. It requires national measures to be introduced from 2015 to ensure marine litter does not harm the coastal and marine environment and aims to have marine waters healthy by 2020. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.12)

A European Commission blueprint to safeguard Europe's water resources up to 2020 and beyond should help the EU meet its targets. This will operate like a toolkit to improve the implementation of water management, mainstreaming it into other policy areas. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.12)

6.6 The EU's Environment Action Programme (EAP) until 2020

The general EU Environment Action Programme to 2020 sets out a long-term environment strategy designed to be sufficiently flexible to respond to the challenges ahead and the increasingly systemic risks they contain. It provides an overall approach towards the environment, setting the course for a green and competitive economy that will safeguard our natural resources and health for present and future generations. (A healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations, 2014, P.14)

7 Conclusions

To sum up, the environmental policy gives us framework, so in future the citizens of EU will live in a safe and healthy natural environment. Nowadays, the environment is protected by a whole system of environmental standards of environmental policy.

Relations "man - nature" should always be harmonious, because only this will ensure human health and quality development of the whole society. Preservation of nature in its original form is a reflection of the culture of every person and of society as a whole.

Human civilization, like any living organism, is growing, improving, gaining experience. Human civilization begins to realize the nature of the actions and draws conclusions. In order not to reach the "point of no return", it is necessary to make a global change in consciousness, to make a big step towards nature, regardless of economic factors.

Protection of nature must be our priority. And there are ways to improve our environment.

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Política Migratoria en la Unión Europea



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Introduction

Since the 70s, all the Member States of the European Union are affected by international migration flows and as a result, have agreed to establish a common EU policy on immigration. The main objective of the common immigration policy is to manage migration through a coordinated approach, taking into account the economic and demographic situation in which the EU currently.

Taking advantage of people seeking a better life, networks smuggling and trafficking in human beings have been established throughout the territory of the EU. As a result, resources have been mobilized to fight illegal immigration, especially against traffickers and smugglers. Moreover, it is essential to recognize the importance of migration to the EU in certain sectors or regions with economic or demographic needs

Aware that a new approach to management of migration flows was necessary, EU leaders were set at the European Council in October 1999 in Tampere (Finland), the basic principles of an immigration common policy of the EU. The approach adopted in Tampere in 1999 was confirmed in 2004 with the adoption of The Hague Programme, which sets targets for strengthening freedom, security and justice in the EU for 2005 -2010.

Bases of migration policy

The Arab riots of spring 2011 have caused a large influx of immigrants from the southern Mediterranean who have entered illegally in the European Union (EU), reaching the shores of Italy and Malta. The EU has adopted emergency measures to respond to this situation. However, these events have highlighted the limits of the means of the EU's migration and the need for greater solidarity between Member States in this area.

In response, the Commission presented initiatives to implement a comprehensive European migration policy to meet the challenges it poses. This policy must respect the European tradition of asylum and protection while avoiding the borders irregularly crossed.

Thus, different aspects of migration are addressed:

Cross borders

The control of the external borders of the EU must be effective and must maintain a high level of security, while facilitating the passage of persons authorized to enter the EU. The Commission wants to strengthen existing

common standards. In particular, it plans to create a European system of border guards. It also insists on improving cooperation between national authorities and the exchange of operational information to any incident at the external borders, especially by the EUROSUR system. Also it strengthened the operational capacity of Frontex.

The evaluation of the application of the Schengen rules by the Member States should be at EU level, with the participation of experts from Member States and Frontex, under the direction of the Commission. This also provides for a mechanism allowing for a decision at European level, the exceptional reintroduction of checks at internal borders.

Finally, to prevent illegal immigration, the Commission stresses the need for a European return policy (repatriate illegal immigrants who do not require international protection) balanced and effective. It reiterates that all Member States should be incorporated into national law Directive "return" on common standards and procedures for returning illegal immigrants and a directive to sanction the employment of illegal residents. Finally, it recognizes the effectiveness of readmission agreements with third countries but this must be considered in the context of overall relations between the EU and the countries concerned and should provide incentives that help countries implement them.

Move and live in the Schengen area

The Commission recommends a better organized mobility based on cooperation (between the European agencies Frontex and Europol, and between national law enforcement authorities) and new technologies. A European system of inputs and outputs to ensure that they were available to the authorities data on border crossings of citizens from third countries. A registered traveler program would enable automated border control for frequent travelers.

Moreover, visa policy is an important instrument in terms of mobility. To avoid any abuse of visa liberalization regime, the Commission proposes to introduce a safeguard clause allowing temporarily introduce a visa requirement for citizens of third countries benefiting from this scheme.

At the same time, the Union recognizes that migrants are an indispensable hand work enabling the EU to respond to labor shortages in certain sectors and highly skilled work. It is therefore important to recognize their qualifications and to facilitate administrative procedures. The Commission expects progress in the proposed single permit foreigners to reside and work in a Member State and urges the EU to incorporate into national law the directive on the EU Blue Card facilitating hiring highly qualified people. It has also presented proposals on seasonal workers and persons temporarily transferred

by their companies. To provide migrants with clear and practical information, the Commission launches this year the EU Portal on immigration.

Finally, the integration of migrants into European society must be made respecting the balance between the rights of migrants and the laws and culture of the host countries. Requires, therefore, efforts by both migrants and the host countries. Successful integration is essential to fully exploit the economic, social and cultural benefits of immigration for the benefit of individuals and businesses. The Commission presented in July 2011, the European Agenda for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals.

Relations with third countries

Issues concerning migration should be integrated into all external relations of the EU. It must achieve a better balance between the organization of legal migration, combating irregular migration and maximizing the mutual benefits of migration for development. It is necessary to strengthen the human dimension through a migrant-centered approach.

In connection with the countries of the southern Mediterranean, the Union has proposed them a structured dialogue on migration in order to create mobility partnerships to facilitate the access of their citizens to EU territory in exchange for cooperation in managing migratory flows. The Commission will also revise its Neighbourhood Policy with these countries.

Free movement of persons

The free movement of people is one of the basic principles of the European Union since its inception and one of the areas where more work has been done to carry it out.

Before the start of the process started by the founders of the European Union in 1950 parents, and there was considerable movement of people between States which currently make up the European Union. In the case of France, in the early 1930s Italian immigrants exceeded the figure of 1 million. However from the 1968 census the Italians lost the first and most numerous foreigners in that country being superseded by the Spanish and then the Portuguese. In that year 581 000 Italians were counted in the census and 1999 the number had fallen to 201 670. Since 1974, immigration policy, except in cases of family reunification and asylum was suspended.

After the end of World War II, the need for labor led several European governments implement measures to gradually open their systems to

accommodate workers from, initially, other less developed European states like Portugal and Spain or overpopulation, for Italy, which is mainly directed to Germany (Gastarbeiter) and France.

In this context, the free movement of people is a concept emanating from the 1985 Schengen Agreement and the Schengen Convention of 1990, which marked the start of the abolition of border controls between the participating States. Schengen cooperation, as part of the institutional framework of the EU has expanded to include most of the Member States and several EU countries. For example, the free movement of all EU workers in the whole of the EU is effective from 2011.

The UK has for generations with immigrant labor. The government implemented a liberal immigration policy such as Sweden and Ireland opened their borders without conditions to the citizens of the new member states. As a result of this policy nearly 500 000 EU citizens have been installed in the country.

Meanwhile Irish society was characterized by economic migration to the 1980. Economic growth in the 1990s led to the near disappearance of unemployment. Since 1996, Ireland has a positive migratory balance thanks to the entry of foreign (mainly Polish and Baltic) and the return of Irish emigrants. Irish statistics office estimated that the proportion of foreigners in the total population increase of 5.8% in 2002 to 9.5% in 2006.

In Poland, unlike other large EU states there is considerable debate about immigration occurs. The main cause of this phenomenon is that Poland is essentially a country of emigration. The high unemployment encourages young people to emigrate. The most common destination is Germany followed by the United Kingdom and Ireland. Therefore the Polish debate focuses on the problem of "youth drain" resulting in a negative net migration. The presence of immigrants continues to be limited and the most important among them group comes from Germany.

The migration of scientists, intellectuals, artists, technicians, athletes, etc., is a detriment to the least developed countries, even if they are members of the EU.

Schengen Agreement

The Schengen Agreement is an agreement that several European countries have abolished checks at internal borders (between these countries) and have moved these controls at external borders (with third countries). The agreement, signed in the Luxembourg town of Schengen in 1985 and in force since 1995, establishes a common space -called the Schengen spaces which can

freely any person who has lawfully entered at an external frontier or resident in one of the countries applying the Convention.

In total, the countries that are part of the Schengen area are 26: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. The latter voted on February 9, 2014 in a referendum, to restrict access of the citizens of Europe to its territory, which can lead to leave the Schengen area.

There are countries that belong to the Schengen agreement but have exceptions in the application of some points of the agreement and do not belong to the Schengen area. For example, the United Kingdom and Ireland are not part of the Schengen area but participate in police and judicial cooperation and the fight against narcotics. Others, like Bulgaria, Romania and Cyprus do not yet belong to the Schengen area because they don't meet the safety requirements, although other parts of the agreement applies. Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland, which are not EU members, reached an agreement to join the Schengen area, although Switzerland has voted the abandon in a referendum. Croatia, the last country to join the EU, wants to join the agreement in 2015.

Illegal immigration

Illegal immigration is one of the major problems of the European Union, mainly immigration from North Africa.

For combating illegal immigration, the EU has Frontex, the border protection agency which has claimed 114 million euros in 2015.

In the Mediterranean Sea more than 20,000 immigrants have died since 1988. Especially Malta, Sicily, Lampedusa and the Canary Islands have had to face the problem. In response to this situation, the EU aims to dismantle networks trafficking in immigrants from the Mediterranean through a military operation called MED EUNAVFOR.

Many immigrants have died trying to cross the Sahara to reach the Mediterranean Sea, others have died in the Adriatic Sea from Albania or drowned trying to reach Italy in border rivers. On several occasions it has been the case of migrants who die from asphyxiation or crushed when traveling hidden in cargo ships, trucks or on the landing gear of the aircraft traveling to the EU. Also because of landmines planted in the Greek border with Turkey they have died some immigrants.

The European immigration policy allows third countries to take over the management of migrants seeking to reach Europe illegally. This outsourcing of immigration control officials from states that do not adhere to the same obligations to the EU avoids having to answer for breach of those rights protected by international conventions.

Asylum in the European Union

The right to asylum in the European Union (EU) is formed half of the twentieth century among member states after the implementation of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 28 July 1951. It develops as a result of public policies the 1990s in connection with the creation of the Schengen area.

The EU has created a common asylum policy for asylum seekers rejected in a country not to reapply in another country of the Schengen area.

This common policy began with the Dublin Convention in 1990. This policy continued with the implementation of the Eurodac and Dublin II Regulation in 2003 file and continues today (in October 2009, two European Commission proposals are adopted).

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