

Innovation through integration in territorial policies for the Adriatic-Ionian region

IDEAS FOR REFLECTION FROM A
LOCAL AND REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE



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Innovation in macro-regional instruments for territorial development: EUSAIR and the Regional Laboratory on macro-regional issues

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1.1 Research, innovation and public policies: instruments of a new role for the local and regional authorities

One definition of innovation recently proposed by the EPRS - EP researcher Vincent Reillon, in his 2016 briefing *Understanding innovation*, available online, is as follows:

“Innovation can be defined as the adoption of new products, processes, marketing or organizational approaches that create a valuable outcome in terms of financial benefit, wellbeing or efficiency, to name a few. Given its impact on smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, innovation is at the heart of the European policies... “

If this is innovation, then the experience of the *Regional Laboratory on macro-regional issues*, that we will be discussing in the following pages, can without doubt be defined, if not as innovative in itself, certainly permeated at least by an innovative approach in many respects. Reflecting on what in this experience led to a significant change in approach, I can say that the underlying theme of our multi-level and bottom-up research path, has been the attention dedicated to better quality in our daily work activities, which contribute to defining a solid basis for important public decisions for a good future for our societies.

It seemed opportune to us, at a time when local and regional administrations are finding shortfalls in the effectiveness and efficiency of traditional approaches to territorial development policies, to try out new ways and and comparison methods in order to qualify, from the bottom up, based on the thinking of local officials and administrators who participated in the *Regional lab*, the daily activities they carry out, in order to plan sustainable and inclusive development in the respective territories. This experience has proved interesting, stimulating, and full of potential concrete developments.

Instead of starting from the traditional *command-and-control* approach, we investigated anything new and interesting that we could propose, in the context of territorial planning for sustainable development on a macro-regional scale, reviewing the principles together and resorting to new methods, different from the traditional ones, starting from a continuous dialogue and continuous discussion, sharing and criticism. In short we put ourselves at the centre of a collaborative research path, which could lead to

real proposals able to bring innovation in a field dominated by dissatisfaction with past results, by the stress of having to conform with all the legislative, political administrative and protocol regulations. In fact, the traditional approach tends to neglect the simple consideration that the local administrator represents, and thus works for, the wellbeing of a community which lives and works in a specific area; but at the same time is bound to respect certain basic fundamental principles (legality, clarity, equality, protection of minorities, adaptation of public and private interests, etc.), that they have to interpret in the best way to integrate/harmonise them with the needs of quality of life. Without even taking into account the enormous pressure the local and regional *policy maker* is under, when he/she must convert European level regulations into practice in their own areas, which are often the result of strategic logic which do not take into account the real situation of each area. This is a significant responsibility, which is often impossible to convert into operational actions, also because of obsolete and unconnected administrative structures.

1.2 A public interest think tank as an instrument of qualification

In October 2012 the implementation of the activities supported by the AdriGov¹ project started, and of these, in particular the Emilia-Romagna Region proposed the launch of a platform for discussion and dialogue on the themes of multi-level governance and quality in public policies and tools for territorial development for the Adriatic-Ionian macroarea. This platform, which was called the *Regional Laboratory on macro-regional issues*, in fact took on the nature of a real *think tank*, similar to others that exist in the context of European policies, if it weren't for the fact that it is orientated towards the study of integrated instruments for multi-level territorial planning, and above all because it is in the hands of the public sector. Thus it has the aim of qualifying public actions for sustainable development, also via the testing of a new model of *peer-to-peer* dialogue between the representative components of local and regional Adriatic-Ionian administrations and the academic component.

The structure, the objectives, the operating rules of the *Regional Lab* are built upon the need for knowledge of the officials and local administrators who participated in the

1 AdriGov project, co-funded under the IPA Adriatic CBC programme for 2007/2013 and National Rotation Fund, aimed at enhancing new multi-level governance tools in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-regional area. The following entities are project partners: Emilia-Romagna Regione, Veneto Region, Marche Region, Apulia Region, Abruzzo Region, Molise Region as a Lead partner, Informest, the Istria County (HR), the Dubrovacko-Neretvanska County (HR), the Municipality of Kotor (MNE), the Qarku (district) of Shkoder (AL), the Periferieia (Region) of Ipirou (GR) and the Kanton of Mostar (BiH). More info at: www.adrigov.eu



AdriGov project and are members of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region². So these are elements built based on the characteristics, potential and prospects of the territories that they represent. Thus, it could be said that the *Regional Lab* itself constitutes an example of a *place-based* instrument, ie. dedicated to a certain territory and oriented to managing its development in an integrated way; we were able to test the interesting potential of this instrument in the period from Autumn 2012 to today.

Once constituted, the *Regional Lab* set itself the task of proposing – and, if possible, testing together in the field – alternatives for greater effectiveness and efficiency concerning the current patterns of public decision-making, which in all the administrations of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area present limitations due to complications and bureaucratic burdens, as well as political, administrative, cultural, historic and linguistic barriers. Together we found and shared a proposal of good multi-level *governance*, working towards finding a new common awareness concerning the principles which in fact we share in our everyday activity, those that guide our work to make the multi-institutional chaos in which we find ourselves living and working more attractive and liveable with.

Working on *multi-level governance* tools was what was expected of us; and to a certain extent we did this, but in an innovative way; so not starting from the tools, but from the territory that should inspire the definition of the tools appropriate for managing it. This reversal fits the concept of macro-regional strategy perfectly, under the spotlight of cohesion policy since 2009, but still for the most part incomprehensible in their intrinsic newness: the *place-based*³ approach.

And precisely the reflections/observations which we conducted in the *Regional Lab*, alongside the professors and researchers of the macro-regional Universities, using a *peer to peer* system, in order to be able to exploit different professional and academic experience in analysing common problems, led us to face together, and understand, many questions which before were ambiguous). Starting from the fact that, if Europe, at a certain point dissatisfied with the effects of the traditional cohesion policy, thought of proposing tools such as macro-regions, built on the peculiarities of certain territories and thus potentially better suited to resolving its problems, then we also, as officials and administrators whose task it is to work together for a better future for our regions and cities, could and should have tested the possibility of introducing an approach of this type, starting from our everyday work.

Studying *the application form* of the AdriGov project with colleagues belonging to the

2 www.adriaticionianeuroregion.eu

3 http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/archive/policy/future/barca_it.htm Link to the “Barca Report” entitled “An agenda for a reformed cohesion policy”. The former EC Commissioner Hübner engaged Professor Fabrizio Barca to make an independent report with an overall appraisal on the efficiency and effectiveness of the current Cohesion Policy, with a set of proposals about possible reform measures for the post 2013 programming period. In that document the place-based approach is theorized as a necessary leverage for efficiency and effectiveness in the Cohesion policy tools.

working group within the Emilia-Romagna Region (experts in various sectorial policies, such as statistics, territorial co-operation, environment, social and welfare policies, as well as administrative and financial experts), we have tried to interpret the demand for research work which provides new perspectives on the quality of local and regional public policies. We have fine-tuned a work proposal on the theme of innovation applied to the field of *policy making*, in order to understand what it means to innovate, when innovating is something positive. In fact two lines of intervention emerged from this: the first choice was that of managing the project activities within the regional structure, with employees belonging to the staff who expressed the desire to train, or retrain, learning design/planning and accounting techniques. This goes against the trend of the usual choice, which implies the assignment of temporary staff for every European project, staff who then take their competence away from the regional context, which is thus deprived of this opportunity to grow professionally. The second choice was to use the same syncretic and dialogic approach, in order to establish and incorporate an open and agile tool, the *Regional lab on macro-regional issues*, with the intention of being able to count on a *think tank* and learn in the field from this experience. This was all made possible by the starting up of the AdriGov Project, which included a test, a pilot project, a comparison, with all of the preparatory activities that were necessary.

As mentioned before, we can identify two aspects of innovation in the structure of the *Regional Lab*. The first aspect consists of the fact that it allows continuous comparison between two necessary components for the creation of “good policies”: the so-called *policy makers* and *practitioners*, those who create and implement the policies, and the academics, who study them and compare them and who work on an epistemological level to allow improvement of concrete actions for the wellbeing and growth of the territorial policies. This fact brings with it the beginning, for these same academics, of a new phase of “internal” comparison, which has always been difficult, not only due to the administrative barriers, but also and above all due to a mistaken sense “possession” of the ideas, which are not discussed, or circulated, but are “protected”, and thus do not spark off any innovative processes.

The second aspect of innovation of the Regional Lab can be seen in its focus on the sustainable multi-level territorial development policies, which makes the *think tank* in fact a *place-based* instrument. This provides *practitioners* with the opportunity to rethink and qualify territorial policies, enriching and completing their own background of knowledge and the methodological instruments; whereas for researchers it is an opportunity to expand, check, compare and test their own theories, extending and enriching their own experience with the knowledge of real effects on the territories of the theoretical assumptions related to various disciplines.

It was a question then of demonstrating in practice, with common experience, that it could be a good idea to overturn perspectives, open up to comparison, learn from each other, change the methods of dealing with the themes of common interest; and to do this,



starting right from the consideration that sustainable development of our territories is a “common thing”, and is definitely a theme which interests everybody. This challenge was won right from the very beginning; in fact we realised that working in an involving and transverse environment such as that created by the *Regional Lab*, proceeding by trial and error and working on various real and creative proposals, gave everyone the possibility to open up new prospects to be tested in a real way, and put many new questions on the table. And this is what is in fact missing from the “traditional” approach to *policy making*: innovation which has real effects.

1.3 Knowledge as a key element of a good policy and the new approach of the Regional Lab

Let us start from the undisputed presumption— rather, increasingly shared as a pillar of the new policy of cohesion – that a good policy must be based on proper, in-depth, complete knowledge of the potential and characteristics of the territory (the so-called territorial *assets*).

In order to make the policy work it is necessary to have data. These are different according to the territory that they are required to represent, often not comparable with each other and nor do they allow for an easy interpretation of the social context. As the first topic of common interest, we placed two objectives on the table: to make it possible to compare the data, and then make it useful, i.e. to find the key to interpreting them so that they can be helpful in the policies that they have to contribute to creating.

This key to interpretation must take into account various factors, among which the consideration that the territorial differences are in fact a resource, actually they are the most representative characteristic of the macro-region, so they should not be eliminated, but rather appreciated and harmonised for the common good. Furthermore, the data that we collect should be used to construct a common policy for a cross-border area, which then has to integrate various instances to cover all the needs of a territory, the macro-regional area, which, as we have seen is characterised by immense diversity. Furthermore it is important to consider that the effects of this integrated policy will affect the people who live and work in these territories, and so the ultimate aim to bear in mind is the quality of life in the territories governed by the policy. This is why we have chosen to give a key role to the figure of the official, seeing as it is his/her job to moderate all the interests at stake in a particular territory, it is he/she who needs to understand the area fully in order to be able to administer it in the best way, and it is he/she who will have to answer to its citizens. Working with the ethnographic approach, we have also been able to demonstrate that the official is the person who thinks about the potential, the critical areas and areas of friction and on the choices and can make their own experience and passion available to the public decision-maker.

In fact, with the *Regional Lab* we have decided, with the help of the best

methodological and technical tools and the qualifying support of the academic component, to question the local and regional officials and administrators of the macro-regional area as to what they think are the shared priorities, the common challenges, the collective interest opportunities for the sub-national level of governance in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area. We have also explored the possibility of a new approach to the statistical data at the level of regional and local governance, which is currently a crucial point in the macro-area, and we have also resorted to the support of the analytical tools of geo-politics.

Starting from the assumption that in order to create a good policy you must have a complete picture of the social situation which needs to be improved, we have ascertained that the existing quantitative data are not only insufficient, but also very often they are not interconnected and thus do not allow for any comparisons or evaluations; furthermore, it could be very useful to examine this knowledge alongside the survey of what people think, because the policies are in any case chosen for the common good of the people; and when ethical objectives are defined which are shared unanimously through dialogue and collaboration. The end result was that we became aware of the fact that in order to create integrated policies it is important to have a real integrated and *place-based* cognitive picture, that can draw on different, complementary information and methods, so that we can guarantee the public decision-maker maximum quality in his/her choices.

In the first questionnaire, distributed to AdriGov partners and those of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion in 2014, we asked those working in local and regional public administrations of the macro-area to give us their thoughts on the priorities of their administrations, on the characteristics of the territories governed at local and regional level, and on what the priority proposals to put forward could be which take account of the territorial importance, ie which were equipped with the necessary connection between people, territory and institutions in order to guarantee that the sustainable development policies had positive and concrete effects. Some surprising considerations emerged, which could lead to a summary of some recommendations for the actors of institutional *governance* for the Adriatic-Ionian macroarea.

One very interesting element transpired immediately, and was then analysed at length within the *Regional Lab*, and taken by the officials who took part in the meetings in the participating administrations. This concerns the crucial importance of the theme of representativeness of the officials and administrators in relation to the territorial entities that they work for. This element shifted the balance in the organisation and administering of the questionnaires, but was also very fruitful as we will explain in greater detail later on.

The group of officials who learnt to collaborate better with each other in the *Regional Lab*, at various levels, with various roles and methods, but always for the good of the territories under their responsibility – together with the group of academics and researchers who work and do research for the benefit of these areas, proposed their view



of what is necessary so that the desired integrated development hoped for from EUSAIR strategy may become reality in a context as rich and complex as that of the Adriatic-Ionian area.

Based on this view, EUSAIR becomes in some way a paradigm, a land of common work and discussion to test the theory that the territory is the lowest common denominator, and may thus be proposed as the guiding principle of an integrated public action. And thus we defined the objective sphere of the study starting from the subjects and the territory, which is their real common interest.

I believe that this collective experiment worked in many respects, some of which, referred to below, deserve to be carried forward and capitalised on. But, given that when innovative approaches are tested, the results can also be negative and all these results contribute to defining better and safer ways towards progress, I can declare with the same pride that we have also addressed some critical points and doubts, predictable aspects that collective testing of a new subjective situation entails, on the way to a new qualifying approach of the local and regional territorial policies. I believe that all these experiences, both the positive but also the negative ones, can contribute to making the shared *background* of knowledge more solid and enriching it with a new common awareness. I believe it is worth finding a way to continue along this path.

1.4 Points of interest and innovation in the Regional Lab

One characteristic of the *Regional Lab*, which was sought after right from the time it was set up in October 2012, was the search for a path characterised by elements of ‘useful innovation’, ie. not as an end in itself; the search for a common denominator which linked the actors/players in this territorial development, urging them to collaborate better in working towards common objectives. The research started from the recognition that one of the qualifying points of the initial partnership of the *Regional lab* was the pre-existence of a collaborative link, previous co-operation, reciprocal understanding and trust, (as members of AdriGov and EAI, and thus representatives of 29 local and regional territorial entities of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area). The “administrative” component of the group then gradually built up an inclusive network of relations, open mainly to those in the world of research and the academic context who had interest and involvement ties regarding the themes of integrated territorial development and *place-based* quality. Consequently the University di Bologna: Department School of History, Culture and Civilisation and research groups such as GREP and structures such as IECOB⁴ became part of the *think tank*.

Another element of innovation, which characterised the *Regional Lab*, is the amalgamation of new approaches and new methods which we decided to test in

4 www.iecob.net which is the University of Bologna Center for Eastern Europe and Balkans.

relation to the common interest themes. This syncretism opened up many possibilities for the exchange of knowledge and mutual enrichment, giving life to interesting tables of discussion and elaboration, which validly qualified many of the actions of the last three years of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region⁵. The choices, both concerning short-term objectives and also concerning the methods used each time, were made collectively within the group, which was working in different groupings depending on the theme being worked on, using a system of work *in progress* – to adjust the objectives being worked on, based on the changing political events, which spanned the processes of elaboration, consulting, discussion and adoption of the macro-regional Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian territories (EUSAIR) at the same time. Not only the objective areas, but also the subjective perimeters of the *Regional Lab* were thus the result of a collective choice, which allowed us to give highly flexible support to requests on from public administrations to construct adequate answers *on time* to significant political issues, from the right point of view, ie. local and regional.

Working on the difference between the ‘humanistic’-anthropological approach and the traditional approach to the planning tools, eminently technical–scientific, led us to open up new prospects and alternatives. Our intent was not to reconcile the two approaches at any cost, or to reduce them in line with the tradition of ordinary planning, but rather if anything to add new points of view, evaluate the feasibility of new solutions, to examine and master new methods and techniques for enriching the knowledge acquired, according to a *bottom-up* logic, and via the comparison between different cultural and academic *backgrounds* and dialogue. Reasoning in the context of the *think tank* about differences rather than similarities, we had to resort to a far more complex and varied range of abilities and skills than usual.

This also allowed us to deal better with complex situations when they came up, for example in the course of the reflection on the formulation of the EUSAIR strategy, on the process that led to its adoption, and on the current phase of implementation, with particular reference to the impact and benefits expected in the territories concerned. Comparison without preconceived ideas between the abstract idea of the macro-region, the model, the *blueprint*, and the current structure of the EUSAIR Action Plan highlighted a *gap*, which the Forum of the Adriatic-Ionian Universities held in Bologna in 2013 had already been afraid of⁶. In fact the approach of a strategy is generally of a *top-down* nature and responds to hierarchical - bureaucratic logics; thus, it is expected that the priorities are not defined on the basis of an adequate cognitive framework, which represents the real needs and necessities of the territory, but are decided ‘by adjudication’ at a top level. And in fact this also happened with the EUSAIR strategy, albeit with

5 EAI Position paper released on March 2013 about the EC Communication n. 713/2012 A maritime strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian seas. EAI Position paper on Environment and Welfare released on May 2014, Bologna. EAI Position paper on EXPO Milan 2015 themes.

6 More info about the Forum is included further on in this report.



limited recourse to consultation, a tool with little impact on the final content of the Action Plan.

The *Forum* had highlighted that in order to be practically useful for the EUSAIR strategy, so *in the making*, it would also be necessary to understand the local and regional perspectives, that which is defined in cohesion policy language as the ‘territorial dimension’. The experience of the *Regional Lab* subsequently confirmed that this discord persists and is causing some problems in implementation, and above all in the governance of EUSAIR (which tends to cut the local and regional levels out from the strategic decisions, but at the same time which cannot disregard the contribution of the local and regional authorities for correct implementation).

This report also gives account of a consideration on the potential and risks of a new tool, such as a public *think tank*, shared and on equal terms for the comparison between academia and multi-level administration on themes which are so crucial and important; and it recommends it also for the future as a training gym, learning, mutual sharing for a new planning quality. In the *Regional Lab* we gave ourselves certain priorities, and together we found, discussed and expanded upon the most promising ideas, starting from what was missing (ie. a shared package of specific skills and abilities for the construction of an awareness of our role as officials and local and regional administrators; as well as a course of self-qualification of our administrative abilities, in order to bring about the birth of a new subject, together, a community determined to recognise a complex political identity, which respects diversities, and is able to appreciate them in order to improve public action for the common benefit of the whole macro-area (something which for the moment no other tools exist).

As far as the variety of approaches is concerned (the statistical one, the ethnographic one, the geopolitical one, all present in the contributions that you will find in this study), we can say that the results we obtained were in some respects surprising and interesting and they are the fruit of an opening up to discussion between different mentalities, in relation to local and regional policies for territorial development. These policies are normally based on figures and on incomplete or inadequate data, in order to motivate important choices for the community, whereas it would be worthwhile if the public decision-maker paid more attention to the improvement and adaptation of the quantitative database, but also to new qualitative approaches, able to guarantee a greater open mentality, to create effective policies in response to the new challenges and necessities of the territory. So it is also a question of a submissive proposal to move along this difficult path “beyond GDP”, here used as the only and tyrannical – as well as hazardous – reference point for territorial development; a battle that for a long time now

many institutions have been fighting, including the Committee of the Regions⁷, with alternating fortunes.

From these considerations we can draw elements to evaluate our own activities; actually, now that this report allows us to evaluate the direct and indirect effects on the partnership, on the quality of inter-institutional collaboration, and on the effects on the quality of territorial co-operation in the area concerned, we know that the *Regional Lab* is able to provide recommendations to qualify these activities in the future, and could constitute a solid platform to be able to follow this course of qualification towards further and higher objectives.

1.5 The question of capacity building

Another of the key points around which the experience of the *Regional Lab* revolved is the attempt to investigate how the concept of innovation can in reality be placed alongside the activities of public administration. This would allow the possibility to build truly sustainable territorial development on a more solid basis in the three directions indicated by the Europa 2020 strategy, i.e.: a development which is economically effective, which makes the multi-level economies which make up the European mosaic competitive again; a development which is also green, which aims to protect and promote environmental and landscape issues unique in the world, similar to those in Europe; and above all a development which knows how to reach these two previous objectives through inclusion and involvement, with greater effort in those areas where there is higher risk of poverty and social exclusion.

As this is a question of multi-level *governance*, we have decided to focus on the possible relationship between innovation in the local and regional public policies and the concept of *capacity building*, highly valued in the practice of territorial co-operation and stated as among the transverse priorities of the EUSAIR strategy. The theme is not so predictable, because the “construction of a package of abilities and knowledge”, able to make the officials and local and regional administrators autonomous and pro-active along this arduous journey towards adequate and effective territorial policies, is not something that can be decided from the top down, first, on a European or national level.

The *capacity building* must start from the needs of those who will use those abilities for the common good; and the abilities and skills needed to harmonise horizontally and vertically the public policies must be adequate to the objective that is established. And this objective is essentially the promotion of the quality of life of the people who live and work in a given territory, an objective achieved through the practice of inter-institutional multi-level collaboration on a macro-regional scale. And above all, it is the officials and

7 For reference: a recent CdR Opinion on “Measuring the progress beyond GDP”, at: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/IT/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52010AR0163&from=EN>



policy makers who need to have the full range of abilities and skills to enable them to respond to the challenges of territorial development, and even before that, interpret the needs of the territory they work for.

For this reason, we reached the conclusion that innovation in public policies does not only mean increasing the number of companies doing applied research or who open new market niches; but above all it means that whoever “makes” the policies must look for, discuss and propose a new role for themselves in the local, regional and European level context, because the results of the local and regional policies depend on a new awareness of the centrality of this role. The concept of *capacity building*⁸ is not just a question of looking at the set of administrative or planning skills, actually; these skills must be “governed” starting from the awareness of a role, and in the context of territorial co-operation, beginning with sharing new common principles, which form the basis of a new community, in harmony with the principles of the local and regional public administrations that they belong to, but animated by common interests and objectives also on a macro-regional scale, the correct territorial dimension.

1.6 The mission of the Emilia-Romagna Region and the role of local and regional authorities in the macro-regional context.

The Italian Constitution⁹ has attributed to all the Italian Regions, including the Emilia-Romagna Region, crucial institutional functions for governing, ie. managing better, overseeing and optimising the development of the regional territories. This is the equivalent of a ‘company *mission* statement’ for a private law firm; with the main difference that a private company does not have to answer for the work it does to the law and the citizens that live and work in the area governed, whereas every territorial public entity does, nor does the private company have to act in line with the constitutional principle of legality¹⁰. This is a concept that in European jargon would be called *accountability* – responsibility – and it must always go hand in hand with *ownership* – the so-called “appropriation” of the policy.

The functions (legislative, regulatory, active and controlling) that the Constitution has assigned to the Regions may thus be grouped under the protection of a super-function, transverse and non codifiable, if not in relation to the “best practices available”, which are by definition, in continuous evolution. This super-function is the search for quality in

8 See for instance:

[http://www.treccani.it/enciclopedia/capacity-building_\(Lessico_del_XXI_Secolo\)/](http://www.treccani.it/enciclopedia/capacity-building_(Lessico_del_XXI_Secolo)/).

<http://www.gdrc.org/uem/capacity-define.html>, and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capacity_building

9 See Title V of the updated version of the Constitutional Chart of the Republic of Italy.

10 <http://www.treccani.it/enciclopedia/principio-di-legalita/>

public decisions (regulatory, programming, managerial, controlling) which set themselves the goal of improving the wellbeing and quality of life of the people who live and work in the territory in question, including those who represent the minorities, whose interest the public administrations must adapt to the “prevailing” interests.

Region by Region, this transverse aim can be obtained with the most varied instruments, among which the promotion of territorial excellence, not in an isolated way, but as an integral part of the regional system, in relation to the international and European context. And if this is valid for every single region or local territorial entity, the more worthwhile it is to expand on the question of the promotion of territorial excellence of a larger scale system, such as for example the system of the regions and cities of the 8 EUSAIR countries; in order to understand exactly whether, and to what extent and with which methods, this system can find a channel for promotion and dialogue with European institutions as if it were an *unicum*, ie. representing all the local and regional authorities and aiming to pursue the same objectives of sustainable development.

This study intended to contribute a proposal for an approach to this question, starting with sharing the various intellectual resources relating to quality in the territorial public policies and experience, from territorial dialogue with the institutional community of the regional system and based on the testing of new practices of multi-level *governance*. The ultimate aim is that of assisting exchange and mutual enrichment between the institutional partners in our territory, in order to contribute to defining a *blueprint* – virtuous and multi-level - for new institutional governance in the Adriatic-Ionian¹¹ macro-area.

With the AdriGov project we had the opportunity to put into practice many activities which were aiming to share knowledge, experience, good practices, in order to enrich the tools of the regions and cities which belong to the Adriatic-Ionian macro-regional area and create together the best conditions possible for a good-quality common administrative language for the whole macro-area, beyond the political and administrative boundaries and cultural, physical, and geographical barriers and gaps in development. All of this can be summarised in the definition “good governance practices” or “good practices of institutional territorial *governance*.”

11 This fully complies with the objectives of the AdriGov IPA Adriatic CBC 2007/2013 project, which funded the initiative.



1.7 The innovation of the instruments for quality integrated territorial development

We have explored the meaning of innovation also because this concept is one of the key elements in the new programming of interventions in territorial¹² cohesion; this word was transposed and integrated as a guiding principle in the Regulations which discipline the public spending of the European Union for regional development and cohesion up to 2020, affecting structural funds as well as those with direct access.

But as we have seen above, it remains to be seen what the term ‘innovation’ means in real terms, a concept in continuous evolution, especially in reference to concrete territorial policies, where it is not easy to find confirmation for the equation between innovation practices and best territorial effects/best quality of policy. Not all the new elements introduced into a system are positive for its functioning; not at all. So we are searching for that innovation which is able to, by starting from a different and new approach compared to the traditional ones in this context, to enrich and enhance the techniques and abilities acquired, so as to make the the strategy designed for the future more functional, effective and efficient, by learning from the errors of the past.

Here is the thesis that we started with: that it was possible, by changing the approach to the themes of territorial development and the *place-based*¹³ tools, to create real innovation, ie. to change things in a way that is useful for improving the effectiveness of these tools.

Changing the approach, the picture, the way of thinking of a theme is to bring innovation. It remains to be seen how much this innovation, this change brings better results. If the current order of a system is not fully satisfactory or suitable for the expectations, as is the case in the system of cohesion policy, changing points of view, perspectives, leads to rethinking the working of the whole system, from the bottom up. This is already, in itself, a positive result, because it allows us to think of modifications to the functioning and effectiveness, adapting and updating the tools to the continually changing conditions of the system. And above all, it allows the local and regional public administrations, who are often left out of the strategic planning of cohesion policy, to rethink, starting from the guiding principles, not only a new action plan, but above all a new role for the level of local and regional governance in European policies.

We took advantage of the opportunity of this project to test a change of method, placing patterns and concepts from the field of social sciences alongside tools more

12 The leading principle of the territorial cohesion was included as a guiding principle in the European Treaties in 2009, alongside social and economic cohesion, as pillars for the Lisbon Strategy for growth and jobs.

13 Link to the Barca Report:

[http://www.dps.tesoro.it/documentazione/comunicati/2010/rapporto%20barca%20\(capitoli%201%20e%205\)_ita%2001_07_2010.pdf](http://www.dps.tesoro.it/documentazione/comunicati/2010/rapporto%20barca%20(capitoli%201%20e%205)_ita%2001_07_2010.pdf)

typically used in economics. We started from the assumption, all too often quoted but not used in practice, that in order to have a better quality of life and territories, a more attractive and liveable world, it is not enough to create the right conditions for sustainable growth in an economic field, nor provide protection for the environmental, cultural and artistic heritage. There is the need for radical rethinking, before the policies, of the principles of administrative action; *and in particular, of action at local and regional level*, the level of governance closest to the people. There is a need for a new re-evaluation in order to redesign the policies with the transverse filter of improving living conditions, of social inclusion, of improvement of the social fabric, as the real driving factors for intelligent growth¹⁴.

1.8 Territorial focus of the Regional Lab and links with EUSAIR

Given the institutional landscape and planning situation that we started with (the AdriGov project, which supports innovation in governance with a territorial focus on the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region, and the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion, which in the same territories followed its own mission of giving the right territorial dimension to the themes and priorities of the EUSAIR European macro-regional strategy), the *screening* of the governance tools of the territorial policies started from the distribution of a specially designed questionnaire to the members of the EAI, and so the analysis focussed on the Adriatic-Ionian area. We asked if the regional and local authorities had territorial management and planning tools designed to manage sustainable development of the maritime areas in Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Ionina Greece, and if so, what they were. As far as the subnational territorial policies of Serbia are concerned, given that the survey mainly involved the partnership of the AdriGov project and the Euro-region, where at present there are no active members belonging to the Serb Republic, we opened the debate in order to be able to expand our considerations at a later date. I must however specify that, where the preliminary results and actions of this study are compared with the priorities and Action Plan of the EUSAIR strategy, we will bear in mind that Serbia is one of the 8 Countries that actively participate in the implementation of the strategy.

With regard to the Adriatic-Ionian macro-regional territory, the process of defining,

14 An example of a “pure economist” approach to the dynamics of development is contained in some interesting documents collated and circulated by DG ECFIN of the European Commission, which is responsible for supporting and monitoring the progress of the 2020 European strategy, that which has the difficult task of accompanying the galaxy of European economies towards growth and employment goals which are not only intelligent, but also inclusive and green. The last of these documents, for example, addresses the issues of ending the crisis and the re-definition of new development models for the system - Europe: [http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/publications/eeeb/pdf/eb002_en .pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/publications/eeeb/pdf/eb002_en.pdf).



negotiating and perfecting a European strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region, or EUSAIR, which started in 2010 with the discussion at the Regions Committee before Danuta Huebner¹⁵ of a proposal, which started in certain Italian Regions, then culminated at the end of 2014, after lengthy diplomatic negotiations, with the *endorsement* on the part of the EU Council of the EUSAIR strategy¹⁶. And already the story of how we came to be working on a European strategy, *place-based* in the Adriatic-Ionian¹⁷ territory, ie. in a particular and “difficult” area such as that of South Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans (half in and half out of the EU boundaries, and thus exactly on the borders themselves), could in itself have been interesting if we had wanted to work on a journey that now belongs to the annals of history. Instead, we chose to work on prospects, because our task here is to discuss, evaluate, compare and share solutions on the correct territorial scale for a better future.

The observations made on the tools for sustainable territorial development of our territories started then from the macro-regional model, which currently concerns all the Adriatic-Ionian countries on the strength of the EUSAIR strategy. So we started from the very first documents describing the macro-regional *blueprint* (the famous *discussion paper* by Pawel Samecki in 2009¹⁸, proposed for the launch of the first macro-regional strategy, the one for the territories looking onto the Baltic Sea); this was to open the dialogue in two directions: expansion and greater knowledge of the concept of the macro-region among the *practitioners* (in order to create a sort of awareness of common goals), and interest and mutual involvement between the representatives of the academic world and the researchers involved; and here the work was intense, because the divide between the two categories of subjects proved to be vast and very structured.

Going back to the opening of a board for elaboration, discussion, reflection, not only on the concept of macro-regional aggregation, macro-regional strategy, but also on the more general guiding-concept of innovation and qualification of the multi-level public policies oriented and built specifically around the characteristics and potential of a certain territorial area (the so-called *place-based* policies), so the idea was to compare the vision that each of the subjects involved had of their own territory, the strong points and the critical issues, of the “other” territories belonging to the macro-region, what was to be understood by sustainable development and territorial development. This intial

15 A Polish economist, who was Commissioner for Regional Policy and is a member of the REGI Committee of the European Parliament:
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/it/96779/DANUTA+MARIA_HUBNER_home.html

16 For the EUSAIR strategy go to <http://www.adriatic-ionician.eu/>

17 EU member countries included in EUSAIR: Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Greece; Balkan countries involved as candidates or pre-candidates to enter the EU, Albania, Montenegro, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

18 Link to the EUSBSR Strategy: <http://www.balticsea-region-strategy.eu/>

intention evolved continually, following what was tested in common, but also as a result of the evolutions of the process of definition and formalisation of EUSAIR.

We asked ourselves about the possibilities of comparison between the abstract concept of a macro-regional strategy and the structure of EUSAIR, as a result of the experiences carried out in practice by institutions and *stakeholders* in the various structures willing to manage the governance of the strategy (consultations, informal platforms, *forums*, multi-level and national co-ordination, transnational, thematic and transverse co-ordination, *lobbying* actions, etc.). As mentioned before, we established that the primary cause of this phenomenon can be identified in the existence of a *gap* in the approach between the two concepts: in EUSAIR work has generally been carried out using a *top-down* approach, and on the diplomatic/bureaucratic level, paying attention more to the structure than the content and sharing, (despite the famous ‘three no’s’ imposed for the macro-regional strategies, ie: no supporting new structures, no dedicated legislation, no dedicated funds), but not to the correct identification of the *ownership*¹⁹ necessary for the strategy to function (as well as the actors needed in order for it to really function, ie. make it effective, able to produce significant effects in the territory, which is tantamount to saying to change the social and economic fabric, the environment surrounding us for the better - not only to put together planning, albeit of good quality).

The common experience of the *Regional Lab* made it possible to raise many very interesting questions, which it has never since concluded; it is waiting to be capitalised, developed, carried to a broader scale in order to be able to be fully fruitful. For this reason we are happy to have had the opportunity, with this study, to share and propose some of the themes for consideration that interested and intrigued us and also worried us in the last few months²⁰.

Let me give you just one example: in the intentions of the *Regional Lab*, this study should also have contained a brief comparison of multi-level *place-based* tools for territorial development which could be potentially interesting in terms of their replicability between the regions and cities of the macro-regional area. Based on the answers to the first questionnaire, we understood that it was not possible to find a tool already replicable in all the territories, and that in many of them there was ample room for proposing new models. We chose to analyse and compare the *Partnership Agreements*²¹

19 On the reasons for the failure of the Lisbon Strategy and as regards the centrality of a real territorial dimension for strategies, and consequently on ownership and accountability as pillars for the credibility and effectiveness of territorial policies based on those strategies, see the vast literature available on the Committee of Regions Portal which has been discussing this issue in depth since 2008, seeing it as one of their main institutional missions.

20 The *Regional Lab* is open to suggestions, notes and comments, to be sent to etagliani@regione.emilia-romagna.it

21 For the institutional page with the Partnership Agreements, see: http://ec.europa.eu/contracts_grants/agreements/index_it.htm



that the EU Member Countries subscribed to on the occasion of the new planning of the Structural Funds 2014 – 2020, because to us it seemed useful to propose to the non-EU member countries who are members of EUSAIR (in other words Albania, Montenegro, Serbia, Bosnia Herzegovina) a potential model of multi-level *governance* which conforms to EU Regulations and the Internal practices of Europe, also with the aim of being able to evaluate the elements which might be useful for bringing the systems closer, with a view to potential expansion. Then, close examination of the agreements made it immediately obvious that not only had the partnership scheme been implemented using a top-down approach, but that also the elements and content were pre-established without any margin for adapting the agreement to the national situation; thus, given that the content does not differentiate except with regard to the statistical data used, there is no room for any national strategy on ESI foundations and these agreements may serve to make the tasks and relationships between the Member State and the internal institutional partners clearer, but they certainly do not serve any purpose with regard to involving the local and regional authorities in the cohesion strategies decided using a top-down approach. This discovery made it pointless to continue with further analysis and evaluations.

1.9 Considerations on some activities of the Regional Lab. The experience as a cornerstone for shared research action

It may be interesting to present a brief account of some of the activities and experiences shared by the members of the *Regional Laboratory on macro-regional issues*; in particular, those that especially opened up new prospects and possibilities of concrete actions, such as, for example the thematic bilateral experiences and the co-operation pilot training action held in Autumn 2015 during the two days of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region at the EXPO event in Milan.

The *Regional Lab* was and is the occasion for both of its components, that of the *policy makers* and that of the academic and research world, to rethink and improve their own roles in the current context of integrated territorial development policies, via the discussion and sharing of content, tools and methods. One proposal to innovate now obsolete schemes, such as, for example, the so-called ‘triangle of knowledge’²², proposing as an incentive for more harmonious and effective development a ‘publicly guided triangle of innovation’, which introduces public administration as “the first regulatory pole”, the sector of research and University as the second pole, with the territory as the third pole, based on the society that the territory commands and defines, and on the characteristics and needs that the territory expresses through the local and regional territorial community (the territorial dimension of the policies).

22 http://ec.europa.eu/education/policy/higher-education/knowledge-innovation-triangle_it.htm

In 2013 we had the opportunity to gain our first experience as a *think tank* in the context of the activity organised by the AdriGov project to support the theme commissions of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region. Here the question came up of how to strengthen the links between the academic, research and *policy-making* components, with the aim of mutual qualification and a strengthening of roles, in order to be able to influence not only the local policies but also the European strategic policies, formulating and proposing to the members of the Euro-region proposals of a high qualitative level of theme content, representative of the local and regional territorial dimension, often centred on strategic themes.

The first opportunity for a comparison with top level technical *policy making* activities was given to us in March 2013 in Bologna, when the *Regional Lab* was called to take part in the elaboration, discussion and approval process of a shared policy document of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region: the united position of the EAI regions and cities on the Communication of the EC “Marine strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian”²³. In the heart of the *Regional Lab*, with the help of the researchers, we were first able to organise, elaborate, study and discuss the potential of the instrument in question, as well as the possible effects on institutional governance in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area. All of this happened in a context of macroregional strategic design as yet unconsolidated, given that, as is well-known, the discussion on the future of EUSAIR was accelerated at European level precisely because of this Communication signed by the then Commissioner for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs Maria Damanaki²⁴.

The document of the Commission was analysed, discussed from the various viewpoints of the participants, the themes were explored in depth and considered in relation to each single territory involved, and above all from the point of view of the local and regional authorities²⁵. In order to guarantee adequate information and participation on the part of as many delegations of EAI members as possible, the document proposed was circulated to all the members of the Euro-region well in advance of the themed session, and they had the possibility to express their opinion on it and evaluate the content from a technical point of view, and then prepare their respective political representatives to participate in the final discussion. The primary aim of the EAI was to represent to the authorities of the DG MARE that drew up the marine strategy, the territorial dimension of the policies for the sustainable development of the Adriatic and Ionian seas, in the now

23 Commission Communication n. 713/2012:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/IT/TXT/?qid=1403163422847&curi=CELEX:52012DC0713>

24 The AIE joint paper about the Commission Communication n. 713/2012 is available on the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion portal at www.adriaticionianeuroregion.eu

25 The documents discussed and approved during that two-day event are not included in this study, but the final documentation presented to the European Commission - DG REGIO e DG MARE with the joint EAI *position paper* on marine and maritime strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Seas is available on request.



age-old question of the role of the European regions with regard to the cohesion policies, of which they are beneficiaries, but in which they have very little decision-making power in the planning phase.

The proposal which has been put forward for some time, ever more insistently, by the Regions, is precisely that of a more advanced regionalism compared to the imperfect and imbalanced one, which is currently in effect in Europe. Only via an “appropriation” of the policies on the part of those who have the tools to take them directly into the territory, to the citizens, is it possible to think of the strategies being successful; and this is why the use of only this *top-down* approach for the construction of a strategy which can be defined as multi-level, multi-based, multi-sector, built on a predefined territory, cannot have positive consequences in terms of measurable effects. The ring of coordination necessary is the local and regional authorities, and the subject passes through the necessary and crucial cognitive phase of the needs of the territory and the populations, who in turn require active and involved participation of an essential component for the development of quality, the academic component and that of the world of research. Furthermore it is also necessary to have greater openness and qualification of those courses for evaluating the policies, and of discussion and dialogue with the economic and social forces, as well as of the democratic participation techniques. All of these factors contribute to designing and defining a results-oriented policy, measurable and able to give certain rules for real *accountability* (allocation of responsibility) of the beneficiaries. The policies need to be easy to monitor, and if necessary it needs to be possible to update them according to the results obtained in the field, so that concrete positive effects can be guaranteed in territorial development and in the wellbeing of the communities.

This qualification exercise conducted by the *Regional Lab* on a “high” level strategic document, such as the Communication of the Commission on the European strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian seas as mentioned above, gave rise to an analysis carried out from the point of view of the governance level closest to the citizens, ie. local and regional. The problems that the EAI partnership found in the document (for example, the *gap* in the territorial focus, the characteristic of a “European” approach which attempted to organise and structure a maritime territorial area with so many borders as the Adriatic-Ionian one, and especially the absence of “real” policies made and built to the scale of such a particular and delicate macro-area as the Adriatic-Ionian one, something linked to the fact that the DG MARE, author of the document, did not ask itself why this would be useful for the territories “concerned” with the integrated policy) were discussed by the political representatives of the Euro-region; and the discussion was taken not only to the European institutions, via the joint document, but also into the single local and regional administrations.

This first experience thus brought good visibility to the political representatives of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region, in its new role as spokesperson for the territorial dimension of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region being created; and suggested to us, components of the mixed joint group of the *Regional Lab on macroregional issues*, many

possibilities for investigation and research on what it really means to innovate in the way of creating territorial policies, as well as how it is really possible to change things in the socio-economic fabric, when you work starting with quality in the policies.

1.10 In practice: promoting dialogue between the development subjects on common interests and aims.

In 2013, the Regional Lab decided to start an experimental course to involve the academic component and the world of research across the board in the now imminent launch of the EUSAIR strategy, with the double aim of informing people of the tool and also helping to raise a new awareness of an active role for the University in important and vast strategic courses such as those which were discussed. It took at least six months to prepare the first *Forum* of the Adriatic-Ionian Universities, an opportunity for a top-level meeting, which generated a shared network between academics and *policy makers* on the themes of quality in public policies for integrated territorial development.

The *Regional Lab* had by then assumed a role of following and analysing the political and diplomatic debate, which then led to the *endorsement* of the EUSAIR strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region. On various occasions we had commented on the lack of self-awareness of the important role that the academic component and world of research could have had in constructing this medium-long term strategic summary for our territories. We ourselves realized the importance that the *Regional Lab*, acting as an independent, hi-tech *think tank*, of variable geometry, could have in the evolution of the relations between the institutional context and the academic one.

There are many valid experiences of collaboration and international /transnational networks which aim to improve the dialogue and exchange of experience and knowledge between the Universities, also focussed on the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area; but as has already been pointed out, it was the same exponents of academia to point out on numerous occasions that there was noticeable difficulty in finding the places and the most suitable ways for an effective comparison on the topics of mutual interest. This is the reason why the *Regional Lab* then discussed and worked out a proposal for a *Forum* of the Universities, a moment of aggregation and debate, which was representative of the research excellence of the Adriatic-Ionian²⁶ macro-area. The Forum came together for the first time in December 2013 in Bologna, precisely with the aim of setting itself a first common point of interest and dialogue, and we proposed as a point precisely the theme of how the macro-regional strategy being constructed should be for the territories belonging to the Adriatic-Ionian Countries or EUSAIR strategy.

26 The choice of the definition of a series of panels on topics of common interest took place in collaboration with the same academics contacted, with a complex negotiated path, in order to define the issues where an academic contribution could be more useful for the definition of priorities for the EUSAIR Action Plan and to balance geographic and sector operations for maximum functionality.



The preparation and organisation of the *panels* and the content itself of the Forum, and thus the choice of the *panelists*, the involvement, the evaluation of the balance between the contents, were thought of, proposed, discussed within the *Regional Lab* as an integral part of the novelty of the proposal. This was not a normal academic convention or conference, but an attempt at involvement and interest across the board, with the request on the part of one academic to think outside the box in order to contribute thoughts, in real terms, to an idea that does not belong to abstract research but to cohesion policy. The contribution of the academic component of the *Regional Lab* was a determining factor in proposing names of potential candidates, and in identifying possible points of contact and interest to use as incentives. Having once received preliminary confirmation of interest, we tested case by case, a complex negotiation on the methods of presence and involvement, in the objective context and on the content, in order to be able to present a proposal which was harmonious, of good quality, and balanced with regard to the priority themes of the EUSAIR strategy on which we asked people to express their thoughts. All of this led to the creation of a network of mutual trust and interest, which still now remains active and has also allowed as a result the proposal for a platform to be funded by the COST²⁷ initiative.

It can be said that the *panelists* of the Forum, representatives of the Universities from all over the macroregional²⁸ territory were identified and chosen based on a declaration of a 'functional interest' regarding the themes of macro-regional territorial development. This process reminded us of the principle of 'functionalism' implicit in the macro-regional²⁹ tool. This tactic has brought forth benefits. We started from the basis of an extensive list of professors and researchers who had declared that they were interested in contributing in their own specialist areas, but under the protection of a macro-regional scale consideration. As can be easily ascertained based on the acts of the Forum, in connection with this study, the resulting material they gave us was able to contribute to the expression of a top-level qualitative position with regard to the EUSAIR strategy, from the point of view of the university component and the world of research which the territory expresses on the macro-regional scale.

The results were of a high quality. The Forum produced the only contribution to the consultation on the EUSAIR strategy, which was representative of the academic component of the macro-area in question, thus proposing itself as candidate to play the role of inevitable *stakeholder* also for the future of the strategy. Furthermore it gave added

27 See www.cost.eu

28 See the agenda with the affiliations of panelists attached to this study.

29 Participants in a macro-regional strategic plan should be called into question not on the basis of their logistical situation in respect of the predetermined area. On the contrary, the macro-region's area of influence should be predetermined on the basis of a 'functional interest' of public bodies to take part in a design of integration and harmonization of their territorial policies; and this interest should define the perimeter of the macro-regional area.

value to the political role of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region, which as a network of 29 subnational territorial local entities of the 8 EUSAIR Countries attended the Forum and presented its contribution to the European institutions responsible for management of the strategy, as well as to their own reference institutions at national level (EUSAIR coordination). An interesting test of *governance* at all levels of government, and transverse not only with regard to the various priority themes, but also concerning the territories involved.

I have to add that also on the level within the administration of the Emilia-Romagna Region the *Regional Lab* sparked off virtuous processes. Since 2012 we have been able to appreciate the value and the problems of the choice of internalising the management of the AdriGov project, entrusting it to regional employees and not specially chosen personnel, precisely with the aim of allowing consideration on the themes of governance and the quality of the public sector within the administration, and 'administering governance' across the board. A great deal of work was required, and a difficult course of training and coordination, but the results in terms of qualification of skills and abilities of the officials that participated, amply justify this choice. If the officials responsible for certain sector policies (welfare and environment) participated sporadically, however convinced they may have been, in the group activities, however it allowed them to realise the transverse coordination problems and the integration of the policies into complex tools such as those of the macro-region. The *Regional Lab* allowed us to become aware of the need to work transversely and using multiple approaches, avoiding overlaps and gaps in the policies, in order to obtain a solid mutual enrichment in terms of administrative ability, and define a new role for the local and regional authorities. On the basis of this awareness, for example, the statistician officials of the Statistics Service of the Emilia-Romagna Region were integrated into the *Regional Lab* and they shared, listened, worked and collaborated together with the other members, and worked alongside the experience that I am describing here with a very remarkable enthusiasm.

1.11 On the question of representation – knowledge – recognition

As we saw earlier, in order to plan and programme a good territorial policy it is first necessary to know the area very well and the society which operates in it; but it is also true to say that, in order for a group of people to become creative and potentially active in creating and implementing a good policy, they must also understand the mutual limits, interests and potential well. It is a necessary step in order to pool identity data, aspirations, needs; which in this case represent the necessities of the territories that the people represent, because we are talking about the local officials and administrators that participate in the *Regional Lab* and are members of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region.

This double question – which we asked ourselves with the help of the researchers



of GREP³⁰ in the search for terrain which we will hear more about later – seemed important and interesting to us, heralding consequences and thus worthy of attention. Given that quality is the central point for our investigations, we decided to enrich these enquiries, exploring the thoughts of the *policy makers* on the ways and tools for qualifying the territorial policies, all the while bearing in mind that they think and speak not only as interested and competent technicians in their specialist subjects, but they also represent a territory, via a local or regional administration. They carry out the important task of interpreting the needs of the territory in order to propose and implement suitable policies, and have to answer for these, as the interface of their respective administrations.

The question of representation made the course of preparation and distribution of the questionnaires and the subsequent interviews more complicated. We had to take into account the fact that every administration carries out activities with different tools and using different plans which in other territories are managed in different ways by administrations often entitled to non-comparable competences. We could say that the fact of belonging to a community of collaboration/co-operation, that is constituted by the fact that the interviewees belong to the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region and thus to the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, has made the difference. The people have recognised this belonging, more in terms of future needs than of current topics; but the fact is that everyone shared the need for presuppositions and common principles on which to base comparisons, in order to improve the respective administrative capacities, and thus be able to put forth better proposals for shared objectives on a macro-regional scale.

Another interesting point, which arose in the various phases of research into the territories, was the emergence of the question of mutual recognition, sign of a collective awareness of a new role for the *policy makers*, local and regional officials and administrators. Gradually, over the course of these months, we have worked on many aspects of this ‘working together’ or ‘collaboration/co-operation’, also beyond the well-known limits of the so-called “European territorial co-operation”, of ‘being a group’, ‘making a community’. We reached the point of having sufficient suitable material to be able to properly prepare the pilot action which was held on 22nd of September 2015, the experimental lesson of “training for collaboration” which we will talk more about later, starting from sharing the request for a new role for the officials who are responsible for and implement the local and regional development policies in the Adriatic-Ionian area, fully aware that the tools are already available, and now all we need is a greater effort in order to get recognition from the institutions at national and European level.

On the subject of knowledge, communion, sharing of interests, we worked very hard and made great strides forward with the direct help of the above-mentioned pilot action, conducted with the support of the AdriGov project; this action was the first of what we hope will be a whole series of meetings, to focus on (from this came the

30 GREP is the acronym for Research Group of the University of Bologna on the Etnography of Thought.

term *focus group* used for the convocation of the participants, who were in turn selected from among the officials who had responded with the greatest enthusiasm to the preparatory questionnaire) what may be the shared interest of the officials of the local and regional public administrations in a possible shared agenda for common training for collaboration/co-operation. As is well-known, the idea of the need for ‘capacity building’ and a definition of ‘new human capital’, which shares common principles and knowledge in order to construct more sustainable and effective territorial development policies on a macro-area scale is also the basis for the EUSAIR strategy, of which it is actually a cross-cutting pillar.

Without the people, without a shared background, of qualities, of knowledge and skills, it is not possible to create anything new and more effective in the sector of development policies. Working together, albeit in different places at different times, has led to the collection of a whole package of requests for elaboration, of the need for knowledge, which is our first real contribution towards the creation of a ‘School of high administration’, which may constitute not only a place where techniques and methods are taught in the traditional way, but also a place for comparison and creative proposals, where those with expertise can see the value their own work appreciated, and can themselves help to develop new ways and approaches on the common interest theme of development of the territories and the quality of life of the people.

The theme of creating a community, of sharing interests and mutual knowledge, as essential elements for making quality a requisite for innovation, comes into play. What unites us is, starting from the connection of representation of the territories which each one of us comes from, the fact that we all collaborate towards building a framework of principles valid for the whole macro-area, an element which is indispensable in order to be able to think of new, more integrated and harmonious local and regional policies, capable of improving the wellbeing of the communities that we work for. And in order to do this, we started from the need to self-train ourselves progressively, to find together the best and most effective ways to collaborate in the best way for the common good.

1.12 Results, impacts/effects, possible spinoffs

Among the successes of the *Regional Lab*, given that also the alternative paths we tried and then discarded contributed to modifying the results of our research activity on which this study is based, we can certainly count not only the progressive broadening of interest in the themes dealt with, and the progressive acquisition of new administrative skills, but also the qualification of the inter-institutional collaboration (within the *think tank*, as towards the other subjects of territorial development), as well as greater involvement of other subjects in the territorial context.

Here I would like to thank the colleagues of the administration *partners* of the AdriGov project for this interest and involvement, as well as the technical representatives



of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region who participated in the *Regional Lab* activities, and also the professors and researchers of the Universities of Bologna and Ferrara, and all the Universities of the *Forum*, who gave a real hand, as well as their unconditional, and often passionate, support to the *Regional Lab* project, I would like to thank the colleagues of the Statistical Unit of the Emilia-Romagna Region who in their contribution put forth an interesting proposal; and obviously, the colleagues of the administrative and financial areas of my Region, who made all of this possible, contributing with great tenacity to the success of the AdriGov project³¹. I would also like to thank the students and administrators of other areas, who in converging with the structure of the *Regional Lab* were able to take part in this process, by sending their theses and essays on the themes of interest, and making themselves available for meetings.

More generally, the AdriGov experience allowed all the *partners* not only to learn new methods of collaboration, with the aim of qualifying the respective administrative abilities, but also to carry out, specifically based on this “renewed” trust between the members of the partnership, many highly interesting bilateral activities, which had very positive effects on the quality of the inter-institutional relationships and on the improvement of the administrative abilities, and more generally on the *governance* system of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area.

In particular, getting used to a strengthened level of co-operation of a high qualitative level, tested with AdriGov, has been producing many proposals in the last few months of *networking* and aggregation – formal and informal – to be funded by new programmes of the European territorial co-operation 2014/2020, or on the ESI funds and direct access funds³². This is a further demonstration of the fact that creating the right conditions for better knowledge, increased mutual trust and for collective qualification on common principles and objectives – as has happened through the *Regional Lab* – is surely an operation heralding the positive effects on the capabilities of the *partners*, considered both individually, and as part of an institutional group which shares interests and aims.

Only time will tell if the collaborations that have been starting up in the last few months will give rise to projects and activities of even better quality compared to the previous period: but already now we can say that the conditions are excellent. In fact there are already many hints of an improved capability of organising and managing European policies via solid co-operation links on a macro-regional territorial basis, of a renewed propositive drive, of a greater awareness of the utility of the project ideas

31 I repeat here that among the challenges accepted by the Emilia-Romagna region with the participation of AdriGov was precisely to qualify, not only the work of policy makers and technicians of the macro-area, but also to initiate reflection on quality within the administration. The decision to focus on the administrative and financial management of the project of permanent staff was a result of a firm commitment to give space to the retraining of personnel, as well as to enable further investigation also across issues of CTE. The final consideration is that it was worthwhile.

32 Two concrete examples of applications can be mentioned in reference to the program *Citizens for Europe* and *Interreg Europe*.

relative to the expected effects in terms of improvement in the quality of life; and in general, strengthened collaboration leads to a greater and better administrative capacity on a macro-regional scale – thus complying with the request by the EU that the macro-regional development models produce a so-called “added value” to the activities proposed by the single institutions.

The main result of the *Regional Lab* experience can be found in the contributions which make up this study; they can be seen as pieces in a mosaic which make up a complex picture, in analogy with what should have been done in the process of identifying the priority themes of the EUSAIR strategy, in order to align the public planning of all levels of governance around common, shared objectives.

Our intention was to enrich the cognitive aspect of the *governance* potential expressed by the local and regional representatives of the Adriatic-Ionian territories offering an observation and some recommendations regarding the usefulness of a change in approach not only in relation to the macro-regional issue, but also in general with regard to the thorny question of the quality of public action for cohesion. We tested a new approach to the theme of statistical data, indicators and information useful for identifying the characteristics of the territories belonging to the macro-region using figures from the point of view of homogenization and reference to the macro-regional scale of information concerning the regional and local policies. We touched on the geopolitical approach, which effectively shows the trends, the potential prospects and the difficulties that characterise the macro-regional relations in this period. Then alongside these considerations we placed a proposal on how it is possible to innovate regional policies, and all in all also regionalism, rethinking the traditional concepts with the use of the tools and principles of social sciences.

This allowed us to demonstrate that the strength of a macro-region, the stimulus for real integrated sustainable development at macro-area level, can be found in the people, who are called to study the economic and social reality in order to interpret it, and provide themselves with the most suitable tools to be able to create better policies, which can be shared by all the institutions of all the macro-region. And this will be possible only if and to what extent the people are willing to make the intellectual tools and the appropriate administrative capabilities available; and the news is that tools and capabilities can be chosen, formed, defined and pooled also based on the independent choice of people, they do not just happen out of the blue.

The contributions which make up this study then, go back to the guiding principles of multiple approach, integration and transversality; in this way, the subjects of the territorial development represented in the *Regional Lab* were able to come together to define a sort of super-identity of political value. The complexity of identity, may I re-iterate, is precisely the character which makes the EUSAIR strategy particular and gives real added European value to it, which aims to give a framework of co-ordination and integration to the multi-level policies from which the entire macro-area could benefit in the medium



and long-term future. Again, it is collaboration rather than competitiveness-competition, which is the key to success, the understanding and acceptance of the complexity rather than attempts to flatten it, transversality rather than multi-sectionalism, define the approach that we share in the *Regional Lab*, making this experience innovative in comparison to classic tools for co-ordinating territorial development.

1.13 From the experience of the Forum of the Adriatic-Ionian Universities to the construction of a macro-regional knowledge network and the proposal of an Adriatic-Ionian School of high administration.

Once the need to start from the human component and the capabilities of those who work in and for the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area had been ascertained, over time we constructed the proposal for an 'Adriatic-Ionian School of high administration', explicitly designed based on the needs revealed by the officials of the macro-regional institutions, who propose initiatives which make them able to discuss, share, propose and find new methods and approaches to collaboration, new tools for the qualification, co-ordination and harmonization of the respective multi-level territorial policies.

All of this started from the experience of the *Forum* of the Adriatic-Ionian Universities held in 2013. The experience allowed us to think of and put forth a proposal for a COST³³ network, which was put forward a first time in 2014, and then re-proposed in 2015; the initiative aims to support and take advantage of the partnership which was consolidated on the theme of the integrated policies for territorial development on a macro-regional scale, and should evolve into a real platform, in order to represent the positions of academics and researchers in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area on the themes, transverse and otherwise, which may provide a common interest contribution for the integrated development of the area in question. The platform for the exchange of data, ideas, experiences, methods, for the integration of the approaches and themes, should interact with the structures of Public Administration with similar aspirations of harmonisation and co-ordination, like the *Regional Lab*, in order to allow operators to enrich their own *background* with elements of quality, and provide the possibility of direct contact with regard to the content between academic referees and *policy makers*, who can then translate the theoretical wealth relating to the Adriatic-Ionian territories into concrete initiatives in the field for a harmonious and sustainable development throughout the macro-area.

If the idea of a network project is supported by COST or other similar initiatives, this platform will be part of a multi-localised structure, which will set itself the aim of

33 COST is funded under the Horizon 2020 framework in order to support quality networks in research within Europe and affiliated Countries.

supporting a collective and shared growth of a new knowledge community, no longer only made up of professors and researchers of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, but also of those who “make the policies”, and deal with implementing the knowledge into programmatic initiatives of policies which improve the quality of life and the environment, aggregating the priorities around those which can be defined as ‘challenges’ and ‘common interests’ on a macro-area scale.

Innovation here assumes a real significance, as incentive for a ‘good policy’: helping the opening of a peer-to-peer dialogue between the two essential components of territorial development, in order to construct quality policies for our territories and the populations that live and work in them. And by applying this virtuous model to a certain macro-area, tailoring the strategic landscape to suit its needs, which will support the implementation policies in the medium and long-term, the quality is effectively changed.

In order to unite the right players around the idea of the macro-region, and consequently the idea of a *unicum*, around which the institutions of all the levels of governance can construct shared paths towards greater common wellbeing, we need to have new elements and tools. It is true that the so-called “rule of the three no’s”³⁴ is applied to the EUSAIR strategy (no new management structures, or new dedicated legislation or dedicated funds). But here we are talking about enabling tools, not management tools; and furthermore the strategy, designed and decided only on a European and national level, has already proved to be lacking in a suitable “territorial dimension”, the detail necessary for its practical success, and that is the point of view of the regions and cities that are part of the territories concerned, and know the development needs and manage the policies in the field, and are thus the key to strategic effectiveness.

Tools such as the regional networks, for example the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region, can certainly help to build consensus, to create common awareness, to share new solutions in order to overcome together the obstacles that cannot be overcome by single institutions; but this is probably not enough on its own, because it remains within a perimeter of co-operation pre-defined and decided elsewhere, as is in effect the territorial co-operation, and thus presents all the limits that territorial co-operation indicates. What is needed are tools for backing, assistance, acceptance of the debate, able to help towards reaching the aim of proposing a solid community of macro-regional knowledge, from the bottom up.

In order to construct this community, and make it able to actively follow the EUSAIR model and carry it forward successfully with the right territorial dimension, we are thinking of something with a more powerful legal form, with greater potential,

34 Regarding the “three nos rule”, the “three yes rule”, and their context, see the EU Parliament Report on the macro-regional instruments at <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+REPORT+A7-2012-0219+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN>



with a clearer and more governable structure, based not only on instruments of *soft law*, on *peer pressure* and the authoritativeness of the political representatives, but also able to have a specific, measurable, demonstrable and accountable life and role: for example, a European Group for territorial co-operation designed especially to create an ‘Adriatic-Ionian School of high administration’.

1.14 The actions – pilot

The experimental and preparatory activities had a particular role in the economy of the *Regional Lab* in that they contributed to preparing a suitable context for the study, and represented interesting testing opportunities for further experimentation, as well as providing concrete results. Here we can give some of the comments regarding the experience within the administration of the Emilia-Romagna Region, because it can also claim to be the fruit of the *Regional Lab*.

The following activities and observation of the process of defining the EUSAIR strategy, which in the Emilia-Romagna Region started in 2009, had the advantage of the qualifying support of the *Regional Lab* starting from 2012, with the support for the active participation of the Region in the activities of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region already mentioned, and subsequently with the participation of a technical-political delegation of the Region in the international conference to launch the strategy, held in Athens on the 6th and 7th of February 2014, in the half year of Greek presidency of the European Council³⁵. The preparation of the mission by the regional delegation and the *feedback* to the *Regional Lab* in fact constituted a test of the new model of communication and information between a regional level public structure – with political representation in the process observed and right of expression in a multi-level institutional context – and the open and fluid structure of a high-tech *think tank*. The mutual support and sharing, not only in terms of data, information and documents, but also in terms of investigation activities, analysis, contextualisation contributed to laying further foundations for an even more open collaboration and more fruitful dialogue.

The Emilia-Romagna Region delegation in Albania, based on another bilateral pilot-action between EAI partners (Emilia-Romagna Region and District of Scutari, Albania), again with the support of the AdriGov project, had as its pivotal point a discussion and bilateral and multi-level exploration at its heart into the crucial theme of the reform of professional and technical training, and the possibility of comparison and exchange of

35 International conference to launch the draft EUSAIR Action Plan, in Athens, on 6th and 7th February 2014. See: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/conferences/adriatic-ionician/
Consultations and work on the Discussion paper which was published at the end of 2013, see: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/consultation/eusair/pdf/discussion_eusair.pdf

models at inter-regional level. The experience contributed significantly to taking a step forward in the question of research into a new role for the Albanian regions.

On the road to a desired strengthening of bilateral inter-regional relations with the Emilia-Romagna Region, we can also refer back to a series of initiatives in 2015 of getting in touch with some regions – Albanian districts, in primis the district (*Qarku*) of Scutari, even though it did not culminate in the concrete realisation of a joint project, which would have given life to a series of inter-regional meetings between the Albanian intermediary territorial entities, which aspire to a more active role in the national context. Here the process presented more complex elements, among which we can give the examples of the significant fragmentation and incoherence of the various collaboration relationships (CTE, decentralised co-operation, co-operation with the ministerial governance levels in Albania and Italy, etc.) already in existence. There were however some very interesting results, of which it is worth remembering, for example, a reflection on the possible evolutive alternatives of the role of the regions in Albania.

The theme commissions of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region on the themes of environment and *welfare*³⁶ also constituted moments of checking, testing, implementation of non-standardised models of co-operation, collaboration and communication on previous experiences. In this, we were helped by the fact that the AdriGov project supported this pioneering approach, leaving us free to propose formulae that were different, as long as they were suitable and useful for obtaining good quality results (see the minutes of the conventions, seminars, meetings held from 2012 to 2015). Furthermore we have taken advantage of the nature of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region, which, as a civil law association of public territorial entities, has chosen, after careful consideration, to keep, at least for now, a flexible and open structure, to allow for opportunities for growth and comparison also outside the traditional activities.

Another important pilot action, with interesting concrete effects also in terms of qualification of inter-institutional relations, was proposed by the Istriana Region to the Emilia-Romagna Region on the theme of the reform of professional education, based also on a previous bilateral agreement of qualification of the co-operation of November 2011. The activities relating to this pilot action were carried out in March of 2015, and allowed us to develop a theme of certain common interest, with concrete effects, such as the proposal of a project of capitalisation of the experience on the *Interreg Central Europe*³⁷ programme. This was about organising a study visit to see the effects in Emilia-Romagna of the recent reforms of the professional education system, which happened

36 Environment and welfare are main competences of Emilia-Romagna Region within the partnership of Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion.

37 The Istria Region and Emilia-Romagna Region subscribed in 2011 a Common Intent Declaration, with the general purpose to enhance bilateral cooperation in various sectorial policies. Thus it can be easily noticed that the AdriGov project allowed some partners to set up bilateral relationships with very interesting territorial impact, for example the above-mentioned Declaration.



around 2011, which was interesting for Istria where there is an active ongoing debate on this topic. Thus, a delegation of technical and political representatives from the Istria Region brought thirty professors in professional training into the area, where they were able to witness the effects of the reforms first hand in the various institutes and schools, and from this experience the mutual collaboration between the two Regions was strengthened. The series of meetings also allowed the government department for schools, universities, and research in the Emilia-Romagna Region to compare notes on these and other themes falling under their responsibility with the corresponding government department with the same responsibilities in the Istria Region, represented by the councillor Patricia Smoljan.

1.15 The participation of EAI in EXPO and the pilot action of 22nd September 2015.

The Emilia-Romagna Region participated with great enthusiasm in EXPO Milano 2015 '*Feed the Planet, Energy for life*'³⁸. Substantial resources were put aside for an active participation, and a week of "self-advertising" was organised, with the presentation in the exhibition of regional excellence. Among these excellences was also the undisputed *know-how* of the Region in the practice of concerted institutional action and the age-old interest in the themes of quality in public policies; thus the Region thought it opportune, on the indication of the *Regional Lab*, to re-iterate its own role of 'governance facilitator' in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-regional area, hosting the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region for a plenary session on themes from EXPO, and entrusting the *Regional Lab* with the organisation of an experimental session of 'collaboration training' for the officials of the EAI member administrations.

The joint *paper* which defines the position of the members of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region on the themes contained in the Charter of Milan³⁹, and accompanies the declaration of the EAI itself of its adhesion to the above-mentioned Charter of Milan, is the fruit of elaboration, discussion, sharing, consulting, and co-ordination, continued by the *Regional Lab* in collaboration with the officials of the various administrations over the course of the months prior to the EAI plenary session on the 21st of September. But also the experimental lab of the 22nd of September was prepared at length, via a specially constructed questionnaire in order to focus on the themes of greater interest for the future participants. Thus the pilot action reached its first objective, that of 'making *governance*' within the EAI representatives that took part in EXPO 2015, allowing participation in the exhibition of a delegation made up of both politicians – who followed the plenary session – and technicians – who also participated in the laboratory. The involvement

38 See the English version of the thematic portal at: <http://expo2015.regione.emilia-romagna.it/it>.

39 For the Milan Charter, see <http://carta.milano.it/it/>

of the representatives across the board gave everyone an important opportunity for comparison between the two levels, which do not always have the chance for mutual comparison within the administrations they belong to⁴⁰.

The minutes of the self-training for collaboration session of the 22nd September 2015, with the declared aim of uniting experiences in order to construct together a new common functional reality on a macro-area scale, are attached to this document. From these comes the request for further investigation on the themes already dealt with and on those that the group itself put on the agenda for the near future, if there is the capitalisation of this experience that we hope for.

With regard to the delicate theme of training officials who will have to decide the future territorial development policies, the concept of innovation was thus put into practice following the principle that training should not reduce or try to gloss over differences, but rather make the most of them in order to make them able to contribute to a harmonious strategic design; it should not start from pre-defined models, designed for other social and territorial contexts; it must provide its own models, adapted to the needs of the officials who work to construct a valid common future.

This was a question of a kind of gym to reinforce the institutional collaboration beyond the limits of territorial co-operation. It was a question of finding and proposing together a new form of knowledge for the officials of the Adriatic-Ionian institutions. Training means “give shape to, inform”; over the course of the session the officials and administrators present were asked what shape they wanted to give to their learning of knowledge and principles, which of these could be the pillars of quality knowledge, to be shared throughout the macro-area. As a result a cohesive and involved group was created, willing to follow a course to raise awareness of a new knowledge of their own role within the multi-level context, in a group able to qualify itself and to share, discuss and improve the action principles available to the public powers. And this group could become the keystone of a training proposal really tailored to the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, and thus really intended for quality integrated development, by means of a class of officials finally “capable” (*capacity building*) of conceiving a good policy for the territories that it governs (a ‘good *governance*’).

40 In the Annex to this study an Agenda is available, as well as the proceedings of the experimental seminar run by the Regional Lab on the 22nd of September 2015. On that occasion the participants were selected with similar criteria as those chosen for the panelists of the Forum of the Adriatic-Ionian Universities in 2013. The Regional Lab prepared a questionnaire and carried out a survey with specific questions about common principles to be discussed. The most interested and enthusiastic participants were selected.



1.16 Conclusions and recommendations

The conclusions of this report were already partly referred to in the paragraph on the pilot action of collaboration training held on the 22nd of September 2015, and are the fruit of the reasonings and continuous dialogue which the *Regional Lab on macroregional issues* helped to exchange and distribute. They are cues for reflection which should be a useful framework of reference also for future work, if we are interested in following the path of innovation to qualify public action in the macro-regional context, appealing to the shared knowledge of common criteria, on a greater awareness of the role of the local and regional authorities and on the principle of the partnership, as pillars for a new, more efficient and responsible administrative class.

1) There is a need for further study and more attention needs to be paid to the subjectivity of the public officials, meaning both as local and regional administrators and also as technical reference people and European developers of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, at all levels of governance. This is the key to reversing the imbalances, which exist in the *governance* system of the cohesion policy in favour of a “results-based” policy, at least on the macro-regional scale considered here.

2) For all the participants in the *Regional Lab*, the need to plan a common training action proved evident and urgent, which goes beyond the proposals currently available on the market for public officials and administrators for the whole of Europe⁴¹, in order to allow local and regional Public Administrations to create suitable territorial policies, applying the shared principles according to the institutional and socio-economic context of each territory. The *Regional Lab* questioned the local officials and administrators of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, asking them about the dimension and content this training should have, which principles it should investigate further. The results are only a starting point, based on the consideration that training needs have to be identified and proposed by the same subjects who are going to benefit from them, because they know their own qualification needs.

3) Another work inspiration which emerged concerns the opportunity to leverage a new role for the local and regional officials and administrators, making them able to define the cornerstones of integrated territorial development. It was revealed that the utility, or rather the need to give greater importance to the pillar of social inclusion, integration, the fight against poverty in the cohesion policies, rather than on that of economic progress;

41 Broad initiatives for the training of public officials are active throughout Europe, both at European level, such as Interact and EIPA, and at national levels. Participants in the *Regional Lab* however point out that the element of understanding and sharing missing in order to build an Adriatic-Ionian macro-area knowledge-based community, given the presence of origin systems with very different historical formations, is not the technical formation on structural grounds, but is rather the technical policy that derives from sharing the action principles of the public administration, commencing from the principle of legality, also touching on the principle of solidarity, that of transparency and impartiality of public action, the fight against corruption, etc.

greater importance should be given to human capital, than to competitiveness of the economic systems. All of this as a basis for good quality policies, and not only as a mere execution of a principle of solidarity until now only theorized, but as a guideline for all public decision makers, which govern the territories belonging to the EU or also extra-European, but yet within the Adriatic-Ionian context.

4) Furthermore, the request to place *governance* at the centre of the discussion again, here intended as a collective public practice of good governance, precisely in the sense of adding elements of quality to traditional management systems; because simple management in a traditional sense, limited to economic improvement, is not sufficient to guarantee that the living and working conditions of people can be or become adequate. The most elusive element, the quality of public policies, is exactly what depends most on the approach, on the principles, and all in all on the passion of the people making the decisions for the common good. The *Regional Lab* revealed that the concept of *multi-level governance* is applied and evolves in relation to the local and regional public administrations of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, qualifying itself as pole of a dual system, together with the parameter of the quality of life. A course could be based on this dualism for potential qualification of the dynamics of integrated development for the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, a course for which we would propose further investigation via new *focus groups*.

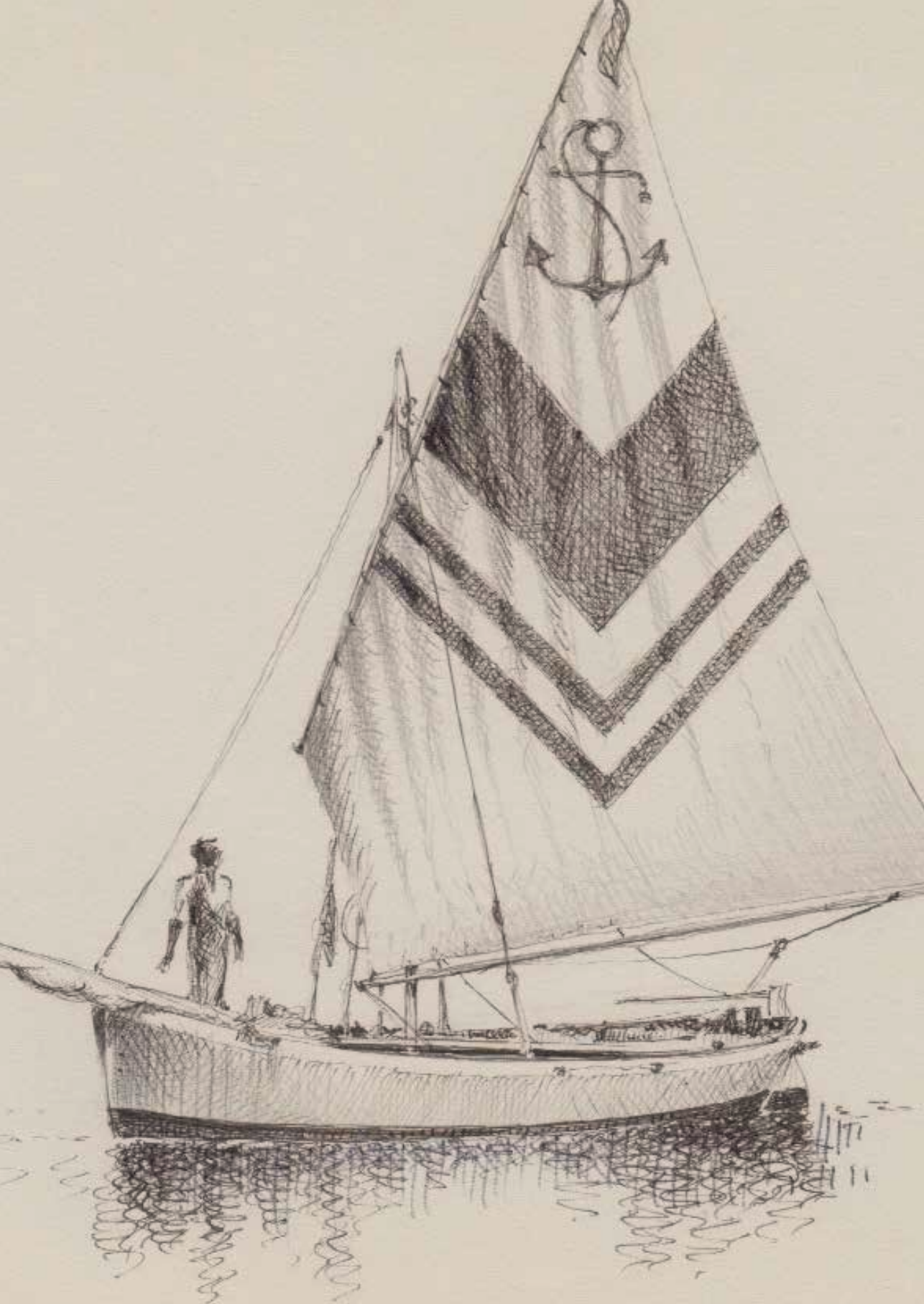
5) With regard to the participants in the *Regional Lab*, we can say that the work carried out together over the last few years has characterised the birth of a proposal of community, which has evolved and acquired greater capabilities, while the work gradually allowed the group to assume a sort of composite and dynamic identity. Officials, local and regional administrators, researchers, professors, academics, students have all tested a transverse collective approach, adopting the macro-regional scale as a reference point, to express a position, which is also collective, on the strategic tool, and assuming as a starting parameter the principle of collaboration, shifting the attention onto it rather than on the principle of competitiveness at all costs, which seems to have been proposed as a panacea in order to come out of the economic and financial crisis in the last few years. Exercises of this type would contribute in a determining way to the distribution of knowledge of the macro-regional tool also on all levels of civil society and among the territorial *stakeholders*, who remain another important element for really integrated development.

From this comes our proposal for the future, which can be carried out as follows. We can lay the foundations for a new collective approach to the territorial policies, based on a collaboration that does not cancel the differences in identity, but appreciates them in a shared vision on a macro-area scale. The ultimate aim of our work is the wellbeing of the people who live in this macro-area, the quality of life of the people who live and work there, the attractiveness of the territory that we govern. And in order to 'govern better' these territories, we must set ourselves not only common objectives, but also and above all basic principles, and find together the most suitable and efficient tools to put all of it



in practice. We have worked over the last few months in this way, in order to agree on a basis for sharing and proposing the opening up of a future path towards capitalisation and fulfilment, that will make us able to change the conditions and the prospects of our work together.

We would ask for and believe it is opportune to have a rethink regarding the role of the local and regional authorities, starting from those who are studying, evaluating, adapting, following and designing the dynamics of sustainable development, in other words from those who work to harmonise and co-ordinate public policies and research, for indisputable and necessary mutual enrichment, if we really want to change pace in the cohesion and regional development policies. It is necessary to have harmonisation, not only in the active policies, but also and above all in the knowledge, skills, abilities and approaches and we especially need enrichment and growth of awareness and sensitivity, both on the part of the so-called *practitioners* and *policy makers*, but also the researchers. It is not a question of confusing the roles, but of finding a better possibility for everyone of having a more important role and greater responsibility for development potential of the territories, of finding, in short, a new role which is more relevant to the dream of the macro-region, where each person may contribute to finding and making new principles, models, solutions available, which are in the common interest, shareable, and compatible on a macro-area scale.



Towards an Adriatic-Ionian Macro-Region: ideas for reflection based on a field investigation

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2.1 The Regional lab

In December 2012 the European Union appointed the Commission to prepare a Plan of Action for a European Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region (EUSAIR). In 2013, within the AdriGov European Project - IPA Adriatic CBC Programme 2007-2013, in the context of action 5.4 of the work package WP5 - *Strategic analysis on new perspectives of the Adriatic Area*, the Emilia-Romagna Region and the University of Bologna (IECOB-Forli and Department of History, Cultures and civilisations with the support of GREP Ethnography of Thinking Research Group) constituted the *Regional Lab on macro-regional issues*.

This is a platform for analysis, reflection and discussion in order to reach the objective of action 5.4 of the project, in other words the production of a *Simulation and feasibility report* on the multi-level tools for sustainable development in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-regional area. This platform is characterised by certain significant innovative elements, such as the cross-referencing between the institutions represented (public administrations, *policy makers*, researchers and Universities) and an asset “of variable geometry”, ie. adaptable according to the themes to be addressed, so as to guarantee optimum technical and scientific coverage.

In 2014 the European Union adopted the action plan of the EUSAIR strategy, which provides a coordination overview of the multi-level planning for harmonious development of the Adriatic-Ionian area, under the supervision of the Commission. The strategy created consists of four fundamental theme pillars and two transversal priorities and involves the areas of 8 countries, (Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Greece, Montenegro, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia), 4 of which are not EU member states. In this context, the main objective of the *Regional lab* was that of raising the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of multi-level public administrations so as to enhance their active participation in the planning and implementation of EUSAIR.

To this end, the GREP organisation was given the responsibility of planning and carrying out a qualitative survey of the managers and officials of the local government institutions involved in the EUSAIR Action Plan. This survey intends to identify,

through the descriptions and considerations of the representatives of the institutions which contribute to the territorial *governance* of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region, the current and potential forms of production, in the public administrations, of practical subjectivity needed for the EUSAIR action plan, in terms of integrated and multi-level planning for the territorial development of the area, and the effective and efficient problematization of the critical issues which such a programme might encounter in its practical implementation.

2.2 GREP

GREP, (Gruppo di Ricerca di Etnografia del Pensiero- Ethnography of Thinking Research Group), created in 2004 in the Department of history, culture and civilisations at the University of Bologna, is based on an innovative theory and methodology, formulated mostly on the basis of the theoretical work carried out by Sylvain Lazarus at the Department of Anthropology at the University of Paris 8 through GRAM (*Group de Recherche d'Anthropologie de la Modernité*). The *focus* of GREP's activity consists of ethnographic field research aimed at investigating ways of thinking and 'local forms of knowledge'. These are categories used by Clifford Geertz, meaning forms of knowledge personal to the subjects that, through their thinking, constitute practices which define the mode of existence of a social reality, whether this is a factory, a service provision centre, a co-operative, a public institution, etc.

The survey of ways of thinking, by means of open interviews, enables the empirical elements of a social place to be determined via the identification of the forms of subjectivity through which that place is socially produced and reproduced, ie. it allows this empirical characteristic to be identified starting from the possibility that it is formed as such. This means that the social situation investigated is determined starting from the field of its being possible, and its *present* is one of the possible objective configurations of a subjective production activity. The reality of a social place is the possibility of its subjective definition, production and reproduction. Using this type of survey, it is possible to identify resources and critical areas which a quantitative and traditionally 'objectivist' approach would not allow us to collect and analyse. Furthermore, the investigation work not only provides important cognitive elements and a decisive integration for objectively identifying the empirical nature of a social situation, but we also often find an actively constructed instrument of the social situation investigated and its practical way of existing, also via the reflection of the interlocutors on their own activity and ways of considering the space in which they operate.



2.3 The activity of GREP in the Regional-Lab

Within the *Regional-Lab*, GREP has planned and carried out qualitative investigations among managers and officials of the local governments involved in the EUSAIR Action Plan. The figure of the officials of the public administrations involved was adopted as a key subject in the relations between European Politicians, at a macro level, and populations on whom these policies must produce effects. Through the descriptions and types of consideration of the officials interviewed, the group wanted to investigate in the local and regional public administrations, the production methods of subjectivity required for the EUSAIR action plan and the integrated multi-level planning for the regional development of the macro-area, in relation to the social context in which they act.

The survey specifically investigated the ways of conceiving the potential structure of multi-level institutional *governance* in the macro-regional area and the forms of problematization of the constituent concepts of the same macro-region: regional development and sustainability; multi-level *governance*; *capacity building*; relations between multi-level *governance* and the macroregional community.

The work of GREP in the *Regional Lab* consisted of activities such as:

a) the methodological and scientific support for the work on the platform;

b) the formulation, discussion and administration of a questionnaire aimed at the reference people of the local and regional institutions of the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region, involved as such in the construction of the macro-region. The questionnaire was divided into two parts: the first was aimed at identifying the *governance* system of every single area and understanding the institutional architecture of the EUSAIR partners, with the idea of identifying the most effective methods of coordination on a macro-regional scale. The second section was made up of questions aimed at identifying the forms of awareness of the reference people regarding the themes of the EUSAIR project: development, sustainable development, territory, multi-level *governance*, macro-region, political-institutional architecture of the macro-area.

c) The analysis of the answers to the questionnaire and the fine-tuning of a second, more in-depth questionnaire, for a series of interviews with the officials of the public administrations committed to the construction of the macro-regional situation.

c) The organisation of the Forum of the Adriatic-Ionian Universities on the EUSAIR strategy, held in Bologna on the 5th and 6th of December 2013 at the Department of history, culture and civilisations, and the participation in this of two participants with 2 speeches aimed at sharing the first data collected and expanding on the themes which emerged in the first phase of the survey. The Forum was the first moment of an activity aimed at creating new conditions for more effective collaboration between the Universities of the macro-area, and dedicated to following and developing practices for

the preparation of territorial development policies, an activity which has brought forth its first results with the proposal of a real inter-university network on a macro-regional scale.

d) Participation in the themed Adriatic –Ionian⁴² Euroregion Focus on Innovation in public policies, held at the Museo del Patrimonio Industriale in Bologna, with the presentation of the partial results of the *Regional Lab*, fruit of the collaboration between the Emilia-Romagna Region and GREP and the theoretical, methodological and operational content of the second phase of the survey.

e) The organisation, discussion and administration of the second questionnaire; first analysis of the statements collected in the field research and identification of the training topic as well as the potential decisive transversal crucial point for the development of multi-level collaboration between the *partners* of the project. Research into the possible specific training needs and organisation methods for common training courses, by sending a short preliminary questionnaire formulated specially for this purpose.

g) The processing of the data collected and the organisation of an experimental day of collaboration training, held on the 22nd of September 2015 at the Expo event in Milan, over the course of two days which saw the plenary session of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion and the adhesion of the association to the principles of the Milan Charter.

This report is a summary of the analysis work carried out on the interviews conducted with the officials involved in the implementation of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region.

2.4 The 4 pillars as foundations for a new political area?

As is well known, the European Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region is based on 4 pillars or themes (“Lead the innovative growth of the maritime and marine systems of the area”, “Connect the region”, “Preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment”, “Increase the attractiveness of the macro-regional area”) and two transversal priorities (“Research, innovation and development of SMEs”, “Capacity building”). The first question we asked ourselves was: how is a new political-institutional area created? How do you invent an area?

One could obviously think that there is a more or less common historical legacy, which in some way connects the countries which to a greater or lesser extent, look onto the Adriatic and Ionian seas. We believe, though, there is no history, to quote Croce, if not contemporary history, or rather, as Lucien Febvre said, history is the organisation of the past on the basis of the present. To go back to the lesson of the historian Moses Finley, there is no history that is not contemporary to itself, that does not have an element of political foundation.

The creation of a new political area requires a form of political invention: thus in

42 Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region, association which networks 19 local and regional entities of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area. See ww.adriaticionianeuroregion.eu



order to construct this space, do we simply need to create a network of relations from which, independently, both economic development and a new *governance* context will spring up? In fact, this appears to be the approach implicit in the EU strategy. We have tried to test this approach in our survey work, subjecting it to the various considerations of some officials who are working on this project. We have identified the figure of the official, as a possible meeting point between EU policies and the area and the populations on which they have an effect; the official is the subject in which this duplicity precipitates and may be expressed in forms of problematization and intelligence needed to construct a complete cognitive framework on which to organise a new area of *governance*.

2.5 The macro-region as an unknown

According to Pawel Samecki⁴³, a macro-region is an area which includes land belonging to different countries or associated regions, with one or more challenges or characteristics in common. If we start from this approach, in order to define a macro-region, it is necessary first of all, to identify what unites certain territorial realities, ie. the challenges and the things that certain areas have in common, and the ways of associating these realities. But the area is a socio-political situation, or rather a reality whose identity (whose being 'one', with certain, more or less defined characteristics) is politically and socially constructed. Consequently, the common existence of several territories is, also, a political-social construction: in the same way that it is a political-social product, starting from this common existence, the joining together of these territorial realities. In our investigation work, the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region was not adopted as a presumption: on the contrary, the definition of its prospective peculiarity depends on making the general concept of macro-region work, effectively summarised by Samecki, with the thoughts collected in the field research.

On the basis of this approach, in the words of our interlocutors, the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region is defined and identified subjectively as a reality with its own peculiarity, as a space for expression of multi-level *governance* as an instrument of regional development.

As one interviewee states *"the territorial dimension is therefore a crucial aspect, where the territorial specificities are the basis for the definition of development needs and strategies of intervention. It is important to combine top-down and bottom-up approaches in a multilevel governance framework, where the regional and local actors provide their specific knowledge, and proactively identify the specific needs and potentials of each territory"*. Another interviewee presents the same concept stating that *"development means to involve all necessary parties and subjects in the specific area, to set together the development priorities and to implement the*

43 Link to the *discussion paper* presented in 2009 by the economist Pawel Samecki, then European Commissioner for regional policies, during a conference to launch the first European macro-regional strategy, ie. that for the countries around the Baltic Sea (EUSSBR):
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/archive/cooperation/baltic/pdf/macoregional_strategies_2009.pdf

defined tools for them together. Without the common approach and common actions, there can be only partial development, but no territorial development as a whole". And this common approach is to be constructed via the multi-level governance which coincides with having "a strong compatibility, cooperation and relationships between actors situated at different territorial levels, both from the public and the private sector".

As one other official explains "Development of a macro-region that includes sub-territories with common links or aspects can be reached through the planning and implementation of joint strategies and policies adjusted to their special needs and characteristics, aiming to the sustainable and balanced multi-sectoral development of the whole macro-region." And this entails "the involvement of different territorial levels (states, regions, cities etc.) as well as different types of entities (European Council, Ministries, Regional and Local Authorities of each state, NGOs etc) in the decision making processes in EU (development of policies, strategies, programs etc.)"

If the macro-region is conceptualised as an entity which provides a one-to-one relationship between *multilevel-governance* and regional development, or rather:

$$f[\textit{multilevel-governance}] = [\textit{territorial development}]$$

and being $[\textit{territorial development}]$ the possibility of reaching and defining, ie. the result of the function, that is to say x , then the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region is $[f]$, ie. the space of the definition of this unknown and, thus, of the determination of this functional relationship between *multilevel-governance* and territorial development. In ethnographic terms, the macro-region is the place which makes the combination of governance activities and territorial development possible. As a result, the macro-region itself is an unknown, in the sense that its definition depends on defining the algebraic function $f[\textit{multilevel-governance}] = [\textit{territorial development}]$. In simple terms, in order to resolve this relationship regarding reality of the macroregion, it is necessary to work on possible ways to deploy *multilevel governance*.

Translated into terms borrowed from the language of territorial development planning, our interlocutors basically said that the macro-region is a multi-level *governance* tool, aimed at having an effect on territorial development. It remains unknown *how* this tool can act, ie. the quality of the effects it may have on the economic and social contexts.

2.6 Collaboration and quality of life

In order to start to specify this unknown, the question that our interlocutors raised was this: how do these factors really interact in the macro-regional tool? This report was the starting point for starting to construct a common framework of knowledge and principles and set up the right conditions to be able to define a useful and functional strategy. Two very important and interesting questions emerged:



1) *multilevel governance* and macro-regional strategy become subjectively relevant concepts for our interlocutors when they are linked to the category of co-operation between the regional actors involved;

2) the concept of territorial development is considered inwardly through the category of quality of life.

We are quoting a series of statements which demonstrate that the macro-region as a functional space for expression of *multilevel governance* and territorial development is interpreted subjectively via these two categories: co-operation/collaboration and quality of life.

“Local territorial development is the sum of social, cultural and economic processes in any given territory (metropolitan area, urban center, region, province, municipality, etc) that fuel its economic growth and improve its residents’ quality of life.”

“Development means a process of change that affect the quality of peoples’ life. It must be aimed to give a better access to opportunities to all individuals to increase their quality life.”

“Support of economic growth in accordance with principles of sustainable development, increasing the human resource potential and raising of incomes through new job creation and improved social inclusion to ensure a higher quality of life.”

“Development is a process of change that affects quality of people’s lives, i.e. contributes improvement in the quality of life in general.”

“Territorial development includes processes that aim to secure people’s livelihoods and improve their life situation which must be based on the entire potential of a territory and its population.

The concept of development starts as a feeling, but it needs to be defined through specific data. I would say that it’s the feeling to be better than yesterday, and it’s the increase of people’s access to opportunities and the improvement of their quality of life.”

“For a good multilevel governance process, it is crucial to have a strong cooperation and consolidate relations between actors situated at different territorial levels. Furthermore goals must be clear and shared between the different actors.”

“Regional and local authorities (such as municipalities) should have a primary role for the implementation of the macro-regional strategy. The entities mentioned above should have an active role both in the definition of strategy and in the implementation process. Networks, such as Adriatic and Ionian Euroregion, who represent an example of cooperation between regions in the area, must be involved in consultation process as well as in the future implementation of the strategy.”

“Very important it will be the promotion of an active dialogue and constant relations among the stakeholders even in the implementation phase.”

“A place-based strategy is a useful approach for Adriatic-Ionian Macro-region because there are several problems affecting the entire macro-region, this problem can only be effectively tackled through cooperation among the countries, regions and other relevant actors in the area.”

“There are numerous problems affecting the whole macro-region area which can only be

effectively tackled through cooperation among the countries, regions and other relevant actors on a greater scale. There are also many opportunities for growth which can only be developed through a macro-regional approach.”

“According to me, Multilevel governance is a matter of solicitations management. Plus, the bias of a complex organization to produce policies realized by promoting and coordinating the urging coming from the various levels. Multilevel governance means inclusion through dialogue.”

“Multilevel governance is a process that should be continuative and collaborative, it means that it is necessary to involve different parts of society to define development priorities and common actions. So that, it is important to define common tools to planning a development strategy in a specific territory.”

2.6bis The question of participation

The centrality of these two themes (quality of life and co-operation/collaboration) allows us to develop an interpretation of the subjective processes which may contribute to the construction of the macro-region. In order to obtain this interpretation, we need to isolate another area of thought in our interlocutors: in the opinion of some interviewees the *multilevel governance* and the construction of a macro-regional institutional architecture are intellectually qualified via their association with the forms of participation in the decision-making processes, not only by the institutional subjects, but also by everyday society.

“The macro-region is a concept based on co-operation, sustainable development and co-operation between countries, or rather between people and institutions. Co-operation means trying to involve not only the countries, but also the citizens, allowing them to try and propose something. The multi-level functions better if it is based on the possibility of citizens to participate”

According to other interviewees, *“National authorities of each country, regional authorities and other relevant stakeholders such as existing macro-regional networks representing different interests (such as chamber of commerce, universities, local authorities and municipalities), regional development agencies, NGOs, civil society organizations, scientific community, business organizations, etc.”* should take part in defining the strategic framework of the macro-region.

“National, regional, and local governments and their associations, associations of civil society organizations, business organisations, scientific community, professional associations as well as individual entities from associations/organizations mentioned above”

“individual participants from public, business, non-government and other sectors should be involved in programming process, as well as through implementation of project (both “soft” and “infrastructural”). They should point at obstacles to development (structural, social or economic)



which must be effectively identified and reduced. This will contribute to the social and economic development of the whole region”

As another interviewee concisely points out, “ *multilevel governance is important for local bodies, civil society and the local democracy, transparency, reliability and good governance*”.

The references to civil society through the mediation of the concept of multi-level *governance* and strategic framework of the macro-region identify society as an area for participation in the EU strategy. In these statements, social issues may have a certain importance via the participation in decision-making processes which involve the area.

The thinking of officials identifies this relationship between *governance* and participation; on the other hand it is important not to forget what was said before on the theme of the quality of life as a gauge of territorial development.

Quality of life as an objective of *governance* allows us to think of social issues independently from their participation in *governance*; and have social issues as a reality able to configure a potential and unknown dimension of the development itself. We now need to examine this last aspect more closely.

1.7 Social Issues as an unknown

As we have shown, through the words of our interlocutors, the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region is configured as the area for expression of a functional relationship between multi-level governance and territorial development. The macro-region is the space for this relationship, entirely to be built. Through the category of quality of life, this same relation is specified in the terms of a relation between governance of the European Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian area and the social reality on which this strategy is intended to have developmental effects. In other words, the intelligence of the macro-area construction process depends on its relationship with the social reality. In order to think of this relationship and, thus, make the macro-region construction process rationally manageable by the officials, some of those interviewed use the category of *participation* (social) in the construction of the macro-regional reality and its *governance*. In the officials' minds, the relationship between multi-level governance and the social situation on which such governance should have a developmental effect varies, then, between the concept of participation of civil society in this process and the category of quality of life, which requires the relationship to be constructed between government and social reality in terms which remain completely generic and undefined.

It is important to consider that the social situation exists, it is real, regardless of its participation in the governance activities. And just as the social situation exists regardless of its participation, so the governance also exists regardless of this participation. The idea of participation risks dividing social issues and considering only those social elements

which are able to participate, not taking into account those which cannot be involved in the *governance* processes. As one interviewee points out:

“In the participatory mechanisms it is also important to listen to the other interested parties, even if they are minorities compared to those who have been consulted so far. Those citizens who are not represented by groups are those who represent the majority, but it is difficult for them to be recognised and interviewed. Those who are organised already have an economic interest which however is often biased”.

Moreover, the existence of social issues does not depend on participating in the activities which govern them or on expressing themselves in these. Thus, the concept of quality of life seems more relevant in order to have the government–society relationship constitutive of the problematization of the macro-region in an intellectually valid way as far as the officials interviewed were concerned. This category gives greater responsibility to the public administration and *policy makers* in that the governance action and its effectiveness are measured in the social effects that they produce, rather than on the greater or lesser forms of participation of the society in the governance of implementation processes of the EU strategy. However, as one interviewee claims: *“the great difficulty is starting to make decisions based not entirely on GDP and economics, but giving greater consideration to training, social situation, culture, new generations, even if, historically, this is the opposite of what has always been done”.*

In effect, in the words of our interviewees, in nearly all the interviews, the development parameter is quality of life: a non-quantitative category; difficult to measure and, consequently, essentially extra-economic.

We have highlighted how the officials interviewed implement a subjectification of the constitution process of the macro-region. The subjectification refers not only to the key category of *quality of life*, but also to another key category that we mentioned before, that of *co-operation/collaboration*, referring to the theme of multi-level governance and, more generally, to the architecture of the macro-regional community. The territorial development depends on the ability to introduce a co-operation activity between different levels of governance, through competence development.

One interviewee summarises, very effectively we think, the link between development and collaboration/co-operation at the level of *governance*:

“Multi-level governance represents an innovative way for making decisions. The process involves several institutions at different levels of territorial and political authority and other actors of society. So it is a co-ordinated process which involves several level of governments, different for power and territorial competence, the governance is assured by the contributions of all these actors and with the financial support of different financial instruments. For a good multilevel governance process, it is crucial to have a strong cooperation and consolidate relations between actors situated at different territorial levels. Furthermore goals must be clear and shared between the different actors”. While, shortly after he/she states, *“The path towards a consolidated all-round effort in support of the sustainable regional development begins from,*



and is based on, the quality of the capacities of the actors involved, their abilities to build an open society of ideas where innovation is attached relevant importance in order to cope with the challenges of global economies.”

But if, as we have seen, territorial development has to be measured above all in the improvement in the quality of life for people, it is a question of making these officials’ two categories of thinking work together (*collaboration/co-operation* between subjects of the governance and *quality of life*) in order to develop the forms of subjectivity related to the construction of the macro-area which our interlocutors try to identify in their answers to our questions. We have already pointed out that the macro-region is conceived by our interlocutors as that which provides a one-to-one capacity between *multilevel governance* and territorial development, or rather

$$f[\textit{multilevel governance}] = [\textit{territorial development}]$$

Given that *multilevel governance* can be established effectively only via collaboration/co-operation and that the measure of territorial development is the social situation and the quality of life of people, then the functional relationship to which the macro-area is subjectified $f[\textit{multilevel-governance}] = [\textit{territorial development}]$ is specified as a function which provides equipotent sets on one hand of collaboration/cooperation between officials, on the other hand the social reality/quality of life.

Consequently, our hypothesis is that in the reasoning of the interviewees, there are two ways of dealing with the relationship between *governance* and social situation. One is ‘participation’, which we have analysed above. The other is collaboration/co-operation. As we have seen, the way of making the construction process of the macro-area thinkable is to arrange aspects in terms of relationship between social reality, on one hand, and effects on this produced by multi-level *governance*, on the other. The category of participation tends to blend together the social/*governance* duplicity, incorporating one into the other. We believe, it is more a question of making this duplicity work in terms of open nature, where in intellectually positive terms both the subjectivity and the actions of the officials can prove valid. It is precisely between *governance* and *social situation* as an unknown situation, identified as such by the officials via the category of *quality of life*, that a space can be created where the collaboration between the actors committed to the construction of the macro-region can begin to take shape. Let us now try to demonstrate how this would be possible.

2.8 Provisional Conclusions: collaboration, competitiveness, training and knowledge

The EUSAIR strategy implies a concept whereby networking certain territories allows, almost automatically, the construction of a governance able to guarantee the development of the areas involved. According to the words of one interviewee however,

“The 4 pillars are the fruit of a limited mentality and without sufficient knowledge of the area. These are not mistakes as such but it is evident that they are of a bureaucratic nature and not at the level required by the strategy, which is metapolitics. But it is obvious, because the European Commission is not the right body to be making policies about this area. This confirms that we need a bottom-up policy, realize its territorial importance,”

Another interviewee highlights how

“The 4 pillars are important but in my view they are more important for the Western areas of the European macro-region than for us: they are very important but maybe, for us, other points could have been included. I think that the local governments in the area should be niche-based and should be dealing with not just the big strategic questions and be very geographically oriented, respecting the specific problems of each area, its needs and problems, not focussing solely on the increase in competition but also address the social problems and the issues of equality and parity in these areas”

It would seem that the idea of the macro-region as networking of the territories for competitive reasons cannot be taken for granted. As we have seen, rather than networking, our interlocutors talk about collaboration/co-operation and when they think of development, rather than economics they are talking about quality of life. Moreover, in the interviews that we conducted, the officials did not even identify an intellectually consistent common past which constitutes a shared land on which this networking can be based, giving body politic to the macro-regional construction.

In effect, every idea of a common past is based on the search for similarities, on the basis of which it is possible to reduce the differences. As we have already highlighted, our interlocutors use, instead, the categories of co-operation and collaboration for competitiveness, territorial development and quality of life: for them it is a question of working together on the differences, in order to treat them as positive elements (for competitiveness, for knowledge, for government) and use them to best advantage. It could be claimed then that the differences, far from needing to be eliminated and/or forced into any external model implemented, constitute an important element of development, when it is possible to introduce a form of collaboration which understands their importance and takes them into consideration.

Now, while networking can always be objectified in some way, what does it mean to collaborate and co-operate?

In the interviews we conducted, this unknown remains exactly that: collaboration is configured as a question, a request. In order to loosen this problematic knot and specify



intellectually and operationally that which in the words of the interviewees remained a request, we transformed it in training terms into common knowledge as training for the work in common. This was done by setting up a laboratory, using a series of questionnaires on this theme, which was held in Milan, with the participation of numerous officials involved in the project. Referring back to the definition of Pawel Samecki, a macro-region is an area including a number of countries or associated regions, with one or more challenges or characteristics in common. It is from here that the misunderstanding may arise which leads us to look for this common dimension historically, in a past where the Adriatic-Ionian area has its geopolitical roots. On the contrary, in the thinking of our interviewees, the common dimension of the area is something to be constructed in terms that are totally connected to the present. Such as, for example, one interviewee states, *“knowledge is the necessary starting point for any policy relating to the areas that you are responsible for managing. One peculiarity of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region is the need to build a community of knowledge which works on a common identity on a macro-regional scale. This is a shared need which comes from the bottom up”*.

Another claims: *“the only way in which the macro-area and multilevel governance work is if there is knowledge at every level but independence and subsidiarity at the first level (municipal)”*,

At the meeting in Milan there were attempts to outline a hypothesis for the development of a knowledge community to manage the areas. But how can you create common, shared knowledge in the area? From Galileo Galilei onwards, every kind of knowledge worthy of that name can be nothing if not experimental. Thus, collaboration can be expressed not only as co-operation between those responsible for *governance*, but also as a possible way of interfacing with the social situation. This allows us to redefine the sense/meaning of another important category of thinking of the officials: the idea of the participation of civil society in the *governance* activities. It would be a question not so much of making society participate in a *governance* activity but rather allowing social issues to act within the *governance*, collaborating with it, or rather imagining ways to make the government more aware of the work and effort of knowledge within the field of social issues, and of the impact on society of the policies proposed. This means measuring government action starting from the social impact: and, in this sense, alongside the classic indicators (income, occupation, etc...) it is also necessary to take into account what society thinks. Thus, referring back to the opinion of one interviewee, if *“The concept of development starts as a feeling, but it needs to be defined through specific data. I would say that it’s the feeling to be better than yesterday, and it’s the increase of people’s access to opportunities and the improvement of their quality of life.”* So, to define development, we could ask people directly, translating, as requested by this interlocutor, the *feeling* into data.

At the end of all these research *phases* we can state that the stakes of the construction process of the Adriatic-Ionian macroregion consist of training the officials involved in

working with each other. And this is only possible if they, as figures of a one-to-one between *governance* and populations of the areas subject to these governance actions, introduce a form of collaboration with the social situation of the area they represent. It is a question, then, of designing the training as training in social issues, in that it is unknown and true to the people and their thinking. The *multilevel governance* could, thus, develop not only as a method to deploy a single strategy at territorial level, but also in the opposite sense, or rather as a multi-faceted mechanism of *feed-back* on the social impact of the political-strategic choices. A mechanism focussing on the public administrations and the resources already available to them. To this end, the role of the Adriatic-Ionian University network, created during the project promoted by the *Regional Lab*, could be important. The collaboration of the officials and public administrators with the Universities and the research institutes, subjects able to provide data on which to base effective policies and guarantee *feedback* on their impact and their consequences, both in order to increase the benefits, and also to reduce any costs, using numerous research methods and knowledge of the social situation.

Our main recommendation for a qualification proposal of the public policies of integrated area development for the macroregion comes directly from the need for real collaboration between officials and public administrators, on the one hand, and Universities and research institutes on the other. This is a crucial point for the construction of an accurate cognitive framework of the macro-regional social situation, in turn a necessary element for defining adequate and effective regional policies, as well as for efficient monitoring. Only on the basis of shared knowledge of territorial *assets* and development needs will it be possible to create new policies able to successfully support the aspirations, needs and wishes of the people who live and work in the macro-area.



Geopolitics of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region. An arc of diversity in search of integration

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3.1 The main geomorphological features of the macro-region

The Adriatic-Ionian macro-region looks like a mediterranean environment, geographically extending along a predominantly North-South direction and distinguished by two seas closely linked to each other (so as to appear as one being the continuation of the other), as well as by a coastal arc which, in the West, follows the long development of the appenine strip; curving then towards the North, following the padano-veneta-romagnola alluvial plain, above which a long stretch of the Alps looms up and, finally, turning to the East, following a tortuous path dotted with innumerable islands and peninsulas, some fjords (especially in Istria and Montenegro), a canyon carved out by a short river which flows into the Adriatic and, in general, by a generally karstic geological structure, in which the mountainous hinterland of the Balkan peninsula dominates right down to its Southernmost tip.

In other words, the coastal environment of the Adriatic-Ionian area shows a marked diversity and can be sub-divided essentially into three distinct areas, which have had over time, as we will see later, an important cultural reflection with regard to the way in which the populations of its coasts perceive and interpret the relationship between the sea and the hinterland.

Thus going back up, from the South to the North, the western Ionian coast is generally high and regular, but slopes gradually down in South Salento. Whereas the Eastern coast is jagged and irregular, rich in coves and islands, with mountainous areas which descend rapidly towards the sea, a large gulf (that of Patrasso and Corinth) and an equally large peninsula (the Peloponnese), linked to central Greece via the Isthmus of Corinth which was carved from a canal built in the late 1800s by the Hungarian engineers of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, thus allowing a direct connection between the Ionian and the Aegean. Following on towards the North, the western Adriatic coast has a generally flat course and a backdrop landscape characterised by hills softly sloping down towards the sea with few rocky promontories (S. Maria di Leuca, Gargano

and Conero). The seabeds are generally low, especially in the Northern Adriatic where numerous rivers carry large quantities of debris towards the sea.

Starting from Monfalcone, however, the Eastern coast snakes in remarkably different forms, as we mentioned a short while ago: uplands (like the Triestine Karst) and Alpine ridges run parallel to the coast, drop sharply to the sea where very few rivers of any consistency flow out, at least up until central Dalmatia (with the Cetina and the Neretva). From the deep rocky seabeds, numerous islands emerge in many cases lined up parallel to the coast, 78 of them with a surface area greater than 1 square km, another 524 with a surface area less than that, as well as isolated rocks. These islands follow in a series into the Ionian, where the Eptaneso rises up (or “Seven Islands” archipelago), with a significant break along the Albanian coast, which is free of islands (except Saseno) and mainly marked by the presence of coastal flood plains, by saltwater lagoons, and by numerous rivers with wide beds and meanderings from the Bojana (on the border with Montenegro) to the Drin, the Shkumbin up to the Lumi Vjosa (Voiussa in Italian).

3.2 The historical experience between closed basins and the “global” dimension of trade

This terraqueous space of marked geomorphological diversity – and whose East-West distances are very close in the Adriatic area, while they tend to widen in the Ionian area – experienced centuries of intense political, cultural and commercial relations, which had a huge impact on the development of Mediterranean civilisation, thanks in particular to the many opportunities for connection with its multiple hinterlands which span from Sicily to central Europe and the Danubian area, as far as the Aegean and the Middle East.

In reality, also in this case we can see the fundamental differences between the Ionian basin and the Adriatic basin. The former, in fact, boasted an important trade role during the times of the Magna Grecia starting from the Mycenaean age and then subsequently, with the thriving of Hellenic colonisation from the 8th century B.C. Later on though, in Roman Times, this basin lost its significance as a centre for exchange; many of its own ports – at one time flourishing – were replaced due to modifications in the routes. In fact, during the Roman age, it was the Eastern Mediterranean that had the dominant role in trade, leaving the Ionian to develop its growing role as a sea of transit. This role has remained dominant right up to the present day.

Also the Adriatic, primarily seen as a closed basin, had a secondary commercial role at that time. Therefore, the traffic, the flows of interest and social relations between its coastal zones could not gain any benefit, or at least only partial benefit, from the expansion of Carthage, which however increased the value of the function of the western Mediterranean, or from the Greek penetration of the central North Adriatic as far as Trogir, Ancona and Adria, in Veneto, as well as the integrative role played by the Roman



republic and Empire which dominated the area for centuries, leaving precious and significant urban architectural and cultural evidence.

The turning point, at least for the Adriatic, came with the Dark Ages, first with the Byzantine Empire and then with the patrician republics of Venice and Ragusa/Dubrovnik.

Despite the turbulence created by the fall of the Western Roman Empire, the Barbaric invasions and the conflicts with Byzantium fighting against Longobards and Franks, the western Adriatic – thanks to the flourishing of Ravenna, the maritime pentapolis and the Byzantine presence in Puglia and Southern Italy (Calabria and Sicily) – managed to maintain its links with Constantinople, in the Middle East and Egypt. Especially with the arrival of the 8th century, this sea and its shores enjoyed a new centrality and wealth, allowing it to compete with the likes of the Tyrrhenian sea and the port of Marseilles.

It was later, with the advent of the Republic of Venice and, from the 14th century, with the ascent also of the Ragusan republic, that the Adriatic saw its finest hour in terms of the traffic between the Far East, Constantinople and Central-Western Europe. A particular orientalism based on economic and military interests, on a highly unusual architectural taste, on the trade of spices, salt and luxury products became widespread thanks to the trade policies developed by these two patrician republics.

On the one hand, the undoubted supremacy of Venice had allowed the idea of a “closed sea” to be dispelled, taking advantage of the control of the Padana plain and the main transit routes through the Alps which linked the Venetian hinterland with Central and Northern Europe, and which, in this way created a direct link with the traffic fuelled by the powerful merchant fleet of the Republic of Venice and its ports in the Adriatic and the Eastern Mediterranean. Venice thus became the European centre par excellence for trade and trade fairs, at least up until the time when the Byzantine Empire fell into the hands of the Turks, who swept into the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean attempting to take colonies and ports from the Republic of Venice starting from the 15th century. It is true that the diplomatic ability of the Republic however managed to keep the channels of communication with the East open, allowing this patrician Republic to carry out a crucial role even when it began its, among other things, long and gradual decline.

On the other hand, the Ragusan Republic – although tributary of the Sublime Port – was able in turn to count on a powerful merchant fleet able to trade in raw materials (minerals), agricultural products, cheeses, artefacts moving from the ports of the Black Sea all the way to England, having built up in particular a network of inter-Adriatic connections thanks to its alliance with Ancona and that, via this and Florence, reached as far as Flanders.

In fact, Venice and Ragusa owe their economic and social success to their capacity to connect the Adriatic to an intensive network of relationships, contacts and traffic which spanned from the East to the Caucasus up to Central and Northern Europe. In other

words, they knew how to make the Adriatic into a central area of exchange and intensive connections between the West and East, as much by sea, as by land, and avoiding in any way finding itself isolated. This “global” dimension of Adriatic trade co-existed with a developed network of local traffic which operated between its shores via the exchange of artefacts, raw materials, vegetables, timber, oil and wine. This was a network which did not simply have East-West movement, but which built itself up and maintained itself for centuries with a circular function, connecting Puglia both to the Northern Adriatic, and to Dalmatia; thus connecting also the Kingdom of Naples with the Northern Adriatic, with the ports and islands under Venetian command as far as Scutari and the Ionian. The alliance between Ancona and Ragusa/Dubrovnik between the 13th and 14th centuries constituted another trading direction that could take advantage of the Ragusan relationships with the Byzantine Empire and subsequently with the kingdom of Hungary.

This multivector network of Adriatic trade undoubtedly lost its centrality with regard to European economic interests following the shifting of the primary maritime routes from the Mediterranean towards the Atlantic, as a result of the new geographical discoveries both in the direction of the Americas and also towards Southern Africa. However, despite the Adriatic space losing its internationally central position, and the Ottoman advance in the Balkans, the inter-Adriatic trade connections maintained their lively activity for centuries to come. The Ragusan Republic, thanks to the exportation of salt across the Neretva river, and its good relations (although tributary) with the Sublime Port, continued to play a vital role of connection between between the Balkans, Eastern Mediterranean and the Adriatic. Venice, in turn, despite the military conflict with Turkey, and its gradual decline, remained for a long time the principal trade partner of the Ottoman Empire, even when floods of Cristian Croatian and Albanian populations, crossed the sea heading towards the Kingdom of Naples and the Republic of Venice had to, often reluctantly, respond to the appeals by the Church for military action against the Sublime Port. And this is significant, however, as also the Bourbons thought it convenient to stipulate, in 1740, a trade treaty with Turkey with the obvious objective of strengthening the traffic and diplomatic relations between the two countries, not only in the direction of the Eastern Mediterranean, but also towards Northern Africa, especially Tripoli and Algeria.

Such fervour of exchange was able to still produce dynamic phases of growth throughout the 1800s, despite the radical geopolitical mutation imposed by the napoleonic expansion, first with the elimination of the patrician republics, then the constitution of the Illyrian provinces in the Eastern Adriatic and the formation of the Kingdom of Italy under the French Empire in the West. The consolidation, shortly afterwards, with the congress of Vienna, of the Hapsburg supremacy over the vast part of the Italian peninsula and, at the same time, in the Balkans allowed Trieste – already a Franco-imperial port since 1719 – to arrive at a period of renewed development as a shipbuilding port and port of access for the trade crossing the Adriatic to penetrate



Central Europe, especially following the construction of the railway that had linked the Julian city with Vienna since 1857.

Despite having altered geopolitics, then, and despite the dominant Atlantic centrality after 1492, the Adriatic managed to maintain an important role in the field of traffic and communication between the Eastern Mediterranean and central Europe over the centuries to come, taking advantage only partly of the construction of the Suez canal in 1869.

3.3 The inheritance of the twentieth century and the geopolitics of conflict

It was, however, in the 19th century that the Adriatic experienced increasing limitations in its main trade function; these limits being attributable for the most part, to the profound changes – once again of a geopolitical nature – sparked off by the formation of the national States and that contributed gradually, but inexorably to suffocating its international role. It involved an arduous and spasmodic process, which followed the exclusion of Austro-Hungary from the Italian peninsula between 1859 and 1866 and the failure of its subsequent attempt to reinforce itself in the Balkans, absorbing Bosnia-Erzegovina and then targeting Serbia in order to connect with Mesopotamia, via Constantinople. In contrast with the Hapsburg expectations, in fact, the unification of Italy encouraged and favoured that of Yugoslavia and Albania, while in the Ionian an independent Greek state had been established. This led to a different configuration of the coastal areas in relation to their hinterlands, giving supremacy to the economic-trade relations within the new States and to the detriment of macro-regional interchange because of the political competition and power which had arisen between the coastal countries.

In brief, the end of the Great Empires and the birth of the new national States between 1859 and 1918 did not signal the start of a new era founded on the freedom of the populations, as the revolutionaries of the secret societies had dreamed of, the Mazzinians and the Garibaldians. Rather, the constitution of the national states triggered ethnic-cultural polarisations, imperial and domination policies which, in the specific case of the Adriatic and Ionian, led to a dispersion of the trade, economic and cultural networks of the previous centuries, as well as violent clashes which had the effect of, among other things, (a) perpetuating states of war between both between Italy and all its Adriatic-Ionian neighbours, since Rome attempted to conquer them or at least disunite them, and between the Balkan states themselves (like, for example, Greece and Albania, whose state of war continued from 1940 right up to 1989); (b) to spark off ideological opposition, civil wars and forced migrations (particularly at the time of the Cold War); and (c) to ignite mass passions and sentiments of which the dominant one was the radical refusal of the other, to the point of provoking the violent breaking up of States (as in the

case of Yugoslavia and Albania), given also the highly pluralist and intercultural character of those societies.

Due mainly to these dynamics, the Adriatic-Ionian maritime space underwent an increasing marginalisation over the course of the 20th century, losing a great deal of its ability to attract intercontinental trade, its identity as a bridge between East and west, and often also dramatically reducing the intensity of its macroregional inter-exchange for long periods. Italian fascism had attempted to avoid this complication with its imperial policy, as soon as it had prefigured in the irredentist actions and ideology, which it had incorporated within itself, a geopolitical expansion able to unify control on the eastern Adriatic (from Dalmatia to Albania) with the domination over Greece and, via this, challenging Great Britain, on Cyprus and Suez in order to link up with the colonies on the Horn of Africa and the Indian ocean. This was obviously the case of a project “selfishly” linked to the power interests of Italy and did not expect any inclusion in the collective space of the Adriatic-Ionian area, except in the sense that it perceived the maritime basin as a “vital area” for the trade interests of the Empire. However, the project was not seen through because it failed with the fall of the Italian military, but the prospect of its eventual realisation during the 1930s contributed largely to poisoning, even more so than the waters, the relationship climate in the Adriatic-Ionian basin with dramatic repercussions which were perceived during the following decades.

At the same time, the loss of Fiume as Hungarian port and that of Trieste as an Austrian port in a historical-political context marked by the rivalry between the States succeeding the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the opposing alliances of the revisionist countries and those intent on preserving the status quo which had emerged from the peace treaties redefined and even cancelled the connections that the Adriatic-Ionian basin in its entirety had maintained with its greater hinterlands, especially those with Central Europe. Later on, due to the iron curtain, due to the Yugoslav isolation following the break with Stalin 1948, or due to the international tensions, there were numerous factors that conspired to keep the communication, transport and service networks, of the Adriatic-Ionian inadequate, forcing the main naval routes to sail across the Mediterranean, avoiding stays in the ports of the Adriatic and Ionian, and heading rather towards Genoa, Marseilles or other stops more adapted to the modern needs of trade. Trieste, in particular, having become a border city, without any significant hinterland, saw its role reshaped; but Venice was to face a similar destiny, despite the development of the industrial hub of Porto Marghera. The shipbuilding activity of Fiume and Spalato, which drew great benefit from the non-alignment policy of Tito, fell into crisis with the fall of Yugoslavia, towards the end of the century. Also the tourist interchange, despite even moments of significant recovery, such as those seen in the period between the 1960s and 1980s, suffered serious downtime due to military conflicts and especially during the 1990s. And, indeed, the 20th century ended with the Adriatic sea and the skies above it



becoming “off limits” being declared a war zone, patrolled by the ships and airforce of NATO.

3.4 From the geopolitics of conflict to the geopolitics of integration

However, the geopolitics of the conflict which had dominated the 20th century only constituted one factor, among other things, chronologically modest, of the historic heritage of the Adriatic-Ionian basin. The geopolitics of integration – linked to the expansion and widening processes of the EU – offers a new and dynamic context potentially able to relaunch that “global” dimension of trade that had already been developed in the past centuries, together with cultural and social interaction, thanks to which empathy, peace and transnational cooperation could be consolidated.

In fact if we judge from the geomorphology of the Adriatic-Ionian basin, a careful observer may note easily how the spatial unity which connects the two seas has transformed, over time, this environment into a sort of “inverted funnel”, potentially able to attract goods and military, social and cultural interest from a vast “south”, including the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean in order to distribute them – via Middle Europe – as far as the Baltic area, to the North Sea and Russia. In determining a further source of attraction not only among its traditional connections between East and West, but also between North West and South-East, the particular location of the Eastern shore also played its part, so inextricably linked with the entirety of the Balkanic region in which there are valleys and passes easily passable if tackled, precisely in a “transverse” direction from South-East towards North-West, and thus able to facilitate communication of Europe from and to the Anatolia and the Black Sea as far as Caucasus, Persia and China.

Altogether, then, the Adriatic-Ionian space presents a geopolitical centrality that for centuries, when pursued, guaranteed not only fortune, but also a vital transit function as much for trade and migratory flows as for armies intent on establishing control on the communication routes between the West, Northern Europe and the East (in the broadest sense of the term). These were communication routes whose economic and political importance, seems to depend particularly on the measure in which the coastal societies knew how to develop and maintain a stable network of relations between the marine environment and its multiple hinterlands, cultivating that “global” dimension of trade and a cultural syncretism so powerful as to have allowed it to build up an enviable historical-artistic wealth at world level.

Currently, then, the Adriatic-Ionian macroregional project could constitute a useful tool supporting an integrational geopolitics in that it outlines a potentially important reference framework, which incorporates 4 member countries of the European Union and 4 candidate countries, or countries in a condition to become such, in an area towards

which the EU has pledged a formal commitment of inclusion since the Salonicco summit in 2003; a commitment which was followed by consistent flows of financial help, as well as by negotiations for stabilisation and association agreements. It is also true that the EU has encouraged, or promoted various regional cooperation policies (stability pact, RCC, CEFTA, etc), which however had the main characteristic of developing multilateral relations within a geopolitical space which remained excluded from the intra-EU dynamics. On the contrary, the Adriatic-Ionian macroregional project, represents a leap of innovation from this point of view, in that it outlines an institutional situation (although, let's say, of a "soft" nature) which includes member countries and countries waiting to become such; thus constructing a psychologically and structurally inclusive bridge towards South-East Europe in a highly delicate phase of the expansion and broadening of the EU.

In principle, then, this geopolitical choice presents a unique opportunity for the Adriatic-Ionian space in that it allows for the strengthening of intra-Adriatic Ionian relations in a strategic and systematic way from different points of view, attaching them directly to European integration processes such as never seen before and regardless from the state in which the negotiations take place, or simply, the relations between the single Balkan states and the EU.

In this sense, the macroregional project and, at least for the Adriatic-Ionian context, it constitutes an interesting experiment in "interim step" towards adhesion in which direct cooperation with member states on themes of common interest can have an effect, for example, on the reorganisation and the skills of the regional/local administrations, in order to ensure a compatible transnational governance, on the environmental protection of the sea and fishing, on the relaunch of the economy by means of port policies and local and international connections, being able to count – for the first time, in fact, since the end of the 19th century – on a network under construction of communication on rubber, iron, waterway and extra broad band. The multiplicity of the infrastructures which are being prepared, their modernisation, the potential offered in energy terms by new gasducts, like the trans-Adriatic one (TAP: Trans-Adriatic Pipeline) and from the trade point of view by the large trans-European traffic corridors, in particular the 5 and 8 and 10 – if opportunely joined with the Adriatic-Ionian ports of Fiume, Ploče and Igoumenitsa, as planned – they can define a dynamic relation with a hinterland much more vast and European, which would exist alongside the already consolidated links between Koper/Capodistria and Germany. Trieste on the other hand will be able to take advantage of corridor number 5, now called Mediterranean, while the North-West coast of the Adriatic can count on the Baltic-Adriatic corridor.

Basically re-tracing the old amber road, already well-known at the time of the Egyptians and the Romans, and which in modern times descended from St. Petersburg, along the Baltic coast, crossed over the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and the Austrian Empire to arrive in the Republic of Venice, this infrastructure (which includes



also an ultra-wide band) constitutes an important trans-European artery able to link the entire North-East of Europe from Helsinki (via St. Petersburg, Tallinn, Kaunas, Danzica, Varsavia, Brno, Bratislava and Graz) to Trieste on the one hand, and Bologna and Ravenna on the other.

The priority of this corridor, together with 8 others, was confirmed by the EU infrastructural policy introduced at the end of 2013 and financially comes under the budget for 2014-2020. And thus, geopolitically, it offers a great outlet opportunity for goods coming from in particular the Indian ocean and that, passing the Suez, are headed for the Scandinavian, Baltic and Russian markets.

So, the Adriatic-Ionian area can benefit from the European integration process in that it allows it to re-establish, in modern forms, that “global trade dimension” already active in the past eras, with the addition of – precisely – the multi-level transnational cooperation, of environmental protection, of cultural tourism, as well as the development of new cultural hybrids with interaction mechanisms which made a fortune of its historic-artistic and architectural wealth.

In brief, the Adriatic-Ionian macroregional geopolitics can stimulate new economic, commercial and cultural development if that which is commonly called the “highway of the sea” does not limit itself to coastal interchange, but has a dynamic relationship with a wider field in which we can find:

The exchange not only between the Mediterranean and Baltic-Adriatic corridors, but thanks to these also with the North Sea-Baltic Sea and Scandinavian-Mediterranean (which will descend from the Brenner and arrive as far as Malta);

- a. The development of ports, railways, as well as the facilitated access to the energy sources together with the inter-university cooperation as much in the training sector, as in that of research and innovation;
- b. The exploitation of the cultural implications deriving from the installation of the ultra-wide band between the Baltic and Adriatic-Ionian macro-regions, since the prospective connection will also play the part of “Cultural corridor” (according to studies already underway by the European Commission), capable of triggering interesting consequences both in terms of cultural cooperation and in terms of various types of tourism;
- c. The development of a multi-level governance (EU, national states, macro-region, local and regional public administrations) which require reforms and important updates, also institutional, in order to make transnational governability of the macro-regions and the corridors functional and effective;
- d. The intensification of the economic relations with Russia, following its entry into the WTO in 2012.
- e. These elements, briefly described above, could spark off undeniable repercussions in the relations between the Balkans and the EU, facilitating their development and integration and also should they persist (or even get worse) the recent political

tensions with Russia due to the Ukrainian crisis. The infrastructure networks under construction will in fact reinforce, relationship flows, from economic ones to cultural ones favouring the growth of social cohesion and cultural interdependence policies, a little like what happened in the first half of the of the 19th century, when Zollverein and the construction of the railways determined the structure around which German unification was built.

And despite all the potential benefits that the macroregional space may draw from them, from its interconnection with the European networks of transnational communication, they depend largely on overcoming certain determining local and international conditioning capable of creating a barrier to the achievement of the objectives that the macro-regional cooperation has set itself.

3.5 The obstacles which interfere with integration geopolitics

There are numerous, and not so insignificant, barriers which interfere with achieving those benefits we were talking about a short while ago.

Basically, these are the cause and effect of the *poor level* of macro-regional amalgamation felt both in the relationship dynamics between institutions (including the policies pursued by the respective governments), as well as in the perceptions of the élite who, in recent times and different situations, we have had the chance to investigate. The reasons that explain that modest sense of belonging to a shared terraqueous space may be summarised as follows:

- a. High level of persistence of the nationalist and xenophobic animosities with consequent modest and, at least for now, ineffective reconciliation process, which maintains the entire region in a condition of permanent instability and insecurity, even military;
- b. State borders still disputed;
- c. Weak infrastructures (as much radiating in the macro-region, as towards respective hinterlands);
- d. Absence of harmonisation of the skills attributed to the various members of the local administration (so as to encourage a more effective cooperation with a view to decentralisation shared at transnational level)
- e. Low or insufficient spending capabilities of the eligible members (from the local administrations to the Universities, for example in Bosnia-Herzegovina, but also in Croatia and in the Southern Italian regions);
- f. Low level of attraction attributed to the sea as a unifying factor or way of converging interests, besides the individual attention attributed, especially in the Balkans, to such aspects as tourism or fishing;



- g. Vague and unhomogeneous knowledge of the shared cultural and environmental wealth;
- h. Clear disparity of economic, trade and cultural relations, between coastal areas of the Adriatic and Ionian, with the latter completely marginalised, reduced to mere transit space for traffic and with few connections between Calabria, Sicily and Greece despite the ancient connections dating back to Magna Grecia.

So to summarise, many aspects and dynamics contribute to keeping the construction process of a geopolity for macroregional integration hingeing on the Adriatic and Ionian seas very fragile; but however, it is also true that, in this framework, the still unresolved legacy of the profound national divisions accumulated over the course of the 20th century represent the most important aspect, in that it keeps the diffidence in the relationships between the various countries alive and prevents the empathetic entrenchment of a shared future, according to forms and methods rather more incisive than what was perceived and forecast by the European chancelleries or reported in the International press.

In particular, as has been said, reconciliation and recomposition of historical memories, even via a painful process of empathy sufferance, have not even been started. Undoubtedly, politics has already made efforts with certain conciliatory gestures, of dialogue, reciprocal visits to places where horrible massacres took place, but none of this has really settled in the conscience of the populations, since most of the celebrations, public demonstrations, the symbology adopted (from monuments to national holidays) including religious ceremonies and the sermons remain built on divisive logic. It is sufficient here to remember that how, despite the Serbo-kosovaro and Serbo-Albanese dialogue, it was enough for a drone which fell during during a football match on which there was a flag of “Great Albania” in order to spark off a terrible riot in the stadium and between the players on the 14th of October 2014; if we think also of the international tension sparked off by the English proposal of a resolution of the United Nations Security Council on the genocide in Srebrenica between June and July 2015 which followed the Russian veto and a participation in the commemorative ceremony, which was to say the least, animated by the Serbian Prime Minister.

Aggravating the situation further, keeping the western Balkans in a situation of uncertainty with inevitable geoeconomic repercussions, were the disputes relating to the state borders, regarding both the EU member states and those outside the European Union. The most clamorous case is perhaps that which erupted in the summer of 2015 with the decision of the Croatian government to withdraw from the Stockholm agreement of the 4th of November 2009 – in which it was agreed to entrust the issue of terrestrial and maritime borders with Slovenia (in the Pirano area) to international arbitration – following the release of telephone interceptions which called into

question the impartiality of the Board⁴⁴. Anyway, Croatia has other unresolved disputes ongoing (with Serbia over certain islands on the Danube in Eastern Slavonia) and with Montenegro over the Prevlaka peninsula and related territorial waters: in this last case, the decision was referred to the International Court of Justice in Aja (ICJ), while the agreement regarding the borders with Bosnia-Herzegovina reached in 1999 has never been ratified by either of the two countries. In this case, though, there are still heated debates concerning the Spalato-Dubrovnik motorway in that Zagreb, instead of constructing the still missing section which should cross Bosnia, prefers to construct a bridge towards the Pelješac peninsula, among other things largely obstructing the port activities of Neum, the only (and limited) sea outlet of Sarajevo.

It goes without saying that it is exactly this indetermination of Croatia regarding the sea and land borders which caused the companies Marathon (American) and OMV (Austrian) to give up important investments in exploring for oil and gas deposits in the Adriatic: geopolitics and geoeconomics thus stopped interacting and blocked the development opportunities, on which however concerns would soon have arisen linked to environmental protection.

In the meantime, only Montenegro and Bosnia-Herzegovina have managed to reach a border agreement regarding the Sutorina region (or rather a strip of territory which up to the first world war allowed Bosnia a second seaport, towards the Bay of Cattaro, but which since 1918 belongs entirely to Montenegro): the treaty was signed at the Vienna conference on the Western Balkans on the 27th August 2015. In reality, on that occasion, the agreement concerning the borders between Montenegro and Kosovo was also signed, but this triggered such polemic in Belgrade and Banja Luka in that Podgorica had dealt directly with Priština on this issue, rather than going via Serbian diplomacy, as Belgrade had expected. So the question of Kosovo remains open, and that its independence is not recognised either by Serbia, nor by Bosnia-Erzegovina. Within this dispute there remains a high level of tension between the two countries established with the Dayton treaty with the risk – never excluded – of a referendum for independence in the Republika Srpska.

In such a fragmented and unstable framework as this, it is just as important to underline how the confrontations are not just “between nations”, but also “within the individual nations”, where they have not yet completely recovered from the trauma of the Second World War, where still today there is conflict between partisans and collaborators, with the explicit tendency to rehabilitate the latter as if they were “patriots”, obeying in this way a distorted culture of patriotism based as much on the supremacy of their own freedom (also at the cost of suppressing that of others), as on the minimisation of

44 In reality the issue immediately became much more than just a local one, since it seems that the interceptions were passed from the United States to the Zagreb government to block Russian investments in the port of Pirano. It is no coincidence that in those days Medvedev, the Moscow government leader flew to Lubiana to reassure himself of Slovenia's willingness to participate in the new Turkish Stream gasduct. And it is no secret, however, that also in Croatia there are also lobbies interested in agreements with Gazprom.



naziism and sometimes also anti-Semitism and the Shoah. A process, of deformation of patriotism in which among other things the religious organisations are actively involved, especially the Croatian Catholic church, whose top level representatives often make explicit demonstrations of support for the ustaša movement.

All of this, naturally, violates the founding principles of European integration. The persistence of these political cultures, in fact, reflect the lack of transformation in the Adriatic-Ionian area, of the original community, antifascist and integrationist spirit of Jean Monnet, Robert Schuman, Konrad Adenauer and Altiero Spinelli. We are talking about a serious limitation, of a macro-regional nature, which results for the most part from the fall of the State as an institution, with the violent dismemberment of Yugoslavia and the collapse of the State of Albania: an experience which was not felt so dramatically in central Europe, in the Baltic states subject to the USSR and even in the fragile Eastern Balkans following the fall of communism, consequently making the European integration process much easier in that the founding institutions of those societies had remained intact.

As a result, underestimating or postponing actions targeted at affirming the dominance of a political culture of integration in a macro-region still marked by the conflict implies, in fact, maintaining the sense of oneness weak in the Adriatic-Ionian geopolitical space, limiting relations between its coasts and between these and its multiple hinterlands, rather encouraging forced centrifuges regarding those trans-maritime multi-vectoral links which the EUSAIR project wants to develop.

On the other hand, the dominance, especially in the East, of constraints with the Balkan hinterland depends mostly on the historical legacies we have spoken about, as well as on the unresolved knots that accompanied the disintegration of Yugoslavia.

In more recent times, intertwined with these, there have been: (a) a new, vigorous and systematic, economic and cultural-university action on the part of Austria (suffice to think that in 2009 Vienna invited 700 tutors from ex Yugoslavia to a seminar on the use of Community funds, paying all their expenses, with the clear aim of establishing a solid partnership with its own university institutions), and (b), recently, a growing – identical – penetration by Turkey not only into the world of Albania, but also into Macedonia, Serbia, Sangiaccato and Bosnia-Herzegovina as much in terms of infrastructure, as in terms of education (university) and twinnings, whereas (c) Russia preferred to offer privileged access to its own markets and exploit the energy resources to reconfirm, in turn, its own role in those territories. At the same time, China – a new protagonist for the area – invested above all in infrastructures from the port of Pireo to the bridges on the Danubio near Belgrade, with the evident intent to make the Greek port a sorting centre for goods heading for central Europe via Serbia.

As things currently stand, then, all of this contributes to maintaining the macro-regional identity very fluid and undefined as a whole, where for identity we mean the perception of common values and perspectives, supported by a convergence also in an

institutional sense (at least on an administrative level) and by policies supporting national cohesion, even if the suspension of the military conflicts of the nineties, the expansion of NATO (which, with the entry of Croatia and Albania, in fact controls all the coasts) and the potential offered by the installation of trans-European transport networks, including energy networks with TAP (*Trans-Adriatic Pipeline*), as well as the growth seen with the dawn of the new millennium in trade and tourist exchange, with a view to European integration (formally) shared by the governments of the area, provide a more favourable reference framework than the past for the construction (because we must speak of *construction*) of an Adriatic-Ionian macro-regional identity.

Consequently, an integration geopolitics, in order to be effective in the case here considered, must be able to count on a significant investment in human capital, culture and recomposition of historical memories, together with investments in infrastructures, the environment, fishing and attractiveness in a framework of institutional convergence and territorial cohesion.

In other words, it is not enough to repeat – in the Western Balkans – functionalist policies that were entrusted with the construction of the franco-German reconciliation and the subsequent integration process. On the contrary, in the case in question here, it is necessary to resort to an all-embracing policy in which economic development and social empathy, cultural syncretism and institutional efficiency act simultaneously in a global way.

A coherent Adriatic-Ionian macro-regional strategy thus intended could provide a unique occasion to inject new life into the attractiveness of the integration process in the EU mobilizing local energy which is currently demotivated and marginalised by tired and argumentative political elites, overcoming at the same time that “tiredness” and that scepticism which seem to dominate the community institutions as much as further expansion policies, either because they are exhausted by the economic crisis and by their growing internal divisions, or because they feel pressured by euro-phobic drives in many member states⁴⁵.

In this case, in fact, the network of local public administrations, already used to cooperating through the previous Interreg programmes as well as through the urban centres, the Universities, the research centres and the associations of civil society can constitute important levers able to contribute to the reconstruction of intense macroregional links, working in particular towards overcoming the existing infra-

45 Here it is preferable to refer to expressly to euro-phobic orientations rather than using the more widely used but more “moderate” term of “eurosceptic”, in that it is claimed that political forces with the UKIP, Front National, Cinquestelle, Lega Nord, the Dutch Freedom Party, the Austrian FPÖ, the Flemish Vlaams Belang and the Polish Congress of the New Right have now programmatically found themselves on the right track to obtain the dissolution of the EU. We are talking about parties that have gathered into two distinct groups in the European Parliament whose names symbolically clarify their fundamental strategy, being defined “Movement for the Europe of Nations and Freedom” and Efd (Europe for Freedom and Direct Democracy).



regional inequalities both of an economic-social, and political-administrative nature, in collaboration with the European institutions and governments of the Member states.

It is sufficient here to recall certain data which give a clear idea of the economic-social contest that the macro-region finds itself in: according to Eurostat, on the 1st of June 2015, at par of 100 the index of GDP per capita of the UE stands at 28, *not one* member state of the macro-region reaches or exceeds that index. The highest GDP is that of Italy, at 97, the lowest is that of Bosnia-Herzegovina at 28. The other countries are placed in this ranking as follows in descending order: Slovenia 83, Greece 72, Croatia 59, Montenegro 39, Serbia 35, Albania 29⁴⁶, although there remains some doubt as to the reliability of the calculation regarding Greece due to the dramatic crisis it has been hit by (and which we will return to). But in general, the distance we can see between the various member states also has a broader effect on the quality of life of the populations and their level of social protection; the state of employment, especially among young people; the level of administrative efficiency; the level of decentralisation; the legislative and judicial effectiveness in terms of defence of environmental assets and management of economic-entrepreneurial activities; the pervasiveness of corruption and criminality (especially organised crime); the low spending capacity of EU funds demonstrated by the countries of the macro-region (the most virtuous country for the period 2006-2013 was Slovenia), the level of trust in institutions ...

In other words, even without going into discussion of the individual problems which afflict the Eastern Adriatic-Ionian coast, as well as the Italian regions with regard to the North-South dichotomy, simply the list of the unresolved issues which affect the macro-region is sufficient to comprehend how deeply the fractures run across it and that have worsened after 2008 in Greece, but also in Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Albania as a result of the serious economic and financial crisis in the EU and the broader global crisis. The tension that characterised the negotiations between the European Union and Athens with regard to Greece's public debt during the first half of 2015, with the risk of Greece's expulsion from the Euro due to unforeseeable international repercussions, while the mutual trust between Member states collapsed and a polarisation formed between reproposing neoliberal policies which were highly ineffective and equally incapable of initiating structural reforms which were however necessary together with neo-keynesian measures, all of this further weakened the macro-regional situation precisely in the moment in which the European Council launched the EUSAIR project.

To all this, we should add the weakness of the infrastructure and communications systems which limits significantly the sense of regional belonging and on which the unresolved geopolitical border issues we talked about before weigh heavily. This weakness is reflected in the access to energy sources and transport, since there is lack of a modern,

46 <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/graph.do?tab=graph&plugin=1&language=en&pcode=tec00114&toolbox=type>

integrated networks of road and rail connections able to interact effectively with the regional ports, and which suffers from a lack of pipes to transport oil and gas, although these have been partly designed. What's more, the at times exasperatingly slow infra-regional communications weigh heavily on the mobility of people (as well as goods): just think of the long distance of movements via land or sea between Capodistria and Durazzo, to say nothing of air connections, which favour the East-West direction of travel, when not travelling indirectly via Vienna or Monaco and, less often, Rome.

The framework of the regional peculiarities would not be complete however, if we did not take into account one unique condition, at least in the more general European context. This condition concerns specifically the post-war reconstruction of the ex-Yugoslav area, not only in institutional, infrastructural, economic and social terms, but also – if not above all – in terms of recomposition of historical memories. This is a topic on which we can never insist too much.

In fact, the peace established by the treaties between 1995 and 2001 and the same Albanian stabilisation following the Pellicano and Alba operations still requires a long time in order to process the grief, to overcome the hostilities, of the mistrust inherited from the past and the mutual resentment which go far beyond international agreements and inter-government cooperation. This process needs to sink its roots into the living entity that is the various communities via intelligent acts of active involvement by the education systems, the universities and civil society, as well as identification of the local populations in the shared institutions (as does not happen, for example, in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo). So, it is not enough only to have the prospect of integration into the EU in order to overcome the instability and make the various identities within the Adriatic-Ionian region converge towards the prospect of a common macro-region.

Besides, it has taken decades to create the conditions for a meeting between the presidents of Italy, Slovenia and Croatia because of problems and sensitivities linked to reciprocal borders; this process is all the more long and complex on the Adriatic-Ionian Eastern shore. The entire macro-region is, in fact, still afflicted by the memory of recent conflicts and animosity, as well as by the lack of mutual recognition; all of which can be seen in the episodes of violence in sports and intolerance towards ethnic, religious, gender differences and differences in sexual orientation. Such demonstrations translate into daily acts of petty-criminality, which is reflected little or not at all by the media, but which due to their persistence produce over time a sense of victimhood and a demand for protection and justice which – if not satisfied – may generate new tensions, especially in conditions of worsening economic-social circumstances, the spread of corruption (already high) and/or international isolation.

This constitutes, perhaps, the most consistent difference with regard to the regional cooperation process created in the Baltic Sea which does not have to make its peace with a recent past of ethnic-military confrontation, whereas *all* the coastal countries, with the single exception of Russia, are today effective members of the European Union.



This is not the case of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region, where half the member countries are still waiting for inclusion: this is a status, which – as we have already said – should, in reality prompt the the entire EU to make a concerted effort, in order to help overcome the structural volubility of the western Balkans and attach them more effectively to the European perspective.

The keystone, in this process, is certainly represented by the extraordinary *cultural and environmental wealth*, unique of its type, that the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region preserves in a sort of precious casket in which those rich and varied hybrid traits are kept, that make it into a beating heart, profoundly coherent with increasing the value of integration as regards the post-modern form of politics. And yet, this wealth still only has a low international profile, despite the higher concentration of sites protected by Unesco on both the shores of the seas; this is a situation which gives the macro-region as a whole an incomparable importance at world level.

Such wealth can provide a huge contribution not only to economic development, thanks to the multiple forms of tourism which can be activated today, but also – and above all – to the cohabitation, the empathy and the shared identity. What is still missing, both at local and international level, is the awareness of how syncretic and shared this wealth is considering the historical processes that forged it. But it is through the recognition of such characteristics that we can lay the groundwork to fluidify the rigidity imposed by the nation-state, and thus for reconciliation, consolidating peace and stability, whereas environmental protection of the seas and their hinterland not only provides repercussions beneficial to tourism and the quality of life, but also ensures the abundance of fishing potential of waters which otherwise, would risk being threatened by the exploitation imposed by an unevolved concept of development, for which the sustainable approach is a foreign idea.

Therefore, there are far more conditions present today than there were in the past, that enable us to move in that direction, aiding the construction of a macro-regional identity around major trends that we identified a short while ago, since, taken together, the process of European integration and, to some extent, the global economic-financial crisis itself have created a new general context, so that, on one hand, the EU provides a prospect aimed at the future (rather than at the past), whereas on the other hand, sustainability of development and the presence of renewable energy sources open new horizons for economic recovery, according to criteria able to attract the shared interest of the majority of the coastal populations.

Naturally, this does not mean that the construction of an Adriatic-Ionian macro-regional identity can be taken for granted. The potential, as we have said, exists, even if the starting point remains uneven.

In fact, judging from a series of data that we have processed based on interviews and questionnaires collected in different periods and from samples different from GREP (Ethnography of Thinking Research Group) of the Department of Historical,

Anthropological and Geographical Studies at the University of Bologna and from IECOB (Institute for Central-Eastern Europe and the Balkans), which, together with the Emilia-Romagna Region have created the “Regional Laboratory for Macro-regional Issues”, the situation confirms a picture which is of little comfort.

In particular, the wide range of answers given to the various questions is unhomogeneous and somewhat differentiated.

For example, according to a pilot study conducted in 2010 by IECOB via the distribution of questionnaires⁴⁷ among scholars, experts or activists of civil society, or rather among people of a mid-high education bracket and consider themselves particularly empathetic to intellectual and social commitment, the strength of attraction of the Adriatic-Ionian area was perceived by 8.3% of those interviewed, in particular Italians, Montenegrins and Croatians, while 55% of those interviewed identified with the idea of the “Western Balkans” and 33.3% with that of South-East Europe: a clear sign, however, of the low level of incisiveness of the maritime pole compared to that of the peninsula/continent.

Five years on from that, research conducted by GREP based on structured interviews aimed this time, above all, at local administration personnel, does not seem to show significant changes, especially as far as the “sea culture” is concerned.

As surprising as this may seem, this sensitivity (or concern, if referring to the protection of the marine environment) can be seen mostly in the Italian regional institutions (for example in Molise and Veneto), as well as in the Hellenic Epirus and in some Albanian areas (if careful with marine resources). The low priority given to the marine aspect in other areas has, naturally, its own profound *raison d'être* which is rooted in the experience of daily life handed down over time, since the Italian and Greek populations have, for centuries, developed an economic, commercial and expansive maritime culture (also in military terms), while the Slavic and Albanian populations have remained predominantly sheep and food farmers, and thus the links to the sea, for a long time, have been limited just to local fishing.

An exception, which has occurred only very recently, concerns the Croatians of the islands and coast who have been able to build themselves a new idea of the sea, much more open and internationally dynamic, thanks to the communism of Tito, to shipbuilding, to commercial traffic and policies deriving from non-alignment; but, overall, it has been the

47 The questionnaires were distributed amongst intellectuals, university students and civil society activists, since the primary intent at the time of their research was to sound out convictions and ideas within the most cultured and discerning of the Adriatic-Ionian societies. Thus 64 questionnaires were compiled by and collected from people who declared themselves citizens of Bosnia-Herzegovina (25%), Croatia (16%), Macedonia (16%), Serbia (13%), Albania (8.3%), Italy (6.6%), Slovenia and Montenegro (1.7% each), plus a further 8.3% of people declaring themselves “Yugoslavs”. The sample selected was balanced in terms of gender (51.6% women and 48.4% men), with an average age of 34.6 years; almost all those interviewed were holders of post-graduate qualifications or were close to obtaining one. Two thirds of those interviewed belonged to the university sector, the other third to the organisations of civil society.



repeated immigration from within (due to many diverse reasons, from war to pestilence and natural disasters) that has kept the attachment to the territorial hinterland so strong among the Eastern coast populations, rather than to the vast maritime space, and this has also been confirmed during the disintegration process in Yugoslavia at the end of the last century.

Consequently, the presence of a “sea culture” in the Adriatic-Ionian space should not be taken for granted, but – to a certain extent – should be built, taking into account the various sensitivities, that have built up over time in the coastal and hinterland areas, in relation to the geopolitical and material experience which have involved those regions and those populations. This is why the historical background, in the broadest sense of the word (meaning not only the chain of events, but also the evolution/organisation of daily life), must be taken into account seriously so as to inject new life into group relationships that still feel the deep lacerations from a cultural, economic and social viewpoint.

The aggregate analysis of the data obtained from the IECOB survey confirms, moreover, that peace and development are the two priority topics for the region. On one hand, 28.6% of those interviewed pointed out the persistence of mutual mistrust, of negative prejudices, of ethnic opposition, of the hate; on the other hand, 27% indicated economic problems as the most urgent ones to resolve in a regional context (emphasising unemployment, low quality of life, public debt, poverty, inadequate policies and poor support of SMEs, foreign investments and energy development, protectional trends). To make this second aspect still more acutely felt, the level of corruption perceived concurs, which is indicated as priority by 11.4% of those interviewed, while another 8.6% attach to that the need for stability and democratic consolidation with the need for reforms, especially in the field of justice and regulations supporting the Rule of Law.

So, all of this contributes to explaining why, rather than the sea, other topics are taken into consideration more when talking about the shared cultural aspects in the Adriatic-Ionian space. Despite being with a significant level of disagreement, the most widely held perceptions concern cultural and sports initiatives to promote co-operation (Scutari), Roman heritage and Mediterranean food (Istria), territorial cooperation (Molise), Mediterranean culture and European integration (in Albania), the role of Rome, of Cristianity, of Venice and of the clash-encounter between West and East (in Croatia), the cooperation between Greek Epirus and Puglia (Epirus), the historical relations via sea (Veneto). Surprisingly, the Ionian Sea is absent from this picture.

A similar clash can be found when we address the issue of who should be involved institutionally in the construction of the macro-region: in certain cases, the answers are limited exclusively to the macro-region itself; in others, this context expands to include the existing local administrations (regions and municipalities); only 50% of those interviewed up to now screened by GREP extend the subjects to include networks of Chambers of Commerce, Universities and research centres, associations and NGOs, and

only very few add development agencies and scientific and professional companies and organisations.

Finally, a quick look at how vectors that are potentially capable of creating development conditions are conceived confirms the prevailing dystonia, since it goes from the generic request to “involve everyone in order to define the development priorities” to the idea of development as a process of change supporting the quality of life, economic growth in the country, and the expectation of continuous social and economic progress, to the reinforcement of human capital and the increase of employment.

Alongside this dystonia there seems to be a rather low level of expectation on the part of the culturally more discerning classes with regard to the will of their own political elites to pursue coherent integrative strategies. According to this IECOB survey, in fact it would seem that 34.4% of those interviewed maintain that cooperation between the political elites in an essential macro-regionale context should be pursued for the common good, but 22% expressed total disappointment in their behaviour (in that they consider them to be too tied to personal power, not clear or honest, with little respect for the laws, little willingness to make way for young people, or interested in getting rich through privatisations...), while 15.6% would like them to be more coherently oriented towards European standards and policies and 14% would like to see them being more open-minded and less slaves to nationalist rhetoric.

It should also be said that the attitude towards intellectuals reveals tones that are no less critical, at least in those interviewed by IECOB. If, in fact, 20.3% of these expect intellectuals to intensify mutual cooperation at a transnational level, another 20.3% criticise the lack of visibility and the poor effectiveness of the actions they had proposed; 13% suggest that they distribute positive ideas and results resulting from regional cooperation and another 17.45% acknowledge that they have a fundamental role in the educational field, to assist regional changes and harmonisation with European standards. It should be pointed out though, that almost 15% maintain an attitude of harsh criticism towards intellectuals, who they claim are too inclined to nationalism, ethnic prejudice and a distorted view of the past: a clear sign, of the legacy, still alive and kicking, of the conflict that led to the disgregation of Yugoslavia, the provocation of which various intellectuals from different nations actively contributed to through their thoughts and their writing.

So, what is revealed by this series of interviews is a dystonic picture, not homogeneous within a social fabric which, geopolitically, has to reconstruct its integrative and syncretic community reasons to be able to attribute a shared identity to a macro-region in which sea and hinterland are newly rediscovered inclusive and interactive dynamic factors, able to co-exist with the European, national, regional/local and - at least for the eastern regions - continental dimensions.

Given this context, the geopolitics of integration must be able to develop itself into all-inclusive forms, with a global character, of interwoven networks, able to support the



enhancement of the cultural assets; develop infra-regional communication, not only in terms of transport and traffic, but also via ultra-broad band, attaching itself at the same time to the great trans-European corridors; make inter-university cooperation more dynamic both from a research point of view (both fundamental and also applied in connection with businesses), and also in the educational and training field, encouraging the identification of new (“green”) forms of sustainability of development, protection of the environment and maritime resources; redesign the administrative responsibilities from a transnational viewpoint in order to aid a macro-regional territorial cohesion, leaving behind a cultural provincial approach which seems to persist in the governments and public administrations, mentally predisposed to give priority to the specific needs of their own areas, regardless of the broader macroregional dynamics.

This is no small matter: in the case of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region the behaviour of the local administrations, their capacity to reason on a trans-national basis influencing and actively interacting with their own governments and the European Commission, becomes essential to the success of the macroregional project itself. In fact, we should take into consideration how – once again reasoning on the geopolitical plan/level – in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region, no capital looks onto the sea in contrast to the Baltic area, where Copenhagen, Stockholm, Riga, Tallin, and Helsinki are sea cities.

In reality, all things considered, the peripheral position of the Adriatic-Ionian space in relation to the main urban and administrative centres of its 8 member states does not necessarily constitute a disadvantage: if used effectively, the independence of the various subjects that operate along the coasts, mutually interacting, can bring to life a solid network of relations and shared interests able to reinforce the macro-regional identity, help its multi-vectoral development in relation to its hinterlands and at the same time work as a lobby towards both its own governments and also towards the European institutions in Brussels.

On the other hand, it is also true that the absence of capital cities in an economically and socially difficult situation, confines the entire area to the margins of the vaster European context, with the risk that this might be considered, or worse still, treated like a “ghetto” within which the countries deemed the “most problematic” by Brussels or Northern Europe are working to create policies for financial, economic and social merging.

As if the macroregion were not enough, it is geopolitically placed very close to Africa and the Middle East, whose States – with some rare exceptions – suffer from deep instability, if not civil wars, insignificance of the supremacy of the law, fundamentalist and terrorist threats and from whose coasts tens of thousands of refugees and migrants are now fleeing, in search of exile or simply better living conditions. Italy and Greece above all are the most exposed countries (but also Malta and Spain), although from Greece, via Macedonia and Serbia (and presumably soon also Croatia) these flows then head towards Hungary to continue then towards Northern Europe, as also happens

going up through the Appenines to head towards Germany, France and – via Calais – the United Kingdom.

Seen from this point of view, the situation in which the area that should constitute the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region finds itself could not be less comforting.

At the same time however, this is also the area in which both NATO, from a military standpoint, and the EU from a diplomatic and aid standpoint intervened en masse, offering the Balkan countries even adhesion to Euro-Atlantic structures, they have constructed military bases in their countries, established a conditioning diplomatic-political presence for the government activities, proposed development programmes, mobility for teachers/students, imposed (this is the most correct term) a peace – however precarious – but of which they are the “guardians”.

For this reason, despite the “expansion weariness”, the priority attributed to the “absorption capacity” of the previous entrants, the growing tensions between member states, due to the prolonging of the economic-financial crisis and the at least lacklustre results (if not in some cases clearly disastrous) of the austerity measures, despite all this the EU finds itself playing such a determining role in the area that it cannot withdraw from it, if its ultimate aim is peace.

And in this respect, it is Italy itself that has to take be the driving force – in spite of its well-known structural and leadership limitations – in that this country constitutes, even merely for its geographical and morphological features, half of the Adriatic-ionian coast and what’s more finds itself in the “front line” where the contrasting active and vital dynamics of peace and war are still potentially able to provoke unpredictable conflict.

The Adriatic-Ionian macro-region, since it is a new geopolitical and geo-motivational bridge between European integration and areas as unstructured as they are an explicit target for EU inclusion, constitutes a strategically *unique* opportunity for the EU (and Italy) to ensure itself peace and for those countries a convincing path towards democratic consolidation and economic relaunch, before the (already present) idea in some Balkan capitals that the European crisis can no longer offer great prospects becomes consolidated, leading to the search for possible alternatives such as for example Russia, China and Turkey, all committed to supporting, above all, the infrastructural development either for the traffic or energy distribution or cultural cooperation (from twinings to religious affinity).

In truth, this is a case of potentially divisive dynamics which could aggravate tensions and incomprehension, in a phase in which transnational empathy should dominate. But precisely for this reason, the importance of the European integration process is perceived as the only thing able to create such conditions and the macro-region could be a useful instrument for this.

And anyway, precisely because of the conditions in the area, it would not have sufficed to have (as mentioned before) a merely functional policy, or rather inspired by the hope that economic interest might gradually re-establish such a solid network of



contacts and interdependence as to pave the way for reconciliation, the recomposition of historic memories, the cohabitation and, analysed long-term, the political integration, according to the hopes of the founding fathers of the EU.

Unfortunately, this is not the current state of affairs. The economic interest, which in the case of the Balkans needs powerful stimulation, must also be accompanied by an equally strong effort to reconstruct cultural bridges (in terms of conscious syncretism and cross-breeds) in a framework of intense political cooperation (on the part of governments) and managerial cooperation (on the part of the administrations), in such way that the currently absent territorial cohesion may be rebuilt, encouraging the convergence between local and macroregional, passing via the state dimension and thus coming out of provincialism and the short term.

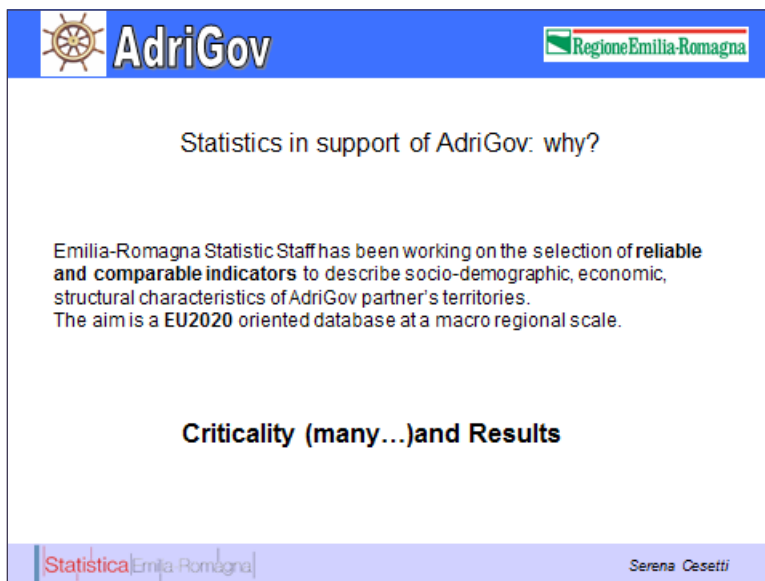
Therefore, only a global and systemic approach can re-establish the frayed wires of the 20th century (or rather of the geopolitics of conflict) creating the conditions for a radical turnaround which prepares an alignment of SouthEastern Europe with the conditions and procedures of political, social and cultural inclusion in the European Union.



Statistics in support of the AdriGov project: why?

Serena Cesetti,
Emilia-Romagna Region

(Only slides are in English, for text see Italian version)



Il Servizio Statistica della Regione Emilia-Romagna è stato coinvolto nel progetto AdriGov nel corso del 2013 con il macro obiettivo di fornire agli addetti ai lavori una fotografia del territorio che il progetto copre, a livello socio-demografico, economico e strutturale.

La base di partenza doveva essere la costruzione di un database dedicato, contenente gli indicatori di UE2020 per i partner del progetto AdriGov (regioni adriatico-ioniche). In realtà fin da subito abbiamo fatto presente l'emergere di difficoltà notevoli per una richiesta che potrebbe invece sembrare di per sé banale: i *partners* del progetto sono enti molto diversi fra di loro sia a livello territoriale che amministrativo.

Si è fatto un tentativo di reperibilità diretta del dato, chiedendo ai responsabili degli enti *partners* di farsi collettori di informazioni, per le quali il Servizio Statistico aveva fornito standard dettagliati che garantissero la confrontabilità. I referenti di progetto avrebbero dovuto per questo attivare una collaborazione con i referenti statistici del proprio ente.

Purtroppo questa richiesta non ha ottenuto la risposta che ci saremmo aspettati, per una mancanza di “rete” nei territori AdriGov.

In quest’occasione, è molto utile ribadire la necessità che l’approccio statistico diventi una delle “buone pratiche” da condividere all’interno del progetto europeo e che il nostro tentativo diventi un primo passo per la costruzione di una rete statistica territoriale sul modello italiano del Sistan⁴⁸.

La statistica ufficiale, pur con tutti i limiti di tempestività a cui è soggetta, è l’unica fonte attendibile di dati, con garanzie di confrontabilità. L’obiettivo iniziale è stato ridimensionato a quel pacchetto di dati che, ad oggi, riesce a fornire Eurostat: il *database* finale (facilmente aggiornabile) contiene solo 17 indicatori, di argomento demografico, macroeconomico e turistico. Alcune informazioni in più a livello sociale e del mercato del lavoro si sono potute aggiungere, considerando il partner della Croazia come ente unico.




48 Il Sistema statistico nazionale (Sistan) è la rete di soggetti pubblici e privati che fornisce al Paese e agli organismi internazionali l’informazione statistica ufficiale.


Istituito dal decreto legislativo n. 322 del 1989, il Sistan comprende: l’Istituto nazionale di statistica (Istat); gli enti e organismi pubblici d’informazione statistica (Inea, Isfol); gli uffici di statistica delle amministrazioni dello Stato e di altri enti pubblici, degli Uffici territoriali del Governo, delle Regioni e Province autonome, delle Province, delle Camere di commercio (Cciaa), dei Comuni, singoli o associati, e gli uffici di statistica di altre istituzioni pubbliche e private che svolgono funzioni di interesse pubblico. Il Sistan nasce con l’intenzione di consentire una gestione più efficace dell’attività statistica nazionale aumentando la capacità di risposta alle esigenze informative del Paese, generando quelle sinergie e complementarità che solo il coordinamento fra i produttori di informazione statistica può assicurare.

Un risultato importante raggiunto *a latere* è che ora le informazioni sul territorio AdriGov si possono geo-referenziare. Questo significa che alla mappa dei territori aderenti al progetto sono state aggiunte coordinate spaziali informatizzate, su cui si possono rappresentare dei dati di ogni genere.

Grazie alle informazioni rilasciate da Eurostat e alle competenze cartografiche interne al nostro Servizio è stato possibile unire le mappe di tre diversi livelli territoriali. Eurostat non dispone, per i Paesi extra-UE, di una disaggregazione spaziale inferiore a quella nazionale.




AdriGov



Eurostat uses a hierarchical system for dividing up the economic territory of the EU, the NUTS classification (Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics):


- ❖ NUTS 0: countries
- ❖ NUTS 1: major socio-economic regions
- ❖ NUTS 2: basic regions for the application of regional policies
- ❖ NUTS 3: small regions for specific diagnoses

 AdriGov partner's territories correspond to different NUTS levels.


For the **candidate countries** (Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina) only the **NUTS 0** level is available.

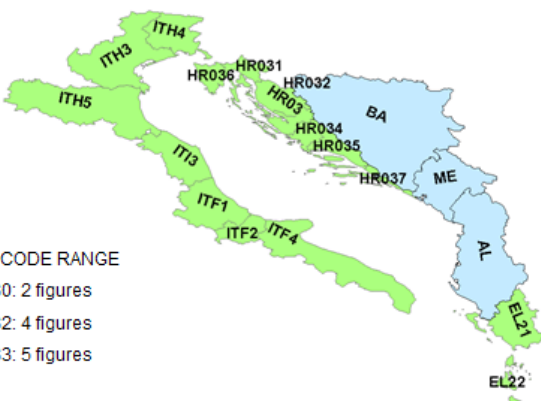
- ❖ NUTS0 level for Albania, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ❖ NUTS2 level for Italy and Greece partners
- ❖ NUTS3 level for Croatian partners

Statistica Emilia Romagna
Serena Cesetti



AdriGov

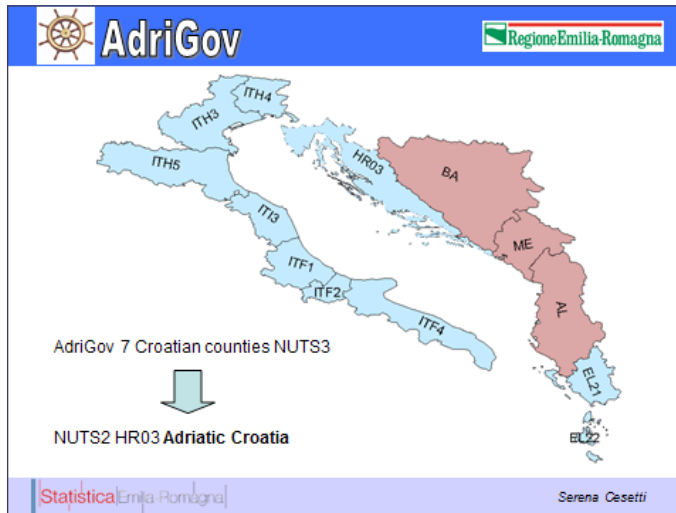




NUTS CODE RANGE

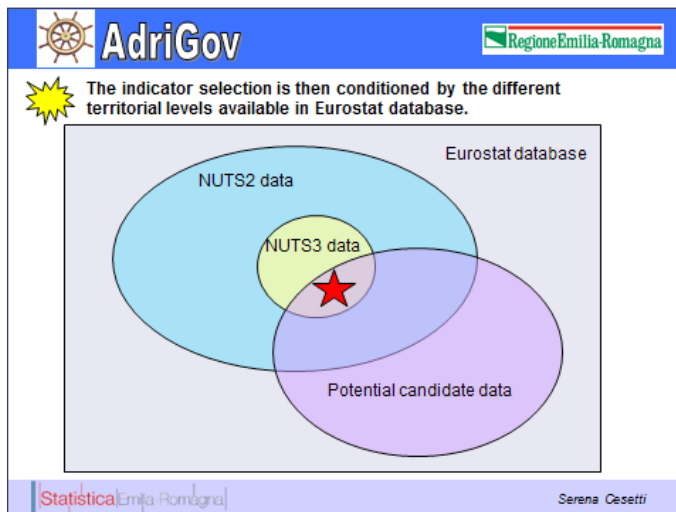
- NUTS0: 2 figures
- NUTS2: 4 figures
- NUTS3: 5 figures

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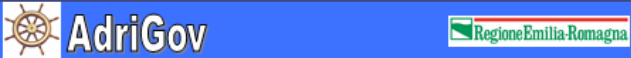


Eurostat utilizza un sistema di classificazione gerarchica dei territori, definiti NUTS⁴⁹ (*Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics*): NUTS 0 -Stati, NUTS 1 -macroregioni, NUTS 2 - Regioni, NUTS 3 - Province o livelli territoriali inferiori.

I *partners* italiani e greci sono NUTS2: 7 per l'Italia (Friuli, Veneto, Emilia-Romagna, Marche, Abruzzo, Molise, Puglia) e 2 per la Grecia. I partner croati sono 7 NUTS3 che fortunatamente appartengono alla stessa NUTS2 “*Adriatic Croatia*”. Per i *partners* della Bosnia di Albania e Montenegro, Eurostat non dispone di nessun tipo di informazione, se non a livello di stato nazionale (NUTS 0).



49 Le NUTS sono identificate da codici univoci che sono a due cifre per gli Stati (NUTS0), a 4 cifre per le Regioni (NUTS2) e a 5 cifre per le province o simili (NUTS3).



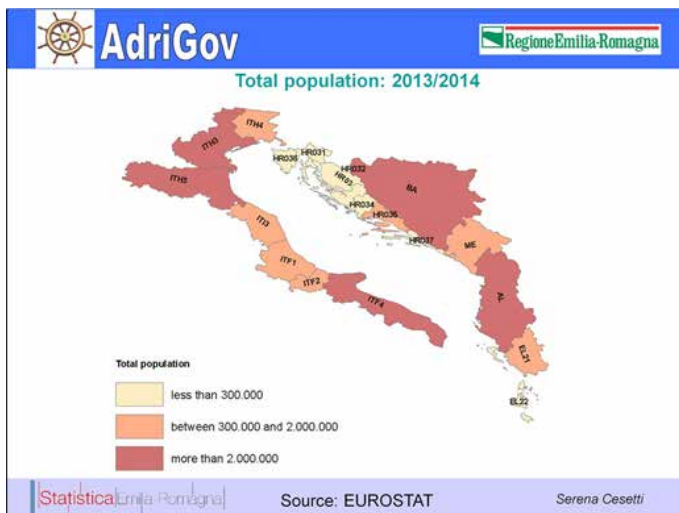
Subjects:

- Agriculture statistics
- ➔ **Demographic statistics**
- ➔ **Economic accounts**
- Education statistics
- Science and technology statistics
- Structural business statistics
- Business demography
- Health statistics
- ➔ **Tourism statistics**
- Transport statistics
- Labour market statistics
- Labour cost statistics
- Information society statistics
- Environmental and energy statistics
- Poverty and social exclusion statistics
- Crime statistics

Statistica Emilia Romagna Serena Cesetti

I dati Eurostat sono articolati in vari database interrogabili. Il *Regional Database* è riferito alle NUTS 2, e contiene un sottoinsieme di dati per le NUTS 3. Per i Paesi non ancora entrati nell'UE, esiste il CPC (*Candidates and potential candidates*) Database, il cui minimo livello di disaggregazione è quello nazionale (NUTS0). Il database AdriGov si autoseleziona come intersezione di questi due *database*. Le informazioni contenute nell'intersezione riguardano solo 3 *subjects* fra i tanti possibili: *Demographic Statistics*, *Economic account*, *Tourism statistics*.

Si descrivono ora i 17 indicatori rilevati e i principali risultati per il territorio AdriGov:

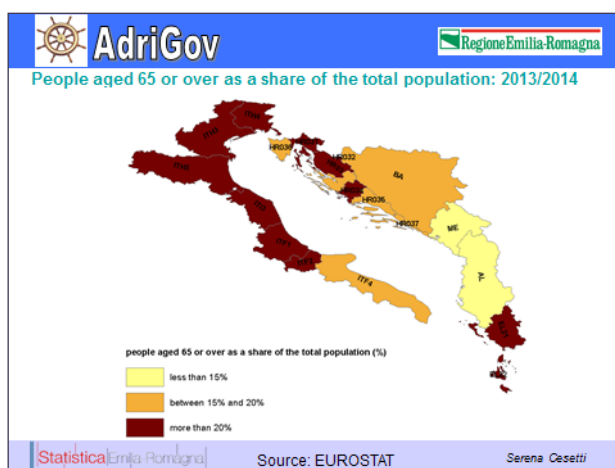
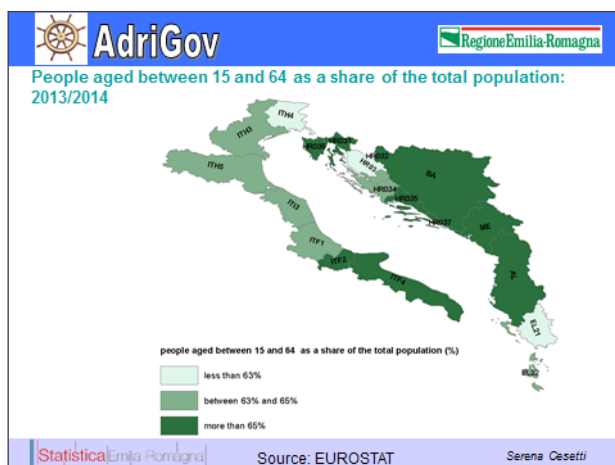
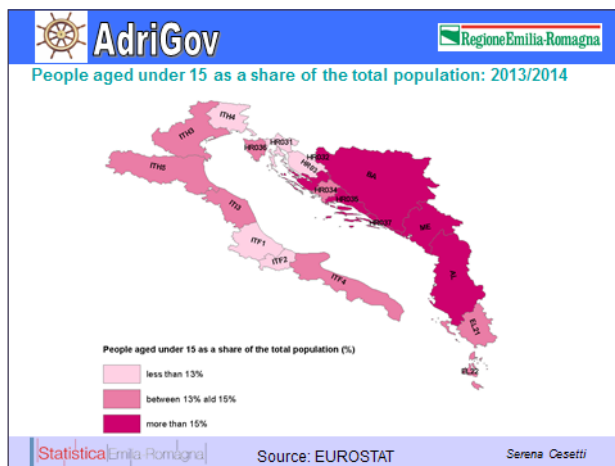




La popolazione di un territorio (Comune/Provincia/Stato/Nuts...) è costituita dalle persone aventi dimora abituale nel territorio, anche se alla data considerata sono assenti perché temporaneamente presenti in altro territorio italiano o all'estero. L'ammontare della popolazione, la sua struttura per età e la sua evoluzione costituiscono una base fondamentale imprescindibile per la conoscenza di un territorio e per l'implementazione di politiche di welfare, di crescita sostenibile, di mobilità.

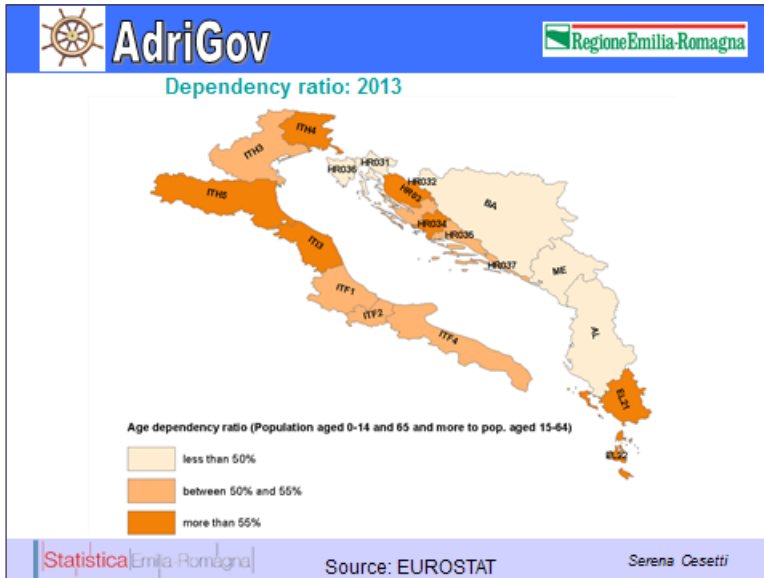
Le informazioni sulla popolazione e le ricadute che queste hanno in altri settori diventano strategiche soprattutto in un periodo di grandi trasformazioni. L'eterogeneità amministrativa dei territori di AdriGov si riflette sul numero di abitanti: ci sono *partner* che contano più di due milioni di abitanti ed altri con meno di trecentomila abitanti.

La densità di popolazione è definita dal rapporto tra la popolazione media dell'anno di riferimento e la superficie delle terre emerse dello stesso territorio. La densità della popolazione è un indicatore utile alla determinazione dell'impatto che la pressione antropica esercita sull'ambiente ed è espressione del grado di affollamento di un'area. È fortemente influenzata dalle caratteristiche geofisiche della zona di riferimento, che può includere o meno aree non abitabili (zone di alta montagna, superfici d'acqua) e dai differenti contesti insediativi delle aree urbane e rurali. Le regioni italiane e lo stato albanese hanno un'elevata densità, superiore ai 100 abitanti per kmq. Altri *partner* hanno una densità abitativa di meno di 50 abitanti per kmq.



Queste popolazioni hanno anche una struttura per età molto diversa, con conseguenze politiche, economiche e sociali notevoli. Ci sono territori molto “giovani”, e altri più “anziani”, altri in cui la popolazione in età attiva (cioè dai 15 al 64 anni) ha un peso maggiore.

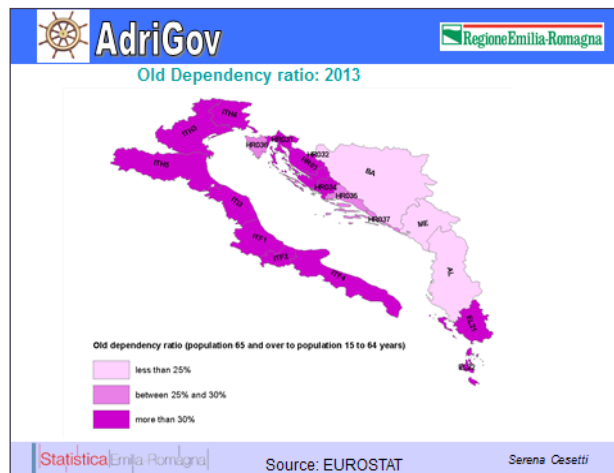
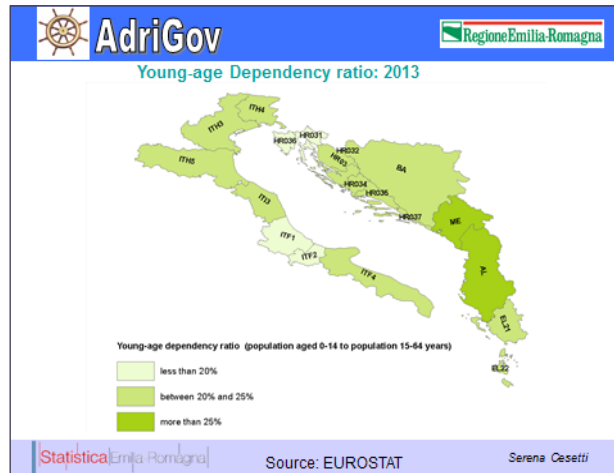
Mentre i territori della costa occidentale si caratterizzano per una maggiore concentrazione di popolazione anziana, i territori della costa orientale contano più giovani e adulti. I fenomeni migratori dalla sponda est a quella ovest derivano da uno squilibrio economico, alla cui base c'è anche uno squilibrio demografico.



L'indice di dipendenza strutturale (o totale-IDT) calcola quanti individui ci sono in età non attiva ogni 100 in età attiva, fornendo indirettamente una misura della sostenibilità della struttura di una popolazione.

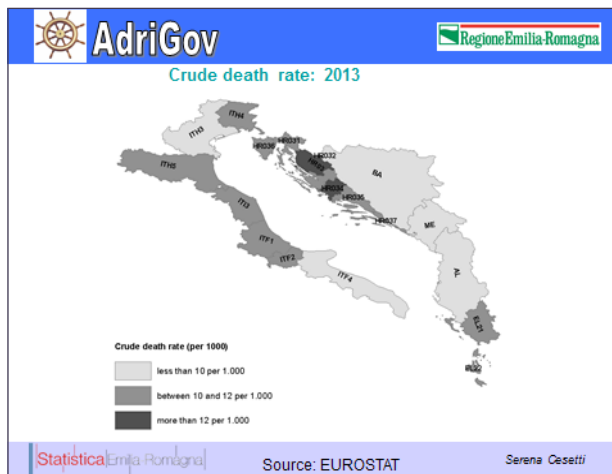
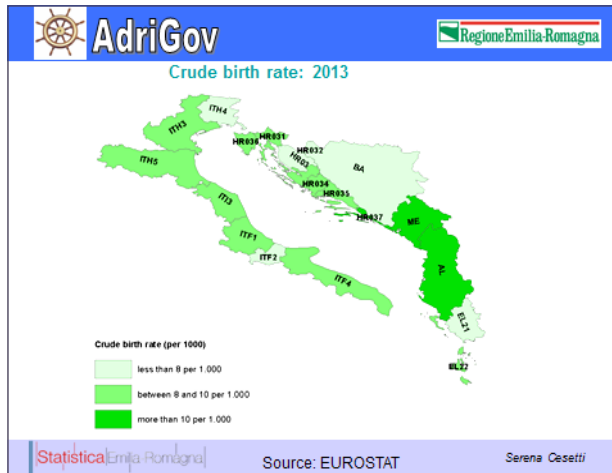
Il denominatore rappresenta la fascia di popolazione che dovrebbe provvedere al sostentamento della fascia indicata al numeratore. Tale rapporto esprime il carico sociale ed economico teorico della popolazione in età attiva: valori superiori al 50 per cento indicano una situazione di squilibrio generazionale.

I territori che evidenziano un fatica rispetto alla sostenibilità della propria struttura demografica sono l'Emilia-Romagna, le Marche, il Friuli-Venezia Giulia, le regioni di Zara e di Sebenico, le due regioni greche.



Un altro aspetto rilevante dell'indicatore è la composizione della popolazione dipendente: a parità di ammontare di questa possiamo avere un maggior peso della componente giovanile o di quella senile.

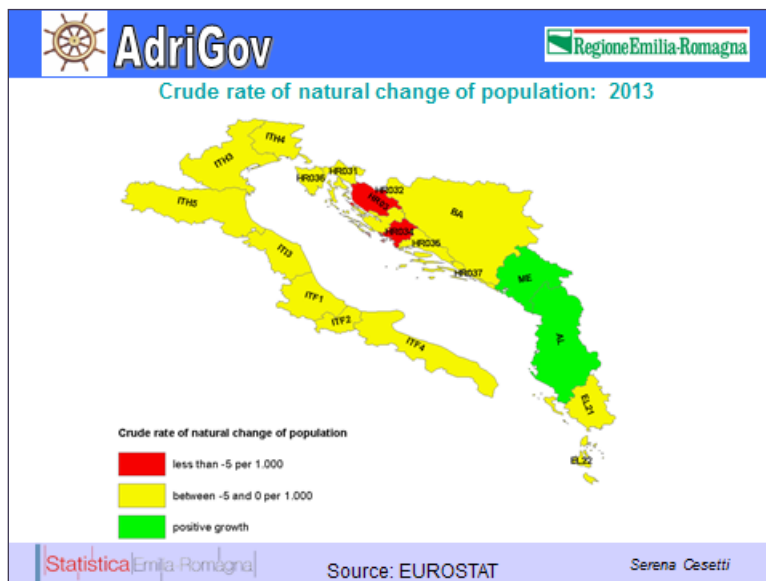
L'indice totale corrisponde alla somma degli indici di dipendenza giovanile e senile. In AdriGov lo squilibrio generazionale dipende dalla componente anziana, più che dalla giovane.



Il tasso di natalità misura la frequenza delle nascite di una popolazione in un arco di tempo (normalmente un anno) ed è calcolato come rapporto tra il numero dei nati in quel periodo e la popolazione media. Questo dato viene utilizzato per verificare lo stato di sviluppo di una popolazione.

Si dice grezzo perché dipende dalla struttura per età e per sesso di una popolazione: una popolazione strutturalmente giovane presenterà tassi di natalità più elevati rispetto a quelli di una invecchiata; analogamente, se in una popolazione ci sarà un elevato numero di presenza femminile in età fertile il tasso di natalità dovrebbe essere elevato. Per questo l'indicatore che si preferisce usare è il TFT (*total fertility rate*), figli da donne in una fascia di età su numero di donne di quella fascia di età, che non è influenzato dalla struttura per età della popolazione. La mancanza di questo indicatore nell'intersezione Eurostat rientra fra gli elementi di criticità.

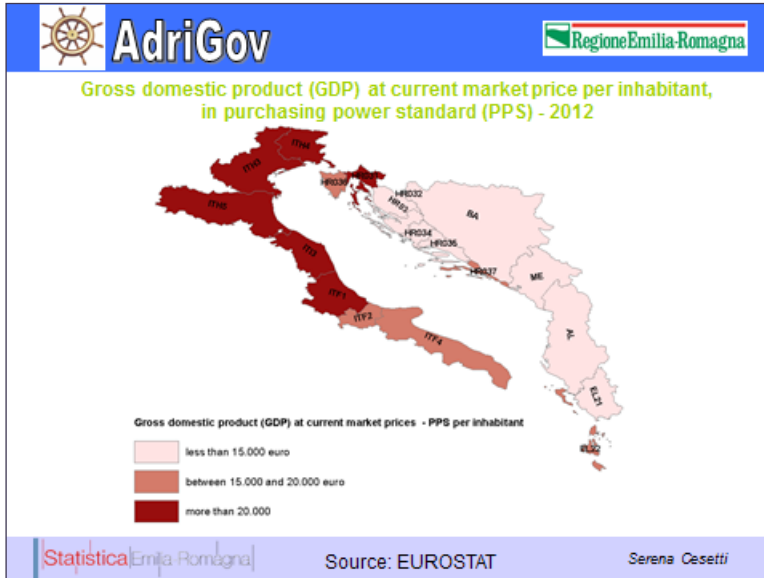
Il tasso di mortalità è il rapporto tra il numero delle morti in una comunità o in un popolo durante un periodo di tempo e la quantità della popolazione media dello stesso periodo. Anche il tasso di mortalità che si può desumere da Eurostat è grezzo, e quindi poco informativo e non utilizzabile come *proxy* dei livelli di benessere della popolazione.



Il tasso di crescita totale di una popolazione esprime la variazione (per 1.000 abitanti) che ha caratterizzato la consistenza di tale popolazione in un determinato periodo di tempo. La variazione della consistenza di una popolazione è la risultante del saldo naturale (differenza fra nati e morti) e di quello migratorio (differenza fra immigrati ed emigrati).

Le componenti naturale e migratoria possono avere andamenti molto diversificati. Il tasso di crescita naturale è il rapporto fra la variazione naturale della popolazione in un dato anno (differenza fra popolazione al 31 dicembre e al 1° gennaio) e la popolazione media di quell'anno per mille individui. Nel partenariato AdriGov, solo Albania e Montenegro presentano un tasso di crescita naturale positivo.

Si passa ora agli indicatori del *subject* Economia.



Il PIL *pro capite* è l'indicatore generalmente utilizzato per esprimere il livello di ricchezza per abitante prodotto da un territorio in un determinato periodo, consentendo di operare confronti tra aree di dimensione demografica diversa.

Il Prodotto Interno Lordo *pro capite* di una regione è calcolato rapportando il PIL espresso ai prezzi di mercato alla popolazione residente nella regione. In ambito internazionale è misurato in Standard di Potere d'Acquisto (SPA o PPS), per depurarlo dall'influenza delle diverse monete e da quella dei diversi poteri di acquisto. È dunque il PIL che assicura lo stesso potere nell'acquisto di merci ad ogni moneta dei Paesi in esame. La cartina mostra chiaramente una disuguaglianza nella concentrazione della ricchezza prodotta fra i diversi Paesi AdriGov, a favore delle regioni italiane del Centro e del Nord.

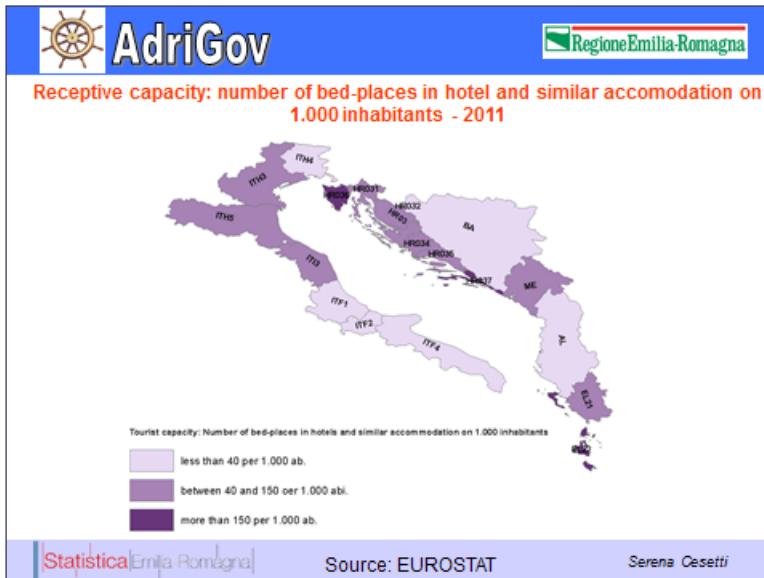


Il valore aggiunto è l'aggregato che consente di apprezzare la crescita del sistema economico in termini di nuovi beni e servizi messi a disposizione della comunità per gli impieghi finali.

Generalmente è considerato una delle più importanti misure della produttività di un Paese ed è uno dei principali indicatori utilizzati nei modelli di crescita economica. Questo indicatore è inserito per evidenziare il contributo dato dalle tre grandi branche produttive.

Il valore aggiunto per branca produttiva è il rapporto tra il valore aggiunto di quel settore di attività economica e il valore aggiunto ai prezzi di base.

Ci sono regioni a chiara vocazione industriale (regioni del Centro e Nord Italia e Bosnia), regioni per le quali più del 5% del valore aggiunto è prodotto dal settore agricolo (sono le regioni del litorale orientale) e regioni con uno sviluppo maggiore del settore dei servizi (sono le regioni dove la ricchezza maggiore deriva dal turismo –Puglia, Croazia, Grecia).

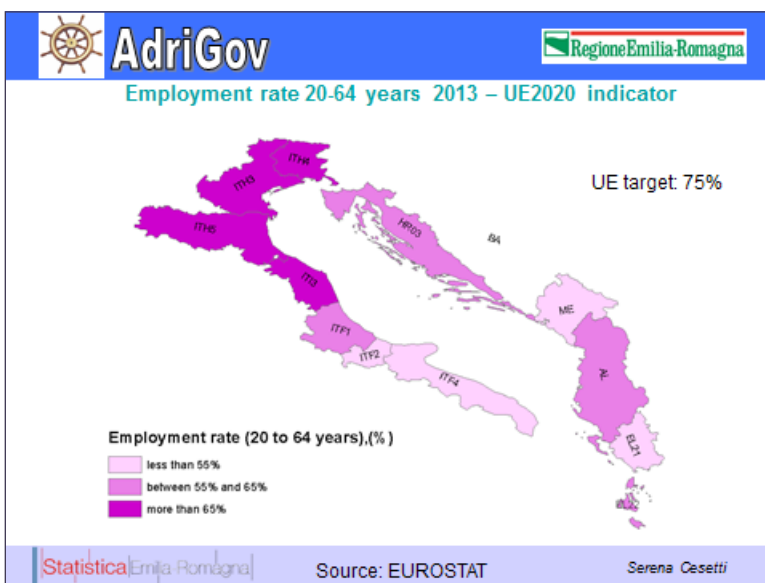
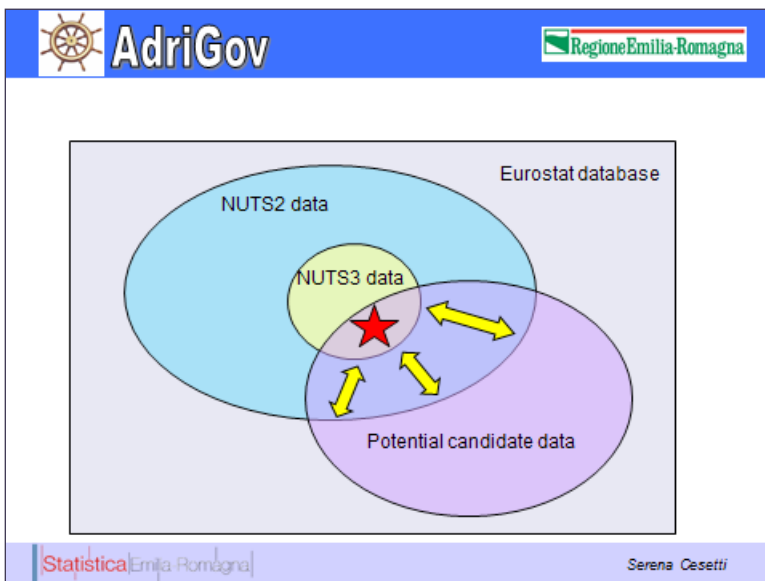


Rimanendo sulla tematica turistica, l'offerta o capacità ricettiva rappresenta uno dei principali indicatori per valutare la dimensione del settore turistico di un Paese, settore che contribuisce in maniera rilevante all'occupazione e alla domanda di beni e servizi.

L'indicatore fornisce una misura del grado di dotazione di strutture turistiche di un territorio. La capacità ricettiva è calcolata relativizzando i posti letto con il numero medio di abitanti dell'anno considerato.

I posti letto degli esercizi ricettivi includono qui solo alberghieri. Purtroppo il nostro sottoinsieme di dati non ci consente di valutare i servizi extra- alberghi, che invece hanno un peso importante in alcune zone, come il Sud Italia.

Come abbiamo già accennato, se consideriamo i *partners* croati insieme nella NUTS2 *Adriatic Croatia*, possiamo allargare la nostra intersezione e guadagnare altri importanti *subjects*.



Il tasso di occupazione è il principale indicatore del mercato del lavoro, in quanto indica la capacità dello stesso di utilizzare le risorse umane disponibili. Di fatto costituisce una misura del grado di coinvolgimento nel mercato del lavoro delle persone potenzialmente attive, poiché esclude i troppo giovani e gli anziani.

Nel 2009 la Commissione Europea ha elaborato la strategia “Europa 2020 – Una strategia per una crescita intelligente, sostenibile e inclusiva” per uscire dalla crisi e preparare l’economia dell’UE ad affrontare le sfide del prossimo decennio.

Europa 2020 propone otto obiettivi che l’UE dovrebbe raggiungere entro il 2020 e in base ai quali saranno valutati i progressi compiuti. Il primo fra questi, all’interno dell’ambito della crescita inclusiva, è che il 75 per cento delle persone di età compresa tra 20 e 64 anni dovrà avere un lavoro. Il target europeo del 75 per cento si declina per l’Italia nella forbice 67-69 per cento.

Anche rispetto al mercato del lavoro, le regioni AdriGov presentano marcate differenze e profonde disuguaglianze. Alcuni *partners* hanno livelli di occupazione inferiori al 55% (Puglia, Molise, Montenegro, Epiro...)





Il tasso di disoccupazione è il rapporto percentuale fra la popolazione di 15 anni e più in cerca di occupazione e le forze di lavoro totali. Il tasso di disoccupazione misura l'eccesso di offerta di lavoro (da parte dei lavoratori) rispetto alla domanda (da parte delle aziende).

Oltre a essere un importante indicatore delle dinamiche del mercato del lavoro, assume un significato ben più ampio nella valutazione dello stato di salute di un'economia e del benessere sociale.

Per avere un quadro d'insieme, è bene considerare tassi di disoccupazione specifici. Il tasso di disoccupazione giovanile è il rapporto percentuale fra la popolazione dai 15 ai 24 anni in cerca di occupazione e le forze di lavoro totali della stessa fascia di età.

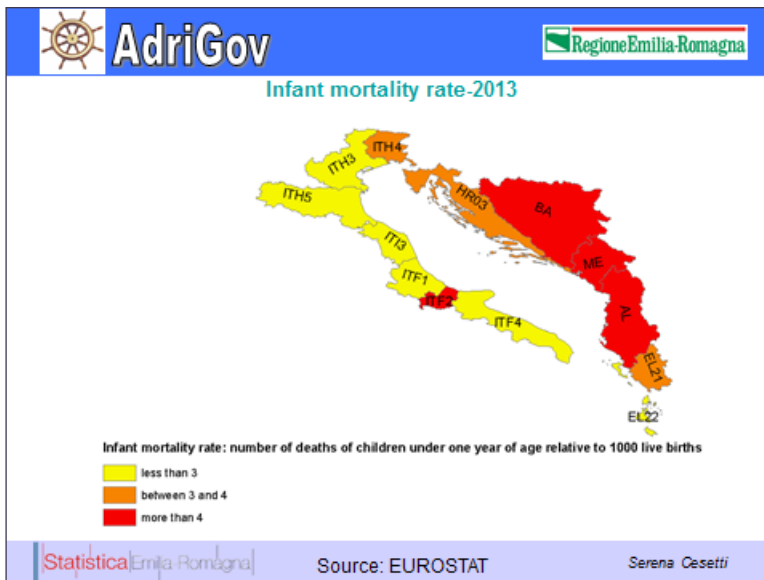
Con la crisi internazionale degli ultimi tempi, il tema della disoccupazione giovanile ha assunto sempre più rilevanza. I giovani rappresentano da sempre una delle categorie

più vulnerabili e la loro condizione nel mercato del lavoro è il primo fattore di criticità dell'intero sistema occupazionale.

Il tasso di disoccupazione giovanile è il rapporto percentuale fra la popolazione in cerca di occupazione da 12 mesi e il totale dei disoccupati.

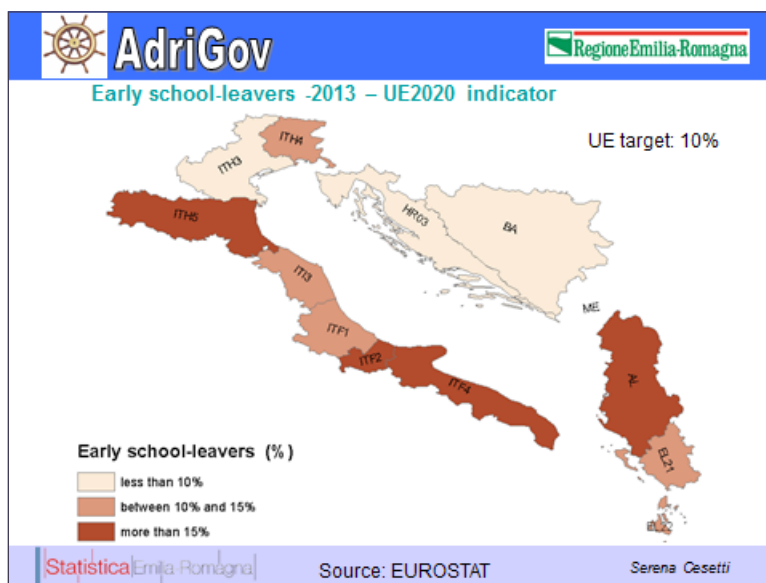
Il tasso di disoccupazione di lunga durata, invece, rappresenta uno dei principali indicatori di sofferenza del mercato del lavoro, in quanto misura la persistenza dello stato di disoccupazione degli individui, dando un'informazione indiretta su fenomeni di disagio sociale.

Le regioni che mostrano una particolare fatica rispetto a questi 3 indicatori sono la Bosnia, l'Epiro, la Croazia Adriatica, il Molise e la Puglia.



Gli ultimi 3 indicatori che abbiamo potuto desumere da Eurostat fotografano il grado di sviluppo sociale dei territori.

Il tasso di mortalità infantile è un indice statistico applicato in demografia per calcolare il tasso di mortalità entro il primo anno di vita. Questo indice, assieme alla speranza di vita alla nascita, è estremamente importante nella verifica dello sviluppo di una popolazione in quanto è strettamente correlato alla situazione sanitaria, ambientale e sociale della popolazione a cui viene applicato. Nonostante valori diversi all'interno del territorio AdriGov, ovunque si hanno valori inferiori al 5 per mille (l'Italia nel suo complesso ha un tasso del 3,3 per mille, in Afghanistan ad esempio muoiono 122 bambini ogni 1.000 nati).



Il programma Europa2020, come già prima la strategia di Lisbona, ha individuato nella riduzione della dispersione scolastica uno dei tre obiettivi che i Paesi membri si sono impegnati a raggiungere nel campo della “crescita intelligente” entro il 2020. Il *target* è quello di ridurre, entro la data stabilita, al 10 per cento la quota di giovani che abbandonano prematuramente gli studi. Per l’Italia la quota è pari al 15-16 per cento.

In generale, la scelta di non proseguire gli studi, spesso indice di un disagio sociale che si concentra nelle aree meno sviluppate del Paese, può essere diffusa anche nelle regioni più prospere, dove una sostenuta domanda di lavoro e un inserimento occupazionale relativamente facile possono esercitare un’indubbia attrazione sui giovani, distogliendoli dal compimento del proprio percorso scolastico.

L’indicatore è dato dalla quota di popolazione di 18-24 anni che ha abbandonato gli studi senza aver conseguito un titolo superiore al livello 3 della classificazione internazionale sui livelli di istruzione (Isced).

Tale indicatore, nel sistema di istruzione italiano, equivale alla percentuale della popolazione in età 18-24 anni che non ha conseguito titoli scolastici superiori alla licenza media (il titolo di scuola secondaria di primo grado), non è in possesso di qualifiche professionali ottenute in corsi di durata di almeno 2 anni e non frequenta né corsi scolastici né attività formative. Tale indicatore risente anche dei diversi sistemi formativi e delle diverse età di assolvimento dell’obbligo scolastico. Gli abbandoni maggiori si registrano in Emilia-Romagna, Puglia, Molise e Albania.



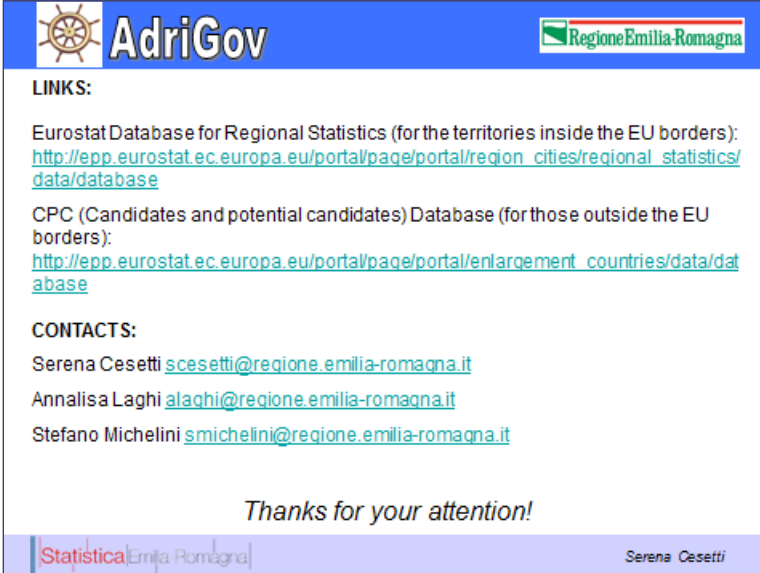
La quota di persone di 30-34 anni con un livello di istruzione universitaria (ISCED 5 o 6) è anch'esso uno degli indicatori *target* della Strategia Europa 2020. L'obiettivo, da raggiungere entro il prossimo decennio a livello Europeo, è di portare al 40 per cento la quota di giovani di età compresa tra i 30 e i 34 anni che hanno conseguito un titolo universitario o equivalente. La quota prospettata per l'Italia è del 26-27 per cento.

La quota di giovani con istruzione universitaria è definita come la percentuale della popolazione tra i 30 e i 34 anni che ha conseguito un titolo di studio universitario. In Italia, la classificazione include lauree di 4 anni o più (vecchio ordinamento o laurea specialistica/magistrale a ciclo unico), lauree triennali di primo livello, lauree specialistiche di 2 anni di secondo livello, diplomi universitari di due/tre anni, diplomi di scuole dirette a fini speciali, scuole parauniversitarie e i diplomi di Accademia belle arti, Istituto superiore industrie artistiche, Accademia di arte drammatica, perfezionamento Accademia di danza, perfezionamento Conservatorio, perfezionamento Istituto di musica pareggiato, Diploma accademico di alta formazione artistica e musicale.

Nella classificazione internazionale sui livelli di istruzione (Isced) sono considerati i titoli di studio compresi nei livelli 5 e 6 (*tertiary education*). Puglia, Albania e Bosnia hanno una quota di laureati in quella fascia di età ancora inferiore al 20%, superano il 25% Emilia-Romagna ed Epiro.

In conclusione possiamo dire che i pochi dati a nostra disposizione ci restituiscono un territorio poco omogeneo dal punto di vista demografico, economico e sociale. Perché le regioni più sviluppate siano driver di innovazione e di sviluppo verso le altre, sicuramente va incentivato lo scambio di "buone pratiche", prima fra tutte la creazione di un network statistico che consenta di ampliare lo spettro delle informazioni confrontabili e di tararle al livello territoriale di interesse.

Da ultimo forniamo gli indirizzi dei database Eurostat, da cui poter aggiornare i dati in qualsiasi momento.



The image shows a screenshot of the AdriGov website. At the top left is the AdriGov logo, which includes a ship's wheel icon. To the right of the logo is the text "AdriGov". Further right is the logo for "Regione Emilia-Romagna". Below the header, there is a section titled "LINKS:" containing two entries. The first entry is for the "Eurostat Database for Regional Statistics (for the territories inside the EU borders)" with a blue hyperlink: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/region_cities/regional_statistics/data/database. The second entry is for the "CPC (Candidates and potential candidates) Database (for those outside the EU borders)" with a blue hyperlink: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/enlargement_countries/data/database. Below the links is a section titled "CONTACTS:" listing three individuals with their email addresses: Serena Cesetti (scesetti@regione.emilia-romagna.it), Annalisa Laghi (alaghi@regione.emilia-romagna.it), and Stefano Michelini (smichelini@regione.emilia-romagna.it). At the bottom of the content area, there is a centered italicized text: "Thanks for your attention!". The footer of the page contains the text "Statistica Emilia-Romagna" on the left and "Serena Cesetti" on the right.

ANNEX



Adriatic-Ionian Universities Forum on the EUSAIR strategy.

San Giovanni in Monte, Conference Room
Giorgio Prodi, 5th and 6th December, 2013.

Transcription of proceedings

I

2013 December 5 Panel 1 BOLOGNA

We have here Mrs. Saliera, vice president for the Emilia Romagna region. And she is counsellor for financial issues and European issues for our region, and she's welcoming you on behalf of the Emilia Romagna region.

Simonetta Saliera

Good morning. I welcome you on behalf of the President Vasco Errani, the President of the Emilia Romagna region. And I welcome you particularly representatives of the public administrations and academics and in particular those of you who will be present in the plenary session, whose objectives are coordinating and harmonising best practices and policies for public administration as for territorial development, sustainable development among the different nations. And the Emilia Romagna region is supporting and promoting the passion, the creation of a new awareness, a new macro-regional awareness. And the Emilia Romagna region is supporting the great potential offered by an integrated development model at a macro-regional level. This integrated development is aimed at welfare, quality of life in our territories.

The project AdriGov, for which we are here today and we are partners, and in a few minutes, Mrs. Tagliani will talk about, is funding those the Adriatic-Ionian Euro-region and many research, study and qualification activities aimed at macro-regional issues on opportunities and challenges offered by EUSAIR for our territories. So this forum is a good opportunity, a very special opportunity to meet directly and to share public administration policies and regional policies, managing structural funds and territorial cohesion funds, and those were asked to make choices for the new planning procedures and development tools with representatives from the research and university world working in the territories with an innovative and qualitative approach in all of the acknowledged issues.

My wish is that that the outcomes of this forum can open a new direct meeting season for a fruitful cooperation among the different components which are necessary

for the new strategic macro-regional framework. These are necessary because without them, it won't be possible to have a really strong strategy in harmonising policies which can have a positive outcome in our territories. So it can be useful for the improvement of welfare and quality of life. So with this forum we want, together with the universities and the representatives of the public administration, we want to ease the definition process of the new strategic framework for the macro-euro region, by making new proposals, in order to qualify its contents and structure. So we can become partners with this strategic process, because we will be given the opportunity to represent our point of view to those who will implement the strategy.

And I really trust that this forum can produce a decisive new contribution in terms of qualification and innovation in order to guarantee an adequate territorial dimension to the strategic proposal. And I hope that this may be the key to its positive outcome and for the efficacy and efficiency of our actions, aimed at harmonising and integrating development actions at a macro-regional scale.

So culture, innovation, research, these are all elements which are very important for growth and development and at the same time for an increasingly strong cohesion in our territories. So thank you for your attention and I wish you a very fruitful meeting.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you. Thank you Vice President. Unfortunately she has to go, so we thank her, we heartily thank her for the good start she has just given us. And just a few operational points about the framework which has already been explained by the vice president. We are here thanks to the AdriGov project which was funded by the 2007-2013 IPA Adriatic project, working on common issues and interests for the whole macro-regional area. So this project supports the activities of the Adriatic-Ionian region which had its plenary session yesterday, so supporting cooperation and strengthening of cooperation for our common interests. It represents 26 regional and local institutions from the whole territory which all share the connection with the Adriatic and Ionian Seas, and including the 8 countries affected by the EUSAIR strategy. So in this framework, the Emilia Romagna region is already playing an active role; it has recently constituted an open workshop for university and public administration, as you can see from the documents you've been given. And we would welcome any comments or criticism.

I think it is particularly interesting just to remark that we are working at a good level in order to make an innovative contribution and a good quality input for the strategic development. Having said that, as regards the operational indications for today and tomorrow, we have distributed some material indicated in the programme, but some of you may have some pages missing. If this is the case please let us know.

There are four panels, each of which has a particular focus, selected on the basis of the indications and proposals that the professors participating in this initiative suggested.



So we selected our panelists in a tailored way, and we thought that it would be interesting to be positive and have people make a positive and critical contribution in order to build a fruitful contribution constructed together and we will send it to the DG REGGIO and DG MARE which are the European Commission institutions which are designing the formal strategy at the moment, and who will be called upon to manage it in the implementation phase.

So our objective is a very ambitious one, but at the same time it is achievable so as to really enrich a process that normally would not include this contribution of ours. So, once again, I invite all the panelists to be very innovative, to make new proposals, and we are sure this will be very interesting for those amongst us who are already familiar with the position of public administrations but who are interested in listening to contributions from universities and researchers.

So I'm here. Don't hesitate to ask if you need more information.

I'll introduce the professors: Stefano Bianchini -director of the IECOB institute and Valerio Romitelli from the History, Civilisation and Culture Department at the University of Bologna. They are the people who enabled the creation of the Regional Lab, which we work with partly through structures such as GREP, which is the Ethnography of Thought Research Group under the leadership of prof. Romitelli. And they are a source of pride for our research and analysis.

I would now like to leave the floor to the first panelists with Professor Romitelli. So I would like to call here Professor Podunavac, Professor Abazi, Professor Tsardanidis this morning. And Professor Paolo Rago and Professor Paganoni. So I invite you to take the floor. So I'll leave the floor to you.

Milan Podunavac

Dear colleagues and dear friends, I would like to thank you for inviting me to this very important conference, and thank you once again; I have organized my presentation in two steps.

In the first step, very briefly, I would like to say a few words about how I understand the role of "knowledge community" - a community within the broader frame of the forum. This is the first one. In the second step I would like to try to demonstrate this general approach to the relation between constitutionalism and good governance in the macroregion. There is a good reason for that. For most of the countries on the other side of the Adriatic Sea, the constitution making process is still unfinished – Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro are still in the process of determining how to define their fundamental social pact and fundamental social contract. Some other countries, like Croatia or Serbia, are also in the process of redefining their constitutional framework.

The Brussels agreement as regards Serbia, the referendum which took place a couple

of days ago in Croatia, all these, in my mind have far-reaching political consequences for political and social dynamics of these societies. Let me go back briefly to the first question. As regards my understanding of the knowledge community, I'd like to start with the argument which is organized within a broader framework of system theory, particularly supported by Niklas Luhmann, who basically defined a knowledge community as a self-referential system, founded on a separate structure, in norms of communication, selectivity, autonomy, functional specification, common language, and a clear broader line to other systems.⁵⁰

This selective mechanism is basically a pre-condition for its autonomy which is articulated both in the capacity to respond to broader systemic imperatives and the building of self-regulatory instruments for raising capacity for a strengthening inner structure for self-reproduction and self-legitimation. In this sense, these are my final words, I understand this forum as a very specific form of self-reflecting community, ready to produce a deeper self-reflection and a deeper self-understanding of Adriatic-Ionian region, its identity, political, cultural and social structures, public policies, etc. So my final words can be using the language of political culture where Robert Putnam in particular basically identified as social capital of this knowledge community.

My second point is devoted to the relation between constitutionalism and good governance. I would like to start with the very common assumption that although constitutionalism is deeply rooted in a liberal legacy of the west. Constitutionalism is no longer a brand of a western society only of Western society. It has become a truism that we have to understand the law in the general constitution, in particularly in a global perspective. A considerable number of European and non-European countries, including countries in the region have been constitutionalized in the last 3 decades, and further ones are likely to follow that process. The goal of civic revolution of the eastern and central and south eastern European countries in the '90s was not basically a new socio-economic or socio-cultural order, but first of all the establishment of constitutional forms of government and constitutional forms of governance; although we have to distinguish several forms of constitutionalism and constitutional legacies; those which embody the ideal of constitutionalism have one basic element, namely each and every kind of public authority is subject to the rules: constitutionalism means rules are made by law, not by a man. In essence, constitution of that kind includes, as an institutional minimum, rules about legitimization of public authority through political will of citizens, effective procedure of office holders' accountability to citizens, distribution and neutral track of public authorities among different branches of government, procedure to be headed in the exercise of public authority by officials. And finally, citizens' rights to express their views, interests, values and preferences; and their descent with the public authority, under the condition that it recognizes and protects plurality.

50 N. Luhmann, "Sociology of Political System", German Political studies (1960).



It is basically a very demanding idea of constitutionalism; still, it's about to become a standard of good governance almost globally. While some may regard this dimension of globalization as a final victory of the west, and its culture of individualism, secularism, and agnosticism over the rest of the world, we should not underestimate the plurality of lenses both in European and non-European context through which the ideal of constitutionalism is viewed today.

One of the leading constitutional theorists Ulrich Preuss backed the argument that that there is only one standard of modernity and one standard of good governance. His bringing together of Eisenstat's paradigm of multiple modernities and Habermas' narrative on the dialectic modernity which is known throughout Europe offers the final conclusion, "We may say that we live in the age of multiple constitutionalism". And some of them may be less individualist, more communitarian, and even more religious".⁵¹

The thesis of multiple modernities calls for the question to be raised, and an answer to be found; namely, how to modify constitutionalism, putting in question its inherent premises which could be summed up in the principle of individuality based on equal citizenship. That global perspective, according to my mind, confronts us - the community of constitutional and political theorists - with the great number of very diverse legal and political cultures and constitutional perspectives. I presume that it's likely to be a tough competition for cultural influence and cultural hegemony, about how politics should be ruled in a world where boundaries no longer shield societies from influence of ideas from all the areas of the world.

Constitutionalism is inevitably put to the test of viability: whatever the answer to that question may be, we should explore whether constitutionalism, which is originated in an homogeneous world or relatively small number of European countries, can provide a valid answer to a globalized and fragmented world.

Is constitutionalism basically an appropriate model of governance only in politics, where civil peace is guaranteed by pre-conditional forces, especially by consolidated statehood, the nation of statehood, if I could say, is another name for a strong meaning of governance? In the context, I am saying that governance refers firstly to the integrity of national territories – *Staatsvolk* – and the state power, where the state of State, has remained precarious, it has played a significant part in preventing democratic and political consolidation of political communities. And the experience of South Eastern European regions demonstrated that kind of tendency. In this sense, I would agree with my colleague Stephan and Linz that "without state there can be no citizenship, without citizenship there can be no democracy".⁵² In the many - this is my concluding remark - eastern and central European states, ethnic and national conflict has dominated political

51 U. Preuss, "Constitutionalism in globalized and fragmented world@ (paper presented at Synposium "Constitutionalism in Globalized World", Berlin, 2011.

52 Linz, Juan and Stepen, Alfred (1966): *problem of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America, and Post_Communist Europa*. Baltimor and London: John Hokins Univesity Press.

discourse since their very foundation at the beginning of twentieth century, and has remained the main causal factor of their contemporary divisions.

On the other hand, in Western Europe, where the ideal of equal citizenship prevailed; and where, during the twentieth century, the confessional conflicts subsided, in the wake of developing secularization, pluralist models and political integration prevailed, and became an integral part of their stability and socio-economic success. Starting from such a dynamic, and given that the experience of those socio-economic conflicts have been dominating features of deep divisions, even civil wars, in a number of countries. The Balkan experience, Balkan perspective, must we conclude that constitutionalism can hopefully work on the basis of certain social pre-conditions like a certain degree of socio-economic development, cultural homogeneity or religious tolerance? In one, and concluding word, does constitutionalism pre-suppose particular conditions and is it undefeatable for certain regions and certain cultures? Having regard to societies, with deep privileges based on ethnic, linguistic and today more and more religious diversities, the question to be raised can be summarized in next layer; can constitutionalism based on liberal premises and liberal legacy accommodate deeply divided societies and still remain liberal?

The Adriatic-Ionian region, in my mind, can be a good laboratory, because this is a region which harmonizes something, which is a standard of a good governance on the one hand, and cultural and legal diversity on the other. Certainly, only in the process of research, public and collective deliberation; and the forum is the place for the search where we could find the best solution for good order for all societies and the region. Thank you.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you Professor, it was very interesting, I fully agree with your ideas; I'd like to invite Professor Abazi here for her intervention.

Enika Abazi

Ok, Good morning I'd like to start by thanking you for organizing such a wonderful conference on the topic that is hard for me because it concerns the problems of development of this very interesting region, the Adriatic – Ionian basin. The idea of an epistemic community, a sort of community of knowledge, that I think is very important because it can bring about very important insights and developments that could help these regions prosper.

When I received the invitation, I started to look more at what this initiative was about, not that I didn't heard of it, but just to see how many activities, for whom, and even the fact that the EU has this initiative in its axis for sustainable development for



the regional environment, I was thinking what academics can do, to help prosper and establish sustainable development in our region. First of all, I was considering - we have the idea of this basin – that you may see the pictures also on internet, when you look at the initiative, and in fact this is a study that was done for the European Union in 2001.

I just wanted to bring to your attention the pictures, especially the ones that show how much interaction, and how many activities we can find in this area, which show at the same time how close the regions are to each other, and how far they have been staying for such a long period, due also to the dynamics of the international system, and that until the late '90s, it was affected by the cold war which divided the Adriatic in two camps.

In fact, after that we see that quite a lot of activities are happening; and if we see a Google mapping from satellite, we can see how much interaction, how much connection exists in the region.

Of course, historically, geographically, the regions are very close to each other, but we can see that although we are so close, there are so many differences, that time has left its mark on the surrounding areas of this region; and of course now we all have to work together in order to make the difference, and make the region function as a whole, because the idea that the Adriatic Sea continuing with the Ionian Sea, of course, is a basin which is characterized by various activities: maritime, transportation, fishing, gas and oil platforms, sales-exportation activities, coastline and maritime tourism, which can't prosper, without being in connection now with each other - not only because of the geographic vicinity, but also for the values that are commonly shared, and need to be reevaluated among the regions of this basin.

Of course, the idea that I was coming to, the question, the issue that I can discuss, of course that for those who were looking to the EU project, to the whole strategy in construction for the region, we see a lot of interesting forums, round tables that are created for very important strategic issues, that mark the development of the region, such as transportation, environment, sustainable development, rural development, of these littoral areas of the basin; and I was thinking about which main idea can be brought to the attention, regarding the communalities that can be developed at the basin level.

Of course, the region should work towards sustainable development, though I would consider that it is complex, because it has to deal with the current problems, I mentioned some, the differences in development that exist; but also the projection of the future, that needs to take into consideration all the dimensions of development, including all the regions that, as I will show later, is not that easy considering that they are part of different states, that we have to deal with that, with the question of sovereignty and state interest.

So projecting the future in these areas, which are part of different states, also is considered to be a challenge to this sustainable development and needs to be solved.

Sustainable development also needs to take into consideration social, economic and environmental issues, and a common denominator has to be established in all these areas

of activities for all members of this basin; and at the same time, the basin is not something that stays apart from the world, it is part of the world, and should be considered in correlation with the processes of globalization; but also at regional level that is European integration, so it can't be something that is apart and separate from these kind of processes that take part at a more global level, but also of course of characteristics of sustainable development, I take in consideration green development, ecological development, growth development, it can't be any kind of development.

But it should also bear in mind the green dimension – as it has been called recently, and also it has to take place in a context that has a history, that has development, that it is important to be taken into consideration, and projected in the framework of larger development - because everything that is to be considered as separate – cannot be successful without taking some more global or universalistic dimension. Of course to understand the actions that need to be taken, I was thinking about which factors are important in shaping such a kind of action towards sustainable development. Generally, the main factors that I have considered are the system conditions, national interest and knowledge and information, and I'd like to go through them briefly, in order to understand the importance of each of these factors.

As far as we know the dynamics of the international system, after the end of the cold war are chaotic and unpredictable, somehow different to ones that we are used to see during bipolarity, not only contributing to fostering the EU integration but also made the understanding of States behavior more predictable. Now in one way or in another, this kind of predictability - and so-called certainty – has evaporated, and therefore this initiative and this sustainable development is taking place in this uncertain and chaotic environment.

Of course, an Adriatic-Ionian State can succeed to bring about, to integrate and establish sustainable development, considering the EU leadership, and that's why it is important in this initiative, which is positioned in the framework of an EU project; because the EU can offer the support to it and supply infrastructures, that permit comparatively smooth and mutually-beneficial regional exchange to take place.

There is a problem that needs to be taken in consideration; although the development of the European Union was a good development for a lot of reasons that are known by all in Europe, which at the end of the war opened the perspective of cooperation among the States of EU and of all countries joining and becoming part of this, the problem is that at the moment we are talking, it's going through a lot of other problems, that have to deal with establishing, resolving all problems of crisis, economic, financial, even institutional, organizational, that somehow has created some problems for the regions that we are talking about, because not all the countries of the region that are part of this basin are members of the EU; and in this regard, the basin is fragmented, has different speeds towards the EU. We know that we have some old members such as Italy, some



new members, and we have some other ones, which are not members, but are at different stages of becoming members of the European Union.

Therefore, it is this kind of differentiated project that of course requires a very predominant role of the EU, but it goes not through this initiative, but also through the process of integration, and the membership of all countries of the regions, in this initiative, in order to create a kind of stability, that could convince the role, and the state of the regions, of the importance and benefits that would be somehow distributed in an even way among all the participants.

For all of us, one of the dimensions that need to be taken into consideration in this initiative are State interest, even with the case of the EU and the old members, we know sovereignty is still persisting, and that's important in the EU, and as long as sovereignty exists, of course States' interests will prevail, and in fact they are in competition with the EU level interests, and somehow these are also the problems that the EU is facing today, but I'm not going to talk about this - because this is another topic.

And in fact, States would like at any moment to create, defend, expand their wealth and power, and somehow enhance benefits for their members, and promote values, and somehow combine all of these ideas for their own benefit. So an equilibrium has to be found among States' interests, in order to make this strategy and this initiative, and the projects that are developed, in order to make it a success. And now I come to the third dimension that somehow brings us to the idea of academic communities, and the reason why we are here.

I think that knowledge is crucial in sustainable development, and affecting the policy making; because I think that knowledge is very influential today, because knowledge, as far as I'm concerned in this discussion, is exercised through categories, and the editing system of knowledge and Universities have to come to share this new power, for they specialize in handling categories.

As more areas of life are submitted to experts for systematic study of casual factors and their related effects, awakening the role of participatory politics in drawing the logic of projects of development, the Universities are final depositories of expertise, have become major regional political actors of our time. In addition to their other tasks, they legitimize the expertization of public affairs, and the region of professionals.

In fact, in the literature of international relations, the role and the fact of knowledge is not to be exercised from epistemic communities, and in fact it is also an important case study regarding problems of environment, where epistemic communities in the littoral area of the Mediterranean have produced knowledge convincing enough for policy makers, to move in the direction of adapting common policies, in order to resolve problems that are caused by different states, but which affect all the states.

And in fact, this is the crucial aspect of these epistemic communities, that in the area that we live, where technology and information have moved at a stage of development, such as to have substantially even somehow replaced participatory politics, that can't be

any longer developed based on ethics or some general and communal knowledge, because otherwise States that such a kind of attitude, of course they would be left behind in the range of development, and can cope with all the challenges globalization has brought to all the states.

Therefore the involvement of these epistemic communities is very important nowadays, for the knowledge and for all the expertise they provide in facilitating solutions and providing all the necessary causalities, that come out, causalities and effects that are produced by this kind of decision. Of course, there are lot of indicators that need to be taken into consideration – so of course I am not just claiming that we need to have only an epistemic community of knowledge, in order to make a project, initiative or a strategy for the development of the basin – this is most important, but I would like to consider the intersections between a knowledge-based community providing important knowledge on sustainable development, with micro-level communities, that are involved in A-I basin, and also the macro-regional community, that we would like to integrate and develop.

There are lots of indicators that we may take into consideration, such as when we talk about knowledge of course that we have for every area that we are interested to develop in the framework of this project, to take the best recognized expertise and competence, also the ones which has legitimized their ideas and their arguments regarding different issue areas; of course, research needs also funding, and in this respect, efforts need to be commonly made, in order to obtain access to EU funds, regional funds, country funds, that need to be integrated at the academic level. We know that in all our countries, there are researchers who work on different issues, such as transportation, rural development, gas platforms, the maritime transport, and I have seen quite a number of projects, the problem is that they need to be integrated into common projects, they need to be funded, by the EU or others, in order to feed one main goal, that is the development of a sustainable region.

And of course, this needs also the institutionalization of research, we know that academic work can be individual work, but this needs to be organized in a common infrastructure in order to be profitable to this project. Of course, at the level of community, we have some indicators that we need to take into consideration, to see the ability of this community to act, to see the norms to which they are accustomed, and to try to develop, to see what we can do in order to provide the common normative for work, of course we will have to see in all micro-regional communities, in our regional communities, what the systems, the social discussion, all the opportunities and constraints are.

And now we come to the macro-region community, that we would like to develop; of course we have to work on the credibility of this project, and to see, to establish the profile of these stakeholders, which can be part of this initiative and of this strategy, and of course they have to have a reputation in order to have access to funding, not only to the national state but to the regional and EU and, why not, at an international level.



In order somehow to make it a success, of course we need a complex adaptive governance system, that takes into consideration the community of knowledge, that works on different issue areas for the sustainable development of this initiative. We have to see how it interacts with government and regional international organization, with EU that I was indicating is an important stabilizing element, not only at the financial initiative, but also to provide credibility to all the partners that everything would be carried out in a just and fair mode.

Of course they have to take into consideration the macroregional community, with all these indicators that I was mentioning, and of course in between there are also the influence of a lot of other factors that regard the context we live in today, which is: the new technologies that facilitate information and interaction between all these elements, parts of this governance system, that need to be taken into consideration, when we talk about this initiative and its success.

So in fact, I would like to conclude my presentation with the idea that beside all kinds of institutions, actors, that have increased in number, the role of the EU knowledge community also has to have an important part in making this strategy for the development of the region a success, in choosing the right policies – in convincing the participants whether at a regional level, state level, even community level, of the importance and the benefits of this and all kind of policies that need to be undertaken regarding the different issues.

I did not want to stop in all the round tables this initiative has developed, because I think they have they own experts, that are called to the tables to discuss the best solution. I think this is the best they are going to serve, in their particular area of expertise, so I wanted to remain on a general understanding of the role of the knowledge in the development of this important strategic project of the EU for the basin.

Thank you for your attention and if you have questions.

Elena Tagliani

Also very interesting – I'd like to invite to take the floor prof. Romitelli for his intervention.

Valerio Romitelli

Very good. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone in Italian, trusting that this will be a good and productive session.

My speech concerns the approach employed to interview directly the protagonists to be involved in our project idea: the infra-national and regional rulers of the territories belonging to the two coastlines of the Adriatic and Ionian Sea basins. All the contributions coming out from the present meeting in fact aim to support and implement the definition of a new, possible relationship design between the subjects of governance all over those two coastlines. But to make our contributions profitable, it will be crucial to know what the actors of the forthcoming strategy are thinking about the possibilities that the EUSAIR project can offer.

In this framework we started a piece of research, one of the main actions of which consists in a survey questionnaire, to be submitted to some of the most relevant and proactive local rulers of the territories located across the two coastlines of the Adriatic and Ionian basins. This research is already ongoing, and when the survey outputs will be ready, the results will be made available for every one of the participants to the present meeting.

We expect to successfully merge the survey outputs to the other research actions foreseen in the AdriGov point 5.4. (as for instance the creation of a macroregional database, with indicators at a local and regional level, and moreover the running of several interviews in loco to the local and regional authorities representatives, to investigate how innovation can improve the territorial development instruments and practices, to transpose them at a macroregional scale, following the principles of the multilevel governance and the integration of the policies). All these actions will be run within the Regional lab on macro-regional issues, and will be gathered and coordinated by the Emilia-Romagna Region, in order to elaborate a Study, which will assess, from a regional point of view, the most innovative tools for integration in territorial development purpose (AdriGov project as an output of the action number 5.4).

Now I will try to present very briefly an important point about the method employed to shape the questionnaire, and to elaborate the analysis of the answers obtained.

This research's work is developed by an ethnographic group of Bologna's University, which I coordinate: GREP (RGET - Research Group of Ethnography of Thinking) that is doing its experiences since more than ten years. GREP so far has worked mainly in Italy, but also in France, and occasionally in Africa. So far, our inquiries are developed within the sites of work or social service, and are focused in promoting the thought of workers or assisted people, as a resource to improve quality of life and work in those same sites. Therefore, the present inquiry within the EUSAIR strategy is a new challenge for us. In fact, in this case, the focus is not in a well-defined social context, but concerns the new perspective of a very large and complex space, quite unknown also by the rulers



interviewed. Since all skills of the regional rulers are newcomers to the macroregional experience, it becomes crucial what those rulers think about it. But to know this thinking, it is necessary a singular approach ad hoc.

To characterize this approach employed by our group, I try to explain why we chose to keep a critical approach to a topic generally used in this kind of inquiries. I mean the topic of the so-called “good practice”. Actually, we know that in the territorial cooperation, very often the term “good practice”, or even “best practice”, is used, to indicate a way to enhance the quality of the cooperation activities and of the institutional networks governance process in itself.

This methodological issue is one of the most important consequences of a pragmatic approach, that affects nowadays many of the knowledge fields, even the artistic one. In the anthropological disciplines, this influence is demonstrated, for example, by the broad-ranging Victor Turner’s work, who defined the “anthropology of performance”.

According to the pragmatic approach, the value of every performance and every practice is mostly in the perceptions they produce. So that every performance is “happy” and every practice is “good”, when they are perceived as credible by the users. In this kind of approach, therefore, what we can feel as credible is more important than what we can think as worth of it.

Now, this is the opposite of our own approach, that is called “ethnography of thinking”, exactly because we are interested in analyzing not what people perceives as credible, but what they really think, what’s their thought.

To understand more concretely this methodological controversy, it is useful to reflect about the ambiguity of the adjective “good”, when it is used in the expression “good practice”. In this case, “good” means two different things: on the one hand, it means a positive judgment on a specific experience’s usefulness; on the other hand, it means a positive judgment about the transferability elsewhere of the pattern drawn from this specific case. But it is not necessary to be an expert anthropologist, to know that what works in a specific context, often doesn’t work in another one. To confirm that a considered good practice generally valued as good is really good when transferred elsewhere, the pragmatic approach advises to analyze the difference of contexts in all possible details.

To adapt the pattern of a praxis to apply it in different contexts becomes thus the more important problem. Thus, the most important becomes how to adapt the pattern to a territorial context different from that one in which the pattern is used. But it remains that the territorial context of the “good practice” is for itself a context model, to be referred to the territories where the “good practice” is used.

In this way, the risk is to confirm this sort of cultural colonization, that has been criticized a lot of times in relation to the development policies designed by the richer countries for the poorer ones. It is known the story of an African indigent population,

who used fishing-nets the mosquito nets sent to them by a help program. We can certainly suppose that this people had not really understood the meaning of the “good practice” transferred to their territory, or we could better think that but in this case, they aimed to protect themselves from the mosquitoes as a good practice only for the people who conceived the program.

Between the two coastlines of the Adriatic and Ionian seas, there aren't so big differences as those existing between the richer countries and the poorer ones; nevertheless, the multiplicity of cultural traditions and social models is such as to make possible every sort of misunderstanding, when one try to find out something shareable. To mitigate this risk, our research group proposes not to start from the practices, whether they are credible or not, found out around those two coastal territories, but to start from what the regional rulers involved in the EUSAIR think about it.

Only through the analysis of this thought, we can identify what makes a local practice “good”, to be transferred in another context. This thing could be only a political idea that is a strategic vision. Only a strategic vision can enable in fact to draw tactical suggestion from a local practical experience, and to adapt them to other experiences possible elsewhere.

The EUSAIR project is so wide and complex than it cannot be conceived through the pragmatic approach. To make possible this strategy, we need more than to believe only on specific practices. We need a new vision, new perspectives and common objectives, related to the real needs of the whole Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, that already in the past was a source of universal ideas many times.

EUSAIR can be a good idea only if we will be able to grasp the best of what the territorial representatives think about the common challenges and opportunities at a macro-regional scale, in order to qualify the strategic process already ongoing, helping the local and regional authorities to give the EUSAIR the necessary territorial dimension.

Thank you.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you very much professor. I really thank the first three panelists who gave a very important contribution. Since it is ten past eleven, we have a coffee break here, outside, in the other room. So for 20 minutes, we can relax, have a coffee, and then, if you don't mind, we will start again. Ok? So enjoy your coffee. Thank you.



2013 December 5 Panel 2

Elena Tagliani

We are ready to start again with the second round of our panel and we have two professors: Professor Paolo Rago, Professor Tsardanidis, and Professor Paganoni, and the floor goes to Professor Tsardanidis. To you the floor.

Charalambos Tsardanidis

I would like to thank you for inviting me to this important forum, which I think will be extremely fruitful. The timing of convening this forum is very appropriate, because as you know the European Commission is in the process of preparing a communiqué and an Action Plan for this new strategy of macroregion – the Adriatic-Ionian strategy, which was conceived last year by three members of European Community; Italy, Greece and Slovenia, now there's Croatia as well after its accession to the EU. They had the idea of promoting the strategy on the pattern of the Baltic States and Danube countries strategies. I am intending to focus on one aspect of the strategy, which has four pillars. I will concentrate mainly on the second pillar, which deals with Connectivity.

After the introduction, which refers generally to the concept of macroregion, I will turn to the five main topics of Connectivity - especially about the means by which it is possible to be achieved, and finally if I have time, I shall try as conclusions to say some more words.

So, macroregional strategies open doors to new opportunities of territorial development; They bring together local, regional, national and community levels, not only to interregional but also to transnational links and transactions. The strategy specifically for the Adriatic – Ionian macroregion would have also an important political meaning; It is an outward-looking powerful political message to Western Balkan countries, on their way to the EU accession. But it also could mean that the West Balkan countries' future lies with the EU; on a broader scale, EUSAIR, tends to be considered as a valuable asset, not only for the macroregion itself, but for the European Union as a whole. It would be fully in line with the new strategic development growth and stability orientation, and in particular with the EU 2020 Strategy for smart sustainable and inclusive growth.

So, concerning the second pillar, because as you know, there are four pillars in the strategy, and as I mentioned, I'll focus on the second pillar: connectivity; there are five, if I may say so, items ... issues, which I'd like to develop. First is funding, secondly is priority areas, third is actions, fourth are projects and fifth is measuring the results of implementation and assessment of the outcome of the projects. I think all these five issues are very important in order to achieve connectivity.

First of all, funding sources. Of course what I'm going to say applies also to the other

four strategic pillars. EUSAIR should draw on all available funding sources; what are they? EU funding, national and private and of course it should make a real difference on the ground. There is, of course a need to avoid duplication - while ensuring coherence of actions. We have already agreed on the three famous NOs, which provide a sound basis for the development of the strategy: no new money from EU funds, no new institutions and no new legislation.

So, let's now proceed to the organization of the second pillar - how it would be achieved and on the content of the Action Plan, which is now in the process of being written by the European Commission. Firstly, concerning the priority areas. For each priority area, the future Action Plan will present the issues and indicate the hotspots, in other words, the main problems.

For example, regarding the second pillar. Maritime transport is a key element to the connectivity of Adriatic - Ionian countries, in order to achieve sustainable growth, by facilitating the mobility of passengers and goods through the respective sea routes, and developing their potential further. This emerges as a need and an opportunity.

Taking into account that, for example, ports are the main component of any transport network, improvement of port infrastructure, and superstructure and logistics is a *sine qua non* for increasing trade flows. This improvement of ports' infrastructure applies mainly to the eastern ports of the Adriatic Sea. This should be accompanied by the improvement of road and rail connections of the hinterland, so that a whole network of maritime and land transport could be developed smoothly and efficiently. The States involved as well as neighboring regions could reap the benefit from the expected trade flows. Secondly, Littoral countries should be assisted in the implementation or exploitation of requirement actions and initiatives at EU level, promoting the use of modern technologies, for both maritime traffic monitoring and facilitation of maritime traffic, within the overall effort to promote short sea shipping and motorways of the sea.

Another important sector is energy. Energy is a substantial part of the second pillar, especially energy security. For example in the field of energy, the TAP Trans Adriatic Pipeline, which has recently been agreed, as a south corridor providing gas to Italy and perhaps to the EU, would be a new source of gas supply, provided that links with the other countries of the Adriatic-Ionian region are explored. Another aspect of this is the current transport facilities, mostly in the Eastern Adriatic non EU Countries which are way beneath international standards. This is due to mainly insufficient investment and inadequate maintenance. Therefore better spatial integration and transport connections mean major investments, stronger economy, higher employment and greater opportunities for citizens. This connectivity could be achieved in two ways: One way is from the west to the east, for example from Italy to Croatia and Serbia, and then through the motorways system connections could be constructed towards other countries to the East. Secondly from the north to the south or vice-versa. In other words the coast from Greece to Albania, Montenegro, Croatia and Slovenia. This corridor undoubtedly would facilitate



trade between the respective Member States. This corridor has already been discussed – although partially - in the framework of the Central European initiative. Another important aspect of the strategy is business facilitation. Business is a horizontal action in all four pillars of the strategy and includes promotion of enterprises, strengthening small and medium enterprises, and increased efficient use of human resources. I am turning now my attention to the actions.

An action is an important priority, requiring intervention by the countries and stakeholders involved, to meet the objective of the priority areas. They should of course correspond to the identified problems. It can be a new approach, an increased coordination in facilitating the priorities, an objective that the countries can decide to achieve in their own way, to support a process already engaged in. An action may not require financing, for example.

I have two examples here: Increased use of modern technologies for maritime traffic monitoring and surveillance in the framework of existing international and EU requirements initiatives; Removal of technical as well as administrative barriers to international maritime transport services especially regarding the non EU – Adriatic – Ionian countries, in accordance to the obligations undertaken in the framework of the EU Association and Stability Agreements. This action also seems not to require funding; it's just a coordination action. Joint operations in the field of illegal migration might be another action. In order to tackle such illegal action with successful law enforcement agencies need to improve their cooperation, this means, especially in the field of exchange of information, methods, training and use of modern equipment. Common initiatives regarding the prevention, preparedness and response to major oil spills might be another. These initiatives could contribute substantially to the whole EU maritime safety apparatus (European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) and the activity of the Regional Maritime Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), which refer to the whole Mediterranean Sea.

And we have the projects of course. Projects should be concrete with a start and end date. In general, a project requires financing, a project leader and a project partnership, and should be realistic. What does it mean? This means that projects should be feasible, technically and financially, and there should be an overall agreement between countries and stakeholders and the European Commission regarding their worth, their viability and added value.

Projects should be as concrete as possible, and participating countries should avoid proliferation of proposals, without obvious targeting and added value for the whole region.

Let me explain what I mean with an example. Development cooperation and coordination mechanism on the law enforcement agents, especially in the field of information, in order to tackle illegal actions committed by cross-border cooperation of the members of criminal networks could be proposed as a specific project. It would be

a project of coordination and providing new, sophisticated mechanisms of fighting the trans-national criminals among the Member States.

Finally, measuring the outcomes of the implementation of certain activities and assessment of the projects is very important. Some examples: reduction of freight transportation time from the north-central Europe to the Balkan countries, and from the Balkan countries to the Middle East, or from the west to the east; Volume of cargo transportation through Adriatic-Ionian ports; number of new connections; number of smugglers and migration facilitators; number of confiscation of vessels; number of visiting students and University staff among the countries of the region or number of University networks, in order to assess what they are doing through these networks.

Therefore, and I conclude, connectivity through an improved sub-regional transport energy and energy networks, with, I think, the maritime component at its heart, is a major parameter for the development of trade and growth in the EUSAIR.

And as it has been pointed out, the adoption of this strategy in 2014, which will allow for its alignment with the EU 2020 strategy, will ensure the greatest consistence also with the priorities of the next financial programme. Some of the funds I think have been already made available by the European Commission to implement the projects of the EUSAIR. It is up to the Member States to decide in which way and by which means, as it has been pointed out, given their commitment and willingness to the strategy, (the political will I mean) will be able to implement this macro-region strategy successfully. I am sure that only through cooperation and common actions the participating states in the EUSAIR, will be able to achieve sustainable growth and create new jobs; which is the most important thing nowadays.

Thank you very much.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you very much Professor Tsardanidis and now the floor to Professor Paolo Rago from the University of Tirana.

Paolo Rago

Good morning to all of you. Let me start with a few introductory words, by saying that I agree with what previous speakers just said, the fact that EUSAIR project is absolutely important for all the various regions and countries of the Adriatic basin, and of the Ionian basin as well. But let me highlight one specific aspect, which is part of my responsibility. I'm a history professor. Because of my profession I tend to see things from this point of view and therefore I would like to highlight the importance that such a project might have for the various countries and regions involved but also because every country should be recognised as important as it should. We couldn't consider all the



countries involved in the project as a whole, without any distinction. Of course we need to cooperate and to feel part or join the EU, this is of course important. We all need to get to a better, greater integration, this is a leitmotiv. But that shouldn't let us forget about the importance of the history, of the historical background of each country that joins the project as well as the EU that will become part of the EU in the future. This introduction is absolutely fundamental in view of what I'm about to say. As far as Albania is concerned, and that's what I will talk about, let me provide you with a snapshot of contemporary Albania within the limits of time allotted to me.

But please let me bring the present Albanian situation to your attention, but in relation to a few features that characterise the collective conscience of this country and people today. This is important to be said, also to try and understand who our partner interlocutor is otherwise we run the risk of just talking in a too general way, and that would stultify an understanding of the EUSAIR principles, so I want you to better understand what I'm talking about. And that will help us better understand what the present difficulties encountered by Albania are, which would otherwise be unexplained, and what has to do with modern efficient rule of state.

The Balkan and Albanian vicissitudes have been characterised by two milestones that led to the birth of National states. Nationalism first and communism afterwards. Because of ideological reasons related to political choices, the biased interpretations have been facilitated, based on myths, legends, utopias whose persistence and defense, so one specificity and peculiarity has played a key role. It goes without saying that Albanians are of course characterised by a few specificities such as the co-habitation of various religious groups within the country.

The secular, the century long co-habitation and lack of religious conflicts have really impressed observers' imagination by making ethnicity more important than religious links. And that is why people talk about the Albanism and Albanian patriot Pashko Vaza invented this word in the 19th century. Instead of nationalism we should refer to the late 19th century patriotism with this definition. The terminological distinction is substantial even though there are a few points in common between Albanian patriotism and the others. The former is distinctive because of bases and developments. Albanism is a specific form of nationalism prior to the revival of the latter because this is a part of the Albanian spirit which is close to external influences and self-reference, with drawn in itself, within its own borders. It stems from the values of the protection of family and clan, Albanism is a new reinterpretation of a century old ideology. It is different from the idea of a nation that came about in the 19th and 20th century.

What I have just said allows us to highlight an important element, namely the profound link of Albanians with Ottoman history and culture, which was maintained for about 500 years, in spite of a few contradictions, their loyalty to the Empire that was the reasons that led to a delay in the development of a national modern conscience. Until the mid 19th century, Albanians had judged Ottoman state as an ally and they expected

that the Ottoman empire would consider the Albanian nation likewise. It should also be important to keep another element in mind which is not secondary. Until after the declaration of independence in 1912, Albanians didn't perceive the need to turn into a unitary movement. The century-old lack of inter-ethnic contest due to scarcity of roads, connection networks and given the sense of belonging to their original club, turned them into a sort of tribe, a sum of tribes. And one of the consequences was the fragmentation inside this country which is a constant of the various groupings, a survival of notions and objectives that were too local.

It prevented them to overcome lack of confidence and mistrust between the various groups and tribes. That is why these oppositions as Albanians and the communist exegesis claimed, was not the result of the Ottoman obscurantism. But their dissemination was to be found in the nature itself of Albanian history and psychology, which is mainly devoted to the pursuit of one's self-interest or the clan or tribe interest. Now let me talk about a few traits characterising the communist spirit. In 1944 when the new communist regime was introduced by Enver Hoxha, an Albanian dictator. The Stalinist method was chosen as a source of inspiration, it was a mix of orthodox Marxism, Leninism, stalinism, Maoism and strong nationalism. To start with, the safeguard of national independence that was shared by many communist leaders was a sort of closure towards anything that would come from outside, according to the Marxist, Leninist ideology.

Then poverty, backwardness and isolation were further reasons why the regime was presented as bringing hope and liberation for the great masses of peasants who aspired to nothing more than the improvement of their living conditions and to meet their primary needs of justice and survival. By reconciling Communism and Nationalism without any apparent contradiction as well as tradition, Hoxha's new State was based on a number of pillars; the 19th century myths, the new ideals of communist philosophy and the rediscovery and the re-interpretation of traditional values in an original way, to be found in a custom, in a traditional code was therefore followed even though that was not the only one that was prevalent in Albania.

So by concentrating the powers of the state and of the country in his own hands, Hoxha allowed the myth to be mixed with a cult of personality as an instrument used to rally a population that it would have been difficult to be united under the same rule. At least to start with Enver Hoxha's rule turned out to be effective and apart from the judgement of the history and politicians, it would be a mistake not to recognise the change that occurred in Albania starting from the second world war, without forgetting the general conditions in the country at that time, the improvement achieved in a few sectors to be judged in a positive and relevant way. It acquired a more modern status and with a greater link with the rest of the world recently.

Anyway the country went through a greater social homogeneity and setting up of a minimum welfare system, provided throughout to the whole population as a whole, and with a few steps forward in terms of healthcare and women's emancipation, never like



then before, apart from the short King Zog experience, Albanians had never experienced a Unitarian centralised rule. All this contributed to let, convey an external image of Albania that was quite peculiar: real or mythical whatever it was, whatever it might be, it is an image that Albanians are still attached to today and don't want to relinquish.

But now I would like to go to the main topic of my presentation, with the collapse in 1991 of the Communist regime, with the entry into force of the rule of law, with all the sets of values that is the very essence of western democracies. In Albania, that was totally missing. In spite of that, Europe couldn't fall into the frequent temptation, at the beginning of the '90s, to believe that transition to represented democracy might have happened by following the wake of a similar model as the one in use in other European countries.

But the new Albanian democratic state had to achieve that through deep institutional reforms, through unprecedented processes and apart from the 1997-1998 clashes and Kosovo war in 1999, in 20 years or so, Albania managed to achieve a few strategic objectives. The signature of stabilisation and association with the EU in 2006, the joining of NATO in 2009 and in 2010 the new visa system and new free movement of citizens and goods in the Schengen area. That is why Albania was appointed as a candidate state in view of the membership to the EU to make Albania similar to the rest of the western world.

But this process is still going on, especially with reference to the charter of fundamental rights of 2006, like freedom, equo-quality citizenship and justice. Yet a few pending issues remain about the reliability of the country's system as a whole, related to the inadequacy of politicians to stick to a set of shared values, free market economy, multiple interest that bind local entrepreneurs, politicians and criminals; organised crime, as well as disagreements at a political level between the various political parties. Contradictory and ambiguous laws, inadequacy of measures, provisions voted to guarantee law and order and uncertainty of the judiciary system, together with the economic, fiscal and administrative system.

It would be a mistake to think that this contrasting reality, fruit of a continuously changing society is an exception in the Balkans. I am of course talking about the Albanian context and let me do it from an unusual point of view. After describing a few historic traits, important for you to understand the present times, I would like to tell you how the political class experienced the political counselling provided by European and International organisations.

Present problems that have just been hinted to, are nothing but aspects of the same attitude that reveals the fact that on the one hand there is a need for freedom in Europe, but on the other and there is no real deep understanding of values and principles a the very basis of Europe. In the country there is a naive and ungrounded belief in the miracle that might occur after becoming a member of the free market economy. This conviction

led to fundamental misunderstanding that was disavowed by the 1997 financial crash, whereby one might achieve wellbeing and wealth in a very easy way through short cuts.

Why did this happen?

Of course, a lack of experience, due to the retreat from the rest of the world for half a century was one of the reasons why that happened. But that is not enough for us to understand that. Why do behaviours and problems occur in a cyclical way that seems to keep Albanians further away rather than closer to Europe? In the various declarations made by politicians over the years, one might of course observe the constant presence of two elements that have nothing to do apparently with them but are closely related together; the desire to introduce reform projects accompanied by a few peculiarities, specificities as though that was one of the fundamental national values that emerges through specific behaviours. And I would like to give you an example to explain it better.

As far as reforms are concerned that are supported and advocated by the EU, necessary for Albania to join the EU, one believes that one can draw a benefit from becoming a member of the single market, the latter regarded as a factor of wellbeing and peace, order and stability. And so when making a few steps, there are no positive answers to that.

Yet the agreements are achieved once obstacles are overcome and many justifications are provided that lead us to think that there is an alleged specificity, peculiarity that make Albania distinct, that allows Albania not to stick to what Europe expects from it. In these various approaches and attitudes, one can highlight this kind of ambiguity of Albania. And on one hand I want to shift away from the task, but at the same time I want to preserve their cultural heritage in search of a probable compromise of the legacy of the past and the needs of the present, that absolutely leads nowhere.

As Roberto Grozza della Rocca said, we should understand whether Albania, that are so in love with their homeland, but so far away from respecting the state, they might fall back into the clan and tribe recipes, away from European rules. Or they decide to do so because of their selfishness. If such a description is accepted, to understand the notion of life, I would like to explain what I have just said, better.

One thing concerns the state institution. The state has always been regarded by Albania as a useless superstructure. Of course the institutional role should be played by the family or by the clan of reference. Any form of state has been regarded as a dangerous, useless superstructure, therefore an enemy, a dangerous enemy that you have to defend yourself from, or a stepfather that you have to be away from. So during democratic society, you don't notice many differences as against the past as citizens therefore perceive the public administration as a dangerous threat. Apart from individual exceptions, institutions are set up as an opportunity to be exploited whenever and wherever possible to pursue one's own personal private selfish interests.

One of the many cases of crime and bribery mentioning once again to the pyramid based financial institutions supported by politicians. When they went bankrupt, many



citizens went bankrupt because they had been cheated and that led to the collapse of the ruling political class therefore determining a sort of anarchy which at that time of course warned and pre-occupied the European and International community, in spite of the big progress made, a lot still remains to be done in order to provide and build confidence and loyalty towards the state institution.

In spite of this country is tempted mid-way on the one hand modernity represented by Europe and nostalgic of revival of traditions, unable to choose in a decisive way which of the two paths to be followed.

It is at a crossroads. This phenomenon characterised the Albanian society as a whole and expresses its alleged and real peculiarity. To conclude, should we talk about annex of failure, of a new relationship and agreement between Albania and the European Union. Personally I believe that this Europeanisation process is now more and more needed to make a progress on the standards to be achieved, otherwise many more obstacles might be encountered. The constant necessary for the gradual change of society and achievement of rule of state is not an easy trend followed by Albanians, in spite of the frequent recommendations sent by the EU and the uncertain attempts made by Albanians to build today the Albanian society and politics are characterised by anarchy, by chaos, disorder that has aroused ... the interest of individuals around the community collective society. They are reckless, irresponsible and really stubborn. The codes of conduct and behaviours are a sign of discontinuity as against habits, which for a long time have characterised the history of Albanians, therefore becoming an obstacle to future integration.

In spite of this pessimism, based on the reasons just explained, I think that institutional, international institutions and organisations should focus on Albania and help it, try and understand this reality, which although comparable to others is a specifically different. Such an approach that is much more complex and less politically convenient and correct, might provide undeciphered effects and aspects of the Albanian society, which anyway is full of talents and intelligence that are looking for change. I am convinced that the present “no way out”, this bottleneck should be overcome. This is a true crisis that Albania is still embedded in, but many efforts based on imagination should be made to come out of it. And this is my conclusion. The true problem of the EUSAIR project that we are discussing today should be focused on an effort to be made by the various countries to understand each other. Because as I have already said, not all the various countries are comparable, are the same. There are countries, that rightly or wrongly might be similar, more similar than others but peculiarities, specificities should be borne in mind so that the project can develop along the right track, a favourable track so that help and support can be provided to the countries involved, but especially it might help the countries that are not part of the EU yet and that will become part of it in the future to follow the right tracks of the notion of the rule of law that still today has to be built and is quite lacking at least in a few of them. Thanks for your attention.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you professor for your interesting intervention. So let's conclude this panel with a speech focused on methodological aspects from our common research 'Regional lab' experience. So I leave the floor to Professor Samuele Paganoni.

Samuele Paganoni

So with this speech I'd like to describe what we are working on at the GREP group. Some methodological aspects characterising our research approach, have already been described in Professor Romitelli's speech. In this first phase we are analysing the answers to some questions we asked to some institutions both public and territorial involved in this project, and within this questionnaire aimed at knowing the structural and institutional conditions for the EUSAIR partners. We ordered another session made up of other less technical more general questions, trying to understand the subjectivity with regards to some issues for example, sustainable development territories, multi-level governance, macro-region, political institutional architecture of this macro area. So what we were interested in was, for example in the case of development, the idea of development itself, in a very broader sense.

For our interlocutors and our way of thinking, the relationship between multi-level governance and macro-regional communities. The aim of this analysis is to implement a further questionnaire in detail, to have more interviews in order to build this new reality, to identify this way of thinking which can make possible the constitution of a real macro-regional community. These first outcomes will be made available together with the minutes of this meeting. So now I would shortly introduce the framework for some issues we identified which we believe are particularly interesting.

First of all we asked whether there was something making these answers homogeneous, coming from the subjective issue, not only from the role of those who answer this questionnaire, so this homogeneity is possible in order to constitute a fundamental condition and to build a macro-regional community. And a confirmation of this is the unanimity of the answers of all those interviewed in considering the shared approach necessary in order to act and share actions

One of these subjective homogeneities is identifiable in those interviewed and it deals with the way of conceiving development concept. And we believe that this method is singular and it has a contradictory perspective. This way of thinking translates the concept of development into a shared category a quality of life as a link between people and institutions. This category allows for this relationship. And when the word development is a subjectivized and conceived within a policy-making dimension, the category of quality of life is identifiable, and the fact that through the concept of development, we think about the relationship between institutions and people and this, as a qualitative



category, is not to be taken for granted. Since this relationship and this indicator is an indicator of quality, it is not surprising that the economic space is not central in defining the concept of development. One of these definitions can summarise this problem very well, development is a feeling to be better than yesterday and is the increase of people's access to opportunities and improvement of their quality of life.

The word quality and the word feeling opens a new issue which is different from the economic issue as such. The latter is based on quantitative parameters. Economic science as you may know, deals with quantity, employment rate, increase or decrease in investments, and the qualitative data is linked to a possible social effect, of these choices. Economy has always defined, through quantitative data, the space in which we can establish the relationship between the people and the institution. So the economy is articulated in terms of representational interests and an increase of available welfare, as Adam Smith said.

The situation is completely different if we identify development with the idea in which the relationship between people and government is central and it is decided through quality of life. So how can we translate quality into data? How can we define a feeling? The only possible way can be asking people what they think about the quality of their life?

So this issue highlights a series of problems when our interlocutors link the concept of development to the territory concept. So a new rationality emerges, which reaches decisions through a more economic logic. So in our interlocutors' minds, people and territories are not to be superimposed because they are two different categories. People, through the quality of their life, have development as a range of possibilities, which are not objective as such.

So in our interlocutor's words, a territory is rather the space of a development, which is definable in typical terms of classic economic rationale, which objectifies what is possible. So development is the concept through which our interlocutors explain to themselves the relationship between people and institutions. This relationship can be built in two ways: as a field of a priori possibilities which cannot be objectified, or as a space of objective possibilities which already exist and just need to be expressed. So we need to think about how it is possible to have a new space for a relationship between people and institutions and how we can assess it. In the idea of design for a macro-regional community of our interlocutor's, are these reflections and these contradictions taken into account? This is the question.

Multi-level governance can design a co-existence with its spaces or alternatively a hierarchy, so how can they co-exist? And how can they coexist and how could a hierarchy be designed? These are just some of the questions, which we believe are important, that we would like to address in more depth in the second part of our research. And the answers to these questions will define the definition of the context in which the EUSAIR strategy will take shape. The condition of replicability of an idea, recalling what Professor

Romitelli said before, is the fact that it is reproducible in other contexts, and this context is to be thought of as a place where ideas can be reproduced. So in other words we must organise the context as the place where ideas are designed and we must organise it as a place for thought. And GREP and the Regional Lab are working together in this field and in this direction. Thank you very much for your attention.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you very much. So we conclude the panel. I would like to ask Professor Romitelli if he wants to leave space for debate, if he wants to open the debate and come here, and I leave him the floor.

So the debate is open. In the programme, as you can see, we have active participation of two think tanks, two research groups. The first one is GREP with professor Paganoni and the others are the members of the MIRES Master research group, who are present here today, and they are qualified interlocutors for this debate, which is open to anybody who would like to say something. So I leave the floor to Professor Romitelli.

Valerio Romitelli

So, I would like to take this opportunity to speak Italian. So I would like to say a few words in Italian. I believe that the richness and the importance of these speeches is making us reflect on a very wide range of issues, and these are necessary since, in the light of the complexity of this perspective of building a macro-area which doesn't exist at the moment. So I think that the questions that have been made so far are very, I would say necessary but who is the subject of this macro-area? This is a problem that cannot be avoided just by saying, just by using a very frequently used word, which is 'pluralism'. If we have a project, we have a subject, which is complex, democratic. But we need to think about this. This is a reflection which is necessary.

So there are many different realities involved. The Ionian region has existed for two years, so we start from a subjective dimension with an extraordinary heterogeneous element. And we cannot just speak about good practices and saying that we would just agree on that. And I would broaden the scope of my speech by starting from the most important point, I would say, because there is a project, there is a vision, but who is going to deal with it directly? And this problem emerged in the speech about Albania, but this is obvious due to the different stakeholders involved, the subjects involved, the partners involved and as we have seen for the enquiries, I would say fortunately there are contradictory answers. And we hope that this EUSAIR project will be open and complex as well.

One last reflection: since we have to deal with the new European dimension, we cannot take stock of what Europe has been so far. This is a huge problem that we cannot



simply deal with economy if we speak about the implementation, the extension of the European dimension. And we need to take into account the state of the art, so where are we at the moment? This is a critical, crucial point. That is to say, we deal too much with economy and not too much with politics. And in Europe the point is that we always say 'Europe' was created, starting from the common currency, from the Euro, but policies should have helped this, following an almost unprecedented principle. Well we can find some precedents of this, maybe in Germany, that is to say building a nation on economy and not on politics. In the case of Germany this was obvious because politics was a taboo issue in Germany after 1945. And Europe followed this model. So Germany is the model of Europe, that is to say we start from Europe and then we deal with politics. This brought about a whole series of problems. And it is unanimously recognised that it is a problem.

So in EUSAIR we cannot avoid this problem. We cannot pretend that there are no problems at this level, at a European level. So relationships: who should deal with these relationships? Which political strategies will be implemented, which subjects will be involved because there are no subjects at the moment. We have a plurality of different subjective components, which can constitute a subject in the future, that is a plurality of political ideas. So it would be a mistake just to talk about technical pragmatism. For example let's put in connection these two different realities, when actually realities are completely different and heterogeneous. So making very broad reflections, I think, is particularly important and I would like to do it in a provocative way.

Charalambos Tsardanidis

Thank you, I would like to respond to what you said. First of all, what are we talking about? What you said about which is the subject of a macroregion? We are not talking about regionalism or of creating such a region, we are talking about a strategy, this is completely different.

The region is in the concept of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative.

And on the other hand we have this proposal from the Initiative; because the strategy proposal came from the Initiative, in order to create a strategy in the pattern of the Baltic States and of the Danube Countries.

For me, this is very pragmatist, very functionalist, if I use the words and the approach of my trainees' approach on functionalism. That there are problems, and we would like to solve some of them. And it is not a neo-functional approach just to theorize now, like the neo-functional approach has in their mind of creating a region. And the political union, after the spillover effects, this is not what we're talking about. So, I think that what at this time we need is to have some food for thought, in order to give some stimulus to the negotiations, because there are negotiations taking place, even though they have not the form of negotiations, between the European Commission and the States of the region which participate in the Strategy. In order to have the paper of the Communiqué

of the European Commission, as well the Action Plan, which is being prepared; and this is pragmatism, believe me. This is purely pragmatism: with specific actions and specific projects, which and this is the negotiation which is taking place, in order to define what the priorities will be and what are the needs of the region; in order that everybody will be satisfied.

Because in order to have outcomes from this functionalist approach, and here perhaps the vision is coming; is that all the projects could have added-value for the regions, and improve the transactions, of whatever kind, transportation, energy transactions, students networks, everything. So it is a much more functionalist approach, and what I have heard today is not exactly what I was expecting to hear from the papers; it is more theoretical, I am a theoretician as well, but I would like to have something from a methodological point of view, and from a practical point of view. What are specific proposals, which it is possible to think about, and which might have a specific outcome? Thank you.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you Professor for your reply. I would like to add just a few words, from my point of view.

Just a few comments. Here I speak on behalf as territorial management technician I would say, so I think that there are true aspects, for both aspects and both approaches, because it is true that we need subjects. It is true that at the moment we lack political subjectivity because it is a strategy so it is a political objective made at a European level. But the implementation of the policies at that level is done at a regional level. And public expenditure and practical implementation of these policies is at a regional level. The involvement of the regional level as infra-national regional level is very complex.

You know that for example in Slovenia we have a different institution here, in Italy we have municipalities in provinces. In Bosnia there are at least four different levels with very complex interaction which cannot just be explained as a whole, as a single institution. And we need to take into account all of these points. And from a point of view of a practitioner, in the next 7 years, I will have many ideas, new projects which are not mine, with funds, actually I don't know how much they will be, in order to do things I haven't decided. But I have a very, very specific idea of what my region needs and what is the right thing to do.

This is not a problem about the strategy but about the structure, the 2020 Europe strategy. We all know that at the time there was a spur towards decentralisation, so we wanted to do that in order to recover from the crisis, and I don't want to go too much into detail at the moment, but we do have this complexity because the discussion paper we sent you, in my view, well it made me say, ok: there are many ideas but for example the proposal of the pillars made me think, ok there was no social agenda. And I think this is particularly important.



And why is that? Because the strategic structure is organised through dimensions which are different from the regional dimension. So sorry for being so long. Is there anybody who wants to speak, to say something?

Ok. I'll leave the floor to you. So now we will hear from Andrea Jakova who represents the Scutari region.

Is there anyone else who would like to speak afterwards? Very good!

Andrea Jakova

Good morning. I'm from the Scutari region. I would like to thank all of you for giving me the possibility to understand the ideas about the strategy for future development and for the Adriatic-Ionian policies. This is the subject. This is what links us all. This is what we share and we must not forget this.

On this basis we need to manage this area which is one of the most important ones, as other European organisations did. We founded it. Well in 2006 we founded it in Ancona and there are many initiatives which are at the moment ongoing, towards a shared strategy which is particularly important for us. I would like to go back to Albania, because what we heard from the professor is the existing situation. But we need to understand the context of the time, the way things developed and I would like to start by one specific moment. In Rome there is a monument to Skanderbeg: our national hero. And he is identified as a defender of European civilisation. That's the way we did it. We defended civilisation. And I think this is something that needs to be taken into account. I haven't seen other statues, other monuments for other heroes who have been appointed as European civilisation defenders, since the Middle Ages.

So we go to the moment of Albanism. We didn't hurt anybody and so far, nobody has ever said that Albania had any kind of misunderstanding with other countries. It was just a defense in order to protect values we were about to lose. At the time, at the time of independence 100 years ago, somebody thought that Albania did not exist, and that moment we created those two concepts, to go back to the traditional values, that's why we are here. That's what we are.

Maybe we are one of the oldest civilisations in the area, in Europe. We have always protected freedom, the will to be free to decide together, to respect other people. And we weren't attached that attention by the others. The moment of Albanism was linked to the fact that when we united the country somebody else wanted to fragment it again. But that was just an internal issue, nothing to do with the other issues. So that was just to understand the history and then Communism. This was our destiny, because, as we have said before, as we've said sometimes, the small nation's destinies come as a consequence of big nations' decisions. Albania, after the Communist period, has changed a lot. Albania was created on the basis of a European dream and we are fulfilling this dream. We want to fill this gap, this 50 year gap, in which, during these 50 years, we didn't have a lot

of development. We made many efforts in order to have more and more progress. And hopefully we will conclude this process when the European Commission proposes the ministers to be a candidate member state.

And I would like to go back to the beginning. We founded the Adriatic region. We are very active. And I'm not here on behalf of the whole state but I'm speaking on behalf of the region. We have always been active. We've always been correct. And we have always fulfilled what the European region asked us, six years ago. We created that for other aims, for other goals. Nobody can believe that we can do this alone. Even they are rich even if they are capable of doing so. So we need to learn from our history and try and build new policies, and understand that that area is our own area. We need to share knowledge. We need to stand together, to face to support, to help the development of this area. And we need to bear in mind that Albania will always be a partner for this development. Albania will always be in line with this objective.

I don't want to add anything else. But I think that in the future we will make progress and maybe the Emilia Romagna region can be the proof of what the Scutari region has done so far in the last 20 years. Here we are talking about local development, regional development in the Adriatic Union basin. And we hope that this area, with this strategy can get closer. So I thank you very much for your attention.

Elena Tagliani

I've two contributions here. So I leave the floor to Professor Albert Doja.

Albert Doja

Hello everybody, my name is Albert Doja and I'm a professor of anthropology at the University of Lille, in France.

I am following this forum with much interest; and the idea to construct a macroregional area in Adriatic-Ionian triggered me to participate in this Forum. I am not going to go on to my own speech, which is scheduled for tomorrow, but I'm just trying to discuss some reflections about what we have heard up to now.

One thing that I would like to point out is certainly that we have to construct a macro-regional area which is very heterogeneous, as professor Romitelli stated; this is a very difficult task to achieve, but that is why we are here – to discuss it academically, it is a Universities Forum.

One thing about this heterogeneity to be taken into account, and which has been discussed this morning, actually it has not been discussed, but I want to bring to discussion myself, given what we are discussing here, is the issue of stereotyping, or the issue of the construction of stereotypes.

If you allow me to give some “volks” definition for stereotypes – for me, stereotype



is a lie that we believe in – we know that it is a lie, but we still believe in this lie. This, for me, is the meaning of stereotype. So why do we believe in such a lie? Because we construct it in such a way, as to appear in the light of truth, and in this process we use whatever is good practice in our hand, in order to construct a lie that will be believed.

One way for this process is through academic discourse, for example we can construct a lie to be believed through academic research, however expanded, extensive and intensive it is, and to construct such a lie to be believed, we can use whatever scientific fact in our hand. We will succeed in that, every time, if our task is our own to do that.

Another way of constructing stereotypes is the so-called “fact finding” of things that we believe we know; just an example of these two kinds of discourse construction: the first one for example, we heard of today, in the discussion with Paolo Rago, he was able to convince us that Albanian nationalism, Albanian communism, and all the history of Albania is constructed in such a historical way, as to believe that Albania must be excluded in this Region, because it is not worthy of taking part in the European process or in the EUSAIR process. Another way of doing that, I can recall just a personal experience, when I was invited to Italy for the first time; since we are here in Italy, in Bologna and maybe this is relevant, and I was invited to Florence for the first time 10 or 15 years ago, in a School of Medicine, giving a lecture to people working in healthcare. And at that time, fifteen years ago, we can imagine that the stereotypes about Albanian specificity were very high. I hope it is not the case anymore here in Italy, since things have changed now.

But at that time I listened to very, very bizarre things from the medical personnel, and they asked me, as a specialist, which is how they considered me, to explain why Albanians behave in this way or in that way. The only answer that I gave them, I said “Well, you must be happy to have Albanians to behave in this or in that way, since if you couldn’t have Albanians, you could have still your Neapolitans”. And one of the listeners in the room, after my lecture, came to me and said “You’re right, I am a Neapolitan, and you know I’ve been all the time treated exactly as the Albanians are treated today in Italy, you’re right”.

Then, during our pause to have coffee, we were talking about relationships with my friend Paolo Rago, about relationships between the French and Italians and Paolo said “Well the French consider us Italians, with some condescendence, in other words, they consider us as second-class citizens or people”.

Well, I can reassure you that this is not the case anymore. Things have changed, not because the stereotypes have changed, but because everything is good to point out how Italian are. The problem is that the French are not interested in Italians anymore. There are other people already in place to be stereotyped; so Italians left the scene of stereotyping, just as Neapolitans have left the scene of stereotyping in Italy, to be substituted by the Albanians in Italy or by the Portuguese or other people in France.

So, one thing we must try to tackle seriously is what the processes of stereotyping are,

and to follow what Prof. Romitelli is doing with his group, what we need to do it is not only an ethnography of thinking, but also an ethnography of what we think we are doing. Thank you.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you to you, Professor. Caterina Ghobert is going to speak and then Professor Bianchini.

Caterina Ghobert

Hi. I'm Caterina Ghobert. I'm a MIREES student; so in the programme we were provided with there is an invitation to be provocative, so, basically following the previous intervention, I would like to pose, to inquire you with some kind of spicy question. Basically, we have been talking so far about the perception and prejudice that generally Italians have on Albanians.

My question is: so, we have analyzed up now how prejudices are constructed, why they exist, the history of Albania, but as Professor Tsardanidis said, we must be concrete, we must be pragmatic, and propose some way to project this macroregion; so my question might be ... it is not really a question, it's more a comment. Since we know the ways in which these prejudices are constructed, and since it's well known to everybody that these prejudices are not only focused on Albanians but can be brought to a more general level, there are international, meaning between nations, prejudices among each other, how can we overcome these prejudices? What can the tools be to overcome it, like concrete tools to create a shared view of a cultural macroregional project, trying to overcome these prejudices of Albanians being lazy etc?

Thank you.

Stefano Bianchini

I would like to go back a little bit to the question of governance; because it seems to me that it is a crucial point. I will start with a question that I'd like to raise to prof. Podunavac, because he said at a certain point in his contribution, "without a State there is no citizenship, without citizenship we have no democracy". Well, what is the place of the macroregion within this? Because the macroregion is not a State, it's a strategy, he said at a certain point, it's a strategy, but still the strategy needs to be carried out.

Who is going to carry out the strategy? The European Commission? The Member States? The local administrations? So already here we see that there are some elements that can lead to compatibilities or incompatibilities of a strategy towards the trend that is currently under way: this is renationalization of the domestic policies. This



renationalization of domestic policies is in conflict with a strategy, which is expected to make and to create cross-border, cross-national, transnational cooperation. And in this context, I would like to know: what is our role?

The title of our meeting is Adriatic-Ionian Universities Forum, Universities: we are academics, where is our role in this then? We have to increase the cooperation among the Universities, and we have also to play a role in research and in the activities in this macroregion. Now I would like to raise an issue about legislations. Are national legislations facilitating our job or complicating it? I have the impression that in the last five years they have made much more complication, rather than simplification. It is not easy, the world is getting worse rather than better. Within this context, what can our contribution be, from this point of view, when this governance requires cooperation, like a team of different subjects, rather than different jealous approaches or protections of the competences that should be shared with others.

And in this sense, it seems to me that a strategy, very concretely, requires a relation with the territory, that it seems to me that even the discussion paper does not take into consideration enough. So, from this point of view, some critical voices should be raised by inviting particularly the Member States, because of the role that they are playing in this moment, that functionalism is not any longer the best way to work. By the way, this was already said by Joscha Fischer in 2000, at Humboldt University, when he said that Jean Monnet's approach is over. We need something more.

And if it's politics involved, politics should say something about legislations, to what extension these legislations are compatible with the idea of creating a strategy? Not just a State, but just a strategy, how to implement this strategy? And it seems to me that this is a key question that should be raised by this Forum. Thank you.

SPEAKER FROM THE FLOOR

I just wanted to add to what you said. Namely, it is just not a question of Universities, it's a question about how to include all relevant actors. We have not been speaking of enterprises and economy, which is a key factor in any successful regional cooperation, and we truly have not spoken about the issue of how to include individuals, also citizens; and particularly I would say here that we need to consider the concept of an active and democratic citizenship promoted by the Council of Europe, which no longer is based just on citizenship of single national state, nation state, but actually tries to overcome these differences particularly at local and regional level. And I would just like to add an additional point, also to the issue of the elaboration of strategies, namely so far to a large extent, in establishing political strategies, particularly at the level of the Commission, and the initiative to a large extent was actually the product of bureaucrats at the level of the Commission. They did not truly take into account practical interests of all those actors that have been mentioned, and I would say that they also did not take into account

actually the basis that has already been produced by the researchers and academia in this respect, indicating some of those problems.

Milan Podunavac

May I respond to professor Bianchini? I very much agree with professor Bianchini, I would like to slightly upgrade my kind of arguments as regards the concept of governance; I basically think the concept of governance borrowed from the modernizing theory, theory which is related to the problem of political and democratic consolidation of the post-communist countries. It basically could be understood in two different senses, the first one I stress, it is basically related of the problem of stadtfolk, as I noted, to national territory and to legitimacy of political power.

In this sense, Prof. Bianchini, I stressed the importance of statehood as some kind of precondition for another much narrower meaning of the concept of governance, which means basically capacity building of political institutions, and so on. Statehood, as I understand, is important in two very fundamental senses; first one, statehood is a guarantee of social order, there is no possibility for institutional life, social and political life in the absence of stable institutions – in the absence of order, in the ambient of disorder and lawlessness, but this is something we could approach in the region of western Balkans and South East Europe, the approach some kind I would borrow the term from Professor Bozoki from L.S.E, (London School of Economics), who spoke about limited statehood.

This is the first one. Another one, which seems to me extremely important, is how to build up the political community? Statehood is strongly related to physical and symbolical order of the people who belong to a political community. You know, and basically, statehood is a basis which provides the answer – and this is fundamental for me.

Who is entitled? Who is morally entitled to be a member of a political community? Statehood provides us the answer to two fundamental questions; without which, there is no political community anymore.

5 December 2013 Panel 3

Stefano Bianchini

Good afternoon everyone. We can start right now the afternoon session with two speakers for a joint contribution; they are Professor Miloš Šolaja and Professor Djordje Tomić, both from the Banja Luka University. As you know our panel focuses on the Territorial sustainable development under a macro-regional approach. So, I leave the floor to our colleagues from Banja Luka.



Miloš Šolaja

I have very similar equipment but it's just too close for my taste. I would like, first of all, to give my regards to you, because I'm really glad for this opportunity to be for the first time in Bologna, and to speak to such an audience; and I have, first of all, to thank Mr. Stefano Bianchini, with whom we established a cooperation long ago, and also for the spirit of what happens here, really to bring together so many of us on this topic.

Although this topic has some, maybe, who knows, a prosaic entitlement, I think we can speak about a few things that we have to talk about, principally we need to recognize some basic aspects of this macroregional cooperation. I would like to show you the first map, this is the classical map of the regional division of Europe.

As you see, we have to speak about two different regions, one is Southern-Eastern Europe, which Djordje and I and some other people here belong to, and this is an absolutely different thing compared to Southern Europe, Italy, Greece, Spain, and also, but I'm not sure, Portugal.

There is another map I would like also to show, that is a map of the watersheds of Europe. That is the map which serves as a basis for macroregional organization. We will see, just a little bit later, why I am showing all these maps, in order to think about macroregional cooperation, because there are some maps of macroregional areas, which are proposed to become macroregions in Europe.

An explanation of these maps: this is a map of countries included in macroregion. You know, there are just some little mistakes, because the Danube Region now is nine plus five: nine refers to nine Members of the European Union, and five of them which are not members of the EU, and also the Adriatic Region is four plus three, another just a little mistake because this map was produced before Croatia became an EU member.

And so, we have the question: what are the macroregional strategies? Actually, I'm not so familiar with the Adriatic-Ionian region, and that is the reason why we are here, to try to develop and to define this strategy; maybe before that, an approach to macroregional strategy. Actually, there are Baltic Sea strategies, but these strategies are already ongoing as the first ones in the European Union, and the other one is the new strategy; and here as the Faculty of political sciences and centers for international relations and specific institutions, we took part a few times in the Danube strategy.

The first thing that I would like to stress, in the framework of Adriatic-Ionian region, macroregion and strategy, that do we think enough about identity, cohesion, and goals, in order to achieve some posed goals. As Stefano stressed in his discussion, this is an academia discussion, and we have to define all our approaches; and the cohesion is that, I would like really to open a few questions we need to discuss.

First of all: from the perspective, or from the standing point of southern-eastern Europe: we are here to speak about the strategy in the framework of a new geopolitical reality – geo-political real, actually, isn't going on in Southern Eastern Europe.

In terms of the title of our work, we have to talk about Russia and Turkey. Russia is an increasingly strong player in the region, maybe not as much as the European Union is, or the United States, but its presence is really more visible.

Turkey, just in terms of strategic depth, double Douglas doctrine, is present in our area, and the Balkans is one of the regions which has a goal of an active Turkish approach, an active Turkish policy. Another thing is the United States, which are also on the way to strengthen their approach in there. Just to get back to a few things.

We come from Bosnia Herzegovina; and I know there are divides, but if you can see that the Adriatic and the new macroregion have some sort of common order in the countries we come from.

Now, for us it's very hard to define which macroregion we belong to. Because, as I just said, I personally and my colleagues, we have been to many meetings on the Danube region macroregion, a macroregion which has twelve posed goals, twelve development strategies, for instance we joined point 7 of this strategy, that is education and research strategy, and I have to say that at the moment, that there is, quite interesting, some sort of macroregional functioning fatigue. We didn't start, but fatigue is already present.

And that is the reason we have to think about it.

There are three main principles of macroregional strategies, which are posed in the European Union policy; first of all, before the three principles, it is the developing of the Lisbon Treaty strategies. They are based on the Lisbon Treaty. Those three principles are no new institutions, no new funds, and no new legislation.

Is it possible to define all those regional strategies in such principles? There are the three no's principles and it's quite clear. Another thing is also that we have to define principles for the structure of the EU macroregional strategy. Now, this EU strategy has four pillars; which pillars will they be? Environment, economic infrastructures including energy and transport networks, economy and security, which means soft security related to national disasters, catastrophes and trans-border crime, with local issues; but when we talk about this, I would like to turn your attention to something, which is also actual in international political relations and theory: it is the question of culture.

If you see this map made in December 2001, it is the new cultural division of Europe, I don't think that these policies are backed by anybody; this is more a map about development of European regions, you see this Blue belt, which is called Blue banana, that is the lightest part of the world seen from the satellite, but there are some different things which just warn us – that we have to create development of this strategy. Maybe in this framework we can speak about the famous Huntington division of which goes through the part of the macroregion, and also we think we have to finish with that.

That is generally the four pillars of this. My colleague Djordje Tomić and I, we decided to start to show our position in terms of energy and transportation.

First of all, just an additional map, a colorful map, it is the map of Southern-Eastern



Europe. These different colors are different ethnicities and nations; so, just in framework nationalities, national cultures, national identities we have to deal with this reality.

This reality is still a huge source of instability, insecurity, unfinished statehood, and also unfinished institutions in many countries particularly in the country we come from, this is Bosnia Herzegovina, a small point in Europe. And almost invisible, this image of a vault map, this is also the country which is not so unified, there are two entities – and this is also the country that I wish ... but I think you can understand, which is going to try to catch the new strategy, just thinking of the Sava–Danube channel.

So, this is the end of the viewing of this map, but, just to switch briefly to energy, actually, the Balkans are very poor in terms of energy. First of all, there are not quite enough sources of energy. That is the reason why the Balkans has just been becoming a goal for many energy policies, particularly of so-called critical infrastructures.

Very recently, there was a ceremony to open South Stream, the Russians, but not only Russians, Gazprom is only 50% shareholders, but it's also Italy, France and Germany who own South Stream, there are also ideas about TransAdriatic Pipeline, which should go through Greece, Macedonia, and Albania; there are also many other things, that show that the Balkans is becoming more interesting in terms of European policies, and also in terms of macroregional policies.

But at this moment, I don't see any type of macroregional policy in terms of energy. Energy, actually, that is equal as the policy and politics. Politics mean energy and the opposite; and this is the reason why we have to speak in that framework. In that framework, we have to go to speak about statehood, because, as professor Podunavac stressed and even counted, a line of countries like Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Serbia, even some others, which haven't finished their quality design of constitutions and statehood; that is still a huge game of insecurity and instability in the region and we have to take care of that.

There are also some attempts in the Southern Eastern Europe of building new networks. There was the Regional electricity network created in 2003, and there was also an energy community treaty from the October 2005, as the EU policy – but what is finally- they are not so efficient. Everything usually fails on an inefficient policy and an inefficient design of these political élites to manage such a thing.

We have also a network for regional transportation, initiated in 2004, but there are not enough quality policies, so we have a very poor valid network for transportation and some contribution of the infrastructure to more development of societies.

The reason is, in my opinion, unfinished statehood, there is the question of political élites, and very different political groups, who are not interested in raising a real policy and to pose real objectives, and to clarify their visions and their missions in order to achieve that.

As I see, there would be some more topics to work on after, so I would avoid that question this time, but I think that, first of all, as the region which is very poor

as regards energy sources, which is very light, because of different forces, and damaged infrastructures, during the wars in the Balkans, which is very dependent on different primary sources like oil and gas; so we really need to actively adhere to all types of European Union policies.

This macroregional policy, I call that a 3.0 policy; the predecessors were the first line of policies, regional cooperation – it was at the end of the cold war, and the beginning of war in Former Yugoslavia - 1.0 like Central European initiatives. Afterwards, there was a second wave of regional initiatives, the 2.0, during the nineties, after the date of peace accord was signed, 1995, there was also a different stability pact, and now, we are in the phase of the European enlargement initiatives, one is the stabilization and association process, related only to the western Balkans, which start raising the imagination of the EU especially for SAP process.

And this initiative it's the macroregional initiative. At the moment, my point of view is, that we have to think about possibilities and possible efficiency of this macroregional initiative; particularly in terms of infrastructure. If we approach to neo-liberal type of international environment, that means that we need self-initiative, economy initiative, entrepreneurship, and all other things but States, as gathering in the regional initiatives they have to feel duty to develop different infrastructures.

Just at the end I will make a joke about the transportation; for example to travel to the new macroregion strategy project and here, the only one thing which links all of these strategies is that if you go by plane your flight ticket is covered, if you go by car, your expenses are not covered.

It is up to the bureaucracy of the European Union, because of that international pre-accession IPA assistance instruments, there are many sick truths to put in through the problems of transportation in the region. For instance, if you have to go to come under IPA rules funding from Zagreb to Banja Luka, you'll be better to go from Zagreb to Vienna, and then to proceed from Vienna to Banja Luka; but if you want to go by car from Zagreb to Banja Luka, which is 120 kilometers away, you would not be covered.

There's a question about our position in a huge structure and a huge hierarchy of very strict and strong European bureaucracy.

I'm sure, I'm wondering a little bit, and I think that the enlargement fatigue in European Union and euro-skepticism, can also weigh down our relations to regional cooperation, either Southern Eastern Europe regional initiatives, or to this macroregional one. Because just you know that Bosnia Herzegovina is an Adriatic country, because it shares about 20 km. of Adriatic coast, and officially it is Adriatic, but it is Adriatic also just culturally, historically, it has to be proved that it belongs to that macroregion, because also that Adriatic Sea which somehow shares our relations in the Southern Europe, the Southern Eastern but in particular the Southern Europe.

This is the reason I'm just trying to open up a few questions; we have to think about not only that we have finished strategies as I see, we need really to shape all our strategies,



in order to achieve that very wide posed goals. I will stop at this moment, and I'd like to give the floor to my colleague Djordje Tomić, who will develop a more policy approach.

Djordje Tomić

Thank you Professor, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to start this second part of our presentation, the shorter part, by asking a very obvious question, in fact I love asking the obvious questions, the ones that just aside of the main course of the debate; and this obvious and very basic principle question at this point for me would be why cooperate at all.

Why not just fight and see who gets the upper hand from that approach? There are so many different answers, why we should maybe engage in conflict to maximize our gains, and why on the other hand we should engage in something more cooperative, like we are doing, like we are trying to do today; but, regardless of these many answers to this basic and very obvious question here are two issues that are clearly in our opinion inclined to this cooperation side.

We have transport and energy as very important social, economic and political issues, and it is exactly in those fields that we see how cooperation is not only good, moral but it is inevitable to try constraining transport and energy to some macroregional state, nation state borders. Good luck with that; you can try, and you can do that, but good luck with the results. So, these are the two issues, and they are interconnected and they are, in their very essence, regional, transnational, international, global, in a way. But, first we start from my own yard, and then we'll see what goes global.

Our idea is to connect the very important task of officials of administration, to produce policies and to help conducting those efficient policies in terms of transport and energy efficiency. Although civil society in its entirety should be expected to take part in policy making processes, administration does represent the very nerves and the blood stream of the policy making process. And the capacities of administration are crucial for the efficiency of the policy-making processes, and the policies as such.

And this should be conceived as a mid-term and long-term process, because attention, as you can see, is very easy to be attracted, but the true task is to maintain it. I'm very sorry for this brutal display of the truth, but I really think it true, that the key idea here is to maintain the efficiency of our policies, not just to get them started. In order to do that, we need to have a good administrations, very efficient and capable administrations, who can be bearers of expertise; they can be means of coordination and facilitators of the processes, and sometimes they are the executive leverage of these processes. What are we doing actually?

What should we be doing here? In my opinion, in our opinion, here we should search for sustainable energy sources, and for a less costly transport network. And the importance of capacities of the administration cannot be overstated at this point.

On the other hand, in Bosnia-Herzegovina the administration at all levels, municipal, canton, entity, state, so both sub-state and state, is burdened with problems, deeply rooted problems. The key challenges are its massiveness, its inefficiency, its lack of expertise, depending on some political elites in power, a very destructive formal dependence, lack of accountability, which is very, very important for these processes.

And additional training and transfer of knowledge are needed, in fact, in order to help the capacity building effort in these issues. The reform of administration that we have for five, six years in Bosnia Herzegovina hasn't yielded really tangible results; especially, given the shortcomings of the inner economic and political system of deeply rooted economic problems, and the overall political stalemate, which all burden the entire country right now, at all levels.

So, how to enhance the performance of the administration, and under those terms; well, first of all, we have some key requirements for facing all those challenges, and we are proposing, when it comes to the fields of transport and energy governance, to work on the knowledge, which could be updated, constantly updated and operational at all points, at all moments, at all times.

Secondly, there's the responsibility and accountability building; the development of an attitude, consciousness, and also democratic control of the decision making processes, and of the execution of the policies.

As the third point, we have sustainability, the long-term perspective of the policies, and, last but not least, the environmental awareness, which will be crucial in our transformation.

Before moving to our more concrete proposals, I would like to stress the importance of two nexuses; because we are talking about many different issues here, we have transport as one, we have energy as another one, we have policies, we have administration. Right there, we need to see what goes together, what is inseparable in operationally dealing with these issues. And what is inseparable, is actually this transport – energy - development nexus.

Transport, energy and development are possible to analyze and separate into different elements, of course, but if we're trying to look from a very pragmatic perspective, as we have been reminded previously on the previous panel, we should look practically into what's inseparable in terms of viable and tangible and efficient policies; and the first of those nexuses, of those complex issues is transport – energy – development, because through research we can shed light on exact links between the three issues. How transport and energy and development are actually connected, and that is a task to show in what aspects and under which conditions the three are mutually invigorating?

That is the vital part of this task. And to see how they're interconnected to the extent that can be covered by common policies. So why look for all those small and medium reach tiny policies, that don't answer to these questions totally enough, why not look



into more large and more comprehensive policies, that can cover the nexus, in a more pragmatic way.

The second thing, the second nexus, the second link, there is the policy administration nexus. How to talk about policies, without talking about the administration?

Solutions are expected to impact both the capabilities of the administrative officers, and the effectiveness of the policies, which are been put in place in the fields of transport and energy. In order to do so, we propose four major steps, and those steps would be: one, institutional and network contact between experts, in the more and less developed areas of the macroregion, so we have EU members and we have non-EU members, EU aspirants, we have more developed coastlines, we have neglected hinterland, etc.

We have many division lines here, and we need to go across them, to connect the experts; that's why I was very interested in the perspective opened earlier on the epistemic community. I think it's a very, very important issue to be dealt with.

The second step could be the inclusion of entrepreneurs. The people are bearers of the momentum, of power; people who have the investments at their hand, people who can decide about the flows of money, we can't advance beyond that, we can't advance without their full participation in this. In a way, the entrepreneurs are members of the civic networks, which is wonderful for democratic development, isn't it?

The third step would be encouraging wider civic networks as means of democratic pressure, in as much as they can actually produce higher accountability of the decision makers. And last but not least, the fourth step would be promoting the perception of these issues in a comprehensive way, to foster the concept of the above-mentioned nexuses that I was talking about. Promote them, talk about them publicly, spread awareness that these issues are either to be dealt with together in a larger context, or we cannot expect sustainable and long-term results.

And additional attention in this last step, should be given to networking transparency on the one hand, and up-to-date means of communication in decision-making processes and in the functioning of the administration. Certain mechanisms of benchmarking, of knowledge exchange, and of assistance need to be more deeply established between the more developed and the less developed parts of the macroregion, and, on the other hand, different layers of society need to be integrated in a better way, especially by integrating the private sector and the owners of the economic and political momentum. And to explain to them exactly to the powerful ones sometimes outside the official public policy making processes; why it is rational, not only good, but rational and pragmatic to be a part of these macroregional exchanges. Especially, given the transnational nature of this issues that I mentioned at the start.

I would like to follow this with any questions and comments, they will be most welcome, after these several presentations. Looking forward to your take on these issues. Thank you very much for your attention.

Stefano Bianchini

Thank you to both of you for your stimulating proposal, which for sure is a good basis for discussion; and now it's time to shift to the other speeches, so I'll leave the floor to Professor Emilio Cocco from the University of Teramo.

Emilio Cocco

I'm speaking in English and I'll draw a little bit on what I've just heard, it's fortunately very consistent what I'm saying, but in a way I'll try to bring you a little bit further away from those empirical, and policy-oriented talks, because I'd like to bring you to the sea, so basically right on the sea, as we're talking about the Adriatic.

I'm a sociologist of the environment and the territory, and I'm doing research mostly on regional development, and on this some sort of newly emerging of maritime sociology. So, reflecting about the way social sciences can tackle and discuss the idea of the sea.

Everybody knows probably that the maritime dimension of regional development has become quite popular recently; and there's a lot of talk about things like Blue growth, of like Blue Highways, and this is really part of the policy agendas, not only the EU one, but a little bit everywhere in the world.

The hidden idea behind these agendas is basically that, again, development should be sustainable, so ecology and ecological awareness should go together with economic growth. So, we can really think in a way that we are talking about Blue growth but in a way it's like talking about Green growth, so it's like switching color, but basically it's the same. And in my talk, I'm trying to contest and maybe criticize that approach a little bit, because if we think about Blue growth and blue economy, and regional development from a maritime perspective, only in terms of sustainable development, as if we were on land, actually we're not understanding, you know, all the potentials and risks connected with that.

Particularly on the Adriatic scenario, we can run the risk of ending up with some localized and small-sized vision of the regional development. So, talking about some sort of exclusive zone, the Adriatic space, though transnational zone, that would be eventually nothing more than a courtyard for our States, and for some kind of agreements, but maybe short-sighted agreements, and we don't connect with the larger and I would say, global dimension of development.

Whereas when we're talking about development, we can but be global, that's my talk. And I think that, if we talk about the sea, we have to think globally. There's a figure that usually quoted - it's maybe a kind of anecdote, it's not really scientific, but it gives you the idea of the importance of the maritime dimension of development - 95% of the international trade is run by ships.

And if the international ship-based trade stopped in a couple of days, the whole



western world would be stopped: nothing in the fridge, no fuel, no oil, so when we're talking about the Adriatic we would try to put ourselves in this context. And from the point of view of the social sciences, that means also that there are relevant theoretical, epistemological and methodological implications in the way we approach the empirical evidence of the sea.

So, let me unfold the concept; I'll be abstract, but you know it's useful to understand the type of problems we're talking about. If you talk about the sea, this is not just a medium, but it's really a social space; so it's not used simply by society.

But it's a space of society.

It's connected to experience and practice, in a specific way. This is a perspective particularly popular in human geography, and I will show you that, especially in the last 15 years, there's a new thalassology, especially in U.S., which is really putting the sea and the oceans at the center of every type of talk about globalization.

The perception we have is that usually in social sciences, sociology mostly, but I would say also in history and anthropology, maybe less, but all type of social sciences, are kind of land buyers, so we can think that history, society, is taking place only in land, when we are on solid ground. And when land stops, history, society and everything stops.

And we tend to connect the maritime dimension only to navigation, maybe like warships, big bells, maybe some kind of trade, but there's not specific conception of society at sea. But on the other hand, you know you have experiences, historical experiences, where land and sea are connected. In many places like Mediterranean, historically, Pacific Islands, the Netherlands, so land and water can join and configuring new senses of places.

I think this is important from the Adriatic perspective; trying to understand the Adriatic not just as a medium for communication, but really as a place; a place for social relations. That's my perspective. Usually, we talk about sea and land in terms of binary entities; so, we have land on one side, and the sea on the other one. There are reasons for that, you know, historical reasons, just to quote a historical fact, you know that the idea of sovereignty, territorial sovereignty, which we know we can date maybe generalizing a little bit back to the Westfalia Treaty, is pretty much contemporary of the small book of Gropius about *Mare libero*, freedom of navigation in the sea.

So, the same time we are conceptualizing territorial sovereignty, we are establishing the principle that the seas are free, and basically void, of no one. And you can have it also, it's very important, in works like Thomas More's *Utopia* you know, the island is the perfect place for a state, because you know, it's completely divided by the other things. And the coastline is the perfect border, so land and sea divided, but in fact when you go and you look at the real experience, it's not like this, there are spaces of ambivalences.

And I think you know that sociology, from my point of view, but also other social sciences, they should think about the sea but also of the sea, on the sea, and with the sea.

So, thinking society really in a maritime perspective. Nowadays, we have a lot of theories about the sea and globalization through the sea. I've already mentioned the new

thalassology; and there are lot of images and metaphors, talking about flows, mobility, liquid modernity, the so-called turbulence theories, and I'm quoting now the talk of Pamela Bellenger, the anthropologists, very much into this kind of studies; but as she says, you know that turbulence implied in this paradigm, is usually contesting the idea of a land-based society, by saying that there's a disappearance, the decentralization of society, the territorialization maybe, but there's not really interrogation about what water space is, what is really the sea, and what is the space of the sea, the oceans and liquidity in society.

So it's like ok, what you have a little water, you have the sea, there is no land, but basically it's land of no land, no man's land, nothing like society.

Just to give you some concrete implications of this talk I'm having, about the so-called sea-borne sociology, and sea-borne economics, sea-borne history, taking account of epistemology and possibility offered by thinking - the so-called off-shore.

For example the so-called oceanic understanding of global society, based on the social connections; this model of social connection is very popular in sociology, but in this new thalassology approach is basically brought forward by the famous book by Purcell *The connectivity of the Mediterranean, The corrupted sea*, the famous book bringing up the idea of the Mediterranean as a space of social connections.

And that's usually branded as a template of global society, so global society is a place of connectivity, and this is also a model that permeates very much new liberal ideology, and the way contemporary capitalism is made. For instance, we can turn the sea and the oceans into real commodities, we can put them into a neo-liberalized concept of nature, based on a selected anthology, so the sea can be an object of co -modification, can be appropriated, can be taken, can be partitioned, can be entered into sovereignty, can become a private property, can be sold, can be given, and that's possible through the indeterminacy of nature, which is like a leitmotiv of new liberal ideologies.

Now, given a glance of how this ownership and stewardship of the environment happens on the sea, this is like a synthesis of the way nature, according to sovereignty, is organized, and basing on the Montego Bay Convention of the sea in 1982, we have principle of territorial sovereignties, that is applicable to the water column so-called territorial sea, and the sea-bed and subsoil, which is like convertible into land. Like if it was, like land of the state, up to twelve nautical miles. Then 24 nautical miles and NM is nautical miles, we have the principle of freedom of the higher seas already, so the sea should be free to navigation, but the water column can be considered as a contiguous zone, as well as subsoil continental shelf; that opens us possibilities, for like explorations, scientific research, extraction of oil, gas, and there are economic and ecological concerns, very often mixed up, and if you extend to two hundred nautical miles, the water column can be turned in an economic exclusive zone, and the seabed and the subsoil again in continental shelf.

Freedom of the high seas is still applicable here, but there are different interpretations



about the way this freedom of navigation can be interpreted; if you are conducting scientific exploration, for instance, you should be allowed to do it, but any sort of scientific exploration is having as a result the possibility to extract gas, or oil, and you're like serving a private interest of a company, likely your ships have a flag, but it's owned by another company, that is based on another State, we've also those problems, which are legal, but also serious deontological implications of what is happening.

The high seas actually happen from 350 nautical miles to the really deep sea; interestingly, when you are really on the high sea, the principle applicable to the high sea is the one of common heritage of mankind, the seabed and subsoil is called "the area", the area that is something that doesn't belong to anyone, but – because it's doesn't belong to anyone, it's very difficult to govern and to protect it, as well. So, actually, no one can control what's going on in the high sea.

There are attempts and trials by different countries, with different interpretations about who has the right to give some rules and protection to the deep oceans, to the "big deep blue" out there; some countries are more for the U.N. approach, others are for the complete freedom of the high sea.

And this is just giving an idea about when we're talking about water, seas, oceans, it is not talking about the land, it's talking about a different type of nature, with different types of concepts of nature. Historically and culturally, I would say, there are different ways to approach the sea; Philip Steinberg, in his book "Social construction of the ocean", is distinguishing two ideal types: the Micronesian one, and the Deep sea as a territory. It's really a place, it's providing space, is structured by numerous specific places, giving resources, it is really like the land.

In the Indian Ocean model, on the other hand, we have the sea as a source of imported goods; but that is no one's space; it is outside society.

Right so, it's a space that doesn't belong to society. It's like "the others", it is completely "other".

So, it's immune from State power, an unknown territory, and that's why, even today, countries of the sub-continent of India, they tend to extend as much as possible their territorial sea, because there's no conception of the ocean as a part of the sea, which stays within a state, so either it's like a traditional territorial state, in the water within the territorial border, or it's outside.

The model of approach which according to Steinberg, is based on the Mediterranean ocean, is that the ocean sea is constructed by ambivalent notion of place and non-place. This is a typical Mediterranean vision of the sea. It's part of society, but the same is outside the polis; and that's the Mediterranean.

And that modern Mediterranean, according to Steinberg, is what is actually shaping the model of the ocean, as today. So, the sea is both in and out, it's something that belongs to us, because we can navigate it, we can use it as a place to project our power, our stewardship through other territories. And that is, you know the old stories about

the explorations, colonization, but at the same time, it should be kept outside; now, the question is: where is the border between inside and outside?

So, where does the state power stop, and where does the immunity from the state power start? There are areas of ambivalence. And I think that the Adriatic Sea, from an Adriatic perspective, is exactly in this point of ambivalence. It's a kind of semi-land locked sea, there's a kind of a lake in the way but on the other hand - you know - it's truly part of the Mediterranean ocean.

When Croatia tried to make the Economic Exclusive Zone into the Adriatic Sea, there were strong criticisms and reactions from Italy and Slovenia, because you know, the Adriatic Sea cannot be turned into a lake, cannot be partitioned. So some sort of international water should be there.

It's both as an object of partition, so a territorial sea, but it also a stage for integration: the Conference of Ancona in the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative, even the macroregional strategy is running on this notion of connecting and integrating, establishing new relations through the Adriatic.

But at the same time, we are witnessing a number of macro-conflicts, basically involving all the countries of the Adriatic, from the Gulf of Piran to the Neum question about the bridge, or Prevlaka which is now settled, but you know it used to be a conflict; and even Greece and Albania, I've been learning recently from our colleague Paolo Rago, there's also issue on maritime borders there, so the way new states try to incorporate the sea - and also use the sea - to go out, in order to get another perspective, is producing maybe an ambivalence that is not like leaving things stuck, but you know, is producing a new type of appropriation, of privatization, like incorporation into public concept.

So, I think, when we're talking about the Adriatic space, that we have a multiple conceptualization, by multiple actors. We have a bottom-up cooperation history, involving towns, cities, regions, provinces, new states, old states, so it's very rich, very dense. But rarely it's like seaborne. Usually, it's like a vision of the Adriatic from the coast; very unlikely to meet something as an Adriatic sea thought off-shore, from the point of view of the off-shore.

Maybe you know leisure activities, you know, the ones sailing the Adriatic for pleasure, they can have such a view, maybe the seamen, they can talk about the Adriatic as something which really belongs to no one country, but to all countries, but I think that one of the hardship, like missing point of the present day's cooperation initiatives, is exactly this weakness in thinking of the sea, as a space from the sea.

Thinking the Adriatic off-shore, so trying to get out of the land-based approach. Now, just to conclude, I think that this seaborne approach to the Adriatic could be concretely performed through this threefold relationship I call it: so, first, the sea-land intermodal logistics, there's a big issue in the Adriatic about mobility, so move the Adriatic and move in the Adriatic. It's not about only moving people and goods, it's about moving everything: moving ideas, moving investments, it's about making this space as a space of



mobility, because now is stuck. Even compared to 20 years ago, there's much less mobility than before, from many points of view.

If you look at the schedule of ferries, if you look at the way places are connected by airplanes, if you look at the way ports are cooperating, probably at the time of Yugoslavia – Italy and Yugoslavia they were having more frequent exchanges than now. So, it's a matter of envisaging and thinking about a new way to create a logistic base in the Adriatic.

Then, you have like a second dimension of the relationship, it's about protecting the Adriatic; so critical infrastructures, think about ports, think about ships, if you have an oil spill in the Adriatic Sea, it's going to be a disaster. Because the Adriatic is really like a shallow sea which is almost closed. So, sea protection initiatives, in terms of cooperation, actions against climate change should be coordinated, and so on and so forth.

Everything is connected with the safety culture. And thirdly, the energy policies.

The oil, oil carrier, ships, but also pipelines, LGM terminals for conversion of gas, this is an important asset of the Adriatic. And as well, it has implications both in terms of logistics, and protection of critical infrastructures. So, I think that if we put these three dimensions together, and if we think about them altogether, we can witness some sort of emerging – I call it relational material context. The Adriatic is emerging, you can see that, you can see it in terms of material assets but also relational, social relations.

So, in a way, through this Adriatic-Ionian macroregional strategy, we can possibly try to re-continentalize Europe, from a Mediterranean perspective. The example in the making is the Arctic Canada, even the concept about re-continentalization comes from that experience.

The melting of the Arctic ice in the North-West is opening up the North-West passage to ships, and this has been the starting point of a new way to conceive the Canadian Coast and to conceive the nation of Canada, the Canadian sub-continent itself, through the emergence of a new relational material context. And so we have to think from the sea to re-continentalize Europe, because in this moment we are really thinking about the Adriatic from the continental perspective; we are thinking the Adriatic from the land.

And this is more and more a periphery, it's as though it has drained progressively towards the European center, and everything, from logistics to infrastructure, to energy, is moving up behind the hubs towards the Danube area.

But the Adriatic is a maritime space so we have to think about it as a maritime space; open to the Mediterranean, and we have to try to think it offshore. So, that's my provocative suggestion to follow your question, I'll stop here, thank for your attention.

Stefano Bianchini

Thank you Professor Cocco who raised a key point because we have discussed a lot

about the macroregion but we forgot the sea and the sea is one of the key points, because the macroregion is all around the sea, but the sea it still exists. And I think in particular what you have said by speaking theoretically about globalization through the sea is one key point. Are our seas, the two seas, the Adriatic and the Ionian, a vehicle for increasing the globalization of the region and how can this be managed? I think this can be a good point to be discussed.

So now I ask Professor Luljeta Minxhosi, who is the Dean of the Faculty of Economics of the European University of Tirana to take the floor, to join this panel, in such a way that we can complete our picture by focusing on entrepreneurship in a regional perspective.

Luljeta Minxhozi

I beg your pardon, because you have to sail back and to anchor your ship on land; we are back to the economic issues, I'm an economist, so I will share with you my point of view, from the perspective of the Balkan countries, in this new initiative. So, I will try to find some economics behind this initiative on the macroregion, the Ionian and Adriatic Region.

Countries like our countries in the Balkans, they have lots of peculiarities, our colleague Rago made some points on Albania, but you can find these peculiarities all over the countries in the way how they are composed, in the way they have developed historically, in the way they have formed their societies and the Governments; there are so many peculiarities, but all of us, in these last 10 years, we have found a common perspective. So, all of us want to implement market economy rules, we have implemented and we're trying to implement democratic institutions, so the perspective is more in common than on division.

So this initiative like this Adriatic-Ionian macroregion is a good point to enforce and to increase the way our countries are looking to the European perspective, not directly, but through common initiatives. So, what I would like to stress for the future of our countries, is that we're trying to create an entrepreneurship society.

This entrepreneurship society is very important for our regions, and for our countries, because we are all small markets. And we as separate and individual countries with these small and limited markets, we are facing a big challenge. How can we survive in this severe, cruel sometimes, global economy?

We have to develop this entrepreneurial society, which is a society based on empowering individuals, on ethical businesses, on fair governments and an active civil society. So, it's quite a broad target that we are aiming at. But, let's start going through this initiative, by starting from some simple channels of collaboration. I would like to mention that cooperation is very important among our countries, in order to benefit the best from big projects of the EU, because through this cooperation our countries could



find some common objectives, and also can get to know, and can recognize each other – and also can provide more equal, not equal, but let's say comparable societies.

In the frame of one of the pillars of the initiative, which is this action, cooperation is very important. But, until now this very vast and multidimensional issue of this cooperation in our country has been more seen from a top-down approach; so, it has been until now fields of work or conferences, or dialogues of governments, governmental bodies, with which they have tried to reconcile amongst the countries, to find some common words of discussion. But still it is at very top level; without going and distributing its effects in the units of society.

So, my approach is to reinforce a bottom-up approach, so starting from the entrepreneurs, starting from the businesses, creating a good climate for the businesses in the region; and through this process of building a common business attitude, the best business environment in the region, business can be more profitable and society can have more benefits from the partnership in this initiative; the actual initiative that we are discussing is more based on the regional basis, on the power of the regional and local governments. So, in our countries, this is very important, to increase the power and the decision making of these local bodies, in order to give more impetus and to foster the business environment and to foster entrepreneurship in our countries.

What we are lacking actually, is the lack not only of trust, but of communication in our economic activities. I would like to emphasize some of the indicators, which in the future might be very important to be reconsidered in economic cooperation in the region, in order to maximize the benefits from the membership in other activities, European activities or activities broader than the European ones.

First of all, is the actual level of competition in the region; most of the countries in the region have implemented policies to remove administrative barriers, to regulate licensing processes, and to open up the procedures for business. But there are so many actions still to be considered. Most of our countries are institutionally closed to the so-called labor market; so the mobility of labor, the recognition of diplomas, the links between Universities, the connection between research studies are very weak.

So, in this sense, the level of competition is very different in each of our member countries. So, productivity of labor is quite different from one country to another, and this is reflected in the level of wages, in the level of prices, so this makes our trade a little bit difficult.

The second big problem that our countries are facing is the level of infrastructures. Not only the infrastructures in terms of road building and railways, part of which has deteriorated because of the last development in the recent decades in the region, but even now, with the new infrastructure, there are not any agreements, regional agreements, in order to facilitate the mobility of information and to cut the costs and to make this opportunity for good business and for information exchange more available for every business in the whole region.

So, what we need is to increase accessibility and quality of telecommunications through the liberalization of telecommunication markets, and to extend the number of providers, to make full reform of the energy sector, in order to provide coordination in the regional energy market, to further improve the regulation aspects in the water sector; to increase accessibility to water and distribution together with also pricing reform and the adjustment of prices because of the structural reforms and structural changes in the sector. Modernization of customs administration, institutional reforms in the customs services, simplification of the customs system and building adequate border facilities, in order to improve the exchange of information, but also to improve the exchange of goods and services in the region.

The third direction we have to cooperate on for a better economic future is, I think, financial transparency; some of the countries in the region have adopted international accounting systems in financial auditing and most of the entrepreneurs in Albania, but also in the region are still trying to do this. But there are a lot of weak results in the whole region, regarding this financial transparency. For example, corporate information is very limited, and the data on financial reports are published only under pressure – not released immediately and periodically. Independent external audit is not available; and adequate information should be taken, in order to spread information to all stakeholders of the entrepreneurial business.

Legal frameworks, especially in some of the countries, and international transparency standards are rather poor. Banks and the whole financial system are not very widely developed – banks are not financing long-term businesses, so most of businesses now, also in the aftermath of the global economic crisis, they are shrinking, because of the lack of financial sources to extend their business activities.

Also, tradability of the vouchers in the secondary market is very much underdeveloped and is only occasionally operated in the region. The fourth big barrier that we have to face, in order to have a good entrepreneurial economy, is the way businesses face disputes and the resolution of disputes. Even though there is a good legal framework in most of the South-Eastern European countries, still there is a big problem regarding property rights, integrity of contracts and the execution of the contracts.

So, many relevant institutions in the legal system are limited because they have very long procedures for making the decisions of the Courts, and some of the decisions of the Courts are not fully independent from politics and other sources of pressure, and their decisions are very, very difficult to be implemented.

Alternative administrative channels, such as administrative courts, or the process of mediation and arbitration, are very much underdeveloped, so businesses have to pass through very difficult procedures – through civil courts, and this means for the businesses a lot of money, a lack of transparency and bad judgment from these legal courts.

The regulation system for property, especially land, is also a good direction that these countries have to work on, in order to resolve these big problems; because in their past, all



the countries have had problems with property law and distribution of land; so in most of the countries of the South-Eastern Europe the land market and property rights are not well developed. So this is connected with the way the financial system also is developed.

So, what am I proposing in the frame of this initiative? What we might do? First of all, we have to share information, so we have to know each other institutionally, and we have to know each other structurally, in terms of economic structure, so we have to share information in order to try the best, to try to get benefits from each other.

Another problem could be the simplification of the juridical process, in order to increase the transfer, not only of goods and services, but also the transfer of capital, the transfer of entrepreneurial ideas, where now the region is very limited, because of different juridical procedures that every country is facing. And the last probably is the need to harmonize at least the procedures of the administrative courts.

For me, an ideal would be a regional administrative court in order to manage disputes more simply, which are very common in business and to reinforce and make contracts between the countries easier.

Thank you.

Stefano Bianchini

Thank you so much for this contribution, which I can describe as very sound. All of you have proposed such a stimulating set of ideas, and I think that now we can rest a while and enjoy a coffee together. We have 15 minutes available for that.

5 December 2013 Panel 4

Stefano Bianchini

Can we start?

I invite here the Professor Giovanni Bertin from the University Cà Foscari of Venice, to take the floor.

Giovanni Bertin

I would like to use the translation and speak in Italian. For those of you who need to follow my speech in English, I would like to talk about welfare. My basic assumption of my talk is that welfare is an infrastructure for territorial and local development just like any other type of infrastructure that deserves a special attention. When we talk about welfare, in this case, we imagine all the policies that concern the pension system, the welfare system and health care.

My presentation focuses on four main aspects.

My first consideration concerns the hypothesis that welfare is a factor of local development. I will try to highlight the relationships between these aspects. In the second part of my presentation, I will dwell on some evidence of welfare systems at a macroregional level in the countries belonging to the Adriatic-Ionian area. The third aspect deals with the changes in the welfare systems. Indeed, in the whole Europe a process of profound transformation is taking place and these changes can also be seen for some of the countries as an opportunity. Finally, I will conclude with some paths that could be followed to orient the “new welfare”.

I will use some comparative studies in order to support my argument and because from that point of view Italy is an interesting think tank and case study from this point of view. Differences concerning welfare systems in the Italian regions are probably greater than those between the other member states of the European Union. This situation is obviously a problem, but it is also the reason why Italy proves useful as an interesting case study to investigate.

Welfare systems have been analysed from a national perspective with special attention given to structural dynamics and to the socio-economic processes.

Table 1 (*for Tables please see the attached slides*) highlights a correlation between the wealth produced from a region and the evolution of its welfare systems. The research shows that the level of social protection is connected neither with the diffusion of social risks, nor with the political affiliation of the Committees operating in the regions, but it depends on two essential factors: the production of wealth and the social cohesion. In particular, the indicator we used represents the social capital.

Moreover, it should be noted that the relationship between welfare and development is normally studied by supposing that the variable of economic development is the cause that explains the different development of welfare systems.

However, we worked on a different hypothesis, according to which there is a circular relationship that connects welfare, economy and society and therefore welfare development is a trigger, a multiplier of other variables, which contribute to the development of the various territories.

The research I am now illustrating, which was carried out in collaboration with WHO, enabled us to identify the variables that lie between the policy development and the local development and contribute to increasing the development. These variables can be ascribed to the social capital, at the health care level and capability level. (Please note A. Sen works). These three variables are affected by the policies and affect local development.

Before analysing the reason for this and recognising all these interconnections, a brief definition of “social capital” is necessary. This is one of the most recurrent terms,



most used by political analysts, sociologies and economists in the last few years, even though it has been employed with rather different meanings.

Here, we make reference both to the so-called “primary social capital”, that is the product of primary relations network, and to the so-called “generalized social capital”, which concerns the legitimisation of the State, the identity of individual people, solidarity among subjects, not just the solidarity expressed in primary or family relations.

Literature regarding this topic (development and social capital) is quite rich and points out that healthier people are also more productive at work and rarely absent from work, they retire later, they have an inclination to invest in training for their future and in order to be prepared to face ageing process.

A meaningful outcome is the effect produced by social capital on the development, the growth of social capital. In particular, people who live in contexts characterized by a high social capital are seen to be more able to manage and face risks, and consequently are more likely to accept entrepreneurial risk. Thus, from this perspective, they are more inclined to business initiative and accept to take on responsibility in their life.

The other important element is that the social capital networks facilitate information exchange and, in so doing, help the innovation development.

Nonetheless, not all the public and private policies produce social capital. From that point of view research is quite widespread. Some of them consume social capital while others produce it. All the policies that focus on the consolidation of family networks and on the reduction of inequalities contribute to strengthening and increasing social capital. Social capital is also enhanced by processes of network-governance involving individuals and third sector associations and organizations in the creation of welfare systems.

Whereas bureaucratic processes, the emphasis on external control and on coercive dynamics, as well as dynamics producing inequalities, lead to reduce and destroy social capital. With regard to welfare policies of course an important role is that of empowerment development, which means to enable the citizen to become aware of and manage his/her own critical condition.

The second aspect I would like to deal with takes into account examples of welfare systems peculiarities in the regions of the area under discussion. To bring about this analysis means to face the difficult task of finding information. To obtain information that can be compared in these geographical areas is not so easy. Indeed, only few characteristics enable a comparison among all the countries of the area discussed here.

These outputs underline higher social risks in the Adriatic-Ionian region than in the other European countries, and this gap is widening and distances and differences are getting larger. This is certainly due to unemployment, but also to other indicators concerning health care. In this regard, we can consider the “health outcomes” indicator, which includes all the types of death causes, such as cancer, problems of cardio-circulatory system, etc.

It must be noted that countries within the macroregion show rather worse conditions than the country with the best condition, i.e. the Netherlands. It ranges from the outputs of Italy, 20% worse than the Netherlands, to other countries, such as Albania or Serbia, showing 55% worse condition than the best European rate.

Another condition that worsens regards life expectancy, estimated at around 65 years old, or the child mortality rate. Then, if we analyse health care system – the indicator I am considering is based on customer index of the European health care systems – and focus on the rank order, it is evident that Albania ranks 29 (out of 34 countries), Serbia 34, Italy 21 and Slovenia 19, so we rank low in this classification.

Italy, for instance, lost 6 positions in the European ranking of health care systems, between 2009 and 2011.

Moreover, these countries are in different situations. An example of these differences can be found comparing the whole social expense.

The graphs of **table 2** compare the countries from the point of view of their expenses, as an incidence on the GDP and per capita. If we compare the data of per capita incidence, that is, how many resources the State allots for every citizen, for these policies, it is evident that the distance from the mean value in the 28 countries is very high. Italy, for example, spends on average the same or even a little more than the European average, whereas countries such as Croatia and Serbia spend much less for social protection per head. Besides these differences among the countries, there are other important differences within every single country.

A classification work of the welfare systems of the Italian regions highlighted 7 different welfare models. Some of the indicators that were considered show very marked differences (even 20 times higher). The areas of the regions on the Adriatic Sea that have a better-developed welfare include Friuli, Veneto and Emilia-Romagna. These regions are very similar, even though they have had very different political histories. In a more difficult situation are the regions with the highest criticality and the least social protection level: these are Apulia, Calabria, Campania and Sicily in the South, so big differences exist even within the same State.

To sum up, from the analysis of welfare systems, the Adriatic-Ionian area is characterized, in the European framework, by a relatively lower level of social protection. As said in my premise, this condition represents an element of weakness for the economic and social development in these territories.

In conclusion, I would like to make two comments on the changes in welfare systems in the rest of European countries. My first observation deals with risk factors and the crisis of welfare systems; the second one regards the keywords and new pathways that are orientating their re-organization.

As far as the crisis factors are concerned, it must be noted that in welfare systems there are inner factors of crisis and other reasons that are due to societal changes and to the shift towards a post-industrial and post-modern society.



Among the inner factors we remember the effect of bureaucratization, which the system has undergone, and its inability to narrow down social inequalities. Indeed, the analysis on the effects of welfare systems stresses their overall improvement in the population's quality of life, but they have not reduced inequalities. Social inequalities remain even in those countries with better welfare systems. Finally, we observe an increasing distance between the supply and demand regarding needs of the citizens on the one hand and the allocated and available resources on the other.

The other fundamental element is that social protection needs are in a process of radical change. Welfare systems were established at the beginning of the last century, as a consequence of the risks originating in the Industrial Revolution and to the creation of large cities.

Nowadays we observe a deep change in economic systems and social dynamics, which leads to new demands and new social needs. The effect of this change is a growing discrepancy between the requests for social protection and the features at the very base of our welfare systems that were established in the past. This is an important issue because, maybe, and this is a personal view, a provocative statement, the countries with less developed welfare systems have also fewer invested structured resources.

The launch of a growing phase connected with post-modernity could be an opportunity to build welfare systems that are different from the very beginning; hence they would be more likely to face the risks of the present society. Countries like Italy, or partly Greece, that have a more structured and consolidated average welfare cost, are facing a change without new resources to offer for the new policies. Therefore they have to rebalance social protection among the different targets and populations, which is often even more complicated.

The keywords related to the new welfare systems that are being created are the following: more balanced; more mixed – that is, with both public and private partnerships involved and oriented to developing citizens' responsibility and involvement; the new welfare systems should be more sustainable, more inclusive and fairer and more active.

In particular they have to be:

- More balanced with regard to old and new needs, old and new social protection needs, more focused on social protection logic; more careful about capabilities development and the ability of the individuals to play a fundamental role in this process.
- Fairer. In **table 3 I** classified European countries with relation to Gini index – index of inequalities in the population income – concerning the years between 2005 and 2011. It is extremely interesting the fact that all the countries are distributed along the horizontal axis; this means that changes are really marginal, changes related to welfare systems. Inequalities remain as they were before. The only exception being two countries: Norway, which lowered inequalities, and Bulgaria, where inequalities increased enormously.

I will complete my discussion with a comment on social innovation. I think that by introducing this concept, European Commission has suggested an important keyword that can imply many meanings. I tried to figure out some elements that could suit this definition. We should take up what said earlier with regard to the policies that can consolidate systems of relations among individuals; narrow down inequalities; create social cohesion; encourage third sector involvement and active participation; develop empowerment.

The central issue that needs to be faced are the policies that are more and more complex and require integration. Workshops, discussions and comparisons – such as we are doing today – of different perspectives are very useful and I think they should be carried out at local level.

Territorial dimension becomes the centre of the policies administration processes. Thus, if we think about primary care in a hospital, healthcare, empowerment, not a replacement of competences; if we consider suffering individuals, promotion of health and prevention, rather than cure. All these aspects are essential and should characterize the development of new welfare systems.

To conclude, I want to point out that the crisis should be seen as an opportunity and should be dealt with carefully, avoiding tackling it only from an economical point of view or thinking about the shortage of resources. Otherwise a vicious circle could be triggered: lower GDP implies lower welfare investment, which leads to a lower development, and, consequently, to a further decrease of GDP.

I believe that now the challenge is to be able to keep policies balanced, in order to eliminate the risk of such a vicious circle, creating a virtuous circle instead so that can enhance our development capabilities.

Thank you.

Stefano Bianchini

Thank you prof. Bertin for your valuable contribution, now I'm giving the floor to Dorian Jano, who is lecturer at the Marin Barleti University in Tirana and Director of the Public Institute of Foreign (Public) Affairs, as well as a MIREES alumnus.

Dorian Jano

Thank you Prof. Bianchini, thank you for the invitation.

My topic for the today's discussion will be on what can be called "latent interest group". Today we have talked about the role that the government should play in all this regional, macro-regional initiatives, and also on what business can do to empower this regional cooperation.

I would like to focus on the importance of the civil society. I mean, my interest here



is on what I called latent interest groups; it's all civil society that express an interest, a general public interest, rather than having a private interest.

If we consider all the transformation that has happened in this region, after 20 years of the fall of the socialist period, we find ourselves to have developed a pluralist interest representation and governance, although, this has to be discussed to what extent. My initial point of comparison to the idea of macroregional Adriatic and Ionian will be focused more on the experience that the countries of the Western Balkans have towards EU integration.

That will be the point of reference during all my talk. If we consider the civil society on one hand, and the process of EU integration, we can see an interdependence between the two. At first, Commission has its interest in getting all latent interest groups and civil society involved, to make its policies more efficient and based to the public, and on the other hand, it is in the interest of these civil society groups to have their policy ideas pushed forward. But when it comes to the major issue of which interests, which groups are more represented, we find an asymmetry concerning, let's say, the representation of the business interest groups and civil society is left apart. I will try to give some explanation of why it is so.

Given the experience of EU integration we have to see the way forward that EU integration has made to these groups for having their policy ideas pushed forward. And I name a number of mechanisms that work; on the one hand, you have the EU conditionalities, and that is how all the civil societies can represent and have their policy options improved towards a certain sector.

Another mechanism is all these instruments that we have talked about before, instruments of pre-accession, where the civil society gets some financial support to advocate their idea. Beside all these tangible instruments, we mustn't forget also the cognitive side of the coin; like, all the networking that NGOs and latent groups are doing among themselves also at EU forums. What I want to stress now it's that when it comes to the essence and the numbers, we see that civil society is not represented proportionally, and not just numerically but also politically, in these forums that may be of the European scale.

So, now I want to turn to some of the main factors, that maybe advantageous or disadvantageous of these kinds of macroregional forums. And I have identified and grouped them in three main pillars: the first one, concerning the inner characteristics of those civil society, or latent interest groups; the second pillar may be, if we consider all the external environment; and then, there should be also another pillar to discuss, which regards the sector that we are talking about.

So, if we talk about the inner conditions of the civil society today, in the Western Balkans, we find that there is a lack of resources. And this can be found in many ways: resources like financial resources to represent their interest, having policy information

about the topic or the sector that they are interested in, and all of this makes them lag behind involvement in such forum, meaning on the decision making processes.

The few things that have been done, because we have to admit that the civil society in the Western Balkans has done some points forwards, and this is due to the expertise of individuals that we're talking about, not on the ground of a real civil society group, based on membership; most of the things that have been done in the region are due to some targeted-projects targeted, and that's to be discussed, because it may influence also the policy outcomes of these results. We talked about the Western Balkans, that cannot be considered as a whole, and in this respect we have to see that the groups, or the latent interest groups can profit more are the ones that are bigger in size.

Still we have to consider that the interest of some of the small groups, maybe involved in this bigger umbrella, that can be regionally, is that they could be represented in some way or another, so there is a two-side effect of the influence that they may have.

But most of the civil societies, if we talk about the biggest number, most of them join just for short-term outcomes, that is, like in a project involvement. And that makes a very critical point of where the civil society today in the region is going. But what is an advantage point, also in engagement in this regional initiative, it's the point that most of the time the latent interest groups or the civil society has gained power in the domestic decision-making, by joining more European or, let's say, broader organizations. And that's a way how the civil society has found to influence the domestic policies; although, some of the criteria of the EU is the 'real' involvement of the civil society in the domestic policy making, we find that most of these are just formal and done on papers – but they do not have a real outcome on the policy that is brought forward.

Most of the time, the programmes that the EU has applied have been a kind of motivation for all these actors, and the stimulus that the civil society has got in this region. What can be discussable is how sustainable these initiatives may be.

Another, or a third factor that we have to consider, when we talk about the involvement of the interest groups, is related to the sectors. Not all the sectors, as we have seen today have same interest. And that's the point to be discussed, when we talk regionally, like which groups and which sectors have to be involved in a certain kind of strategy.

And if we can consider the trends which are going on in the European Union, we see that many of the priorities that are put in this regional agenda sometimes do not fit the needs of the Countries. So, that may make also another difficulty on, let's say, the general macro-regional agenda; for example, can we talk of agriculture as a priority of some of the Western Balkans Countries? In fact, the priorities may be others, such as education and health. So, this is also a point to be looked at.

I will try to give some graphs on the idea of civil society. Beside the many differences the region has, or the way civil societies are organized in those countries; still, we can see pretty much that interest group representation remains on the same level. An exception



may be Croatia, but if we see the other countries we may say that, pretty much, they face the same situation, or even if we talk about one country, we may see that we do not find the same kind of performance or growth in their performance.

These are some other indicators, to give the idea of the non-sustainability of the evolution of the civil society in the Western Balkan countries. And now I will just point to one specific example of how Albania is doing, with regard to civil society engagement in the EU enlargement process. I have taken all the progress reports from 2002 till 2012, and then, if we make a kind of calculation about how the EU has evaluated the involvement of this, of the Albanian civil society in the domestic policy making, we don't see a sustainable trend; and I like to call it like a dance, 'one step forward and two steps back'.

But, this is just an example that sometimes goes against the idea of having a general involvement of all the stakeholders for the same sectors. I think the opposite or the "pro" idea of this kind of cooperation would be an exchange of experience also among the countries of the Western Balkans.

For example, if we consider Montenegro, which has done pretty well on the steps of integration, it is a point that we should not forget, about 30% - or one third - of the negotiation team comes from the civil society. So here I can confirm the idea of my colleague, who said that civil society in this respect could be an addition to the resource of the State capacity, let's say administration capacities of those countries. This is to be taken into consideration.

So, if we can make some concluding remarks about the role of the civil society in regional cooperation, I think, to be also provocative, we have to see all the roles that civil society should have in this kind of Forum. Usually, the civil society has been the one that has implemented some ideas or some strategies – but I think that it is time that also for the Western Balkans, they can take the role of a real partner, being involved and engaged in the decision making process.

As we have heard also today, sometimes they may be the ground of knowing the issue in a practical sense, rather than being the ones to implement it without being involved in the decision making process. We have talked about also whether business interest groups could be the promoters of the regional idea, of this regional cooperation; I think that the role of civil society could be the one of monitoring – the one that could have also a say on how things may go.

I can conclude on the idea of the territory and the general discussion of if the macroregional cooperation could exist, if we take it emotionally, concerning the state, ethnicity, I think that the civil society could make a contribution to that, knowing that many times social effects are the same all around the region. Also considering the rationality of why some regional initiatives should be taken, I think that civil society could contribute to exchanging of their experiences.

So let's say - if the business interest groups have a very pragmatic approach, I think

that the civil society could make a real contribution to the substance of what regional cooperation could bring about, for the region of Adriatic and Ionian.

I think I can conclude here and be open to discussion, thank you.

Stefano Bianchini

Thank you Dorian. Now I'm giving the floor to our boss!

Elena Tagliani

Nothing to say, just thank you to everyone, and if you have any questions or proposals? About the last interventions in particular?

Charalambos Tsardanidis

I have two questions and one brief comment.

The first question is addressed to Professor Šolaja: you've mentioned about geopolitical environment, and you pointed out the new geopolitical environment, and you mentioned the importance of Russia and Turkey. In my opinion, I don't see where the new geopolitical environment is. Russia, for example, is a traditional power in the region, especially in the fields of energy and security it is very, very important.

The second question is for everybody - including professor Bianchini, is about the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative. What will the future of this initiative be, when the strategy will start to be implemented? Do you think that there will be any future for that? Or will it be absorbed by the strategy? And the brief comment is the following one: dr. Tomić pointed out the administrative difficulties in all the respective countries, I totally agree with that. And I think that this is a very important aspect for the strategy to be implemented.

Because from our experience as Greece, EU member state since 1981, we have tremendous difficulties; and we're starting discussing now not about Europeanization, but the Europeanization. And one Belgian diplomat has said: be careful of the Balkans, because instead of being Brussellized; they're going to Balkanize us.

Elena Tagliani

So your first question was for Professor Šolaja.



Miloš Šolaja

Thank you for the question. There was not enough time for elaborating an entire geopolitical situation. In the Balkans region, which is definitely a higher and entire region, not just a huge portion or part of this macroregional initiative; but it is quite clear that there are all the geopolitical players with new goals, which are represented in the region, for Russia, it's quite clear that Russia uses the three classic, so-called classic tools, to achieve its geopolitical advance in the region, such as an orthodox culture, an orthodox religion-based culture is one. And the second is that there is Slovenia, which is not entirely orthodox, it is different, And all socialist so-called arc and connections, actually, the energy policy is the main tool for Russia at present. And Russia is present economically, politically and more and more culturally in the Balkans region, predominantly in Serbia, Herzegovina, Macedonia Montenegro, and recently in Albania with huge investments; either private mainly and even somehow also from the State.

On the other hand, we've Turkey; Turkey has been very carefully developing its geopolitical presence since the end of the Cold War. And in all Balkan crises, Turkey's economy, army, and policies, are present here in the Balkans; and that means that they have quite clear goals. I have my opinion that we have to watch the Turkey policies in the framework of EU accession. All of you probably know that Turkey's accession to EU is a very complicated question, both politically or just economically and also geopolitically, because the EU union as such doesn't like to accept Turkey so fast. Just in comparison; Turkey has been an associate member since 1964, applied for EU membership in 1984, started negotiations at the same time as Croatia in 2005 – and it is just on the fourth chapter. Croatia is EU member.

We can watch it in the framework generally. European policy, foreign policy can be defined and also Germany because the thesis of German policy is to recognize Turkey as a primary partnership, not as a member. So there is some sort of opinion that Turkey, combined and backed by the United States which uses Turkey as one of the biggest geopolitical regions and Russia as well, that there is more influence in the South and Eastern Europe, particularly the post-socialist countries, South Eastern Europe there are some sort of, I must not say openly, but replacement of EU policies.

On the other hand the Balkans is the ground connection between Turkey and the European Union and that is the reason that Turkey's intentions and Turkish policies are very strongly represented here in the region, in the Balkans region because of that. That is the reason that we have to talk about geopolitical changes in a framework of macroregional strategies because Southern Eastern Europe is part of this Adriatic macroregion. The new macroregion, as I showed in the map and also the Black Sea region, where Turkey is a very strong player.

And another thing, maybe, I didn't stress enough in my initial presentation is enlargement policies. As you can see, for instance there are combinations of EU members

and aspiring country members. In the Danube region there are 4 actually 9 EU countries. But Germany is not represented as a country, just through two regions, Bavaria and Baden Württemberg – there is a very huge difference. Not entire Germany, just two regions were given the mandate to represent German policy in the new macroregion. Two regions German policies.

And also here in the Adriatic macroregion, there are 4 EU Members and 3 aspiring countries. There are differences in European policies and so, as I see it, that would be a huge geopolitical, if I might say, battlefield for the near future. It wouldn't be so easy.

Djordje Tomić

Thank you. If I may have just a very, very brief follow up to what Prof. Šolaja said.

I think that the energy policies actually show us how this perspective of the macro-region is important, even from the opposite point of view; because the Russian sponsored and the Russian-led South Stream project actually can be one of the best examples of how the Adriatic-Ionian macroregion comes to life – even without the perspective of the European Union, because it connects the Russian sources on the one side, with Northern Italy on the other, going through the Balkans. Of course we should deal with all these questions within the framework of the European Union, I believe that but it's very interesting to see, from the other perspective that the region, the very territorial existence, even the maritime existence of the region is recognized in practice by Moscow, so why not use it in this framework?

Elena Tagliani

Maybe with reference to the second question you asked, Professor Tsardanidis, if I remember, it was about the next steps in the institutional process of the definition of the strategic framework of the EUSAIR initiative. So, right now, we talk about an initiative, inter-ministerial, inter-governmental structure, with 8 countries represented by 8 Foreign Affairs ministers, meetings and so on, and this is one thing. The EUSAIR, the Adriatic and Ionian Strategy is a forthcoming European Union Strategy – so the steps are very high level, are very institutional. We started out in December 2012, with the conclusions made within the European Council, who mandated the European Commission to prepare an Action Plan and we are right now in the consultation phase, at all institutional and stakeholder levels.

Next steps are an Action Plan, foreseen in 2014 maybe under the Italian or Greek presidency. This one is a very important step; and the operational proposal will be endorsed. We came back under the decision of the EU Council, last step will be the approval, the endorsement by the Council, maybe in 2015.



Stefano Bianchini

Actually, before giving the answer to your questions, I have a set of comments that lead me then to give you an answer to your question

So if you don't mind, I would like to make some comments or further questions to other panelists as well because this afternoon's panel, let's say, was very inspiring, at least for me and so I have lots of questions, issues to raise.

First point, I would like to go back to the question of Turkey, because you have mentioned it and, well, as far as I have studied, Turkey is playing an interesting role in the Balkans and there is a certain level of penetration of Turkey in the Balkans. But as far as I have understood, according to studies the level of investments that Turkey has made so far is considerably less than the investment of China.

China is a new player in the Balkans and this is a very interesting aspect of the Balkans because, you know, Turkey is in an ambivalent position because on one hand there is this autonomy that you have mentioned. This is true but Turkey suffered from, may I say, disappointment or even some psychological defeat in the Middle East, in Egypt, in Syria and with Israel and it is not by chance that recently they reopened a new chapter with the European Union. So they are, let's say, floating... a little bit here and there. And it's obvious that it depends whether Turkey will be included or excluded from the European Union to understand what is the meaning or the implication of this penetration of Turkey in the Balkans because it can have different impacts, from this point of view. I will monitor Turkey much more closely but I will be more flexible in assessing the role of this country.

While China is very interesting, because China is completely out of our political environment and this penetration is very relevant. While Russia, we know. On the other hand and this is a different question, because we have to raise, I will raise this issue particularly with Professor Minxhozi later on about the role of the macroregion, the potential role of the macroregion, because we are talking about a project at the moment, just a project, just a strategy. It's a project for a strategy, by the way: something that is underway. So this is my first consideration.

The second consideration, professor Solaja, you mentioned the difference in culture which is something that I understand and there is a lot of literature about these differences in culture. Starting from Huntington that you mentioned. I radically disagree with Huntington. I found that this is a vision that doesn't correspond to reality at all. If you consider that he is speaking about some sort of Western Christianity that was created in 1500, when Catholics and Protestants were killing each other, so I don't understand where is this convergence and actually I think that this is a way, despite of the fact that there are lots of authors, lots of literature speaking about these cultures, but I think that we have to contest it, because this is not true.

It is simply not true that we have different cultures. But what we have is that our

cultures are interdependent. Our cultures are, to a large extent, mutually influenced and we have so many things that it is not so easy to make differences. I will come back to this issue tomorrow. But I think it is very important that our cultures are hybrid cultures and accepting this hybridity this will bridge us, it will create new contacts and to put our past our nationalist divisions behind us the nationalistic divisions, by creating a different framework where we can communicate much more easily, in my view at least. There are certain maps, cultural maps that are increasingly dividing a process that is going to interact. This means that it is a process that should reconsider the role of our cultures and this is very important in the framework of the prospective macroregions. This can lead to a different approach even to our past.

And then this leads me to the big question. What is the difference, potential, let's say, because we are speaking about the difference between the EU process of enlargement to all these procedures, negotiations, agreements, chapters etc and the role of the macroregion? This is a key point that I would like particularly to raise because Professor Minxhozi, mentioned lots of very important points. But most of these points can be part of, or solved, or settled, or negotiated within the process of EU enlargement. So if these things are settled within this framework, what could the role be of the macroregion? Because the macroregion can on one hand lobby, in order to make easier this process or faster, but this is another thing because certain issues that you have mentioned could be implemented without great costs, because this is a question of legislation, a question of political will to harmonize certain norms. So this is something different from what the macroregion can do, in order to have an effective strategy that aims to overcome the underdevelopment of the area.

So I think that it is important. I would like to raise the same issue with Dorian because this is the same. It can be applied to civil societies. What can be the role of the civil societies? By making this kind of distinction between the European Union and the macroregion. This is a very important point.

And this leads me to the answer because you raised the question of the initiative. Now, I don't know the mind, the orientation of our governments, but it's obvious that the Adriatic Ionian Initiative was established in Ancona, as you know, and is an intergovernmental decision, so there were our governments that set up this initiative, so now the question is that the initiative can be incorporated as one of the elements within the macroregion. It can be the environment where the member states harmonize their own strategies.

But there are other subjects that, in any case, will cooperate through their own tools because if we look at potential funds, look for instance at the funds that the macroregion can use. There will be the cross-border funds and they will remain under the control of the local and regional administrations, no? It is not the Initiative that is going to take control of these funds. I don't know what might happen in the future of the Gateway that will no longer be Gateway funds but the Adriatic Ionian funds.



This will be also part of the negotiation among the regions. So at this point, I don't know, this can be a problem. The government should raise the issue to seek what could be the role, otherwise they can even close down this. Because the macroregion can incorporate and work through different channels. So, I think from this point of view we have to think what is the role the Adriatic Ionian Initiative could be the initiator of the whole process and then it could disappear or it could be one of the factors inside. This is something that is up to the government to decide.

But this again leads to what is the role of the EU? What is the role of this potential strategy? Two different levels in order to understand how this cooperation and integration is going to work in our environment. Because what also Solaja said about the different regions; the Danubian for instance and the Adriatic for instance. It's obvious that they are overlapping, territorial overlapping, let's say, of these two macroregions, so it's obvious that you can have even different interests that are moving towards a Central Europe or towards the Adriatic Ionian, Eastern Mediterranean space. And it's obvious that in this case, this it will depend again on how local governments and local institutions including the universities, or the governments will operate.

And this is again, what is the role of the EU, what is the role of the macroregion, what is the role of the process of integration of the European Union? This is my question.

Miloš Šolaja

Thank you very much Stefano. Just maybe for others that one of the most closest to the region of South Eastern Europe is Stefano Bianchini whom I see in Russian literature, in Serbian, in Croatian, not least in Italian literature.

I would like to keep on that Huntingtons' map. I also try to get rid of really that way of thinking. But it is also one of the provocative aids and ways to know how can we in origin, know each other much more. Because you know in part of the Balkans, that map produced a lot of awareness of contemporary times. And you have to know that. Particularly in some areas with the Serbs and so on, who had spent a lot of time under the embargo of the United Nations for sanctions, and their awareness was shaped by that.

And here, from the Italians, Greeks, Turkish and other states and peoples in the region you have to know that and how to deal with that and that's another reason.

Another reason is a very good point about the EU strategies. What are macroregions? Macroregions are strategies. They can fulfill all their goals in strategies. There are at the same time European strategies of development for EU members, and at the same time policies for accommodation during the enlargement process, because those separate strategies like stabilization and association process in the Western Balkans, they didn't realize goals that were proposed. You know, today, actually we have a real lack. Except Croatia which is also very doubtful actually, but I would like to stress we have a lack of processes in the rest of the Western Balkans, these five countries.

The first thing that prof. Podunavac stressed and I try just to approve, there is the unfinished statehood, first of all. And that strategy, because we have to change our approach to EU philosophy, EU membership, even Euro-Atlantic NATO membership. There is a question of achieved standards and how to achieve standards, you know, in an economy, in a democracy, all the things which we used to compile as Copenhagen criteria. But how to achieve all these standards. That is the reason that European intention is through common policies, achieved standards. In aspiring countries on the one hand and on the other hand to correct some policies in the European Union members. That is the reason.

The regions are not geopolitically defined. There are no clear borders. There are no cross border checks, just policies. But those policies we have to follow, we have to fulfill as in the presentation of Professor from Venice. Very good point in this map. That is so-called negative feedback. How can we develop, how to implement our policies, how to correct our policies, not only to adopt some plans, it is not enough. We have to realize them. That is the policy.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you Professor. Let's now hand over to the Professor Cocco.

Emilio Cocco

Thank you.

I wasn't sure about the ending time. If we can I'll keep on going. A very quick comment that can maybe fit into this discussion on other remote geopolitical powers affecting the regional integration process. We mentioned Turkey, China, Russia as well. It's an interesting case. A few days ago the President of Russia, Putin was in Trieste to sign a number of agreements, among which agreements on the customs service, agreements on the financial sector, so possibly involving a number of investments, important ones. So I'm not saying now that Trieste is going to be a new Russian port but certainly, you know there are new functional and economic possibilities for the Northern Adriatic harbour that would go beyond the borders of the region. So basically I don't think when we talk about strategy of the Adriatic Sea and macroregional strategy, we shouldn't be analogically bound to the notion of proximity, meaning, OK we are facing each other, just a few miles of sea, Croatia, Italy, Serbia, Italy so we are very close so that will necessarily mean we are eager to cooperate more than with others.

Because this is a notion that is a wrong one, in my opinion. It's a frozen vision of the Adriatic space. Maybe, you know, it's romantic but it doesn't work. It wasn't working already in the 19th century, I think, because the notion of Adria, a Mittel-European



notion, is actually more bound to the opening of Suez Canal than to the Venetian heritage, you know.

It's a matter of shipping, of getting in touch with the world. So that's why shipping is important for me. And China is very much into shipping. And I think that Russia is as well. And there is a whole world of technological and commercial changes going on and so I mean the question is: Is this strategy bridging us to those big changes? Is regional growth bringing higher wellbeing of the population, but also improving our competitiveness, such as improving our ability to compete on the global market? So that's why the sea is important in my opinion.

And also another example of how we need the Adriatic Sea can be globalized. It's maybe more connected with culture than economy this time. I was reading a few days ago that there some figures of a few years ago that Italian immigrants in Catalonia, there are many of them. Basically 45% of them were not born in Italy, they were born in South America. They've got an Italian passport. They come to Italy and then they move to Spain. So how many Italians are in Spain? Half of them are from South America.

And if we move this way of thinking with the Adriatic so: Who are the Adriatic people? How many people like Croatian citizens were born in Australia, Argentina, Canada? How important is this? How many entrepreneurs, politicians, cultural leaders of Italian regions, like Veneto, Puglia or Basilicata, how many of them are, let's say, home comers from South America or other countries? This is really changing completely the geography of what we are talking about. I mean it's not really talking about our culture it's talking about something that is already globalised.

Maybe a macroregional strategy should think about this, in this way. So otherwise we turn ourselves into some kind of provincial talk, which is nice but ... OK, that was my comment.

Dorian Jano

Ok. So on the first question regarding the Europeanization of Europe, or the balkanization of EU, I would say that, to be also a little bit provocative on the question, that also my colleague raised let's say, I mean let's fight the idea of nationality and of keeping borders, and that's how the Balkans or the idea of Balkanization comes.

So I think that treating the region as partners, that will be the idea of getting these countries Europeanized and I don't think Europe will be Balkanized.

There are a number of examples on the success that has been towards integration. Croatia is the first one, a country coming and being involved in war and the success and the progress that it has in terms of the economy, in terms of prosperity, in terms of many other indicators.

The last issue regarding Serbia and Kosova, we see that under this idea of going

towards a united Europe, Community or partnership, we see sensitive issues such as nationality to, in a way, to be transformed and non-conflictually at least.

So I think in this regard if we keep the Western Balkans, this isolated island in all Europe, surrounded by Member States, that could be the danger of that power that may explode. I think offering and having a partnership with these countries could be the best solution. And I really agree on what you said because in times of crisis, we see also the Gallop (opinion polls), the citizens' opinion on many issues. We can see that there are some contradictory issues. Like when they are asked on terms of nationality, they choose best their own ethnicity, their nationality, but when you ask them on terms of where do you like to work or to study, they choose Europe.

So in this sense you find the two biggest issues, like that all these countries of the Western Balkans see the EU as rationally something good, something that can provide better health, better education. And at the same time you have the emotional feelings of, you know, being closed only to a particular ethnicity. But I think it's not just the issue of the Western Balkans. We see in all Europe we have a rise of nationalism.

So I think on this issue the integration of this region and having them as partners could be the best solution, rather than keeping them isolated or some other countries of third world.

Well, regarding the idea of what this macroregional Adriatic Ionian Initiative should be like, it should be under the EU umbrella, it should be overlapped or a kind of part?

I think if we consider the idea that sometimes Europeanization came also as a support of our opposition towards globalization, like being also part of globalization but at the same time to confront some issues or defects that globalization may have. I think the idea of having the macroregional Initiative could be the supplement or the strategy that could tackle the specific issues of the country rather than the very general idea of what Europe is doing about it.

I mean I just can say that Greece has taken the Presidency the next January and for irony, enlargement is not on the agenda. So on this aspect, let's say, if we could have a more concentrated regional cooperation I think we could go into the very details and the specificity of the region rather than keeping on the high level agenda of all these 28 countries now.

Stefano Bianchini

Would you like to answer my question?

Luljeta Minxhozi

So, I believe in this initiative as pre-accession initiative, really, because countries like Balkan countries included in this Adriatic Ionian, but also other countries. If you see the



map of these macroregions, they are quadratic areas including very different countries. Different in their historical roots, different in their actual behaviour, economically and politically. So I believe that these are instruments, provided by the EU, just to smooth the differences, and through this process, the countries may accept and absorb easily the new status and the differences.

Europe is now composed of 27 countries and after ten, twelve, twenty years, some of the countries are still very different, so I believe that there is a lesson learned in the EU policy producing boards. That if you can smooth these differences before, then the process of going ahead and also trying to disconnect the whole map, it would be easier. So that's why I believe that going in this project, going on the regional authorities, second level, not the high level, not the central government but the local government, increasing the partnership of the civil society, the universities, and things like that. It's easier to connect in this region, which is very proved because of its history.

So this is the third way, let's say, in the region. There is the easiest way to put people together in terms of business, in terms of research, in terms of university, discussion and exchange students. And this is a very good way to put people and ideas together and to put interests together in this process of enlargement.

Enika Abazi

Just to add two words. When I listened to all the discussion, at the beginning, I think I had an idea where this Initiative or where this strategy is heading and now I wanted to share what I was thinking during the day. I think as this is an initiative coming from the European Union and coming from the Commission we need to understand where the European Union is heading too, to understand what is going to happen to us as a macroregion. I think the fact that the European Union has created this Axis which transcends the governments because we see parts of the countries, not whole countries, not all Italy is included in this region, in these kinds of macroregions, maybe this is where the European Union is going to head to and maybe the involvement of these regions is the future that we will see in the framework of the European Union because dealing with a state has been a hard deal even for the existence and the development of the European Union and it's better if we solve it before because most of the problems Europe is having today is because of the governments who do not want to adopt the right strategies to address the crisis, the financial crisis or the problem of the recession that are different in all different countries. So I think we need to adjust our thinking in this way, of development of the European Union itself. Maybe these are the first signs that show that the European Union is in a process of reforming itself and projecting this kind of reformation towards our region or other regions that they are creating.

And I think that some more interesting ideas can come about if we think from this perspective, so where the EU is heading, so that we adjust ourselves and somehow we

depend in fact on EU leadership to resolve our differences and to find common interests in order to create this sustainable development that is so desirable for our countries, for our citizens and for the whole development of Europe. So, that comment I wanted to share because I think you concluded from the discussion I heard today. So thank you!.

Paolo Rago

I will be very brief. What I would like to say is that I agree with these last speeches on the need for a gradual approach towards the idea of Europe, to be achieved partly through the implementation of this EUSAIR project.

In my opinion this is fundamental because in any case it means starting to adhere to a set of values and also to a political project which unfortunately has been somewhat lacking in Europe. It appears that Europe is renouncing this guiding role within the global community, the world community, turning in on itself, focusing on national problems, on the economy, etc.

But we should not lose sight of the fact that the European Union was also conceived as a Union of values, as a way of overcoming, we might say, the problems caused by the World War, the tragedy of the Holocaust, and the death of 70 million people, including civilians and armed forces. This it was conceived on the basis of uniting values for inclusion not exclusion. This is perhaps the real role of Europe and what Europe has strived to encourage. It is clear that in recent years it has not been so successful in this regard. However this means that not renouncing a political project which is a little more vague these days, it is navigating through slightly more fog and Europe would like to involve other actors who are not yet part of the Community. For this reason I believe that this project is fundamental in this sense as it involves States which are undoubtedly heterogeneous amongst themselves and because of their individual history they have objective difficulties in relating to the founding values of Europe.

This is what I wanted to say. Therefore the strategy of the project, of EUSAIR may be read in this light, as a valuable occasion to bring closer a number of Countries which undoubtedly due to a historical background differ from Western European Countries but now they are slowly getting nearer to a common "home".

In this sense, I would like to repeat what I said this morning, that the approach should certainly be on an individual basis. Country by Country, because if we group all these countries together in a single group, we run the risk of not understanding the differences that exist and which are deeply rooted in these Countries, although it is true that they are all tending to move towards a unification of common values, to adhering to common values.

But this is a process which is time consuming, it involves hard work and it requires the commitment of these Countries who will participate in this project and it presupposes



the awareness that these Countries will need to make a serious commitment to realize this project of major change which involves them directly.

Enika Abazi

So my belief and my support in this project is that this project is putting together countries, which are in different stages in relation to the EU. There are member countries like Italy, Slovenia, new member countries like Croatia, aspirant countries or candidates like Montenegro, countries trying to be candidates like Albania. So our collaboration in projects like this is not putting us in different stages; so they are giving us the same responsibility. So the responsibility is the same for all our countries to protect the environment, to develop sustainable economies, to bring together legislation on other cases. While the EU perspective for our countries is a more political decision. It's a more political decision so we have other standards. So projects like this EUSAIR is a first step to build common responsibility for the region and then this common responsibility might be transferred in a broader responsibility, like EU responsibility. So this project puts us at the same level, so we are forgetting that we are different, we have to look to the same goals for development. This is my point.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you to everyone. Enjoy some relaxation now! Please come back tomorrow as provocative as you were today. Thank you.

6 December 2013 Panel 01

Elena Tagliani

Good morning. Thank you for being here. We'll open our panel straight away. We have already been informed so I would like to leave the floor to Professor Francesco Privitera from the University of Bologna, who will be our chairman for today's session. I wish you a very fruitful meeting.

Francesco Privitera

So welcome everybody to this, our morning session of this quite inspiring conference on building a macro-regional awareness in the Adriatic Ionian territories. Actually today we are going to speak in the morning session about cooperation within the research and university systems in the area and we have a very broad session on different topics related to the subject and so that as we are already behind schedule, it would be great if we could start immediately with the first two colleagues; Professor Petar Filipić and professor Maja Fredotović from the Faculty of Economics at the University of Split.

Are they already with us? Otherwise, who is the next one? Is Egidio Ivetić already here? Yes. Thank you so much. So I'm going to give the floor to Professor Ivetić, representative for academic relations with Eastern Europe, Central Europe and South Eastern Europe at the University of Padova in Italy. So please, professor.

Egidio Ivetić

University of Padova

Thank you. I would rather exploit the translators so that I can speak in Italian.

The Relevance of History, so, I'm a historian, and I think that this initiative is particularly important. Many things have emerged but what I have been struck by is the European projects and the historic-like approach regarding the very pragmatic situation and in particular the relationships, politics and historical deepness that is not always emerging. But we can also provide a historical framework, and among the academic networks we can try and reflect on the construction of a culture, a shared culture for the Adriatic-Ionian macro region.

The Adriatic Euro-region has already been created. It was in 2006, so we've had seven years' experience. We've developed a good experience. And there have been many interregional projects between the two shores, many cultural initiatives. But we lack, sometimes we lack a more systematic cultural exchange, which is not only about presenting our culture, and that's it.

We need to go beyond that. The macro-region which is about to be created, is made



up of two seas. These two seas are completely different. The Adriatic Sea is maybe the sea which has a stronger historical profile. The Ionian Sea, on the other hand, is like a funnel going to the Adriatic. So the Adriatic, in classical history, was a sort of gulf of the Ionian Sea whereas now the Ionian Sea is just the introduction, the corridor leading to the Adriatic Sea. So we have a whole historiography, reflecting on the importance of sea as a place of exchange, of cultural and civilisation exchange. We've had a recent tendency at a historiographical level leaning towards maritime spaces.

In the Atlantic area this Atlantic history and studies are taking over, that is to say we're trying to connect all the histories linked to this huge space. So with the movement of the world economy towards the Pacific area, the Pacific is being analysed, studied and we come from a tradition of national visions, based on a nation that is to say the historians' historic concept of nation. These are cultural approaches and in designing shared spaces, inspired by Europe, what we do is create confederations based on our nations. All this is done at the same time when we're... historiography tries to develop common spaces, shared spaces. So we need to try and find common spaces with the oceans and even before that, as for cultural studies and history in general from the different shores, so we're talking about contamination.

Before, we had the division of the Mediterranean as a place of complexity so we have a whole set of traditions. And at a world scale we've had different attempts to create a dialogue, a historical and cultural dialogue within the Adriatic Sea. And the Ionian area has a different personality, it's not so, let's say, marked as the Adriatic Sea. So within the Ionian area we have substantially two states that is, just say Greece and Italy.

And there is a section of Corfu Island, which is part of the Adriatic area so Greece is there. And from the Adriatic area we are moving towards the macro-region area, so this region can become an interesting area for exchange, starting from history. And history is a very peculiar subject, above all in the Balkan area. It is a whole set of different national truths which are very difficult to harmonise. But then, going back to the Atlantic and Pacific studies experience, the sea can become a neutral space on which we can reflect, on which we can share a common denominator.

So you may ask yourself, what is history about? Since we are talking about practical connections, universities, economy. But speaking about European projects, when it comes to creating new exchanges and contact points, history has always been very important. I've had an experience of two European projects with more than sixty universities, studying and reflecting upon tuning, that is to say, harmonising history programmes at a post secondary level, that is to say, university level.

So we have the sea and history as the two main elements. So this tendency does exist. And it should be studied and analysed more, even in this area, so the sea is the place, the ideal place to reflect, reflect upon the past, the present and the Adriatic area is an extremely interesting area. It may appear as a very well known area but in fact it isn't. We've always centred this area upon the area of Venice, it was called the gulf of Venice

in the past so the sea entails a whole set of apparently, completely different traditions, which have been forgotten and until 1912, the Ottoman Empire was an Adriatic state. We cannot forget that.

But we do sometimes, we tend to forget that in 1848 in Frankfurt when the pan-Germanic assembly was on in progress, in the Germany vision, the Adriatic Sea was included in that area so the Adriatic Sea is not just historically a sea where different nations are gathered together. It is also a sea about apparently different histories, for example the sacred Roman Empire, is a very present entity within the Adriatic area. As Austria was the only case of a central European state with space towards the Adriatic Sea, that is the only case we've had. But we need to be reminded, we need to take it into account, we cannot forget that. What do I mean by this?

The sea becomes a place where apparently completely different histories are gathered together so it can be a neutral identity where anyone can project his or her own traditions. So the Adriatic is part of the Eastern Mediterranean and according to the last tendencies, the Adriatic Sea is the very core of the Euro-Asiatic continental mass area, so it is a place where different historical traditions are displaced. And historically this sea connected the Central European area with this entity.

So we can discuss a lot upon these issues without any national bias and we need to remark that this sea is a place where different physical entities are superimposed; where we also have different linguistic geographies overlapping. There is an association about this area, which is called Arco Latino involving all the regions on the Mediterranean going from Calabria to Andalusia in Spain. So the presence of these Latin languages goes on to this area of the Mediterranean.

And of course in the Adriatic region we have other sets of languages: Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian. So this continuity of Latin based languages is connected to a whole set of different linguistic complexities. Think about Albanian for example. So these are the languages of the people who are here today. And there is, in this area we have a very strong linguistic complexity, which is exactly represented by the macro area we are talking about. This is something we should promote and bear in mind.

In this area we have an unprecedented difference of geographies of religion. The Adriatic Sea is a place where historically Christianity goes along with orthodox religions. Think about the Greek orthodox and the Serbian orthodox and also Islam, Muslims. In Dalmatia, beyond the Venetian coastline, there was a strong Islamic Muslim presence. And the dismantlement of the Ottoman Empire started in that century.

So this is a history of this area. And when we have a look at the different geographies superimposed. We can find a very wide complexity of issues, which is unprecedented at a European and maybe world level. So how can we deal with this complexity emerging from individual national states and also at a university level? As for the Balkan area, which is maybe one of the most complex areas, in terms of their civilisations. I know that the geography of civilisations have something which is controversial I would say. It is



very difficult to find the border between the western – eastern civilisation but in this area, the Balkan area, we have this aspect. For example in Albania we have a mix of all these civilisations. We've had important experiences in that area for history as a subject.

So how can we present, how can we introduce this complexity? And I've had other experiences in some workshops and working groups. We tend to avoid the definition of historic truth coming from upside down, from a top down perspective. We tend to avoid the creation of an authority, a multinational authority creating a certain historic vision, which isn't provided to the national authorities. On the other hand we have another tendency, which is to say introducing and presenting the different interpretations, the different national truths.

In Thessaloniki we had a very important study centre presenting a whole set of books about this new vision about the dismantlement of the Ottoman Empire in the Balkan area. So Balkan wars and historic facts are presented not just in one way but simply putting together all the different national visions of this. So for example, the Greek version, the Turkish version, the Serbian, the Albanian version, all together they are all presented. So the reader has a task to, I mean, create his or her own interpretation of that.

So I gave you this example as a way to reflect upon these issues, because sometimes I think that Europeanism lacks something. It is like a void container, maybe we need a cultural issue. And culture and the culture of these areas ends up by influencing this concept as well. And I would like to give you some examples of how we can manage the past historic memory because we all know that history is narration, it is shared issue. It is in the places, and in the areas where this complexity is stronger, we can manage this in a different way.

But, if we have a look at the past, we see that the Adriatic Sea is an extremely united place where we can find incredible examples of the fact that the Adriatic Sea, for example, has always been considered as a corridor, as a route. And at any moment in history, beyond the different political visions, you will find a whole set of populations moving through this place; for example Albanians, Venetians, Dalmatians etc. We didn't have any hierarchy, we didn't have any let's say, predominant logics. This is what we interpret from the books, that is to say we apply our models to the past.

And if we apply this model, we keep on, for example, debating on the fact that Venice was the dominating city, dominating country. All the other places were just a colonisation, were just colonies of Venice. We keep on debating on this, and I think that this is a whole system, a system coming from the sea, not just about Venice. And the sea created this system. Venice is Venice; we all know that. But Venice did not, I mean, prevent other areas from developing. Indeed it had a strong vocation towards the management, not just the domination of the area. And nobody had a perception of the sea as Venice had in the past. So Venice is everybody's city, the city of all the areas on the Adriatic Sea. And if we have a look at the past we can see that the past is, I mean, forward.

We need to dialogue, we need to build something new. Because if we have a look at

the past, in the past there were more connections in this area. For example we come from an extraordinary period in the history of the seas, that is the age of nations, as we said yesterday. Nationalisms and communism, this means the age of nations in which the sea becomes the space where to project, the concept of the nation whereas before the sea was just a means to navigate, communicate. So waters were not a property of the nation. But then the sea was, let's say, nationalised and between 1945 and the 90s, the sea was not just nationalised but also divided into political blocks.

Think about the Iron Curtain passing through the Adriatic area and this leads to a situation in which we are building something on the breeze of what we had in the past but before the past these nations were a place to communicate, to exchange experiences and I think we need to reflect upon this. It may seem to have nothing to do with what we have said so far, but I think this is important.

Because we cannot just think about pragmatic issues, concrete issues, tangible issues I think we can reflect on this; because without history, there is no identity. And if there's a place on earth in which history is materially, practically present in the Mediterranean area, here the past is, let's say, very important. We cannot go beyond it. It is present. And it is a problem dealing with the management of history as well and the past. We all ask ourselves about the role of our past, the past becomes a constant issue, and in my view I think we can consider this within these initiatives.

And we can consider it as a way to build new relationships, among cultures, among universities, so not only meetings, conferences, but also relationships and the discovery of common points, and I think the past can give us many, many answers, more than any other possible development. Thank you very much for your attention.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you Professor Ivetić– It was an extremely interesting speech and its simplicity, it reminded us of what is self-evident, I would say.

Now I would like to leave the floor to the next speaker, and I invite Professor Obucina - Secretary of the Institute for Mediterranean Studies, University of Fiume. Faculty of Human and Social Sciences who will make his speech on macro regional education and the Foundation EUSAIR.

Francesco Privitera, Chairman of the meeting

Thank you Professor Ivetić...

I'm going to invite Professor Obucina, secretary of the Society for Mediterranean Studies, Professor. Sorry Professor at the University of Rijeka - Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. He's going to address us with a speech about the macro-regional education foundation of EUSAIR sustainability.



Obucina

Thank you very much and thank you for inviting me here to this conference. I think it is very interesting. It was a very interesting day yesterday. And we learned yesterday some things that I didn't have in mind when I was coming to Bologna. One of the things is of course that we are talking about strategy not the region, and the second is that there is no vital or heavy politics involved here. As a political scientist I have to disagree. And also I've noticed that maybe it would be better to focus on concrete things, so my presentation is hopefully very concrete. It is about the mode of education that can be of added value to the strategy and maybe to the region itself. I've deliberately put the name of sustainability here as I think this might be one of the key words that we are looking for. But I would like to start before with meaning of the region. I think that regionalisation in Europe is in some way a middle solution, a third way among those who perceive Europe as Europe of nations and those who are more inclined towards a federative system.

So maybe regionalisation is a kind of solution for this problem. Of course the questions have been raised yesterday about the uneven development of the region but I don't think that causes a serious problem because we have other regions in Europe including those within the European Union that are also uneven in their development stages. So maybe it is even better for having diverse region with different countries, different cultures and also I might remind you that the diversity is also part of European values.

Of course no-one can totally identify themselves with all the classifications of what European is, because in that case we should regard ourselves as both socialist conservative and liberal and also orthodox, catholic and muslim or protestant or whatever. So diversity is, in a way, a cornerstone where we can talk about the development of particular entities. But I'm more concerned about whether this is a short or long term project, because of the forthcoming changes that we're expecting, at least, to have in the foreseeable future.

When Croatia entered the European Union, many of other European Union countries said that this would be, in fact, the end of the enlargement process. And in a way these projects, like macroregion, like Danubian region, like Black Sea region and many others may seem like an appeasement to those who are not going to enter the European Union at least not in the next ten or even 15 years.

So if we are talking about that, then we can focus on one kind of long-term project and if we are talking about something else then including enlargement process to be staged in near future then we are talking now about short project. I think this is important to have in mind as having a strategy includes also a temporal dimension.

Yesterday Professor Tsardanidis said that we have to be pragmatic, and there is no place here for a big politics. It is in the Adriatic Ionian initiative, not here. This is practically all about the four pillars. Well if we are talking about the four pillars, I'm a bit troubled. Because the first pillar, which is obviously very, very important and that

is maritime growth, will exclude Serbia. You know from geography and geo-political reasons, Serbia has no access to the open sea. It's a landlocked country. Of course Serbia is part of the initiative because the initiative was started in 2000 and at that time Serbia was one of the Federal units of, I think it was, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia at that point, so it consisted of Montenegro and of Serbia, but changes occurred so we have now a landlocked country that is discussing maritime growth. Is that the truth? Or will we exclude Serbia from these discussions? Shall we say them to go for a coffee break while we discuss the issues concerning the Adriatic region as a maritime region?

Also where I can see that politics is being involved as about other countries, that are now in the same region or in the neighbourhood: In 2000 when Serbia was one of the founders of the Adriatic Ionian initiative, one part of Serbia was also Kosovo, so why don't we have Kosovo now in this strategy? And I'm also concerned not to include Macedonia inside the strategy as the pillar two: transport and energy. Transport is..., I don't see it's conceivable without having these two countries inside as they are on the crossroads of main traffic routes.

I've read some other things that gave me a bit of problem of imagining what a strategy would look like. One of these is common tourism initiatives. We didn't hear much about tourism while we were here, which is a shame, but maybe I can say a little bit about it because I'm not only an academician, a scientist, I'm also running my own food and wine tourism business. So I'm often very, very troubled when I have to market my offer, which is basically north Adriatic region, because of the diversity. So diversity gives me no possibility to have one common package and to market the whole region as one is a thing that is for me inconceivable. So I'm a little bit disappointed that there are no people from a tourism branch here that can discuss that in more detail. And also yesterday Professor Bianchini said, asked in fact, what is the role of academicians in all this? Because we are here from the various universities.

I was thinking about it yesterday and in fact I think there's none, because academicians, they don't have a real impact in the society, for various reasons, which I will now discuss. But it doesn't mean that we don't have to be proactive and maybe this is one of the added values to this discussion. Of course, as all of us, at least most of us come from universities, we presumably all think that education is vital for every development to occur. Various know-hows, think tanks and research centres, they all have a common basis that is knowledge and sharing of knowledge and sharing of information. So one of the things that I can not imagine in this initiative, this strategy to go forth, is without educating people in a very specific way, and specialising them for this macro-region. It means cooperation, but not any cooperation.

I come from the University of Rijeka, we have, as a university, signed cooperation agreements with various universities in various countries worldwide. Just one anecdote: a few months ago we signed a cooperation agreement with a University in Kazakhstan in Alma Mater. I've never seen a professor from Kazakhstan, I've never seen any students



from Kazakhstan, in fact I've never seen a person from Kazakhstan. And this agreement is futile because in a few months, even now it will be almost a year, we haven't had any contact with any person, any academician from Kazakhstan. So we decided not to sign any agreements any more, if we don't have a solid thought or solid idea about the cooperation in future.

So I think this is a good way to start also here. Why not have a proactive action group that will stage some kind of research and some kind of education system, specialised, and then let's sign some agreements, of course under, I hope, the strategic initiative programme. What would that mean? Of course we can talk about long-term student exchange and visiting professor exchange, etc etc. But I think the more appropriate way to do that, through this strategy is to have some kind of week-long or I don't know which kind of temporal arrangement it would be for educating professionals in the field. And I will talk about that a little bit later.

And a more utopian way of thinking would be to connect industry and academia, so connect the private sector and also public institutions with the universities with particular research centres and this would mean that we do have, we would have an impact, in this strategy and we would have a role in this strategy. Otherwise it would be just a way to remove oneself from intellectual responsibility, from the responsibility of the intellectuals not the intellectual responsibilities.

It would require formation of centres of excellence. It is a buzzword that is often used in Balkan countries but I really think the centres in this region, in this strategy would have a profound educational and research impact. Why? Well of course that person, for example, from Montenegro can be an expert in an energy field and know much about energy in Montenegro, but this person should also have in mind the broader context of the Adriatic-Ionian region so this person should have one week or several days of education about the energy sector in the whole region.

So the strategy cannot be divided in the particular countries and then we'll take through the strategy in our country. It would mean that we don't cooperate. It would mean that we don't have any interest in others. So that is vital. I don't want to lobby here for anything but I think it would be very nice to have four centres, one for each pillar and of course I don't have to explain. You can see here which pillars would include which specialists and which students, but I also think that in addition to these four pillars, there should be also additional education and political assistance in cultural studies and history, as you said, history is very important. It is of course. We cannot proceed in any kind of education, or any kind of cooperation if we don't know the historical background.

In the following topics I see we will have also some cultural studies that we have in mind. Many of these countries are partitocracies. To understand Bosnia for example, you have to understand the Party system of Bosnia because otherwise you cannot go through. So if you don't know the party system of the country you cannot succeed in anything. And of course all of this is part of broader Mediterranean studies, which we also develop

in Rijeka, and as Professor Ivetić just mentioned that, if I'm correct, he mentioned that Venice is a town of everybody, it is a town of common Adriatic heritage.

Rijeka is in fact a living town of the Adriatic common identity as it is both an Italian and Croatian town, with Slovenian background, with many immigrants coming from Bosnia, from Serbia, from Albania. Unfortunately no Greeks but we might have some little community of Greeks, sorry! And its also vital for the whole region; of course we have some difficulties here especially in the railway system. I don't know if you're familiar with this or not. Rijeka is in fact in a better geographical position than for example Trieste if you are talking about the corridor, transport corridor through the East Central Europe, Hungary, Poland but also beyond.

Unfortunately we have a problem with some 100 km of railway that have been being planned to build for almost 50 years and here I can see there is no political will to do that, because practically it can be built. We have funds coming from various sides and one of those is, in fact, Chinese funds which was also mentioned yesterday. So to conclude, I think that the buzzwords, the key words, that we would have to bring from this meeting, from this conference, would be what is feasible, in the foreseeable future of course? What concrete action can we take in this regard? Is there a political willingness to support this? And where can we find sustainable funding? I'm not sure that our of course political willingness includes funding but I think there should be also private interest involved here. Thank you.

Elena Tagliani

I would like to thank both speakers, two professors who have made their contributions this morning. Now my suggestion is to break for coffee so that we can have a change in the panellist's table that will be done after the coffee break. Yes, you don't have to hurry so that we now break for coffee so we all rest for a while and then we will resume afterwards with the new panellists if you agree. Thank you.

Francesco Privitera

We are going to take the coffee break, thank you so much Professor Obucina for this very inspiring and concrete speech, I guess we will have something to discuss about...

Vedran Obucina

Well I hope so.



6 December 2013 Panel 2

Francesco Privitera

During the coffee break we have rescheduled the second part of the morning session, so we are going to have the presentations by Professor Jacimovic Vojinović, by Professor Marija Mitrović and by the research team by IECOB. So, this is the new scheduling of the panel for the second part of the session. I kindly ask Professor Danijela Jacimović to come. Professor Jacimovic Vojinović is associate professor at the International Economics and European Integration at Podgorica University in Crna Gora, Montenegro. And she is going to address her speech about energy as an important pillar for sustainable economic development in Montenegro. So please, I give the floor to Professor Jacimović, thank you.

Elena Tagliani

Please take your places. Thank you.

Danijela Jacimović Vojinović

Thank you very much for having me here. I'm the economist and I'm going to share with you some of my economic aspirations and about my economic thoughts for this forum. Of course what I should say, I'm really happy that I managed to come, and as you all know, Montenegro is a small country and we have, as you can see here, a long coastline but probably not as long as Croatia or Italy, but we do have quite a lot of tourist assets and we are trying to develop the tourism sector as one of the most important sectors for Montenegro. Of course not just to develop tourism as the most important sector but also we are trying to develop all other sectors that are related to tourism, like agriculture and energy.

As a macroeconomist, I just want to say, when we are talking about trade and financial integration, Montenegro is a small and quite open country, so we are really deepening this integration. When we are talking about GDP, I can say that in the last ten years we achieved a high increase in GDP, reduced the poverty, but in the last few years, we are really facing all the challenges of the financial crisis, and one of the biggest effects, negative effects of the crisis is unemployment, especially among the youths.

So here, I'm just sharing with you some of the sectors that are contributing to the Montenegro's GDP, and I would just like to emphasise that traditional sectors like agriculture, mining and manufacturing are contributing less and less to the GDP development in Montenegro. Maybe you can see from the second row of the table about agriculture, but if you follow the year-by-year data you will see the constant decrease. But,

on the other hand, we are developing which means that we are doing sectoral adjustment. We are increasing services, tourism, energy and digital economy and you can follow up in my last row that electricity in the last ten years contributed almost 9% to GDP.

Montenegro, as many other western Balkan countries is, as well as EU countries, we are really thinking about as well, how to achieve goals and growth. And we are aware that we should facilitate trade and investment and to be able to do that is important to make our workers more productive and of course it is important to increase government investment. To be able to do it, we really need interconnection of the region, we should all together accelerate convergence to the EU. Of course so we are in Montenegro really aware that integration to the European Union and to Adriatic region is very important.

Integration with the EU is our government's first priority and when we are talking about the Adriatic region we have our neighbours with whom we share the same language and history. So thinking from Montenegro's side how we should increase and stimulate cooperation in the Adriatic region and the EU, I've really come here to emphasise the importance of the energy sector, because energy in Montenegro and in the region can be great integrative factor internally as well as the region.

I mentioned that tourism is playing a more and more important part of Montenegrin economy, but we can't develop sustainable tourism sector if we have a drop of our electricity system during the tourist season like we had last year, when our ski season was interrupted for almost ten days because of unfavourable weather conditions. And that unfavourable weather condition was snow. We finally had snow in our mountains but we didn't have electricity for ten days.

A similar thing but not as dramatic as it was in the winter time, we had a power cut of our electricity system during the summer season and Budva our capital tourist town was out of electricity for a couple of hours. On the other hand, the World Bank with our Chamber of Commerce did a survey about the most important obstacles for SME sector development so as a second most important factor, SMEs notified that electricity supply and an unreliable system, frequent cuts of electricity supply is placing very important obstacle for development of that very important part of our economy like small and medium-sized enterprises. That's why I'm coming here to say that energy is very important for Montenegro because probably all other regional countries are sharing more or less the similar problem with energy.

Energy could be a very important pillar because it's making precondition for economic growth of Montenegro and probably for the rest of the Western Balkans and I will share with you some of the challenges that we are facing and they could be similar for the rest of the region. First Montenegro is facing the electricity deficit because we have two old plants like an aluminium plant and a steel company, so we are importing a lot of electricity at very high prices.

Because of that we still have high subsidies to these big energy consumers, we also suffer from outdated electricity infrastructures because a big investment happened once



upon a time in the middle of the last century. We have, we are facing low productivity of the infrastructure and the market structure is dominated by the two owners, meaning that APCG company which represents Montenegrin ownership in the electricity company and 45% of Italian ownership of the company owned by A2A or by Ternan.

We are facing all these challenges and little by little we are trying to fix the things when we are talking about a deficit, which is really connected to subsidies. We have like two years' big debate in economical, social, political circles in our parliament. How we should resolve our two big companies like the aluminium plant and the steel company and we are pretty close to some kind of solution. With our partners, European investment banks, we are, little by little, changing the outdated electricity infrastructure. And with the World Bank's assistance we are trying to increase productivity of our system and to make our schools, hospitals and public bodies more efficient in energy use.

There are a lot of thoughts about market structure and about ownership of the companies. The Montenegrin side is very keen to keep the ownership, while the Italian side is very keen to increase the ownership up to 100%. But we will see how it will be resolved. By mentioning that electricity can be a very important factor to integrate the region better, and in that way to facilitate overall economic activity in the region because Montenegro is really happy and really blessed because high voltage electrical connection cable is going from Montenegro and the places at our seaside, Tivat, to Pescara, the Italian city, which means that through that cable, all the region will export energy to Italy and to the EU.

Right now all Balkan countries have a huge hydro-potential and there are a lot of investors who are investing in hydro-plants over the region, and if we positively resolve our consumers' old-fashioned factories, all the region will be a net exporter of electricity. With this cable Italy will be an energy hub for Europe, and it is also very important to mention that this is the first real energy bridge from the region to the European Union.

When we are talking about this interconnection, this is a unique experiment in high-tech, in building, construction, technology, as well as in financial terms. It means that cable will run under the Adriatic Sea for almost 400km and its power capacity will be a thousand megawatts, which is quite big. 25km will be on shore, 10km on the Montenegrin area, 50 in Italy and all together it's a huge investment, it's about 760 million by Terna and in addition to that 100 million by the Montenegrin governments.

What will be the effects for Montenegro, for the region as well, for Italy? Italy will import cheaper energy and Terna is estimating that in that respect Italy will earn on a yearly basis about 225 million euro, which means that in a very short term, this huge investment will be paid off and what is very important, Italy and especially South Italy will have a better supply of energy.

What will Montenegro get? Of course Montenegro will earn 10 to 40 million euro as a transmission fee. It will be an energy hub of the Balkans, which means that Montenegro will have better interconnection with the EU market and what is very important that this

cable will initiate a lot of investment in our Montenegrin electricity infrastructure and transmission network. But not only in Montenegro because the idea of the cable is to collect energy from all the Balkan countries and to transmit to Italy which altogether make this area or this region very interesting for the investments and that way we will improve our infrastructure and we will finally fix all the challenges that I mentioned in the previous slides.

In that way, altogether, we will better push our most important sectors like tourism, SME sectors and hopefully agriculture. My idea with this presentation is just to think about the electricity as one of the preconditions for economic growth of the region and a precondition how really the region will have to cooperate and have to emerge because we are all sharing a common interest. Thank you very much.

Francesco Privitera

Thank you very much I'm very glad that Professor Jacimović, who by chance yesterday arrived a little bit late so she was unable to make her presentation yesterday in the afternoon, that in the end it has been possible for her to do her job in such a reliable way.

Danijela Jacimović Vojinović

Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. Sorry for the delay.

Francesco Privitera

No, no, it's not your fault of course. So thank you again. And now actually we are going back into the main part of our session, thanks to professor Marija Mitrović from Trieste. She's professor at the University of Trieste and she's going to address to us her speech about Cultural Identity and Diversity in the Macro-regional Context.

Marija Mitrović

I would like to speak in Italian because both Italian and English are a foreign language for me but this time I was prepared to talk in Italian. I would like to thank you twice for inviting me here and for providing me with the opportunity to talk now in the morning rather than in the afternoon so that I can take my train later on. So I think that it is absolutely important to say a few words here together, right after the ideas that have already been expressed by Obucina and Ivetić because my approach is very close to their ideas, I share their ideas absolutely because they concern history, they touch upon history and so as Ivetic said, we have to find commonalities, points in common, and disseminating



the knowledge of the background of these countries so that this macro-region can come about and I would like to stress the importance of education for such a future. With the centres of excellence that have been listed, and what was said by Obucina and that is a good context that sets the scene for what I'm about to say now.

Let me now start from a very concrete fact, from an anecdote, which is absolutely significant for me. Three months ago, I was in Belgrade, in prestigious institutions and I was attending a public hearing, a public debate after the publication of a book that was called *High Tide: an anthology of texts of literature revolving around the Mediterranean*. It is a very thick book that was published together with the Institute for Literature of Belgrade and the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature of the University of Pescara. It is a rare occasion, isn't it? It is a rare opportunity at least as far as the culture and literature field is concerned. The institutions involved during that meeting about the book were the University Library of Belgrade, Kolarac conference centre and the Philology Department, so three high-level prestigious institutions from the city of Belgrade. The director, the Dean of Faculty of Pescara in charge of this department of foreign languages and literatures often mentioned this new entity that is about to be shaped which is the macro-region, but nobody, please believe me, none of my colleagues knew about it. None of them understood what we were talking about. And when they received minimum information about it, and to be further deepened, talking about this macro-region putting various departments in contact, institutes producing science, culture, they were openly, overtly uninterested and distrustful and that is why I started from there and said "What should be done, could be done to change this kind of attitude?"

This kind of lack of interest and neglect, usually it is true for rank and file citizens in post-communist countries. There is a sort of lethargy, this is a problem, which shouldn't be neglected and therefore we should think how to reverse this trend, how to awaken, re-awaken people's interest in Politics in the high sense of the term. But scratching at the surface we could realise that such a reaction was a consequence of a century-old, deeply-rooted tradition and stereotyping in the old Empire regions whereby only the liaison with the great countries count, the ones who can work and serve as masters and kings. The little ones and even the neighbours are not interesting at all, are never really taken into account.

Apart from a limited period in time, these projects have almost never worked. I mean talking about the Balkan Federation projects, and we know what the Yugoslavian history ended up in, even though they always started from great ideas, supported by intellectuals and political willingness. Regional alliances have always been difficult to create and shape for them to last long and in a sustainable way. In one of the many books about policies, construction policies and destruction of Yugoslavia, the north-western University professor Andrew Wachtel who teaches Russian who wrote the book "Making the nations and reshaping nations" concerns the cultural field. It is not necessarily a political field showing that with great effectiveness and strength that one of the reasons why the

Yugoslav Federation didn't work was the lack of education for cohabitation of different groups of ethnical groups, different peoples. The party and the armed forces, two main pillars of Yugoslavia, which were supposed to defend brotherhood and unity, then became the most active destroyers of the country unity.

I'm not an idealist, I don't believe that a certain activism is enough to reverse stereotypes that still prevent peoples to get closer to neighbouring countries and regions, be they small or big and to identify commonalities, common problems and to try and solve them together, to therefore share views to understand what to do with one situation or what the solutions to problems might be. On the other hand, instead of believing that we should be part of it, we should commit ourselves and we should therefore be active and create activities in all the countries that are supposed to become part of the macro-region. Otherwise in ten years' time we will go back to where we were, as this book "Social Changes, Cultural and Ethnic Relations, and Euro Integration Processes in the Balkans" says. It was published by the Philosophy Department of Niš University in 2004. If you read this book, you will learn about one of the outcomes that might also be significant for the point in time, that we are now, given this macro-European euro-region.

And in this book, at the same time, reference is made to the regionalisation process as well as to the globalisation process of the Balkans. So they analyse the necessity of these processes, but no further step forward is made towards the implementation of the regionalisation process. It is not the only one, it is absolutely, indeed typical to identify problems, but without suggesting any solutions, any approaches, reactions to them. That is very typical. Something very interesting emerges from this book, which is quite significant and that concerns the analysis of factors, which according to the public opinion freeze, hinder and others that instead are conducive to the implementation of relations and connections with others and integration of the various regions.

The main integration factor is sports, men and sport as an enterprise. This is according to this book, to what emerges from this book. According to a survey, opinion polls carried out by this book among Serbian citizens, so according to Serbian citizens one of the main integrating factors is sports and sports enterprises. Secondly culture, cultural institutes. Sports account for 87% and culture accounts for 86%. Scientists are at in the third place with 82%, universities and other scientific institutions rank fourth and then they are followed by enterprises and entrepreneurs.

NGOs, non-governmental NGOs come afterwards, whereas politicians and public administrations ranked last. They are not perceived, conceived as integration factors, indeed the opposite. Only 54% of the people believe that they, namely politicians, might be able to promote integration and cooperation among regions, which is quite interesting, to take into account. Whereas religions, various different religions are seen, are perceived as indeed obstacles, hindering the cooperation. It is true that this opinion poll reflect the perception of reality but that should be taken into account when you think of building an effective and successful cooperation, as we are doing.



A further element deserves attention in terms of a certain social activism, if I might call it that way. All the various post-communist changes are seen as imposed from a top-down approach. Zoran Vidovic in the book talks about the reversed Bolshevism. Changes have been imposed by the new rich, the powers, the important European powers among which Germany, first of all, mostly Germany. If instead for the Adriatic-Ionian region to have a different profile, according to a bottom-up approach, starting from education in order to understand the benefits that might derive from the network, therefore might we believe in this institution, we might be more trustful.

Now a few suggestions. Creating an experts team, experts in history, history of culture and economics, in every region and they should be appointed with the task of drafting a short history of the region itself, highlighting the hotspots, the main priorities that require action and solutions. A few speakers have already dwelt on that, Ivetić, Rago and others. In this field of course we should, as professor Ivetić said, talk about historians, social historians from the Balkans, who for about ten years or so, have carried out research works and manuals which have not really been used much by schools, for schools, and so at present the history education committee has been set up, organised by the Centre for Democracy and Reconciliation in South-Eastern Europe, based in Thessaloniki. So this is a very important group that is not very well known but I think it is very active and relevant and so their work and results should be disseminated and should be better known. They deserve it, from my point of view.

So I believe that it is important to compare and contrast the results obtained by the historians in the economic and social field. It is important to publish these results in a handbook that might be circulated within this region. And I think that we should find the way to encourage and stimulate a network whose main components might be initiatives and institutions that already deal with this territory. You also have a South East Europe media organisation based in Vienna and then you also have other initiatives for education and active citizenship. So all these various initiatives should be networked, so that they can work better and be more fruitful.

Then we, I believe, that we should identify the practitioners, the lecturers, who could go around and hold lectures in universities but not just at that level but also in schools, junior high schools, to educate young people, to develop their sense of belonging and identity, organise public meetings university meetings, capitalise on everything and disseminate these messages. These are the tasks for us all. The manual, the handbook, that provides a summary of the social and economic and cultural situation but also makes a list of the priorities and problems to be addressed and solutions to be found to these problems. Then as for tourism and tourism enhancement is concerned, I would mainly insist on cultural tourism within the macro-region.

And I think that it might be a good idea to pick a city every year, one of the eight regions that will make up this macro-region, this Adriatic Ionian macro-region in the wake of the model that has already been designed in the case of the European capital

of culture. So every time we might pick, instead of an EU capital of culture, a macro-regional capital for every year so that we might pick centres of excellence, education, knowledge, culture, economy, transport, tourism etcetera.

I would favour student exchanges within the macro-region in the framework of a few programmes to be identified. I would like to foster friendships, twinnings and partnerships between schools and pupils. I insist on the exchange of students and pupils even at the high school levels so that young people can be educated about this new mentality and reality that should come about. And then possibly raise funds for research projects concerning the past, present and future of this macro-region so that we can launch a competition for the best research project or work deriving from, emerging from this area.

Tariq Ali, the British Pakistani writer in Belgrade released an interview, many interviews actually, and in one of them, that's what he said. He was very critical towards dismantling old, common assets and all the big entities of the past that are now sold or sold away to the private partners, especially to foreigners during the transition period of the Balkans. He points out as the only way out, cooperation cohabitation with one's regional neighbours, so that macro-regions can be set up, among and between countries sharing commonalities and common problems, to speak up with one single stronger voice to be bigger among the big of the world. So not just the people from the region but also the ones from the outside, looking at the future towards the future of these countries, they come up with these ideas of rallying forces, acting through this new type of institution which is called European macro-region or Adriatic Ionian macro-region. Thank you for listening.

Francesco Privitera

Thank you Professor Mitrović.

Well, let's go to the last presentation for this morning session. This is the presentation by the research team by IECOB on the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region. This is a research team composed of a young team of junior researchers and junior analysts: Caterina Ghobert, Tommy Slaviuric, Cionari Ritto, Giovanni Bottari, Adriano Remiddi. I kindly invite you, Adriano Remiddi as the spokesperson of the team, to introduce the presentation about education, culture and mobility, building awareness and human capital in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region. Thank you.

Adriano Remiddi

So, distinguished directors and professors, ladies and gentlemen, your friends. In the life of each of us, there comes a day when you're supposed to make your first public speech. Well that day for me is today. So please be patient if I'm emotional on account of



that. Anyway, we feel really privileged to have been invited here, to give our contribution toward the ambitious project of this macro-region. We are particularly grateful to those who encouraged our participation and who understood before the others that this generation, our generation should have a chance, that to be young of course means to be young, but it doesn't necessarily imply to be unskilled, to be unprepared, to be naive.

So this IECOB research team is composed by 8 individuals, which may represent in a nutshell this new generation of scholars who gained their education in this transitional level. As former or current students, we have had the chance to study, to live in more than 30 universities such as Bologna, Padua, Verona, Ljubljana, Zagreb, Belgrade, Sarajevo, Banja Luka and many others. This is a great advantage of this generation, which is not really close to what was before. We were switching from both sides of this macro-region in the last few years and we are indirectly the outcome of this macro-region, which is already existing for a slice of society, a narrow one but there is already a kind of macro-regional awareness.

Of course this awareness is not spread, I mean we are the outcome of this, but just because we went through a specific education in this macro-region. Taking the benefits of programmes, of joint programmes in education within the countries, but this is not spread at all. This is not common.

According to a research, a survey made by IECOB in 2011 among researchers and scholars, so people who should be more aware in culture, in European studies. People were asked, "Where do you belong to? How would you define your identity?" So the question was posed to people from, let's say, Balkans, western Balkans. 55% of people answered that they belonged to the western Balkans. 33.3% answered South-eastern Europe. Just, maybe it's not that negative, but 8.3% answered kind of Adriatic-Ionian macro-region. So this awareness is very weak, of course.

In order to build awareness, you should implement policies. The European Union is trying to do this from the really beginning, implementing many, many programmes which involve students and youngsters. An identity cannot be taken for granted unless you implement projects to build it up, this will not come by itself. The process of building up a credible and endurable macro-region identity has to necessarily involve its citizens.

Without macro-regional citizens, you will never create a macro-region, you will create an empty box. So education and higher education can be an extraordinary vehicle and tool to support the creation of a macro-regional culture and identity. So the question is, "How to foster a macro-regional awareness?" In our opinion, this can be done through the creation of valid projects in the field of education, characterised by inclusiveness, sharing of knowledge, sharing of know-how and mobility which might be directly beneficial for the macro-regional citizens, because it's tailor-made, it's shaped on the macro-regional priorities. So we would like to explain a couple of our projects to you, which are quite pragmatic, let's say coherent with this forum. So how to foster this macro-regional awareness?

First point: secondary education. Secondary education might be considered the starting point. Schooling actively involves the youngsters, the young generation, but as well teachers, administration staff, technical staff and families in a very close interplay. Secondary education has a high potential to become a concrete promoter of macro-regional awareness through mobility, the idea of mobility. The idea is simple as such. The creation of a network of mobility programmes across the macro-region, based on cooperation and know-how transfer, fostering solid dialogue among public administrations, teachers, students and families. Mobility so structured is meant as a trans-generational one allowing a positive kind of domino effect toward this society toward this macro-regional society. This is not Utopia. This can be done and why can this be done? Because it already exists, this is done already in Europe, in the world. It's just that there is not a macro-regional way how to interpret a kind of project like that. We would like to mention you some good practices, which should be taken as an example to develop such secondary education mobility.

Comenius: individual pupil mobility. This is an official programme of the European Union within the framework of the Life-Long Learning programme. Better known as LLP. It allows mobility of students, teachers and school staff, thanks to Comenius, those three categories are allowed to spend from three up to ten months in some foreign schools, with obvious benefits for awareness, European awareness in this case. But mobility is not just about institutions, I mean, there are great examples of cooperation between institutions and almost private actors, sector. This can be the example of EFIL. EFIL is not a European solution, but EFIL is a European citizens three semester programme. This is a very old, it's been running for three decades, programme which allows exchange of pupils and staff and teaching staff and administration all over Europe, and this action has already built up a scheme of mobility within the Balkans. Between the Balkans and Western Europe this is called TASTE, and it's very effective and now already in this moment it is taking place but doesn't involve a macro-regional dimension.

So taking into account those two positive examples as already existing models we strongly believe that a similar undertaking could be extremely beneficial for the macro-regional purposes. The second proposal is about university, so university is obviously our focus point. Academia, we didn't hear this word very much today and yesterday. Academia, university cooperation, we didn't talk very much about that, despite the forum piece about university. We were surprised. Anyway, academia in the macro-region is facing a period of transition on both the sides of the sea.

And the western Balkans is challenged by the implementation of the Bologna process, which is often tough and problematic. Together with the rising competition from Turkish, Anglo-American and Austrian Universities. On the other side of the sea, let's say in Western Europe, academia is suffering the consequences of economic crisis, facing serious shortages, which are rapidly leading to the weakening of the quality of education. Consequently a growing mistrust is spreading amongst both the prospective students,



with a great diminishing in enrolment at bachelor level, and the talented scholars, which are dramatically affecting the brain drain.

The brain drain in countries like Italy is assuming the proportion of diaspora. Just in 2013, this year, 50,000 masters graduates left Italy to go overseas, with not many chances to come back. I apologise for stressing this. Maybe it sounds really dramatic, but this is our reality today. The Macro-region can be a tool to avoid it. Education might be the trade union for the EUSAIR strategies, being a unique chance to develop at the same time, awareness and expertise. How to join these together? EUSAIR strategy clearly states, clearly states that, and I'm quoting, "qualified and mobile workforce has to be created through vocational education programmes, life-long learning, research and technological development, innovation and development of transnational networks, including smart specialisations."

In which fields? The fields are clear. Maritime growth, so the blue economy sector, blue technologies, blue research, aquaculture fisheries. Connectivity; so transport. And this means that we need, the macro-region will need precise skills in the three stages of the project, so the planning, the realisation and the maintenance. Environment protection; so biotechnologies, and preserving biodiversity and so on and so forth. And finally attractiveness, so tourism. Managing the gap between the cultural and natural heritage and its concrete appraising, managing a potential clash that appraisal process of heritage may involve in critical areas. And the protection, for instance, of UNESCO world heritage.

Bearing this in mind, which are our proposals? The first: the creation of a framework for academic mobility. Well in this area, this macro-region is really poor let's say. A framework for academic sharing was established almost 15 years ago, let's say, and 12 years ago this is UniAdrion, that so far has not even been mentioned in this forum. UniAdrion is a network of 36 universities in the region, which so far, today don't have any contact. But the relevance of mobility, the relevance of sharing knowledge, sharing know-how is really clear at a European level. That's why the European Commission wasn't waiting, wasn't losing time, didn't miss this train.

The European Commission was implementing three major schemes of mobility and cooperation in the Balkan region toward and between the Balkans and Western Europe; Erasmus Mundus Action2 created a joint CU partnership coordinated by the University of Gratz, Austria. Out of the macro-region. The second framework was, is still, Basileus, with 5 editions coordinated by the University of Gent, Belgium, not in the macro-region. The third, this is a new one from 2 generations SIGMA, coordinated by the University of Gratz, sorry, of Warsaw, Poland; out of the macro-region, maybe rather in the Baltic macro-region. How many of the 36 UniAdrion universities are taking part in this? 12 out of 36, one third, 33.33%. This is completely dysfunctional. Why? Because basically all the Balkan Universities, which are partners of the UniAdrion are participating, but they are participating with Gratz, Gent, Warsaw and their network so they don't send

students to the other side of the macro-region. The contribution of Greece, Croatia, Italy and Slovenia in this partnership is practically, is almost zero. Croatia and Greece are zero, Slovenia 1, Italy 1. With the great contribution of the University of Bologna, which enjoys a great tradition of cooperation with the Balkans. This is completely dysfunctional for the purposes of building European awareness.

So what we propose is simply creating another, a new Erasmus Mundus action two, which could be called Erasmus Mundus lot UniBalkans, sorry UniAdriion, because it already exists as a network but the name doesn't matter. It has to be created, the proposal too. The creation of joint programmes ad hoc, this means, on specific purposes. I come from social sciences but I see that in this, that in the strategy of the macro-region, there is need of science. Science. Culture as well but science is the driving force of this macro-region. So the proposal is to foster cooperation for the creation of Masters of Sciences, PhD programmes in science, in the fields we know, maritime growth, connectivity, protection of the environment, attractiveness. But coming from this new generation of interdisciplinary studies, we really would like to stress the need to implement whatever master, whatever programme to be oriented even on the cultural side, needs to create awareness.

So Masters programmes shouldn't avoid teaching local languages and socio-political economic historical background of the region. In this way you join together the need to skill people in specific purposes and to give them awareness. And this works and we are the example of this. We are a random outcome of this process, which could be really implemented as a strategy. As in the case of secondary education, this can be done as well. Why? For the simple reason that this already exists.

We would like to mention a few good practices which can be taken as examples, aspiration, so. If we're talking about creating joint programmes, this exists at European level; it's called Erasmus Mundus Masters. Erasmus Mundus Masters is a solid reality that Europe had to implement quite quickly in order to avoid the brain drain to overseas. Instead of sending students to study in America or Canada or Australia or Asia, the European Commission as we know, this is very well known, decided to start a strategy for which the excellences, they joined together and they tried to build outstanding education, sharing know-how, sharing knowledge. This is a shortlist, I mean, a few years ago there were just 36 Master Mundus, now they are proliferating there are 126. Master Mundus means that you join, you put together your expertise and then you share the students as well. So a single student can study engineering: one semester in Amsterdam or second semester in Poitiers or Paris, third semester in Madrid, fourth semester in Bologna.

This is a way to create expertise and awareness at the same time. Here's a list of Master Mundus, which suit the exigencies of this macro-region. So you see the European Masters in tourism management, Master Mundus in sustainable territorial development, Master Mundus in environmental sciences, policies and management and so on and so forth, there are many, and they exist. But maybe the best, the best example is the second



one, which is called Bonus 169. Bonus 169 is probably, let's say, the name could have been better but this can be taken as a point of reference. The programme was developed by the Baltic macro-region. It's a formal joint cooperation among national research centres and activities of the eight Balkan Sea states, into a single joint research programme mainly focused on environmental research. The programme is being co-founded by the European Commission and it's specially devoted to the development of tourism, aquaculture, food security, maritime transports and so on and so forth. So this is exactly what we are talking about in the discussion paper.

So which are the assets of our projects? Sustainability: in our opinion the projects do not necessarily require the creation of new and costly administrative bodies or agencies. Rather than centralisation we are in favour of the practice of sharing expertise and know-how among with the partners. This is functional but a budgetary point of view and useful to reduce the gap in expertise among the actors, which is a problem as a macro-region. The pragmatism to approach a more sustainable and faster process, we suggest that the already existing tools which are functional to the strategies should be considered; an example could be UniAdrion.

UniAdrion might represent a clear example of this sustainable approach. UniAdrion, if properly updated and empowered, can be a great advantage but of course should not be turned into a costly bureaucratic machine. The realism: the projects are realistic and would give direct benefits in the short term. For instance, during the seven years of the budget, a Master programme can be established and can generate the free circulation of students, so the effects can be transferred to society, very, very soon.

We are strongly convinced that those ideas are absolutely consistent because they are customised on the potential and on the strategy of the macro-region. So they fulfil all the European evaluation criteria. They're smart: so specific, measurable, obtainable, relevant and time bound. They're efficient, they're raising awareness and promoting integration. They're innovative because they're not so far. They've direct impact on the territory. They generate win-win solutions with mutual benefits for all the partners and of course they have added value. Should this project be realised, we will have shaped human capital, human resources, which are perfectly matching these scientific purposes and priorities of the strategies of the macro-region. And which are already macro-regional ones. In such a way education and academia will be together a bridge, between the expertise and awareness.

In closing the circle, this skilled and aware workforce that we have been creating, will have to be employed directly or indirectly for the macro-regional purposes. Should this be realised it would certainly soften the dramatic outflow of youngsters from the macro-region. This is a problem that this generation knows very well. And if nothing changes it probably might involve us as well. So referring to the European Community Jean Monet once said: "if I had to do it again, I would begin with culture". Of course we agree, but we would have to add that if we had to do it again, we would begin with culture and mobility. Thank you very much.

Francesco Privitera

Thank you very much Adriano for this very concrete but also fresh presentation. Now we can open the discussion, we collected today five presentations, with very inspiring tools for our discussion and I hope there will be a lively debate now, inviting you to take part too. Please, can you just introduce yourself there. Is there a microphone? Please wait for a microphone.

Enika Abazi

Thank you. My name is Enika Abazi. I think people know me because I just gave my presentation, yesterday. In fact I wanted to make a short comment, rather than asking a question about the last presentation, which I find very interesting and in fact I am very much in support of it. The problem is that from my personal experience, which is very recent like your research, it's very difficult to make this project of mobility work at the regional level. I have tried myself to somehow improve, support, give all evidence necessary to make it work. Unfortunately until now, apparently there is no kind of readiness, willingness to participate. In fact, to be more concrete, I am talking about Basileus.

Basileus is for the Western Balkan countries to increase the mobility of students, create common projects between academicians and a lot of other activities that you can do with Basileus. It is very liberal in the terms that there are some partners, for five years you have the partners with the website of the University of Gent, as you mentioned, which is the coordinator. For this year they also had to come to the region and especially to Albania and the main partner University to introduce the programme and encourage students to go. Myself, as I am on my sabbatical leave and I am in France and I was working at the University of Science in Bordeaux and I thought that it is time, it is an idea, not within the Adriatic Ionian space, but why not with friends, to have something, an exchange of students and so on. I informed three or four universities, but no answer, which is a surprise.

So it's made me think why it doesn't work, because even the universities who are not partners under Basileus, they can make an agreement with the university they would like to exchange students with, and it's not a complicated procedure, just sign a simple agreement just for the exchange of students and then from projects you can enlarge it. I think there are two problems, that, thinking why it doesn't work, it is first, learning from the French experience. I'm from Political Science international relations, in France, the Institut des Etudes Politiques, Sciences Po, as they are called. They have undertaken a kind of established rule, let's say, that the third year has to be, of the student, of the bachelor has to be outside France. So it has to be studied at another university because you are studying international relations, you have to know about political systems of



other countries, you have to learn the languages, so it's absolutely a rule that can't be broken. You can't spend the third year in Rheims or in Paris or Bordeaux or wherever these institutions are that in France, I think you know.

Therefore the universities were eager to have agreements with others. We can adopt the same but this has to be at the university level. Even at the national level, at national level for example, I'm talking about political science, they have to take the decision that the third year has to be outside Albania. It has to be, I don't know, in Italy or France. And Basileus supports this movement of people financially. The second is language. Because, for most of the Albanian universities, it was a problem because they teach in Albanian, so the students when they have to come to Albania, they wouldn't find courses in English. And some were even very negligent because they were saying, so, ok, our students don't know that much English to go and have the third year somewhere else and we don't have courses in English, so in the region I think it is also a problem of language. So the students will come but which classes will they attend?

So maybe we have to work in this direction as well, because language is very important. Ok, we can exchange but to whom are you going to talk? And I think these are two important points first that at institutional level that something has to be done, to take the decision that students have to go through the procedure, using the programmes and the second is language. I don't know, I don't want to say that we have to introduce English or Italian or whatever, but maybe exams could make those students capable of following and being participants of other courses that are taught in another language than their own language and you know that in the Balkans or in the region we speak too many languages. So to go to each other's universities first we have to ..., maybe for Albanians, they are more easy with Italian, so they, in fact quite a lot of students are studying in Italy and a lot of scholarships also, even in exam which is established by your Italian embassy for students who'd like to come. Now we hear the reverse so a lot of Italians are coming to study in Albania too because we have in Italian, it's much easier. We don't need a visa, but I think we have to think because I think everybody, I am also very much willing to do it, but there are some problems, we have to see where the problems are. I have defined two, maybe there are others. Thank you.

Francesco Privitera

Thank you professor.

Adriano Remiddi

As I mentioned, we had a chance to study at many universities, so we faced, I mean we were studying, in this group let's say in the East, in the West, in the North, in the South, in Anglo systems, American systems, Balkan systems, post communist, pre-

communist. So we faced all the ... you just mentioned a couple of problems of mobility and all the universities can face it. But I guess that we went through all the possible problems connected with recognition of your studies, credits and so on and so forth. There are many solutions, there are many solutions because there are many ways to adapt to what you want to achieve that we saw, I mean, just there to be implemented as official.

The problem of the language is a big dysfunction, that in Italy, it means a lot for Italy because we don't have many outgoing students. Italian students they go, I mean, let's say, predominantly to Spain or to France, because they can speak the language, but if the point is to teach English to students in order to implement mobility, you just have to teach English. So the point is this, this can be the main point. There is no doubt that English can be taught at secondary level of education.

The big problem is administration. In this, I mean, we were computing how many unis there were totally out from any network and for instance: Dubrovnik, Rijeka, Split, Zadar, Ionian university in Greece, Patras; they can't, they simply can't implement this. Administration is the problem. And Croatia is a great case of dysfunctionality in this. So administration has to be the focus in our opinion.

To mention the great case of Zadar, Zadar University, they tried, they tried for three years in a row to be a member of the joint CU programme. So when they applied the first year, they were in Western Balkans and so they started their accreditation, but they couldn't finish the accreditation in time. The second year they switched from the Western Balkans to the European countries, so basically they didn't have students to send or students to arrive, because the target students were changing each semester. So basically they lost the train. They didn't have any incoming students. I personally got scholarship from Zadar where I've never been. Finally I went to Belgrade, which was, I mean, the best in my life, but at the time I wanted to go to Zadar. I didn't and many others didn't. So this is the dysfunctionality, administration.

Elena Tagliani

May I make a comment, even though I'm not part of academia? I'm not an academic

I don't really agree that it is a problem of administration. Just because I'm Italian and I studied in Italy and you have to administer a public resource. And this of course has burdens. It is difficult. It's not easy to make that possible. And many times it is difficult to provide a quality answer. So allowing so many students to move around should turn into quality so that young people are empowered and given the possibility to make a change. How to let administrations to work together with the cultural world, research, so that high quality results can be achieved? Otherwise these resources are wasted.



Adriano Remiddi

I agree with you. I agree with what you say. I'm 26 years old and my colleagues are 25 years old. Over the past five or six years we've done it, in the western Balkans you find it possible. Some of them are already doing it. This is possible. I do not think intellectually that that cannot be done, in the sense that it is possible to involve administration and quality. This is possible.

Mobility within the macroregion is an objective, both a political and an educational objective, so from a certain point of view, so this is a short blanket, as we say in Italian, a small blanket, because ERASMUS doesn't provide all students with the possibility to achieve such a quality that you are referring to but the political aim is to create awareness is much bigger than the actual quality, so since macroregional proportions are much smaller than Western Balkans and than ERASMUS at a European level. I mean, even in seven years you can fill the gap, also from a quality and administration point of view.

Elena Tagliani

Yes. I was not talking about future prospectives, but we have to think and act strategically. Mobility is essential because of education and training, but this is a need that is felt by all people who move around. Our professor can provide a direct witness. That's what we said. We were saying the same thing

Are there any other comments? Please. Professor Cocco.

Emilio Cocco

Very short comment but first of all congratulations because it was your first public speech and I think it was very good and I wish my first public speech had been like this. It was much worse! Anyway, because I've been involved in a number of cooperation initiatives in the last ten years at least, I experienced personally a number of problems, among which the one you mentioned in language, administration, constraints and so on and so forth. So just maybe just a couple of tips. First of all I think, you know you did a very good thing, you guys as a group, trying to fix priorities. Meaning, not everything can be internationalised.

Because you know concretely, at least my experience is that there are fields and subjects and topics that the professors themselves don't want to internationalise that much. So it's really, you know, senseless to force things too much. Agriculture, yes, tourism, biotechnology this is good too, but also, cultural heritage, you can discuss that.

But what is important in my opinion is some sort of a common effort, to put yourself into discussion and to establish some sort of a new type of curricula. I mean writing the curricula is the real challenge. It is not enough to translate what you are already doing

into English, it's not enough. I mean, take Germany. Now Germany is really a major destination for students from all over the Balkan region, at least since 2007, 2008. You can really see an increasing number of people that maybe were coming to Italy before to study. Some of them are going to Germany now.

But if you check the websites of the programmes offered, you know, you can see that the reason is not just that Germany is powerful. It is that, those curricula, they really standardise them in a way that they will fit everybody's needs. So your needs, my needs, a Chinese student's needs, they're truly international. So it's really a matter of establishing a standard for some programmes here that will be attractive for people from Croatia, Italy, Serbia, Greece, but also from potentially everywhere else.

So it's a matter of increasing the quality to a level which will be understandable and codified for everybody so that you can get that degree and then you're not then forced to stay in Italy or Croatia. So you can go everywhere else in the world. I think this is still missing, isn't it? Because if you go to Croatia then you study the Croatian way. If you go to Italy you study the Italian way. Maybe you get some English classes but I don't think this is really the point. And maybe as a last tip, you know, I think all you said, it's very interesting stuff to do a start-up project.

So think also in terms of a start-up, maybe, you know within a university or an academic institution. You could start up something in term of planning activities like project-making within the university. I mean in a kind of entrepreneurial way. A group of students of the right age, so their brains are still working, it's not completely devastated by academic routine. You can still do it. Because you know now that you're still in time to frame things in the proper way. Because you know a generation is lost, I'm being pessimistic but you know, the UniAdriatic thing was the nineties and then, the last ten years, then it was a cycle now it is a little bit like this, it can be back up with new concepts and new type of curricula. So, think about curricula to be truly international and think entrepreneurially. If I can maybe give you these tips.

Francesco Privitera

Thank you professor.

Caterina Ghobert

I will be super quick. I totally agree that there is the need to put some thresholds, some standards if we want to really internationalise. But still maybe it's me that I like exotic things. But it's somehow interesting also to be able to experience on your skin, on yourself, different types of way of understanding the world, so I mean if you're studying biology of course you need to.. that is biology, but if you are more into a cultural study



interdisciplinary perspective, it's really interesting to see how it works abroad. Like I can have my perspective and also the foreign one, that's it.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you Caterina.

Milos Solaja

Thank you, Professor Milos Solaja from the University of Banja Luka. I have one question for professor Daniela Jacimović, and just a little comment and maybe contribution to discussion on the topics of the group of students. My first question, if I have understood correctly. Montenegro suffers from lack of electricity on one hand, on the other hand, it's going to be ready for exporting very cheap electrical energy, and I really don't know where the gap is. If you need electricity, on the other hand there are question of gas supply or renewable energy resources like sunshine energy, wind energy and so on. The reason is that this is an introduction also for my comment. The reason should be contended of different countries. Huge, very developed and small countries very undeveloped. That is the question of strategies and policies.

Where are the interests of both types or kinds of countries to join in one common policies and that's the reason that for instance Montenegro, as the Bosnia Herzegovina, where I come from, also need to hear more energy, to add for a future time when it should be more developed. Just for instance the Bosnia Herzegovina and particularly the part of Bosnia Herzegovina, the place I come from, export energy, but it exports only because of lack of using of economy capacities, not because of sufficient energy we really produce. There's one question, there's the gap.

The other question is about mobility and studying and all. We are here from absolutely different environments. Whatever, maybe we would like to produce identity. But the identities, as I see it, I assume are a sense of common ground for something. Environment. Colleagues and me come from a more pro-middle Europe, middle European oriented sense, now we would like to create and to contribute to create an Adriatic Ionian identity. Maybe talking in academia circles we can speak about it, but I think that environments are not so ready to understand what is in the core of the story. It's very difficult to explain to people we come from that they have to identify with Adriatic-Ionian project. Just for explanation, the western Balkans.

The western Balkans is European imagination for six countries, former socialist countries and five of them are newly established, there are former Yugoslavian countries plus Albania. But there are many conferences on education, on development of civil organisations and so on in media. There were no Albanians and the explanation was very prosaic. The translating equipment is very expensive. But can we talk about the identity

in that case? If we are dependent on translation equipment. That's one of the really, how to say, shaming stories of how the recent history after 1999 when the stabilisation process was produced. Also this type I absolutely can support the academic approach to creating identity. But it is very historical thing. From the very beginning of human kind, started there is a mobility in education. But how can we speak about the developing of mutual and common interest for the region, and based on that, education which could be an engine for the developing of common interests. In the region, in order that people know much more about each other, there's the problem. For instance, just a question.

How could we have found interest for instance between people from Macedonia and Italy if it is not economy. How to create that common ground in order to produce a sense of identity or we would like to maybe create some policies about identity management, which I don't believe in but I think that it is some sort also of grounds for policies. That's the reason that I'm really curious how to, how can we be interconnected really not only interested.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you so much Professor Solaja

Adriano Remiddi

This project of the macro-region is at a very advanced stage. I mean the discussion paper really outlines which the priorities are. And those priorities are mutual for all the eight countries, so for instance, yes, you can build identity toward education and really because you have some mutual interest. I mean I don't see why the mutual interest, for instance, yes economy, but economy means environment. Let's look at the problem with Italy versus Croatia that might occur. Pollution of the Adriatic Sea on the western coast could reach the eastern coast since it's really close and this would have terrific consequences on the Croatian GDP, so tourism, which percentage of Croatia's GDP is based on tourism, it's something like 30%, it's huge. In Italy, the FIAT company which is the biggest company has just 4% so if we Italians, we pollute the Eastern Adriatic, I mean where do we want to go like that? So there are mutual reasons to build up education for identity with common goals. It is clear to me.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you Adriano. Let me point out only one thing. The discussion paper is only a proposal even priority Axes, so we are all asked to be provocative, even reacting negatively to this proposal because the action plan will be proposed by the European Commission



and endorsed by the Council. So we are in time now to repel or change or propose a change.

Danijela Jacimović Vojinović

Thank you very much for the question and giving me the opportunity to explore more of what I have said in my presentation because of the shortage of the time, I didn't have time to explain some of my statement. First thing I said that we have deficit in electricity right now because we have one very old-fashioned aluminium plant in Podgorica, and that is a very, very old factory with very old technology. And everybody is aware that that technology and that factory can't exist any more, so we are in the process of transforming it and adjusting to some smaller plants that will be more energy and environmentally friendly. But of course it's a big social problem because it was one of the biggest factories in Montenegro, but it's not economically sustainable any more to have such kind of plant because we are importing extremely expensive electricity and plus government is giving huge subsidies and just not to mention lot of political problems, because the Russians are owners. But since it's a great unsustainable project in Montenegro very soon we will sort it out.

On the other hand, Montenegro has lot of hydro potential as well, all over the region and we almost have a battle among investors who is going to get each position for a mini hydropower electricity factory. And the same battle is all over the region. So this is something, which is very sustainable and very real. So since the region will have a lot of those mini or medium-sized hydro plants, this is the way we should export hydro energy immediately. And at that moment hydro energy is very cheap and that's how Italy found the rationale to invest in that very expensive investment, under sea cable and to get that very cheap hydro electricity and improve supply. And also there is a great battle about who's going to have the major ownership of the company, who will, Italian or Montenegrin capital? Thank you very much.

Elena Tagliani

Professor...

Vedran Obucina

Thank you. Well I have a follow up comment on the presentation of Mr. Remiddi. Well I think we are talking here about two things which could be interconnected, but still should be divided. One thing is mobility programmes of the students, which might focus on identity or projects or making macro-regional citizens. But we are talking here about this strategy that has these four pillars and I was discussing the possibility of having

another one, the fifth pillar. So this, in my opinion, isn't for the students of MA studies or even BA studies. It might come in future but for now it would be essential for the strategy to go on. It would be essential that professionals who are already in the field gain additional education, and this additional education can of course and should go through the existing universities, through the existing research programmes that are specialised in it, but should focus like you said, and I like that creation of joint programmes, which are ad hoc or, well, not so ad hoc, I presume. They should be made accordingly to the strategy.

So I'm more inclined to hear more comments on this than on the mobility programmes of students, who are here, I mean, they have their problems of course, but they're not the problems only of the Adriatic-Ionian region. It's the same problems everywhere. I was in Poland, in Ukraine, I was talking to students. One of their major problems about mobility is that they don't have money. They can receive funds to go on Erasmus or Comenius or anything. They don't have enough money to support themselves in the cities of Western Europe, for example. So that's also one of the problems. But I don't want to go further on this. So the main question is from our universities' point of view. Is it feasible, is it possible to have four or five or six pillars in these specialised courses for the professions of this region? Thank you.

Djordje Tomić

Thank you. Now regarding this exchange of students. I think that another topic, another subject needs to be included in this university exchange. It is the exchange of practices, it is the exchange of internships or opportunities to engage in practical education. And there we need support and we need links with the private sector and with enterprises, we need to encourage institutions and enterprises, both public and private sector in this. Because this university exchange would be enriched in a very important way if we could integrate a practical dimension into it.

One of the problems that we have in Bosnia Herzegovina, is not just that the universities are not open enough to this cooperation. It is also that there are so few ways, there is so little to expect from the practical approach and from internships and from the possibility to do something on a more practical level while still studying. And when it comes to that, I don't think that foreign companies or foreign institutions or international institutions including the European Union have done much in Bosnia Herzegovina. For example, I haven't heard of a representation of the European Commission in Sarajevo or any other office throughout the country offers the possibility for students in Bosnia to come to do their internship and to study up close.

We had one example of a student of Political Science from Banja Luka who did an internship in the European parliament. But this is more of a sensation than a practice that can be established. Why not open Emilia Romagna for Political Science students



from Banja Luka to come for three months, for a month, I don't know how long a period, to do something on a more practical level. Because what we need actually is the operational approach to applicable knowledge. This is one of the problems. And I would also like to use this opportunity to say that I absolutely agree with what Ms Gobert said about the diversity there because it is very important while establishing standards, norms and benchmarking instruments that we keep the diversity of the approaches especially in the social sciences, because this is what makes this exchange viable.

Why would I go to Italy to study in the same way as I can in my own country? So if we harmonise it too much, there will be no need to exchange. But the standards are of utmost importance here.

Elena Tagliani

I fully agree. Just be, not always the same but orient our standards towards a common awareness, even better I think just to keep our identity please.

Milan Podunavac

Ok. Very few words. Yesterday I tried to make some kind of interconnection between the fundamental notions: statehood, citizenship, and democracy and today I would say that this fundamental assumption was slightly upgraded in some presentations, particularly Adriano's, and I would strongly support the something which is within a broader framework, a theory of political culture, identified as education for democracy, as a citizenship education. It could be some kind of unifying force for the whole macro-region and it could be according to my mind one of the basic pillars of the university framework. Certainly we have a good experience in this sense, for example, ERMA programme, which is running in Sarajevo, is something which is some sort of education for democracy and I guess that it is the oldest, the most influential programme in the western Balkans. And as Adriano told us, the result is young leadership, young academic and political classes in the whole region and this is something, which could be the cement of something which I too found out.

Certainly, this kind of ambitious project presupposes some kind of leadership, hegemony, culture, hegemony in the sense that Antonio Gramsci wrote in his book. And we have to find something, which Americans found, which was the great contestation between great states and when Virginia found a solution and I'm thinking who'd be in this macro-region, macro-region Virginia? Right now we have a quite clear spot, which is Romagna. And I guess this is something, which is a starting point for our next and a further discussion about our project. Ok.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you to all of you sincerely.
Oh, Only one last comment.

Stefano Bianchini

Sorry. Now I wanted to follow what Milan said exactly, because I perfectly agree. This is in a sense what happened in my view today this morning when we raised the issue on how to re-establish an interest in the region because this is a key point that has been raised by several papers presented today. Actually what do we consider the role of the Adriatic and the Ionian Seas is in this context? I have the impression that they appear to be more a sort of a border, a mental border rather than a bridge of connection. Is this the legacy of the cold war? Is this the legacy of the Yugoslav dismemberment, so for this reason everybody is concentrated more on how to re-establish bonds that have been broken, and so for this reason there are no key interests. I would also say that maybe even if I speak about the University of Bologna, as such as a university as an institution, the interest towards this space is much lower today rather than five or six years ago. And so this means something. This means something. So in this sense the question can be reversed. How can the universities, how can certain programmes, how can education as such become one of the levers that can, at different levels, re-launch an interest about this macro-region?

How can we re-establish a bridge between the two shores, of the Adriatic and the Ionian. Because I had the impression that what the MIREES young scholars presented today is exactly the lack of contacts, the lack of cooperation in spite of the good words, of the good intentions. We lack this, when you mentioned the set of centres of excellences. To what extent are these centres able to involve at least three or four centres of the macro-region today? The centres of excellences that you mentioned, you made a list. I remember that you referred to the pillars. So it is something that is to be imagined, is to be created. So this means that these centres of excellences should be, in a sense, the product of an interest of centres that exist within the macro-region which then cooperate. So, it's something that should be created. Because we don't have at this moment this kind of cooperation. We have a cooperation within the European Union, that we can have easily, as Enika Abazi also mentioned with France, with Germany, maybe in a broader context with Britain. But when we speak about the macro-region, the interest within the macro-region, this is very poor. This is the point. And the question is how to re-create the interest, how to re-create a set of bonds that maybe existed in the past, but and in this case what is the interest? What is the common interest that is connecting us? So, I think that this is a key point that has emerged this morning and that should represent a further elaboration where the universities can be invited to cooperate in this sense and to give



their own specific contribution, even by revising the discussion paper, because in my view this discussion paper should be revised. I will tell something more this afternoon on this issue. Thank you.

Elena Tagliani

Thank you for your contribution. Professor Privitera. Are you satisfied with them? I am.

Francesco Privitera

Let me congratulate all of you for this quite interesting and inspiring session. Actually we can enjoy the break and be here at two o'clock for the last panel of the day's conference. So thank you so much to everybody.



06 December 2013 Panel 3

Patrizio Bianchi

Shall we begin? – Bianchini has arrived so we can begin now. This is how things are by definition! I have grown up being used to the fact that when Bianchini arrives the proceedings can start.

Ok let me thank all of you for this session. We have four presentations so I suppose that is ..20, 25 minutes each and this means that we arrive in less than two hours in order to have 40 mins, three quarters of an hour for the discussion.

Great. Let me thank you once again the organiser, and Elena, for having asked me to chair this session. This session is, according to my understanding, is focused on a really crucial idea. That the macro-region is attractive, if it's possible to have a real identity. And identity is crucial for economic development by, in some sense, building up the conditions for economic development. So that there is this crucial, difficult, but needed interaction between all the aspects connecting social, civic society, social contexts, social capital, identity and the conditions for development. So let me start by asking professor Žagar to open this discussion working on the idea of the importance of managing ethnic, cultural and social relevant diversities. For peace, but also for development and the wellbeing of the people. Thank you.

Mitja Žagar

Exactly, thank you very much. I'll try to be as focused as possible. First I would like to thank the organisers for inviting me here. And for actually continuing and initiating this very important discussion, that hopefully will contribute to much closer links and cooperation between the region. Mediterranean and Ionian Adriatic macro regions are historic regions that were important not only for Europe but also for Africa, Asia and were always bringing together different cultures. And as it was already stressed yesterday, it is important to know that in the past, the sea was and still is the main highway that did not and does not divide, but rather connects and enables travel, communication and exchange in the region. The regions, both the broader Mediterranean and Ionic-Adriatic region are characterised by immense diversities in all these facts. In sense of geography, nature, social, linguistic and all the other ones, of which cultural, linguistic and ethnic, religious ones, are big important segments and dimensions. In history, all countries, all territories around the seas were constantly connected and interrelated in different epochs and they basically influenced each other's development.

And I would like to say that those historic regions are still somehow in our minds when we speak of the Mediterranean as Mare Nostrum and the Adriatic as Mare Nostrum, which actually kind of links and connects all those cultures, peoples together.



And I would like to say that macro regions, such as we are discussing now in this context, are relatively new and recent political inventions and concepts, however a very important one.

In this context I would like to point to a few main characteristics, both of the regions as well as of the social processes in general, because regions also are social processes. Nearly all social phenomena are processes and the concepts, and macro region is a concept, is actually a constructed social and political convention that is agreed upon and culturally and ideologically conditioned and value-based. And this is extremely important because we have to actually bring positive substance and positive value to the concept.

What is the characteristic of all social phenomena? There are at least three main characteristics that all phenomena actually share. The first one is that they are relational. They are based on contacts and interaction. They are spatial, they always cover a certain territory, and here we have to understand sea as a part of the territory, rather than a border and dividing line. And here we should also be aware of the fact that, territory is not only material space, but also imaginary space, mythical territory, cultural territory, which sometimes is extremely important content that has not been given adequate attention.

And finally, all social processes are temporal. Phenomena are processes, and as such, are sequences of events. And therefore we are now at a particular stage of reinventing this Adriatic-Ionian region, and we have to bring in the contents from the past, from the present as well as from the future. And we should be aware that this region is not just an end in itself, but a stage in a process. It is a tool, if you wish.

Another important characteristic of social phenomena, and this includes regions, is that they are complex and they always include several characteristics, dimensions and contacts, that are new and we are not even aware of. When we are speaking of macro region and now I'm referring also to the document, I would like to say that it is a nice policy paper, if you wish. In a way, it's a list of wishes and ideal outcomes. In a way it is, to a certain extent, also a result of certain concepts and theories, but what might be important to note in this context is that the concepts and theories are just the perceptions and re-interpretations of realities and in a way they are creation or imagination if you wish, of phenomena, in terms of concepts.

Consequently the concepts that we create, and this includes the idea of macro region, basically should be understood just as an approximation of reality, and should rather be considered a tool and a yardstick, than a goal by itself. The goal actually should be: a better life, better economic development, the wellbeing of people living there.

I'm basically wanting to speak about the diversities and managing of diversities and in order to formulate a broader context, I would like to state that asymmetries are normal phenomena in the state of affairs in all dimensions and spheres of life. Diversities and pluralities as well as asymmetries are the basis for diverse interests. Diverse interests can result in diverse and possibly conflicting interests. They can lead to crisis and conflicts.

However what is extremely important is to stress that conflicts and crisis are normal

phenomena and state of affairs and what really is important for the perspective and wellbeing of an environment, particularly of such a diverse region as Adriatic – Ionian region is, is to manage them peacefully and democratically. This is particularly important due to the fact that in the past, ethnic, cultural and religious diversities and particularly different collective identities have been manipulated and misused in this territory and this is why there are several grievances and quite unpleasant historic experiences that are still present among the populations there. And the concept of the region actually has to deal with them and has to overcome them, not by denying them but by reinterpreting them and particularly by inventing new common interests.

And I would say that economic cooperation, in addition to cultural and all other ones, is actually a good basis for establishing such common interests and for developing the future. Considering the fact that reality is diverse and asymmetrical, we actually need to regulate and manage it and particularly we need to manage all those socially relevant diversities that actually can be used both in a positive and in a negative sense. Those that can be used to explode certain ideas, to promote hatred and conflict as well as, if they are handled properly, they can be used as the basis for the future of cooperation and building of new frameworks.

When it comes to the Mediterranean and the Ionic-Adriatic regions, I would particularly like to promote them as regions of peace and cooperation. In the context of current economic and social crisis, attention should be paid particularly to regional economic and social development and particularly we should be concerned with the establishment of equal cooperation at all relevant levels, from local to national to regional.

This demands cooperation among the states, regions and local authorities, as well as all the relevant economic and socio-political actors. And those include individuals, organisations, companies and economies as well as individual citizens and political personalities, associations, organisations and movements, political parties, media, state, public and private organisations and institutions. And here I would like to stress, also considering the main topic of our conference, educational ones, among which higher education and research institutions that play key roles, both in providing the substance and research and scholarly basis for the understanding of realities, as well as by developing the future concepts and frameworks.

If we want to actually build a stable region and a stable basis for cooperation in the future we actually need to agree upon some key concepts, means and goals. And here I would particularly stress the importance of common interests, then joint projects that in addition to mobilising indigenous resources, should also strive to attract external, particularly foreign direct and indirect investments, when I'm speaking of investments I'm not only referring to financial investments but also to investments like knowledge, technology and so on, which are extremely important.

And then I would like to establish the key goal concept and criterion that should be used in actually evaluating those common interests and goals and this is that we



should consider the resources and limitations of the region and of the societies in order to promote balanced, long-term, green, sustainable development, that determines better life and security of people in societies as their central values and criteria for evaluation of their success. And this is something that I would like to see embedded more in the strategy that is being developed.

Which are the key pre-conditions that I see in this context? First of all, social stability and secondly the perspective of a decent life and development for local people, as well as for certain stable and sustainable, even if not extremely big return on investments, for both locals and those investing in the regions from outside. What does such a strategy actually need to include? First of all it needs to include the definition of long, medium and short-term goals. Some of the goals already are determined by the document. However, several fields are probably still missing; culture, economy, education for that matter is not covered sufficiently, and therefore we will need to actually establish segmental strategies, that will address those deficiencies.

Strategy needs to determine relevant levels, which are local, regional, national and global. And here it is particularly important to actually discuss the issue of multi-level governance and the issue how for example local communities, regions, cities, towns, companies, as well as states and state institutions can be brought together in the same framework. Quite frequently and according to the current legal situation within the international law, most of them of lower levels, sub-state levels in any case would need state authorisation, to do so particularly to conclude some binding agreements and treaties.

What is also important and needs to be part of the strategy, and this is also what is, to a large extent, missing from the document, is the establishment of criteria for the evaluation, both segmental as well as common.

And finally, the strategy also has to elaborate regulation and management within the strategy. And here it is extremely important to define all relevant actors, and the roles, particularly their competences, rights and obligations regarding co-existence and cooperation within the region. Secondly it needs to regulate and manage the social, political and economic responsibility of all actors, from individuals to all forms of collective organisation. Then it has to establish organisational and institutional structures and systems as well as regulation and management of those systems and this is something that will also need to be discussed here.

Do we need additional institutions and if so what kind of institutions do we need? In which fields? How should they be established? What should their competences be? Then it should establish organisational and institutional structures and systems as well as regulation and management of those systems, processes and procedures within those systems.

And finally it also has to establish permanent evaluation and it needs to, in a way, coordinate evolution of strategies at all levels, because the strategies as they are developed

now, are simply a state of mind at a certain point in time. They will definitely evolve in time, and will need to be adjusted and re-written. In some cases, new ones will need to be developed.

A key issue that needs to be addressed in this context, is that practical goals and, if you wish, achievables in different fields and segments need to be developed and determined and also how they are going to be evaluated constantly, and secondly in this process, all relevant actors should be included at all levels and what is extremely important is that the synergy is being achieved that will then multiply the results.

One of the issues that I would consider important and that should be, particularly in this context, considering the demographics of the region included in the strategy, is the issue of migration, particularly immigration and the development of adequate migration and integration policies.

This was also something that was missing from the document. And why I consider this so important, it is because we consider growing, fear of foreigners and xenophobia in this region. And I would say that, unless those issues are addressed and handled properly, they could become an important obstacle to future development or even to preserving the current level of development in the region. I would guess that the best answer to these questions are different policies of multiculturalism and interculturalism that should enable inclusion, equal, free, voluntary inclusion and integration of all, including those coming from outside Europe.

In this context which are the key points that a successful strategy of diversity management or managing of diversity needs to address? The first is actually knowing differences, the awareness that differences exist. The next one is then acceptance of differences, then formal official recognition of differences, then regulation of differences, which then allows for successful management.

I would particularly like to stress that recognition of differences is important both formally as well as from the perspective of individuals and communities. Once they are recognised, they will be more ready to actually see common interests and to cooperate and participate in the process of regional integration on an equal basis. And again I would like to stress the importance of procedures and institutions in this context, including the ones that will actually develop mechanisms and activities for the prevention and management of crisis and conflicts.

I won't go into this definition of diversity management, which you can find in the literature. What I would like to say, discussing the strategy of diversity management in this point, is just the fact that we should consider it to be a permanent process, that actually needs to be continuous and that needs to bring together all relevant levels, all the relevant time dimensions, short, medium and long-term ones as well as all actors and institutions that exist. And I would say that at this point it is particularly important that states and regions are actually being part of it, and that this multi-level governance that I was mentioning before, is actually being discussed.



I think I should stop here and, later on, if there is interest, we could continue in discussion.

Patrizio Bianchi

Ok. Thank you.

Yes because of course now you have arrived with your paper in a very clear situation. According to my understanding, the core of your paper is diversities. Differentiations are relevant in plural society. But it's true that we cannot come back to the fixed idea of the past, but to move to a sort of construction of new identity by choice. That is to say move *jus sanguinis*, from an identity based on the origins in the, in some situation also in the constructive origins in the book of Hobsbawm to move toward a sort of set of converging ideas that we can evaluate and manage in order to build up the new identity that is the common denominator for integration.

It seems to me that now is the moment of your paper that is exactly responding to this question: how is it possible to build up such an identity, not in an abstract world but in this specific situation, this, let me say, I can say that area I can assume, although you say that the concept of macro-region has to be assumed more as an instrument than as a result of the history, so in this area, how is it possible? Is it possible? And how is it possible to build up this identity?

Albert Doja

from the University of Lille

Thank you. First of all thank you for inviting me to this very interesting conference which is tackling very interesting, not only in academic terms but also in policy terms, the way as you framed the question: how to build original identity, in other words, how to build this regional area to be sustained against other processes of integration and disintegration?

When I first, ... one day before coming here, I came across on the desk of one of the civil, research civil officers dealing with research programmes in Europe, who handed me a draft of the confidential, not yet released, framework programme Horizon 2020 which is to be released in a couple of days, on 12 December, I was told.

One of the key programme of this Call will be, if it is not changed in a couple of days, a Call for reflective societies and the focus is on cultural heritage and European identities. The challenge of this Call will be to explore European diversities and the opportunities they bring, in order to enhance the understanding of Europe, the intellectual basis and paving the way for the European society to reflect upon, to critically reflect upon itself.

The background of this research Call is based mainly on the idea that since the start of the European Integration Movement in the fifties, there has been different interaction

between people, tradition, regional, national, regional identities, and practices, courses of action and so on. In this way of doing, the European people, communities, regions, nation states, members, non members, are acting and reacting with each other and toward each other and in this Europe we see what is called in European Jargon the “Something united in diversity”.

I would say that this process of interaction brings us to what people who are familiar with organisational behaviour approach will call corporate identity. And in this sense, I would like to draw your attention to a research project that I am undertaking with my research team at the university of Lille, and to which I invite all of you interested to build a new consortium, starting from our boss, as Stefan would say, and all interested research communities like IECOB and so on.

The challenge of this research project, which I initiated in collaboration with my colleagues in Lille and with another research team at the University of Corsica, which is not far away from here, even if it's not, ... if it is part of another region but not far from Italian perception of regions. The challenge of this research project will be, or is; “what is the main challenge for all citizens and residents of Europe or of our macro-region including which can be policy makers, activists, or even academics?”. What is important is to conserve, to realise and to deepen, to strengthen social cohesion and regional European integration or regional migration in our case.

These two processes, strengthening social cohesion and regional or European integration are two processes, which are largely interdependent; because in this interdependence process, there is also a strong correlation between social cohesion and identity transformation of citizens and residents. The strengthening, for example, of motivation of ethnic state or national identity is a factor of societal friction, tension, maybe conflict, whereas the deficiency of the capacity for civic identity weakens civil society and national, regional or European institutions.

To tackle this, to research this idea of identity transformation, first of all there are two things to be taken into account. First is that there is a generally adopted discourse in social science which speaks with strong authority about moveable identity, fluid identity, hybrid identity, liquid identity and so on. But which cannot tell us with conclusive certitude with no precision sufficient enough to clearly distinguish how and to what extent the identity change is exactly produced.

The second thing is that most of the studies are based on the conception of research, which is based on surveys and questionnaires or interviews, which in most of the cases produce quantifiable data, but they conclude mostly on what we know. So our project has the ambition to go beyond the discourse, I would say the abstract discourse of moveable or fluid or hybrid identity or the survey research, to approach the representation of identity changes and the modalities of adherence or rejection, mobilising a team of sociologists, anthropologists, political scientists, but also the methodology of logical, mathematical modelling, which is tackled by the team at the University of Corsica.



The objective is to proceed to a theoretical analysis and to elaborate some new conceptual reference points, which must bring us to a new explanatory model to account for the identity construction and intercultural dynamics. Considering some intercultural, some cases to test in the European cultural context, the research plan will be based on the re-formulation of some theoretical and methodological advances, mainly taken from the frame analysis of Elvin Goffman, the canonical formalism of a neo-structural kind and the logical, mathematical modelling.

With a combination of these theoretical and methodological advances, the model to be constructed will be based on the elaboration of identity transformation in a clearly specified socio-cultural context where a number of comparable variables will be investigated through discursive practices in a instrumentalised framework which is charged with, which is loaded with power and which is addressed to the audience of societal groups to affect their identity construction in one way or another.

The specific socio-cultural context is framed by societal groups. Consider as an example, a representative example of ethnical motivation with characterised ethnic motivation, like for example, the western shore of the Adriatic Ionian, and against the ... a representative example of the promotion of ideas, of civic ideas in Europe, like the other shore of Adriatic Ionian, for instance.

There will be a comparative perspective trying to explore and to modelise the discourse, the way the discourse is framed in the intersection of a boundary condition, between the ethnic ideology of culture which acts as a structuring factor of cultural identity or ethnicity, against the normative dimension of what is called "*acquis communautaire*" in Europe, acting as a factor of structuring civic identity. Now, to be brief, because we know that the way it is framed is always problematic and is always producing prejudices of one sort or another.

We are convinced that there is a powerful agency which makes necessary the creation of mixed identities, which opt sometimes for ethnic national state identity other times for civic identity, other times from mixed or integrated or a mixing of all these with the idea that the way we frame discourse talking about these identities, each powerfully loaded with an interest, a hidden interest behind what is really being talked about. We know that this happens all the time, now our goal, our objective is to find out what makes these things happen.

We don't know the answer yet, we are researching that. If we knew what it is, this wouldn't be a research, would it? So, but to show you how we intend working, let me take two, one basic principle of our work and one basic example to show you.

The basic principle is simple enough because it has been common knowledge, for anthropology at least, since the fifties, of the last century, even if sometimes, not to say, most of the time it is still not sufficiently understood by many people. It is the fact that it is not culture or history or whatever you like that defines identities, but the other way around. It is the social situation, which defines an identity quality, which choose to

make use of that or other elements, of culture, of history, of whatever you like. So culture, history is to be taken, to be considered as a cognitive resource in our course of action.

Let me recall to you one famous statement of an anthropologist from the mid-fifties where he said against the social situation, "Culture is nothing but the dress of the social situation" It was Edmond Leech who is not very well known for everybody as an anthropologist, but this is not a coincidence, because Edmond Leech was one who was the most outspoken person to make familiar the French structural ideas within the English speaking world. And one of the best students of Edmond Leech, was namely Frederic Barthes who maybe is known by some few, in any case, he was the one who authored the groundbreaking introduction to ethnic group boundaries in '69, which inspired all generations of scholars to come to understand that it is not culture, it is not history culture what I said to define identity, but it is the maintenance of a boundary between us and them, which is created and maintained through the symbolic codification of similarities and differences.

To take a simple example, is our region, Adriatic Ionian region which can be taken to be as divided by the Adriatic Ionian and will find whatever historical fact or ethnographic evidence or cultural differences to argue for that. Let's say, just one: Ottoman, Balkan and Rinascimento in Italia, but exactly the same argument can be taken to consider Adriatic Ionian as a bridge or as unifying region. Just take the 'Serenissima Venezia'. So the way we frame the argument is defined by the interest we choose to put forward and not through history, through culture which is supposed to be there. Everything is there. It depends what we choose to see and not to see. If you want now... Do I have time to continue?

Ok. If you want another simple example now: as an anthropologist it is my bad habit to choose what is the most close to me, to other people. Let's talk about what we are doing here. We are talking about the macro-regional area united by the Adriatic Ionian. This is a good European, good policy within the regional framework of European policy. If I remember, my colleague Enika Abazi reminded us yesterday, in our discussion that, this is to be related to how we consider what is now known as the European problem.

What is the European problem? Europe is in a crisis situation now. So if we consider the big picture, it is not very difficult to see that the regional policy is a European commission Policy against the national state interest of the member states. Perhaps there is no.... this was never stated publicly like that. If I state this like that, it is to be provocative and to understand that the way we frame our argument is necessary related to a hidden agenda. I am not aware but I can see that in that way.

Let's go a step further. When I received the invitation and all things for this Forum, I saw the member states of this initiative. There are, if I remember well, four European member states and four non-European member states. It is very easy to see what the criteria could be to choose these states, these regions and not others. The criteria may be anything that you want, but the most visible is to be coastal, isn't it? To be coastal



means that all regions around the sea that we call Adriatic and Ionian should be, or are at least, members of this initiative. What strikes me, again I will be provocative, maybe I'm politically incorrect, but to be..., to start thinking about things, we must be provocative. Sometimes, even politically incorrect, to achieve that. This is another way of framing it.

What is Serbia doing here? There are many reasons for that and whatever the reason, I will be again politically incorrect, but let me frame the reason in two different ways. One, whatever the reason is, this must be situated between two extremes: one is that it is good to have Serbia here because we cannot achieve this initiative without Serbia there because it is so and so and so... Or another; for some historically-minded people who are very keen to find the argument to oppose this view on the other extreme, will say, "wow! Serbia has always wanted a view on the Adriatic". This is another opportunity for the Serbian lobby to achieve this now, and it seems that they are achieving it. Well these are two extreme views, but whatever the reason, it must be situated within this spectrum and however we frame this, we are following a hidden agenda. Be it civic, or ethnic, state, national.

Let's go further. If we accept that, in the best practice, that we want, why not Kosovo and Macedonia? We know all the reasons, nobody states that. We can refer to Kosovo with a footnote and Macedonia with something very bizarre. Let's imagine if I referred to Italy with a footnote. Italy with a footnote meaning Italy since 150 years ago or something else like that, or another example. France doesn't exist. France is a historical concept, which refers to the kingdom of France, which was a small kingdom in the beginning but because it got stronger and stronger enough, it became the grand kingdom of France, but it doesn't exist. The official name for France is the French Republic. Nobody thinks to frame in this way or another.

Why we are still framing things in that way for Kosovo or for Macedonia? Why don't you simply accept it as a fact? If we accept, we all know the Greeks will be upset, the Serbs will be upset. Whatever we do, whatever we do, we are wrong. So, as I said in my discussion yesterday, it is necessary to work, as professor Remiddi would say, for an ethnography of thinking, and I complete for an ethnography of what we think we are doing and this is the purpose of our project. Thank you.

Patrizio Bianchi

Ok. Thank you. Now one of the issues that I have discussed in this programme was, in this creation of a new collective identity, which is the role of the university? And the role of the university is exactly research and provoking new ideas. So thank you for these provocative but exciting ideas. But it seems to me that in some sense you are arriving at the same conclusion as before. But let me say something that you mentioned at the very beginning. That is Horizon 2020. I think that it was a great result. Not obvious. To consider that the first set of programmes launched by the Commission is regarding

Europe and European culture. Because it's not obvious, because you know that inside the commission, the big discussion was essentially to focus Horizon 2020 on technology, simply on technology.

The recovery of humanities, I think, is a great result of this period of negotiation and the idea to start with cultural heritage. And let me say something more, not only cultural heritage but cultural construction, I think, is a big opportunity also for all the people working in this network. So that I, let me insist once again, on what Albert said, that they are preparing a programme and I think that for most of the people working now in this area, I think this is a big opportunity at least to try to create a consortium large enough to have a real role in this Horizon 2020. For the Italians here, the person responsible for the negotiation this moment at Alma Iura is Fabio Donato from the University of Ferrara, while the person responsible for this part of the negotiations while the person for the Ministry is Fulvio D'Esposito. Sorry, I gave simply the Italian connection to enter the game.

It seems to me that you pose a crucial question that is perspective. When we are speaking about the contradiction that you mentioned between civic and ethnical, considering that ethnical is also the result of history, it is not in origin ideas. It is also the result of the organisation of the states in the last century and the previous century, organising the state on a clear vision that one language, one identity, one state. It is clear what you say, that this was clear also for France, if we consider the difference between Italy and France. If we take the coast of Italy and France, it's quite obvious that in the medieval times, the languages that they used in the past were commercial languages so that probably very, not pure languages, but needed to have commerce.

It is matter of fact that since the end of the 17th century when schooling was imposed as one of the bases of the nation state, here we have France and they speak French, here we have Italy, Ventimiglia and we speak Italian and everything was done to avoid maintaining the commercial language and to fix the state language.

And this is also the creation of diversity, so is it possible now to have a reverse idea, to give value also to this mixed culture? Culture looking for intersections. I think this is a crucial idea, it's crucial for Europe, because I don't think that Europe can survive simply, over-simplifying the connection, the cultural connection, the political connection, simply on the economic connection. I think this is extremely dangerous for Europe; Extremely dangerous, because the price that we can pay for that is that people, ordinary people, can simply feel Europe as something different. Europe in Brussels, Europe as an enemy. I think it's extremely important.

It seems to me that the discussion that we have now, we are focussing on this crucial area, but it's a similar end for Europe. And one of the risks is to consider, or to be considered simply people working on a specialist issue in a marginal area but not affecting the big construction. Otherwise I consider that you put exactly the finger on the fact that this is one of the cornerstones of Europe. And if we are not able to intervene



on this idea that culture is not only a heritage but also a construction, it is the culture heritage of the future that we are building now.

So I think this is crucial. Thank you. Which kind of perspectives? Looking at this connection between cultural heritage and tourism. Which kind of perspectives on which kind of problems are we facing now? Hmm?

Elisabetta Zendri

Good Afternoon to all of you. Thanks to the organisers, all of you, for this two-day workshop that has been extremely stimulating and interesting. The theme that we're now going to talk about concerns cultural heritage, tangible cultural heritage, the assets, buildings, architecture.

Let me start with a review of tourism in Europe and then we'll provide you with some data concerning Italian tourism. I would like to highlight challenges and opportunities deriving from the macro-region and what we should and might do in the future. As is well-known, Europe is the world region that is the most attractive one from the tourist point of view, with a few slight growths percentage differences in Greece, Bosnia Herzegovena, Serbia, Macedonia. They have experienced a slight increase in tourism in this region, whereas Italy is still lagging behind even though its trade balance is still positive from the tourism point of view, but it's lagging behind against the other countries because of structural reasons.

In Italy we have a privileged situation from many points of view with an incidence equal to... accounting for ten point three percent of tourism out of GDP. 5.4 % out of 10.3 % is a direct source of income with 2.5 million employees, workers, who work in the tourism field in a direct and indirect way. In 2011, in spite of all that, Italy ranks only 27th in the world from the point of view of the travel and tourism index. 27th ranking. Why? Because there are a few gaps to be narrowed concerning policies supporting tourism and security. What I mean is that Italy has got a big, enormous cultural artistic heritage but it is not able to really use this potential at best, so we have this privilege, having such a nice, incredible cultural artistic heritage, but we cannot really exploit it fully, because we don't take care of it. We are not able to provide any maintenance to care and provide conservation and prevention of art of.. Everybody knows about Pompei, the archaeological site. It is not the fruit of today's negligence but it is the result of a negligent and short-sighted policy vis-a-vis what is our wealth, one of our main economic sources, but its cultural heritage as well as, cultural wealth.

Something that emerges that should concern us is that cultural tourism is increasingly linked to marginal aspects as against a cultural goal as such. For example, food and wine culture. People might know Lardo di Colonnata but know nothing about the Saint Mark's Basilica in Venice. This is part of a cultural thing. So there are ways to improve such as situation, the tourist supply in Italy in the rest of Europe and in

particular in the region that we are talking about. And one of these improvements have already been suggested and implemented. For example a few suggestions concern priority areas. Namely a recognition of cultural specificity, diversity, to be intended in terms of the artefacts and culture in general and it also means a greater attention towards the environment.

This morning, Mr. Obucina, Professor Obucina, said there is a lack of European training centres concerning environmental protection. This is not true, there is lack of information, which is different. Going back to the theme that I'm talking about; there is the need for demand to keep attention high on cultural assets and to promote cultural tourism and to focus on the environment and attach a greater importance to its parameters. Standards also exist to assess the competitiveness of a region in terms of cultural tourism and one of these indices included the C.4.1 index that assesses the percentage of attention related to the protection of cultural heritage.

Having said that, we should talk about the issue of sustainable tourism. We're not talking of cultural tourism or tourism as such, but about sustainable tourism. What is it? How is it defined by the World Tourism Organisation, the UNWTO. Sustainable tourism is the optimum use of environmental resources, the maintenance of these resources, conservation of these resources, respect of social and cultural identity. This makes tourism sustainable.

One important thing to say is, what is the impact of tourism on assets as a whole? On the heritage and on the attention devoted to the conservation of the assets of cultural heritage. For example tourists, of course provide cultural and economic benefits, because they disseminate culture but they also damage assets like what happens in archaeological sites that are more vulnerable, are subject to damage due to tourism. Sustainable tourism is a form of tourism that, on the one hand, provides economic sources of income but also damage prevention plans. But this damage prevention plan should be based on an important parameter, which is called vulnerability, the study of the vulnerability of cultural heritage. A few parameters have already been worked out, a few indicators were already defined back in 1995. There's nothing new, nothing that hasn't already been done like the Charter of Lanzarote for Sustainable Tourism whose guidelines already envisaged a few indicators, a few standards. But in spite of all that, gaps have been highlighted, in particular concerning heritage conservation.

Tourism is equal to economic source of income, but also vulnerability, damage to the heritage, how to balance this situation. Doing that, we couldn't just talk about tourism as such, but including tourism in a macro-economic and macro-cultural system, so that it envisages interaction between more... several stakeholders.

Further tools are suggested for a sustainable tourism management. But I don't want to dwell on that because this is a set of facts that are available in literature, that are already known. But I would like to focus on a specific aspect. I would like to introduce a few themes. First and foremost, the fact that sustainability cannot be defined to start



with. We're talking about a box whose content is not very clear, just like you talk about sustainable processes in industrial manufacturing. These are sort of Chinese boxes that have to be opened up so that something tangible can be drawn out of them. There is no sustainability in absolute terms. It doesn't exist. It doesn't exist because conceptually, it would be wrong to imagine that any action we implement is sustainable because from a chemical and physical point of view we generate entropy, disorder. There is no really sustainable system, so we can just mitigate such an impact.

And now a few examples, concerning tourism development according to sustainability, according to a sustainable approach. These cultural routes have impressed me.

Cultural routes consider cultural heritage, not just as an object, as an end to itself, but as part of frameworks that are pathways that also lead to wellbeing not just economic wellbeing, but also social wellbeing, collective wellbeing by also involving SMEs. Cultural routes networks have been there for a long time including, for example, this kind of diagonal road through Southeast Europe that connects Europe to Asia, the so-called Ragusina Way, in the region of Croatia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro. Along this pathway, a few criticalities have been identified for every cultural tourist site. Challenges and opportunities have been identified in terms of conservation, preservation, vulnerability of that asset. Further initiatives can be listed.

So there's nothing new, we're not re-inventing the wheel. But we can think of innovative ways. And one of them is known as the Adriatic treasury, including Adriatic countries, regions like Italy, Albania, Serbia, Montenegro. So nothing new, we're not re-inventing a wheel that already exists. They do not necessarily work but they do exist.

And now let's talk about more practical aspects. Given the attention that we should attach to sustainable tourism, and to the right and proper use of our assets, of our heritage. How can we do it? What are the available funds? These are EU funds concerning the enhancement of our cultural heritage. One of them is known as ELAIC. We were involved in it as partners. Why do I want to underline it? Because I like it very much but also because it has led to paper and online brochures in Italian, English and other languages. It is an educational tool to use and access cultural heritage. Various states participated in it, like Israel and one of its benefits was involving young people still attending high school, teenagers, so that they have been directly involved in the project by supporting it through true lab activities.

We know and enhance cultural heritage once we know it, we are aware of it. Knowledge can be created and disseminated through culture and education, which is information that is disseminated. I don't know how many people have had the opportunity to learn about it even though it is free and it is available online and as a hard copy.

Let me also now very quickly refer to other aspects, and I would like to go back to the issue of the EUSAIR macro-region. What are we talking about? Almost 6% of the UNESCO heritage. It is true and I do realise the fact that from a cultural point of view difficulties exist, because a few specificities, peculiarities exist within the macro-region.

But it is also true that this macro-region accounts for as much as 6% of the UNESCO heritage, which is extraordinary. But for us to enhance it we need to promote culture. I'm not saying that we should standardise it, we should provide the best conditions to use this cultural heritage. We should produce new skills, new occupational profiles.

For example, how many people are able to restore artefacts produced in one's regions, having specific peculiarities in terms of materials, working methods, the use of sustainable materials available locally. Very few people, because these occupational profiles are not regarded as they should be. It is not just crafts, but specialisations. That is why we have to standardise the rules applying to cultural heritage, even though for us Italians that is not easy to address. For us to enhance cultural heritage, we should also start by assessing its vulnerability. But that is not enough. We have to make a list of our assets in our macro-region if we truly want to become an entity that is self-reliant in preserving and promoting its cultural heritage by coordinating initiatives. If you surf the net, you will discover that so many things have already been achieved. It would suffice to organise and coordinate them. We are a part of a seismic area. Earthquakes are not unlikely but they are absolutely likely. How many historic buildings are equipped with a vulnerability card with reference to earthquake resistance. How many buildings have been made the subject of a census in this respect? How much do we know about the various infrastructural assets? And what we know is quite fragmented.

We shouldn't forget about climate change. Many major sites, cultural sites, which are located along our coast. What about them? In 50 or 60 years if we don't implement prevention measures, we run the risk of losing some these incredible, marvellous sites.

I would like to mention micro-enterprises. There are many SMEs working in our regions in Italy as well. The point is that the Italian economy is supported by many micro enterprises and many micro-enterprises working in cultural heritage restoration studies are now about to close down because they are experiencing a great difficulty. Can we think of networks, interregional networks that can capitalise on their expertise and experience, given their know-how?

As far as Horizon is concerned, I would like to tell you that Europe tells us that we are rich in terms of cultural heritage but funds allocated to them are fewer and fewer. In Horizon 2020 concerning cultural heritage as a whole, and I would like to thank Professor Bianchi for that, for that kind of information, there are two calls for proposals. One concerns tangible materials, production of new materials for the protection and preservation of European cultural heritage and the other goal concerns mitigation of impacts of climate change and natural hazards of cultural heritage. And then I've got another, I've found out another call for proposals that I didn't know anything about, of maritime approach, that is due by the tenth of January. It is not very rich but it might be interesting to re-launch our region in a tangible way because it concerns the maritime coastline, coastal countries and regions.

Now, before concluding, I would like to talk about an example. What would



enhancement, regeneration might mean of a cultural heritage example. This is a new archaeological excavation, taking place in Torcello, in the framework of an Italian-Slovenian project, in the framework of the Interreg programme this year. The basic idea was to create a archaeological excavation that would raise interest, culture and economic activities. Archaeological excavations are usually carried out and scholars are therefore interested in them to start with and then they are sort of neglected, shelved away, which is absolutely crazy. In that case a sustainable archaeological park is being suggested. Various partners have been involved, concerning archaeologists, archaeometrists, architects as well as public administrations in charge of the protection and enhancement of cultural heritage, public cultural heritage. Different points of view have been reconciled but thanks to the difference of various actors, have contributed to the development of the project. Archaeologists, archaeometrists and architects were in charge of the excavations, on site, the study of objects on site. The public administrations, the city council, the regional council were concerned with the management and the access to the public. The excavation was left open to the public, who could therefore see through grids, because of course these areas are fenced. But anyway the public could follow excavations and billboards would explain what was going on and as works occurred, as many as 300 visitors a day participated in these guided tours.

The population was involved, therefore visitors could therefore get in real touch with this world of archaeology. They could touch objects, artefacts. At the end, people were asked whether they believed it was a good idea and if not why. 96% of visitors, 300 per guided tour, they said that it was a very good idea. And this small percentage that believed that it was not a good idea. They were asked why, they said “we don’t know” so the doubt remains.

The project that is now going to be redesigned for next season is a living project, which requires a practical organisation involving different types of professionals that might learn from and benefit from this new project. And what about costs? These are the costs; €190 thousand for a two-year effective living real project; €130 thousand for personnel costs; €40 thousand for practical arrangements; €20 thousand training costs; €110 thousand comes from public funding including EU and regional funds; €40-50 thousand is the money raised by, through the guided tour income; €15 thousand by local stakeholders and €35 thousand by national – international sponsors. This is interest in culture, interest. It has produced knowledge, because we could also organise events and obtain information and archaeological data, but unfortunately now the site has been closed down because it was no longer viable at the end of this experience. It could no longer be kept open. The excavations had to be closed down. That’s what happens usually, that is that happens frequently. The covering over of excavations should be regarded as harm prevention, if no adequate funds are available for it to be sustained in the future. Thank you for your attention.

Patrizio Bianchi

Now what is very clear in this intervention of Elisabetta Zendri is that cultural heritage could be useful not only for having an idea of the past but could be today a good opportunity to build up new knowledge and capacities.

So that it is relevant to maintain the relics of the past but we have to consider that we have to build on this heritage. And the capacity to build on it is exactly part of the construction of the new identity that you and Albert said. But let me say at the end of this session, there is something that for me is relevant. You, Stefano, must be discussing the challenges of the Adriatic Ionian micro region, from a geo-political perspective. But let me say something: discussing all these questions relative to the macro-region, we use this term that I agree with you, is useful if we take it as a sort of instrument to build something more.

We are discussing what happens in the Italian regions, what happens on the sea, what happens over the sea, but in any case we are looking inside the area, but it seems to me that something has changed because in this sea is not the centre, the Mediterranean sea is not the centre and now the real debate in Europe is between the North and the South. The North is clear if we are looking at all the indicators. We have Germany, Germany is the core of the economic system. If we are looking at the European Union scoreboard, which is the instrument to realise the capacity to be innovative in Europe, it is very clear there is a difference between North and South and the discussion is inside the South; all the different kinds of South because we have the Adriatic sea, but we have also the Ionian Sea and also the Tyrrhenian sea, and we have all the areas in Spain, between Spain and Africa.

Don't you believe that this discussion that we are having here, now, about the construction, of a cultural and for political identity for the macro area Adriatic regions, is only really relevant if we are able to reconstruct a discussion inside Europe, avoiding simply that Europe is the new centre and we are the new periphery. Because the risk is that we have a variety of peripheries. And if we stay in this discussion, I think the perspectives for the area are very limited.

We are just asking for money, just to survive, because the real economic dynamics are elsewhere, not elsewhere, we know where; it's in Frankfurt. So, let me ask you to make an analysis of this session but also of these two days of discussion about the perspective of the macro-region, with the different perspectives. One is the inside you, to what extent is macro-region a cultural instrument or is a political instrument to allow the people to reconstruct a new identity?

Second, what is the relationship between the Adriatic Ionian macro region and the Mediterranean region? Now the Mediterranean macro region is in trouble, because the discussion between the North, which means European in this case, and the South, which



means North Africa, the middle area is quite, is in a very dangerous liaison, is in a very dangerous state. Look what happened in Cairo.

Third, what is the relationship between the different Souths of Europe? The Balkan area, the Ionian area, the Adriatic area, the Danubian area, Italy and Spain are an entire area, and finally this new geography of Europe. Which kind of dialectics we have between our regions and the internal dynamics of Europe, that seem to me very focused on trying to maintain this equilibrium, that in any case is focused on Germany. I've reached ten minutes... Thank you.

Stefano Bianchini

This is quite a tremendous task you are assigning to me, this required a specific research I would say, although... well maybe the next conference. Maybe I can put some of the topics of the table for the agenda and then our boss, Elena Tagliani, will organise the next meeting on this issue. Well let me say that I will try to do my best and at the same time I would like to stress that I'm very grateful to all my colleagues that made a presentation before me because actually they already put some of the issues on the table that I would like to mention and redraft differently because, in my view, just to answer the main point of your question.

There is an opportunity for the macro-region of the Adriatic-Ionian area to play a different role than in the past, so there is a possibility to go out from the periphery. Actually my intervention was structured in the sense that I wanted to briefly say something about the challenges, then to focus on the opportunities; and connected to the opportunities, the changes, the potential changes, that require by the way a strong political will and this is already something that is maybe a little bit more uncertain. A strong political will and at the same time, how can the macro-region be equipped in order to face the opportunities with a human capital that is equipped strongly enough to operate in these contexts. It seems to me that these are the key points that I would like to stress in this contribution.

So briefly just to say about the challenge since you have measured this out, actually we have to say that this is exactly one of the key points. The Adriatic-Ionian area is part of the South and despite the different local conditions is basically founded on countries with weak economic performance and fragile political systems. Both the elements are present and I would also say that we have to consider, if we compare with the other macroregions, the role of the cities is very marginal. The capital, for instance; we don't have any capitals in our area. The first capital that is close to the sea is Tirana. No other capital is close to the sea. If you look from this point of view, among the 8 demographically largest Italian cities, seven face the Tyrrhenian Sea. Just Bologna, which is the last one in this list of eight, faces the Adriatic Sea.

If you look for instance at the Danubian Sea, you have Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest

and Belgrade at least. If you look at the Baltic Sea, you have Copenhagen, Stockholm, you have Tallinn, you have Riga and even Saint Petersburg, because that area of Russia is included in the Baltic region. So if you look from this point of view, we have a clear difference between the three macro-regions. And at least four of the countries that are coastal countries within the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region are still candidates or potential candidate countries of the European Union, with strong uncertainties in terms of governance in terms of political polarisations and sometimes even territorial dimensions.

And actually this is the other key point that, in my view, is also often forgotten. This is a region that is still recovering from wars and dismemberment, where stabilisation is still fragile and colleagues have already mentioned that this is a region that has to cope with war damage, with the lack of legal harmonisations, and unfinished statehood, you have mentioned these issues. So they are part of these challenges, which means that the macro-region runs actually the risk of becoming a sort of ghetto, within the European context, a sort of area of “you are failing hopelessly” area, that is out of control and this macro-region could be closed and abandoned to its own fate.

This risk is also in a sense strengthened by the fact that, to a certain, to a large extent the Adriatic-Ionian maritime area sounds to be a closed nowhere space for international as well as local communication, trade and transport, given the poor conditions under which the two seas and their hinterlands are mutually connected. So this is, let's say, the big challenge is that roughly sketched can be mentioned about the area.

So what are the opportunities in this sense? You have exactly mentioned this. What are the opportunities and particularly what is the added value that the macro-region can offer to the already existing projects? Because we know that what is the difference between the fact that so far we had several Interreg projects that have been done, IPO project that has been done, what is something in addition that is going to be offered by the project, the idea, the strategy of the macro-region. This is the key question that, in my view, should be addressed.

So, in this sense how can we reconstruct a sort of sense of community because otherwise, you know, sometimes we are used to talking about what happens in Italy, or again we mentioned already several times during the previous sessions the fact that we concentrate more on the South-East Europe, which is different. There are lots of problems but this is no longer the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region. This has a different centre of attraction, rather than simply the southeast Europe. Because the Southeast Europe is something different, it's more territorial, more connected to the area of former Yugoslavia, let's say Romania, Bulgaria if you want, this area. So, what are the opportunities? In my view, opportunities do exist.

And I will mention now which ones; they are connected to two main aspects. The first one is connected to a potential transformation of European geopolitics, to the benefit of the Adriatic-Ionian area and the second is connected to the capacity of building a



human capital that is equipped for facing this change. Now, these are the issues that are not adequately, in my view, included in the discussion paper; so I will mention this after because, in my view, we should require a significant change in the structure of this discussion paper, and I will explain why later on.

So let me start this reasoning from the point of view of the system of communication and transport, because this seems to me to be very crucial point. We have to consider that historically the Adriatic- Ionian base suffered from two main, let's say, historical legacies. The first one is connected, and I won't spend too much time on this. It is connected to the fact that America was discovered and all the transport and flows of transport and trade went through the Atlantic Ocean so the Mediterranean was abandoned. And of course this area suffered from this. And this is the first point.

And the second point is that this situation was aggravated in my view, by the geopolitical changes that occurred in Europe between the 19th and 20th century. With the unification of Italy and the gradual dismemberment of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, because not so much because new political societies were created in the area, but because this was connected to a nationalist animosities that created such big conflicts among the countries on the shores that hindered the possibility of exploiting Central Europe as the background and the hinterland, the hinterland of the whole Adriatic-Ionian basin, in such a way that this is a basin that was transformed into a closed bay, if I can say, just a closed bay.

Now the question is that cold war, the Yugoslavian succession wars, all that contributed to freeze this kind of situation. Now in my view there is an opportunity to radically change this situation. Now how? There is a European broader border project about the creation of the new intermodal infrastructures, which are under construction. These communication systems are not only based on rails, roads, waters, but also information, through the ultra-wide broadband. Which they will have a crucial expansion, so the trans-European corridors are carrying out a powerful network of interdependencies and connections, which is by the way reminiscent, it seems to me, of the Prussian combined strategy of sulphur, iron and railroad construction that critically contributed to the unification of Germany. So there is this matter.

Now, as a result of these networks, the speed and intensification of contacts will impact dramatically on the structure and development of the Regions of Europe and inevitably among the macro-regions that have so far been established in the Baltic, in the Danubio and potentially also for the Adriatic-Ionian regions. In other words, the intermodal networks will establish the conditions under which the European macro-regions that historically did not communicate intensively for the last centuries, will be able to do so. Their level of commercial cultural exchange will improve considerably. It is worth to stress that under these conditions, both the exchange of products and cultural interaction, will benefit. As in a sense exactly because of the new ultra-wide

band information systems, the cultural economy flows in the political economy of the European Union, it's macro-region.

So to sum up, the European integration is laying the foundations of new interdependencies. Far beyond the economic development and they are leaving behind their historical divisive experiences of the 19th century. Of Empires, of the World War violence, the cold-war contentions and nationalist animosities. By contrast they are paving the way to epochal transformations, since innovative networks of relations will be established in social cultural contexts. Along itineraries that already existed in the Middle Ages and the beginning of the modern empires. Just recently it has been mentioned that the amber road...

Actually this is a key point. There is a project of construction of a corridor, it's the so-called Adriatic-Baltic corridor. The Baltic-Adriatic Corridor will connect Helsinki to the North Adriatic Sea through via Tallinn, Kaunas, Warsaw, Bratislava. Now if you look from this point of view, this connection which will be not only based on rails and roads but also on the ultra-wide band, means that this connection will be for transport and for culture. And this is a great opportunity because for the first time after centuries, the North-East of Europe and the South East of Europe will be connected, and this will offer a great opportunity to connect the Indian Ocean, the Eastern Mediterranean and through the Ionian Adriatic seas, the Russian markets and the Northern markets as well. This is something new. This is something that could change what happened so far since 1492. Definitely, there is one point. The instability in the Middle East can jeopardise this kind of Communication.

And even the fact that there is the pirate situation in the context of the Gulf of Aden and the area of Somalia can jeopardise things. But it's also true that ships are anyhow moving through this area. So there is an interest in terms of preserving the communication through these two channels. Because the Adriatic Ionian can benefit from this kind of communication which in connection with the corridor 5 and 8 and it can allow all the shores, from the South to the North to take advantage, because one of the key points of our Adriatic Ionian area is that the communication South-North is very problematic. I don't know whether you tried for instance in your life to go by boat from Toures to Rijeka. Try to do that and you'll see how much time you can spend, and if you are able to find a ship from this point of view. So it seems to me that there is an opportunity to put an end to the context that led the Adriatic Ionian seas to be a closed bay. But this means that it's important to have a vision, a strong long-term vision not just a short-term vision, and to concentrate the effort in this double direction.

Developing the vision, equipping the macro-region, the macro-region as such, to have a strong human capital able to operate within this context. Now the point is that the revolutionary geo-political perspective, is required as I said, that coastal countries are able to equip themselves, by building shared long-term strategies. As well as macro-regional governance able to pass effective measures and actions, it is however evident



that the implementation of the other pillars included in the discussion paper of the EU commission, the four pillars that we have already mentioned, but I would say that good governance and peace should be added to these pillars.

But all these pillars depend, to a large extent on the ability of the macro-region states to rely on equipped transnational human capital. This is exactly what we need, a transnational human capital. Now otherwise said by assuming that a long-term Adriatic Ionian strategy has a realistic goal in achieving a new centrality on the base in relation to the central, north and eastern Europe, then a key aspect needs to be addressed: how can the macro-region and its member states produce a human capital both adequate to the opportunity offered by the macro-region's framework and consistently equipped for its long-term strategies of development.

So I want to say that in a sense, can capacity building because this is the "capacity building" is the word that has been used in the document of the European Commission, work without an equipped human capital? Is it possible to think like that? No. My answer is 'no' and this is the reason why I think that the discussion paper appears too, in this sense, particularly weak. Well the document describes four thematic pillars that are consistent and reasonable, although it is dubious that they can produce per se growth in the area, relevant growth in the area. In fact the document elects and identifies priorities and focus.

The thematic pillars are presented as equally important, while research, innovation and capacity building are considered cross-cutting aspects. Apparently this is a way to give relevance to them, because they are present in all the topics within the thematic topics. Nevertheless, the real risk is that they might be marginalised or merely considered an additional plus. In a crucial political phase when innovation and education are keys for facing adequately prepared globalisation and international competition. Furthermore, missing a prioritisation may lead to an undermined perspective with narrow ambitions in the sense that the effectiveness of the implementation of the four thematic pillars will remain constrained within the limits of the closed bay. We have to think with the project. By contrast the suggestion here is to concentrate the energies for carrying out great and far-reaching ambitions by assigning different tasks to different subjects that are expected to work as a team.

As another example, macro region member states governments, so the governments, may focus all their efforts in lobbying and implementing at the level of the European Union because they also have to face the interests of the other states, of course. A long term strategy aimed at guaranteeing a powerful and diversified transport communication network between the seas, two seas the Adriatic and Ionian and their own hinterlands as well as between macro-regions in order to give back a key role to the Adriatic Ionian basin in the European and worldwide context. On another level, regional local administrations might focus on the other, the other thematic pillar in my view, giving priority to the production of a transnational human capital able prospectively both to design further

strategies of development within the macro-regional rationale and to trigger interesting, stimulating follow ups in support of a multi-level governments of the territories in this seas, the cultural cooperation in tourism as key factors of attractiveness.

In this sense the priority is to produce macro-regional leaderships by establishing high-level training and long-life learning macro-regional centres or activities able to nurture a human capital adequate to face the opportunities that a macro-region may offer. These issues have been mentioned by several colleagues this morning particularly, so I will not enter into details, but what was said by Obucina, Ivetić, by Mitrović, by the young scholars of MIREES; these are the issues that should be addressed. But I would also say something about what professor Zendri said when she mentioned the UNESCO sites, because this was something that I included in my contribution, since the Adriatic-Ionian basin has the highest, one of the highest concentrations of UNESCO sites in the world. So this means there is a heritage of diversities that was mentioned by Mitjia Žagar as well, and that dynamism that is unique in the world.

Therefore, the macro-region is a crucial opportunity for reconsidering heritage under a new and shared vision and this connects also with the question of the identities that has been discussed today. So, the question that you raised when you spoke about the promotion of culture, the question is, how can this culture be promoted? Which kind of culture are we promoting since culture is a construction? This is a key point because we have to consider that our legacy is a legacy that is based on the intersection of our cultural heritages. The historical interdependencies, the hybridity of our societies and our cultures, the new nomadism that are even stressed by multilingual and information systems are outlining new social realities, and we have to cope with these social realities. Our products, our cultural products are the products of a wide variety of contributions.

So if we discover the plenty of varieties that made our culture so important worldwide, we can break the attempt of nationalist approaches to define culture as something that is unique, that belongs only to certain contexts and is not something that is cross cutting the borders. Let's say, just to give you an example because everybody's thinking about Venice. But even if you go to Otranto you can find churches that have paintings that are administered from the paintings that you can find in the churches in Kosovo or in Macedonia or in Greece. Why? What is the impact of all that?

Which kind of communications, even through the Jewish population for instance, that we had between the shores of the Adriatic. So if you think about the culture in this area, we can increase this heritage in terms of value and worldwide consideration, and we can overcome, looking at the future rather than dwelling on the past, we can overcome the national tensions and the divisions that have characterised our past, since the point is that, how can we cooperate, how can we construct a common interest within a macro-region that is expected to be part of a shared culture? So it's obvious that, in this case, we have to think differently about culture as well.

So within this context, I would come back again, we need to have a macro-regional



human capital, which should be trained and enhanced. A new elite, a new elite in terms of leaders and in terms of high administrators, in terms of teachers, need to be educated and empowered in order to cope with the aforementioned cultural changes of our societies. Consistently we need to share competences, knowledge, productive abilities, by strengthening school attendance, new approaches to knowledge and teaching methods, work experience for youngsters, effective policies able to put an end to emigrations and reverse the recurrent brain drain in brain gain.

So these efforts require an intensive cooperation between public administrations because they represent territory and the universities, the schools, the training centres. This is currently one of our greatest weaknesses in our macro-region. The level of transnational cooperation across the seas and between public administration research and education institutions is modest to be generous, in comparison with other existing networks of cooperation in the European Union.

So by contrast, building a macro-regional knowledge society is a critical step to give strength to policies of peace, development and growth. How to build it? Which compatibilities should be identified and achieved within the macro region in order to share a comprehensive vision and development and peace, these are vital issues that require systematic commitment of the different components of our society. This is not an easy task. Nevertheless this is also an opportunity for the countries of the Adriatic-Ionian basin to show to the other EU member states that the joint strategy for growth can be seriously carried out in the more fragile European area. Indeed reliable conditions can be created. What is necessary is political courage and long-term visions. While training and education are eventually recognised as essential levers of development and peace, and therefore consistently pursued in the macro-regional implementation. Thank you for your attention.

Patrizio Bianchi

Let me know if somebody wants to intervene at this point.

Ok. It is Friday afternoon. I understand your message. Now, just some rapid reactions.

Albert Doja

It seems that, with my talk, I am the bad guy in this story. Anyway what I would like to raise and remember that the crucial issue in this story, as far as I understand it, is a question of power operation and power location and tradition. When I said, for example, that every way we frame things will be wrong, for example when I said that if we put, if we don't put Kosovo in a footnote or if we don't put Macedonia in the Forum, this means that Serbia or Greece will be upset, as if Kosovo or Macedonia have no right to be upset. Actually this issue is framed in such a way as to show that from the civic standard we

must put Kosovo in a footnote or as Macedonia in a Forum. But this is the way it is done, according to the civic standard.

But what is the outcome of this? We use civic discourse to produce a very nasty, I would say, national ethnic or state motivation. And if someone claims the opposite, they will be pointed at as a nationalist, as an activist or whatever. So the crucial thing is power. Look at the fresco behind me. Everything is power. What is this fresco doing here, in an academic aula? We are reminded that, we as academics, we must be provocative because of all that and that. But, yesterday our colleague Enika Abazi reminded us that we are also located in a power map. And the way we frame things is power loaded, and this should never be forgotten.

Now to come back to the issue of cultural hybridisation and cultural promotion and so on, it is done in a civic discourse as if culture determines everything in our macro-region, let's say, and we forget that what we do with cultural management, cultural heritage, is all about power, and people empowerment. The crucial thing in developing or promoting culture is to give people empowerment, to give them cognitive resources, to fight for their interests. It is not to give them a new identity. It is not to give them other ..., it is to give them opportunities, but opportunities that can be used by them in a very civic standard which leads to development and so on. On the other hand most of the time this is used by different interest groups to empower cultural activists, to promote cultural rights. Which is a good thing in a civic standard, but it may also bring us to what is called cultural fundamentalism, which may bring us to conflict and sometimes to war as well. So my point is that everything we do is great but we must be aware really of what we think we are doing.

Because what we do has many other different meanings, which must be taken into account, and this meaning is defined by the power operation and the power location in which we are situated. Thank you.

Mitja Žagar

Actually when I think of the Adriatic-Ionian region I always think of this region in a broader context. Particularly in the Mediterranean context, from the perspective both of transportation and transport connections and communications in general as well as for cultural traditions that do exist in this context and that can also be used in the promotion of the region. And again I would like to point out that I don't see the regions as the goal, as an aim in itself, but I see them as a tool for the improvement of the living conditions of the people there. And I can also see them as a possible tool for the transformation of the thinking, which actually can contribute to also global discussions, particularly by pointing out how these regions traditionally have actually developed their own sustainable concepts of development for millennia. And this is something, which we shall again be aiming to learn from.



Also I agree with what you said with regard to the connections. It is not by chance that Chinese and Korean companies are looking more at the Adriatic ports as their hubs to Europe. It's not by chance that last year for the first time Austria and Switzerland exported more through Southern ports than they did from the Northern ports. It actually shows that there are certain possibilities and that within these possibilities actually also the South can compete, and compete globally, not just locally. When we are speaking of communication, I agree that we should look into the process of communication, holistically. Land transportation, air transportation, sea transportation as well as communication with knowledge.

Virtual economy currently accounts for far more than material economy, in stock markets. Of course I think it's probably inconsistent with the past and also with the perception of the human tradition, particularly inconsistent to a large extent, with sustainable economy and development in the long term. But still we should take that into account. And I would say that remaining a player in this game globally is extremely important.

And finally I would like to say something on the role of education and research in this context. As I think education and research are the two bases upon which the whole concept should be built. Namely, we have some resources in terms of minerals and so on, but this part of the world is a little bit full when it comes to that. But we have human resources, we have a history that we can promote as tourism and so on. And what is extremely important is we have traditional systems that are not all that bad, that produce quite good human capital if you wish. And what we should strive to do is to maintain some of the positive competitive advantages that those systems have, while at the same time integrating them into the global space if you wish.

Integrating them particularly in the sense that there are compatible with systems elsewhere, so that they can offer something that is compatible but at the same time actually enriches what other areas can offer. And historically speaking North and South have constantly shifted as the more developed or less developed place. And in certain periods it was the South that played the key role, in other periods it was the North, but in the long term I believe that what truly is important is to find a balance. And here the Ionian Adriatic region and Mediterranean region actually have something to offer. And what I would like to point out here also is that's why I am also putting these two as a pair, but I wouldn't exclude the Danubian region, I wouldn't exclude the Adriatic region and so on. I think the regions should be seen as overlapping instruments that can actually in the best possible concert and combination contribute toward the main goal that I mentioned, a better life of people and green, sustainable, balanced development.

Patrizio Bianchi

Elisabetta? Please.

Elisabetta Zendri

I think that it is not that easy, that it's quite complicated talking about the implementation of a few projects. It's not so simple. But I believe that from this point of view, since we were talking about education, we can therefore imagine projects that start creating links between the various regions and now one of these projects is training. We have competences concerning the conservation of the cultural heritage. We can create conservation and attract attention. I don't know whether it is the right moment in time but I would like to launch this idea. Let's try and imagine a school devoted to conservation and restoration of the macro-region cultural heritage where we have a basic common structure as well as a specific structure for each region, that considers materials, technologies available locally, as local practices that are therefore preserved and updated so that they are linked to the ongoing research projects that are ... , so that they can become part of the scientific knowledge that exists so that the further research themes can be simulated, so that we can trigger a virtuous circle according to standardised items in order to highlight the various situations, and so that we can create consent which is not flattening things out, but I'm talking about conservation ethics that will also become sustainable from a tourism point of view, from any other points of view that might be a point, a starting point that is neutral but high and involving, that might become a fly wheel for the launching of the macro region. I don't know whether it is the right place and time to do it, but that's what I wanted to say.

Stefano Bianchini

Very shortly, but just to make clear, since I perfectly agree with what you said about education and research as the main focus. I wanted to be very practical from this point of view. The European Union has repeated that there are no additional funds for macro-regions. The funds are those that already existed under a new name. Now the question is that if we have to use just these funds, for, under a new name, for an added value that should be given to the macro-region, now the question is what is relevant at this point? What is it possible to achieve with this money? And from this point of view, this is the reason why I wanted to separate the lobbying of the work of the governments about the greater strategy of infrastructures because these infrastructures will not be covered, be paid with this money, but they need additional money outside this, and to concentrate these resources on something that can be achieved, and this can be achieved, in the sense that if the infrastructures are built, there will be a follow up and implications for the environment, but also for the attractiveness of the region and so on. And this attractiveness is to a large extent connected to culture.

So now the question is that in this way, the cheapest but the most effective way to equip a region in this sense is education. Because education is really cheap and at



the same time it's really effective because without research and education you cannot be competitive particularly in this moment when we need to increase the knowledge, and we need ... So in this sense I think that, considering the relevance of culture and the connection between culture and tourism from this point of view, which in a broader sense, is one of the key elements of attractiveness.

Imagine if there were several corridors, with ultra wide band connections, this would inevitably increase the interest in a region that has such a wide concentration of culture. But this concentration is dispersed or can be represented in a different way that can be also, let's say, the access to this culture is possible.

I was thinking about all the list of your sites that you mentioned before and I would like to know how many people are aware of the existence of these projects and these sites. So it's clear that we need an infrastructure behind that is able to give a value to what has been done and to proceed in this sense, through a shared project, so in this sense, having a task force, an international task force should be established for instance in order to push forward this kind of project.

And in this sense, the universities can help public administrations in setting up such a task force that can work on this.

Patrizio Bianchi

Ok. We are at the end of this conference called, "Building a macro-regional awareness in Adriatic Ionian territories."

It seems to me that the conclusion is: Which is the next step? The next step seems to me, just refocusing what we have discussed in this last round table is clearly the capacity to intervene on human resources. There is a word that is very ambiguous that is an "adequate" level of human resources, "adequate" we know in the end, which was to have an adequate level of human resources for development. Usually we know at the end if the investment of the equipment that we have made in the past human resources is adequate and sufficient. Surely to intervene at all the levels is extremely difficult.

I'm not convinced that it's enough to intervene at the top of the system, in order to create simply the top leaders. I think that it's necessary to intervene in the medium and intermedium level of human resources, because most of the things that, of the practical things that Elisabetta said need leaders but also capacity, capacity to do it. And don't forget that development in such areas is essentially based on a very diffusive approach to development. So that probably we have to think about organising the next step about human resources and education, considering also training inside the education dominion; vocational training, professional training and also management training. Because working together, probably we have the possibility also to elaborate a new element for identity. Because taking what you said, what others said, what Elisabetta said, we arrive to what

Stefano said at the end of the story, that it's not enough to work on past identities, in the plural.

But if you want to work in Europe, having the real possibility to play a role in Europe, not only to stay at the margin, we need to elaborate a new capacity to play the game. And to play the game means having people at all the levels, able to play the game. And also working together to elaborate a new identity, in common, what we can call the "sunk industrial commons". It is that set of knowledge that is sunk, that is on the basis for any kind of innovation.

So my suggestion is, concluding this conference, as usual we have material for the next one. And the next one, let me say something, is on ourselves, which is the role of the university, which is the role of the educators, which is the role of the people working in human resources promotion.

So, thank you to everybody, thank you to Elena. Thank you to all the translators. ... Grazie Pia, grazie a tutti. Thank you. There is some coffee.

Let me just say a last word on coffee. There is a big discussion about human resources and about the advantages and the idea is, development stems from the fact that we have some natural resources and we develop competences on natural resources. If this is the true, we cannot have chocolate in Switzerland and coffee in Naples, this means that we can learn also new competences. Thank you.

End.



Agenda



EUSAIR – how to say it

Building a macro-regional awareness in Adriatic-Ionian territories

Forum. Bologna, December 5th and 6th.

Aula Prodi, San Giovanni in Monte

Programme

December, 5th

9,00 Registration

9,30 Welcome speeches

- Simonetta Saliera, Emilia-Romagna Region Vice President in charge of Budget and European Affairs
- Elena Tagliani, Emilia-Romagna Region and Regional lab on macro-regional issues (Scoping speech)

*10,00: First panel with debate: **Discussion about macroregional design, governance and methodology; aspects of qualification and innovation at a macro-regional scale***

- Chair: Valerio Romitelli, Researcher at the University of Bologna, DISCi Department, Director of the GREP think tank, partner of the *Regional Lab on macro-regional issues*
- Milan Podunavac, Professor at the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Political Sciences, Serbia

The social capital in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area. Constitutional identity and good governance: a macro regional approach.

- Enika Abazi, Director of University Institute of Balkan Studies at EUT, European University of Tirana

Epistemic communities and regional policy coordination: the Adriatic-Ionian case.

- Valerio Romitelli, Researcher at University of Bologna, DISCi Department, Director of the GREP think tank, *partner of the Regional Lab on macro-regional issues*

EUSAIR: is it a good idea? The point of view of the Ethnographic Researchers

- Charalambos Tsardanidis, Director of the Institute for economic and international relations and Department Mediterranean Studies (University of Aegean, Athens, Ellada)

Connectivity and the EUSAIR. A macroregional approach. Ways and means for connecting the region.

- Paolo Rago, Professor at the University Marin Barleti, Tirana, Albania
- Albania: oltre l'idea di nazione per una stabile integrazione europea**

- Mirco Degli Esposti, Samuele Paganoni, GREP Think tank researchers, Italy
- Quality and innovation in territorial development policy analysis through the ethnographic approach tbc**

Round table and open debate (with the participation of GREP Think tank researchers and MIREES Students and Alumni)

13,30 buffet lunch

*14,00 Second panel with debate: **A macro-regional approach to the sustainable territorial development***

Chair: Stefano Bianchini, International Coordinator of MIREES, Director of IECOB, Professor at Bologna University and partner of the *Regional lab on macro-regional issues*



- Danijela Jacimović Vojinović, Associate Professor at International Economics and European Integration, Podgorica University, Crna Gora
Energy as an important pillar for sustainable economic development in Montenegro

- Milos Solaja, Full Professor, Banja Luka University, Bosna i Hercegovina
- Djordje Tomić – Teacher assistant at Banja Luka University, Bosna i Hercegovina
"Exchange of experiences and capacity building in public policies and efficient administration in the areas of transport and energy governance"

- Emilio Cocco, Researcher at the Università di Teramo, Italia
Un'analisi della dimensione marittima dello sviluppo regionale integrato, in chiave comparata euro-mediterranea.

- Luljeta Minxhozi, Vice Dean of the European University of Tirana, EUT, Dean of Economics Faculty and Director of Master Programme, Tirana, Albania
Entrepreneurship in a regional perspective.

- Giovanni Bertin, Professor at University Cà Foscari, Venezia, Italia
Macroregional Welfare: the need for an Adriatic-Ionian Social Agenda

- Dorian Jano – Lecturer, Marin Barleti University, and Director of the Albanian Institute for Public Affairs, Tirana
Civil society and 'Latent' Interest Groups in a Regional Perspective

Round table and open debate (with the participation of GREP Think tank researchers and MIREES Students and Alumni)

December, 6th

*9,30 Third panel with debate: **The macro-regional research and knowledge community: a common education basis as a crucial leverage for common awareness***

- Chair: Francesco Privitera, Director of the IECOB, Institute for Central-Eastern and Balkan Europe

- Petar Filipić, Professor and researcher at University of Split, Faculty of Economics, Croatia
- Maja Fredotović, Vice Dean for International cooperation at University of Split, Faculty of Economics, Croatia

Adriatic-Ionian Universities and research organizations as an actor within EUSAIR and the relations with the Mediterranean scientific network.

- Inoslav Bešker, Full Professor at the Dubrovnik University, Hrvatska Rep.
Capitale umano di macroarea, formazione e innovazione come leva di sviluppo e per una ricerca di identità composita.

- Egidio Ivetić, University Researcher, Rector's Representative for Academic Relations with Eastern Europe, East-Central Europe, South-East Europe - Università degli Studi di Padova, Italia
Macro-regional knowledge society and the relevance of the past. The Adriatic-Ionian area: a historical region?

- Vedran Obucina, Secretary of the Society for Mediterranean Studies, Professor at the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Croatia

Macroregional education. Foundation of EUSAIR sustainability.

- Caterina Ghobert, Tomislav Jurisić, Eleonora Erittu, Giovanni Bottari, Adriano Remiddi, Research Team IECOB - Macroregione Adriatico - Ionica.
Education, culture, and mobility: building awareness and human capital in the Adriatic - Ionian Macroregion

Round table and open debate (with the participation of GREP Think tank Researchers and MIREES Students and Alumni)

13,30 buffet lunch



*14,00 fourth panel with debate: **A manifold cultural and historical identity as an added value for the attractiveness of the Adriatic-Ionian macroregion***

- Chair: Patrizio Bianchi, Emilia-Romagna Regional Minister for Education, Research and Innovation and former Dean of the University of Ferrara

- Luigi Fusco Girard, Director of the Interdepartmental Research Center at the University Federico II, Napoli

La rigenerazione delle città: il ruolo delle aree portuali e del patrimonio culturale

- Mitja Žagar, Professor and Scientific Councilor at INV/IES – Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia and Professor at Universities of Ljubljana and Primorska/Littoral

Importance of Managing Ethnic, Cultural and other Socially Relevant Diversities for Peace, Stability, Cooperation and Balanced Sustainable Development in the Ionian-Adriatic and Mediterranean Region

- Albert Doja, Professor at the Institute of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Sciences and Technologies, Lille 1, France

How to build identity in the Adriatic-Ionian Region: cultural, regional and European perspectives between civic ideas and Nation-State motivations.

- Stefano Bianchini, Professor at the University of Bologna, IECOB, International Coordinator of MIREES, and partner of the *Regional lab on macro-regional issues*

The challenges of the Adriatic-Ionian macroregion: from a geopolitical perspective to a new centrality?

- Elisabetta Zendri, Professor at University Ca' Foscari, Venezia, Italia

Cultural Heritage: shared identity and tourism. State of the art and future perspectives.

- Marija Mitrović, Professor at the University of Trieste, Italia

Identità culturale e diversità nel contesto macroregionale.

Round table, open debate (with the GREP Think tank researchers and MIREES Students and Alumni)

Conclusions: Patrizio Bianchi.

Adriatic Ionian Euroregion Members representatives and AdriGov project partners representatives will attend to the event.

A translation service to/from Italian / English will be available.

Coffee breaks and a buffet lunch service will be made available for attendants.



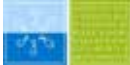
The Proceedings of the Forum, with all papers and speeches gathered by the Regional lab about the topics, will be made available soon, and will be forwarded to the EUSAIR managing authorities (DG REGIO – DG MARE). The Proceedings of the Forum will be considered as a formal contribution to the consultation on the EUSAIR.

..... please be provocative ☺

Regional lab on macro-regional issues



Save the date

EUSAIR – how to say it

Forum on

Building a macro-regional awareness in Adriatic-Ionian territories

SAVE THE DATE

Place-based innovative tools for an integrated, democratic and sustainable territorial development


The European Union promotes the macro-regional strategies, as innovative tools for a sustainable, place-based territorial development. These tools aim at optimizing and orienting public policies and resources towards common strategic objectives, shaped on macro-area features and characteristics. On December 8th 2012, the European Council mandated the European Commission to prepare an Action Plan for the strategic framework of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area territories – the so-called European Strategy for Adriatic-Ionian Region (EUSAIR).

The EUSAIR includes so far these priority areas:

1. Driving innovative maritime and marine growth
2. Connecting the region
3. Preserving, protecting and improving the quality of the environment
4. Increasing regional attractiveness

The Emilia-Romagna Region, the University of Bologna (DISCI Department on History Culture Civilization) and IECOB - Istituto per l'Europa Centro-Orientale e Balcanica have created a *Regional lab on macro-regional issues*, with the financial support of the IPA Adriatic CBC 2007/2013 AdriGov project. The Regional lab is intended to give a sound contribution to the definition of the strategic contents of the EUSAIR from the local and regional authorities point of view, granting an adequate territorial dimension to the policy-making process and implementing the principles of subsidiarity and democratic participation.

We aim at boosting quality, efficacy and efficiency in public policy-making, and fostering integration and democratic participation in the strategic programming and planning; we aspire to raise a new awareness about how a macro-regional instrument could improve the Adriatic-Ionian territories wealth through integration, innovation and dialogue.



In order to enlarge and enrich the themes, challenges and opportunities of macro-regional interest, and to prepare and share a useful common approach to the strategic priorities for the macro-regional area, **we invite you to attend to a FORUM between several local and regional public administrations from Adriatic-Ionian macro-area¹ and Academy representatives.**

The debate will be about the main common priorities for the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area; the key questions will be:

- **HOW to build together, as key actors, a results-oriented governance framework, in order to empower the macro-regional potentialities?**
- **HOW to define and face, through an integrated and place-based approach, the macro-regional common challenges?**
- **HOW to harmonize the macro-regional diversities to improve the quality of the public action?**

We believe that your contribution will be crucial for the debate, and very important to prepare a sound output. A Report will be prepared and the Forum conclusions will be presented officially to the European institutions involved in the EUSAIR process, through the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion and the Emilia-Romagna Region, in order to be taken into account within the forthcoming EUSAIR Action Plan.

The Forum attendance will be on invitation; the date foreseen is **December, 5th and 6th, in Bologna (Italy), in the Emilia-Romagna Region premises.** If you are interested, we will send as soon as possible further working documents and materials.

In case you are interested in attending to the Forum, or even in proposing a paper to be discussed on the topic, please contact, as soon as you can, Elena Tagliani – Project Management Unit of the IPA Adriatic CBC 2007/2013 AdriGov project – this project aims at promoting the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion activities and at contributing to the EUSAIR definition process.

Direzione Generale Programmazione Territoriale e Negoziata, Intese. Relazioni internazionali e relazioni europee, viale A. Moro 52 40127 Bologna

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¹ Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion is an association gathering local and regional authorities from the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area. AIE was founded in 2006 and is aimed at orienting and coordinating public policies, programming and projects in the macro-area toward common sustainable development objectives.



Regional Lab brochure

AdriGov – an operational plan for the Adriatic Sea – is a territorial cooperation project funded by the IPA Adriatic CBC 2007/2013 programme.

One of the project's main objectives is to give a support to the strategic process for the definition of new, integrated, multi-level tools for territorial development at a macro-regional scale in the Adriatic-Ionian area.

AdriGov project is committed to support in particular the activities of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion (26 members among the local and regional authorities from the whole Adriatic-Ionian macroarea), and to work to sort out a high quality contribution to the definition of the EUSAIR, through surveys, studies, pilot actions and innovative platforms and think tanks, like the *Regional lab on macro-regional issues*.

Regional Laboratory on macro-regional issues
Drive the change

Regional lab
on macro-regional issues

CONTACT PERSON
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Ministero delle Infrastrutture e dei Trasporti

EUSAIR and us

In December 2012, the European Union launched the EUSAIR - European Union Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region, as a strategic framework to the Adriatic-Ionian territorial development policies, aiming at harmonizing and integrating the policies of all the levels of government. The strategy will involve 4 EU Members (Italy, Slovenia, Croatia and Greece) and 4 extra-EU Countries (Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia, Herzegovina and Serbia).

The European Commission is committed to launch in 2014 an Action Plan, which is expected to coordinate and integrate the multi-level territorial development policies and resources towards common objectives, to overcome the common macro-regional challenges which will be included in the Action Plan. The European Commission (DG REGIO - DG MARKT) will steer and follow the implementation of this strategic process. So far, these are the EUSAIR pillars:

- 🎯 Driving innovative maritime and marine growth
- 🎯 Connecting the region
- 🎯 Preserving, protecting and improving the quality of the environment
- 🎯 Increasing regional attractiveness

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperate/adriat_ionian/index_en.cfm

The Regional lab contributions to the EUSAIR will grant an adequate territorial dimension to the policy-making process, by supporting the principles of subsidiarity and democratic participation. The aim is to raise a new awareness about how a macro-regional instrument could improve the Adriatic-Ionian territories wealth and promote its unique heritage through integration, innovation and dialogue.

The Regional lab on macro-regional issues

Innovation and capacity building for a common macro-area quality knowledge

Emilia-Romagna Region, the DISCI Department of Bologna University and the ICEOB – Institute for the Central Eastern Europe and Balkans, with the financial support of the IPA Adriatic CBC 2007/2013 AdriGov project, have created a *Regional lab on macro-regional issues*, a high level think tank. The Regional lab aims at qualifying the policies and practices for territorial development purpose, giving public institutions and research world an opportunity for confrontation on the most innovative multi-level tools in the regional and cohesion policies.

The *Regional lab* intends to enhance quality, efficacy and efficiency in public policy making, and foster innovation, integration and democratic participation in the multi-level strategic programming and planning for territorial sustainable development purposes.

The *Regional lab on macro-regional issues* organizes a Forum of the Adriatic-Ionian Universities in Bologna, on December 5th and 6th, 2013. The Forum will allow a debate between the regional and local authorities from the Adriatic-Ionian Countries (members of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion and partners of the AdriGov project), and the Adriatic-Ionian Universities representatives. The Forum proceedings will be presented as a formal contribution in the framework of the consultation on the EUSAIR draft proposal.

WHO we are

The members of the Regional lab on macro-regional issues

Stefano Bianchini
Bologna University, Professor, Director of the ICEOB Institute for the Central Eastern Europe and Balkans and International Coordinator of the MIREES

Sergio Casetti
Regione Emilia-Romagna, Civil Officer, Unit Statistic Studies and Geographic Information

Enrico Cocchi
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Mirco Degan Esposti
Researcher, GREP - Gruppo di Ricerca Etnografica del Pensiero Think tank

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Silvia Luppi
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Samuele Paganoni
Researcher, GREP - Gruppo di Ricerca Etnografica del Pensiero Think tank

Valerio Romitelli
Bologna University, Researcher and Director of the GREP - Gruppo di Ricerca Etnografica del Pensiero think tank

Elena Taglianti
Regione Emilia-Romagna, Civil Officer, General Directorate for Territorial Programming and Planning, International and European affairs, Unit Forward Studies, Europe 2020 and Cross-Cutting Policies and AdriGov PMU

Working paper



EUSAIR – how to say it

Building a macro-regional awareness in Adriatic-Ionian territories

Forum. Bologna, December 5th and 6th.

Working document

Dear all,

recently you received a Save the date, launching an Academic Forum about *Building a macro-regional awareness in Adriatic-Ionian territories*, to be held in Bologna on December, 5th and 6th. Now we want to provide you with some useful information for the preparation of your contribution to the event.

The main goal of that Forum is to foster the creation of a macro-area knowledge community, sharing a common awareness on what could be the advantages for the Adriatic-Ionian territories coming from a macroregional tool, and comparing the vision of the Academic community with the public administrations one about the EUSAIR (the forthcoming macro-regional strategic framework for Adriatic and Ionian territories). What could be the common challenges and objectives for the macro-area, what could be the keywords for a common sustainable development framework; how the macro-region could be designed to make it useful for the macro-regional community; how to build together, as key actors, a results-oriented governance framework, to empower the macro-regional potentialities; how to set up an integrated and place-based approach to the territorial development, how to harmonize the macro-regional diversities to improve the quality of the public action.

Firstly, we need you to confirm us your availability for the indicated period, if you haven't. In case you couldn't attend, please indicate a deputy person from your organization. Remember that you can choose to work on the topic both by writing a paper and preparing a speech, so in case you could not attend, your substitute will be able to present and discuss the paper.

We warmly encourage a contribution focused on your main areas of interest, in reaction to the EUSAIR Discussion paper¹ in attachment, and choosing among these two main issues as starting points:


- **the governance of the EUSAIR** (about the whole structure of the strategy, the actors, the stakeholders, the roles, the capacity building, skills, competences and processes) – are these aspects designed in the best way possible for a successful place-based strategy?

- **the contents of the EUSAIR** (about one or more of the priority pillars: 1. Driving innovative maritime and marine growth – 2. Connecting the region – 3. Preserving, protecting and improving the quality of the environment – 4. Increasing regional attractiveness) – are the EUSAIR contents designed/divided/chosen in a useful and comprehensive way for a successful place-based strategy? Moreover: shouldn't be the building of an innovative macro-regional knowledge society the main priority field, as a leverage for the harmonization of the development in the Adriatic-Ionian territories?

Looking forward to hear from you very soon, in order to go further in detail in the preparation of the event above mentioned, we remain completely at your disposal for everything you may need (contact person: Elena Tagliani 0039 051 5273609 – etagliani@regione.emilia-romagna.it).

We believe that your contribution is crucial for the quality of the debate and for the success of our Forum.

The Forum proceedings and the debate result will be immediately and formally forwarded to the EUSAIR authorities (DG REGIO and DG MARE) and the institutions involved in the strategic design process.

*Regional lab on
macro-regional issues* 

* The Regional lab on macro-regional issues is a platform participated by:

Emilia-Romagna Region, General Directorate Territorial Programming and European Affairs

Bologna University, DISCì Department, Prof. Valerio Romitelli

IECOB Institute for the Central-Eastern Europe and Balkans, Prof. Stefano Bianchini

¹ The Discussion paper on EUSAIR is the document disseminated in August with the aim of fostering the debate on macro-regional issues among the institutions involved in the process. You can find this document also in the EAI portal at www.adriaticionianeuroregion.eu

Slides Jaćimović

ENERGY AS A IMPORTANT PILLAR FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN MONTENEGRO

Prof. dr Danijela Jaćimović (danijelaj@ac.me)

Univeristy of Montenegro

Faculty of Economics

Bologna, 4-5 December, 2013

Macro picture

Montenegro
as small
Adriatic state

- with long coastline
- tourism assets
- dependence on trade and financial integration

Per capita
GDP
2000-11

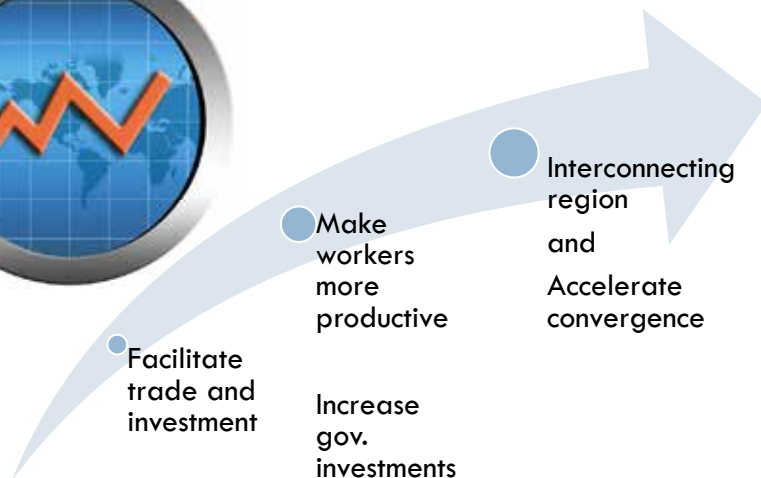
- Has significantly increased
- Reduced poverty
- Unemployment is still high

Sectoral decomposition

| | Sectoral Decomposition of growth | |
|--|----------------------------------|---------|
| | 2000-08 | 2000-10 |
| Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing | 8.9 | 9.6 |
| Mining and quarrying | 0.7 | -0.7 |
| Manufacturing | 2.9 | -5.1 |
| Electricity, gas and water supply | 1 | 8.8 |



Golden growth



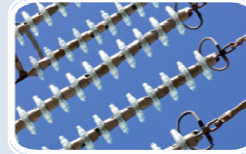
Integration via EU and Adriatic region



EU membership as a objective



Sharing history and language with neighbors



Energy as a integrative factor internally and in region

Energy as important pillar of growth in Montenegro



Electricity deficit

- High dependence on imported power



Subsides

- To the largest energy consumer



Depreciated electricity infrastructure



Low productivity



Market structure dominated by

- EPCG (MN) majority ownership 55%, A2A (IT)

High-voltage electric interconnection

The Tivat-Pescara cable, export energy from Montenegro/Balkans to Italy

Italian strategy to make Italy the “energy hub of Europe”

“First energy bridge with the Balkans”, by Terna



Interconnection between Italy and MN



1,000MW cable will run for 390km under the Adriatic Sea



25km will be on shore

- 10km in Montenegro’s Tivat area
- 15km in Italy’s Pescara area



Investment of 760 million euro by Terna

- Montenegro is expected to contribute about 100 million euro

Effects of interconnection


**Italy will
save**

- Importing cheaper energy
- 225 million euro a year savings on energy costs
- Better supply of energy






Montenegro

- Earn 10 to 40 million euro
- Energy hub of the Balkans
- Better interconnection with EU market
- Energy investments in infrastructure and transmission network

Slides Bertin




Università
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Venezia

EUSAIR – how to say it

Building a macro-regional awareness in Adriatic-Ionian territories



*Albania, Bosnia
Erzegovina,
Croazia, Grecia,
Montenegro,
Italia, Serbia,
Slovenia*

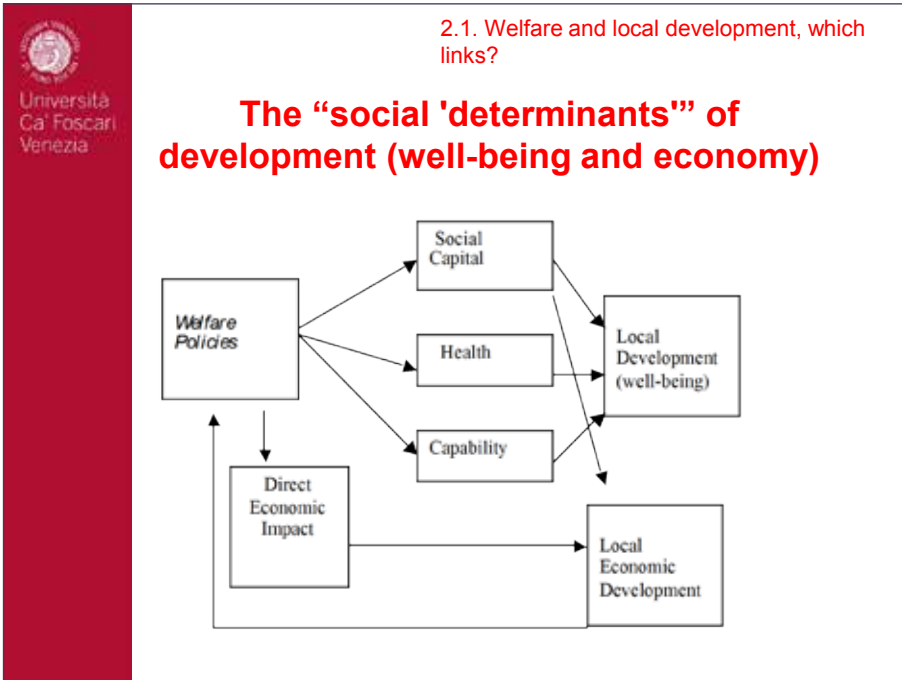
- Giovanni Bertin, Professor at University Cà Foscari, Venezia, Italia
Macroregional Welfare: the need for an Adriatic-Ionian Social Agenda



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Structure of the talk

1. **Welfare and local development**,
wich linkages?
2. **Macro region: which welfare**, some
evidences
3. **The changes of welfare** in Europa
4. **Conclusion**



1. Welfare and local development, which links?

Linkings between LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH (Suhurcke, Soute Arce, Tsolova, Mortensen, 2006)

healthy people are:

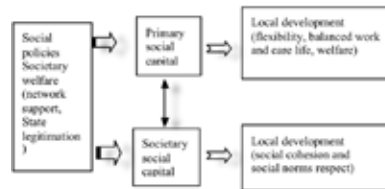
- **more productive at work** and have higher income levels;
- more present at their place of work, have **less absences** for illness and **retire later**;
- **more inclined to invest in training** and this contributes to improve their productivity;
- **more careful to save some money and to invest in their old age**, and this makes resources available for investments directed towards economic development



1. Welfare and local development, which linkages?

Linkings between LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL CAPITAL

- increases the inclination to take risks, as it reduces the spreading of opportunistic behaviour;
- reinforces motivation and the acceptance of responsibility, aspects which enable the actors to support innovative decisions and take risks;
- builds and makes possible the application of “rules of social behaviour”, even reinforcing informal social control;
- reduces the costs of transaction;
- facilitates the dissemination of knowledge and of innovation;
- produces beneficial effects on individuals and their context;
- activates and orientates resources towards public property



1.2. Welfare and local development, which links?

Which policies and how to manage them

Increase social capital

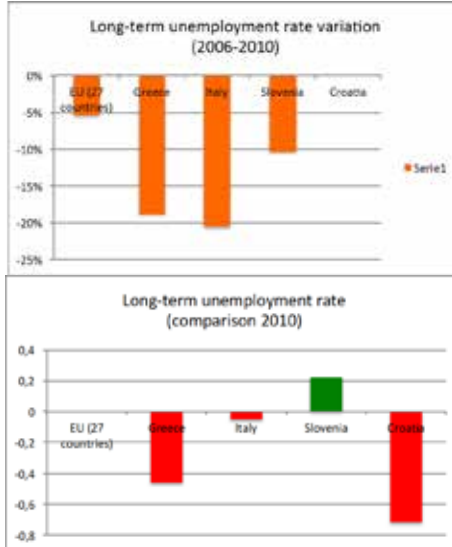
- to consolidate and not to break the family relationships
- to reduce the inequality and to increase the social cohesion
- to involve the third sector and improve the participation
- move from the public planning to the Network governance
- Empowerment



2. Macro region welfare: some evidences

The macroarea evidences some problems about:

- More employment problems than other european countries
- the differences are increasing

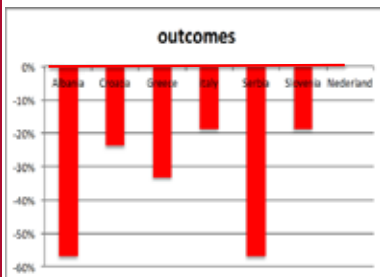
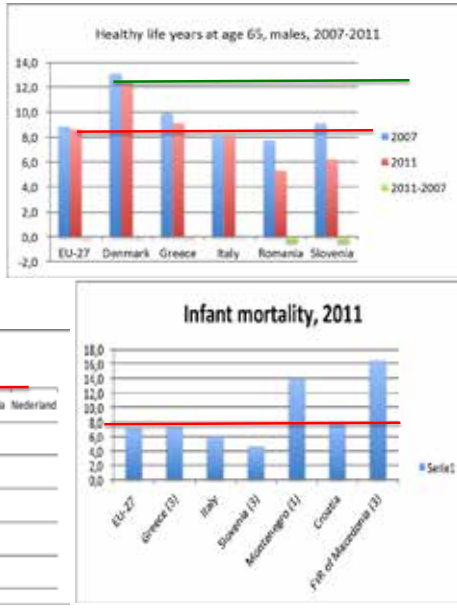


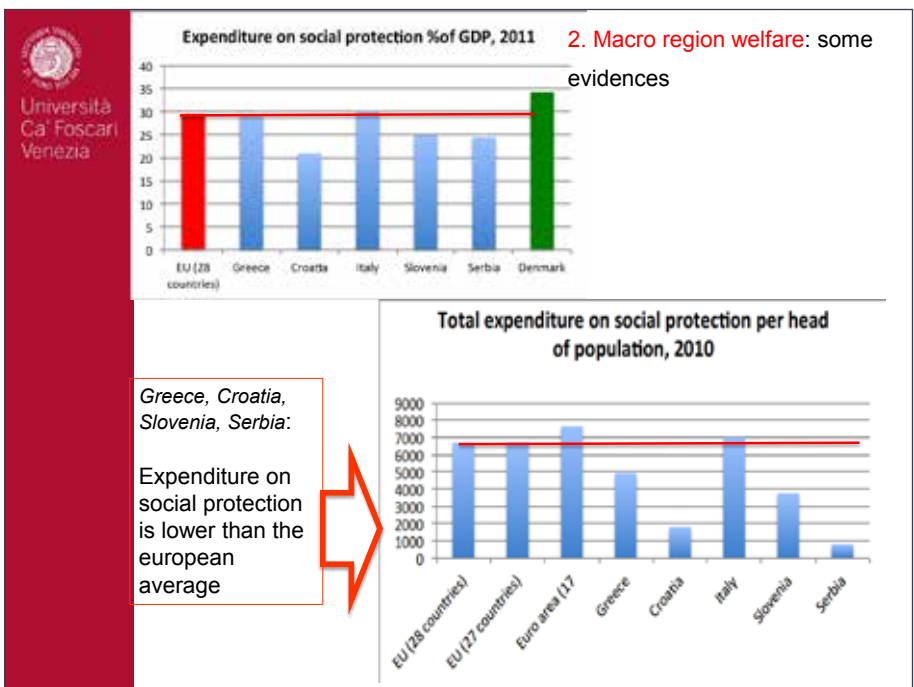
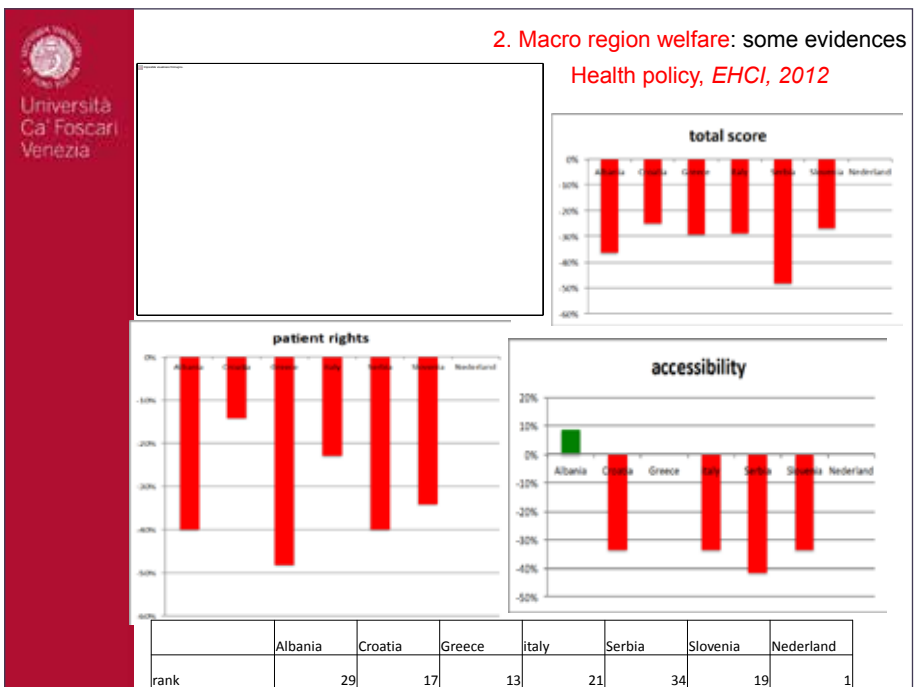
Health

The macroarea evidences some problems about:

- the healthy life at 65
- Infant mortality
- Health Outcomes worse than the other european countries

2. Macro region welfare: some evidences





in sintesi. . .

The welfare of
macro area
Adriatic-Ionian
is poorer than
other European
Country



3. The changes of welfare regimes in Europa

1. The crisis of welfare systems in Europe, which causes?
2. Toward which welfare system?





3. 1. The changes of welfare regimes in Europe

Welfare systems are changing, why?

INTERNAL FACTORS:

- public spending that is rigid and DIFFICULT TO DIRECT TOWARDS NEW SOCIAL RISKS
- a reduction of the protection against risks demonstrated by the development of market logic
- INCREASE IN THE DEMAND AND THE REDUCTION IN RESOURCES (consumerism)
- LOW EFFICACY IN TERMS OF DE-STRATIFICATION
- BUREAUCRATISATION OF SERVICES
- MISALIGNMENT BETWEEN the increased COMPLEXITY OF THE SYSTEM and the HIERARCHICAL CULTURE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION




3.1. The changes of welfare regimes in Europe

Welfare systems are changing, why?

EXTERNAL FACTORS:

- **DEMOGRAPHIC TREND** and the strong increase in the population of elderly citizens
- **CHANGES IN THE JOB MARKET**
- the great increase in the number of **WOMEN WITH ACCESS TO THE JOB MARKET**, (reduction in male employment)
- **INSTABILITY** that characterises the **EVOLUTION OF FAMILIES**
- **GLOBALISATION AND MIGRATION** processes
- **TRANSFORMATIONS OF CITIES** and the consequent difficulties to build social identity
- **LEGITIMISATION OF THE STATE**, turbulence and changes in the policy framework




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3.2. The changes of welfare regimes in Europa

Toward which welfare system in Europe?

The new challenges of Social Innovation

- More balanced
- More mixed and self responsible
- More sustainable
- More inclusive and equitable
- More participated (governance)



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3.2. The changes of welfare regimes in Europa

More Balanced

Welfare:
protective vs productive

Table 1. Typology of welfare regimes (Esping-Andersen, 1991)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | Productive-protective Finland | |
| Protective plus Denmark, Norway | | Protective plus Sweden, Netherlands, Austria, Belgium |
| Productive United States, New Zealand | Weak productive-protective Greece, Ireland, Switzerland, Italy, Korea | Protective Belgium, Germany |
| Weak productive Czechia | | Weak protective Spain, France, Czech Republic, Japan, Portugal, Slovakia, Singapore |
| | Weak Australia, United Kingdom | |

Note: National countries are in the same row and/or column, as they are closely related.

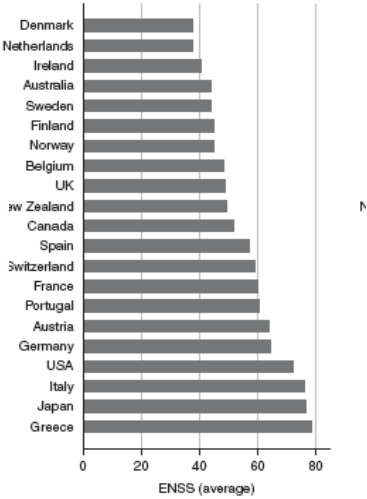


Figure 1 Elderly/non-elderly spending share (ENSS)

Old needs vs new needs



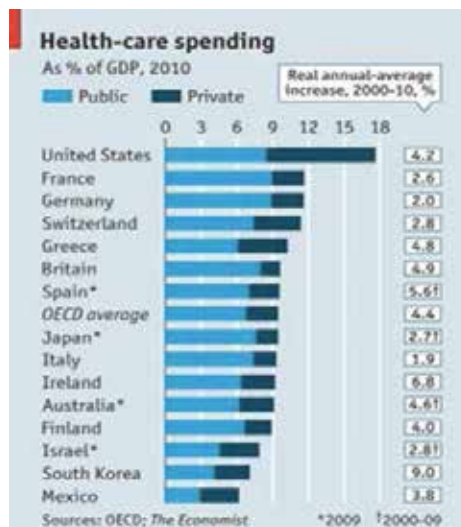
3.2. The changes of welfare regimes in Europa

More mixed and self responsible

- Self responsibility and “society responsibility”
- Active aging
- Empowerment
- The mix (private profit e non profit, public)

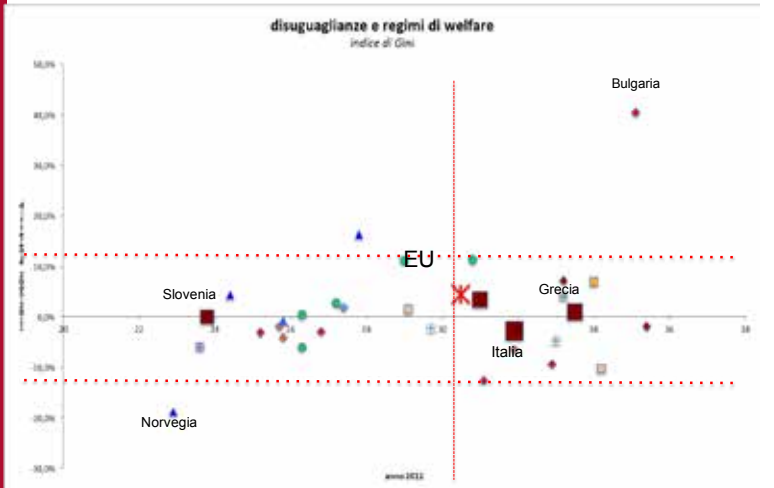


More sustainable



3.2. The changes of welfare regimes in Europa

More inclusive and equitable



3.2. The changes of welfare regimes in Europa

More participated (governance)

- Self evaluation
- Multilvel and network
- Centralità della dimensione locale
- Ruolo del pubblico come regista dei processi
- Capacità di attivare risorse



Conclusion

Which policies and how to manage them?

- **Social innovation**
- Consolidate and not replace family relationships
- Reduce inequalities and create social cohesion
- Encourage the involvement of the third sector and participatory processes
- encourage the empowerment

Social innovation for increasing well-being

Health systems

- Primary care
- Prevention and health promotion
- Inequality
- Web (opportunity and risk)



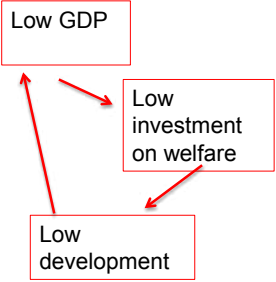
New "local welfare"

- Primary care**
- Domiciliary care**
- Empowerment**
- protective and productive welfare**
- Health promotion and prevention**




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The crisis will increase o reduce the difference among welfare systems?



```
graph TD; A[Low GDP] --> B[Low investment on welfare]; B --> C[Low development]; C --> A;
```

Risk: Circle vicious



Thank you

Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion's Forum on Innovation in public policies.

Bologna, Industrial Heritage Museum,
May 28th, 2014. Transcription of proceedings



The following proceedings and/or transcriptions were only delivered in Italian; so, for those contents, please refer to the Italian section

SIMONETTA SALIERA

Di nuovo buongiorno a tutti. Prima c'è stato modo di salutarci solamente a tu per tu, adesso è un buongiorno coram populo. Sono lieta di presentarvi tre persone che ci aiuteranno oggi a lavorare sul tema dell'innovazione nella maniera più di alta qualità possibile, sono il professor, nell'ordine dalla mia destra, Lucio Poma, che è il direttore del Centro di Ricerca, Innovazione e Conoscenza di Ferrara, il professor Patrizio Bianchi, che tutti ormai conoscete, che è il nostro Assessore regionale a Scuola, Formazione professionale, Ricerca e Università, ed è l'ex Rettore dell'Università di Ferrara, ed è un valente economista, è qua con noi per supportarci, e il professor Gambetta dell'Università di Bologna, dipartimento di Scienze Economiche, che ci presentano... ci hanno seguito, come sapete nella visita di studio, e la commentano per noi con un approccio, appunto, ai temi della qualità dell'innovazione che sicuramente sarà interessantissimo.

Cedo per primo la parola al professor Gambetta.

GUIDO GAMBETTA

Prendo prima io la parola anche se forse avrebbe dovuto essere il professor Bianchi a... Faccio io...

Be' noi abbiamo fatto questa visita che in realtà ha fatto vedere una collaborazione molto stretta fra la formazione e l'impresa. Lì in realtà si parlava soprattutto di un istituto, un istituto tecnico che in qualche modo accompagnava tutto lo sviluppo tecnologico. In realtà noi qui adesso parliamo anche di temi più generali, perché uno dei focus è quello della innovazione nelle politiche pubbliche e naturalmente che hanno sì a che vedere col mondo industriale, ma in modo mediato. E soprattutto il tema è particolarmente complesso perché l'innovazione, già l'innovazione nelle politiche pubbliche non è un tema semplice, ma riferito a una macro regione che in qualche modo ha una sua identificazione geografica abbastanza precisa, però ha certamente il problema di una forte eterogeneità nelle varie componenti di questa macro regione.

E quindi io credo che uno dei problemi fondamentali sia quello della diffusione delle esperienze che sono nate all'interno dei sottosettori di questa macro-regione e questo incontro, sicuramente, che viene dalla Regione Emilia Romagna, è una di queste esperienze che naturalmente dovranno essere proseguite nel tempo, ma certamente c'è anche una forte esigenza di un input di ricerca. Cioè un input di ricerca su questo particolare tipo di problemi, cioè l'innovazione di politiche pubbliche in un ambito macro-regionale internazionale con una forte connotazione di eterogeneità.

Ecco questo naturalmente non è un tema che sia stato particolarmente sviluppato anche a livello di ricerca. Per questo io credo che sia assolutamente necessario coinvolgere le università, che in qualche modo hanno una vocazione internazionale naturale, perché le università sono forse il luogo a maggiore vocazione internazionale, e certamente un luogo di formazione, di ricerca, in tutti i settori, soprattutto in molte nostre università come sono spesso anche le università italiane, che sono università tipicamente generaliste, cioè università che non sono specializzate in singoli settori come può essere in alcuni casi, non so prendiamo la Bocconi di Milano che è specializzata in Economia, ma sono invece università di tipo generalista.

Ora, io naturalmente faccio un po' riferimento a un'esperienza che ho vissuto in prima persona, cioè quella dello sviluppo dell'Università di Bologna in una parte della regione che è la Romagna, dove l'Università di Bologna ha portato in quattro città, che sono comprese in tre province, una serie di iniziative di cui poi parlerò brevemente.

Tra l'altro, quest'iniziativa dello sviluppo dell'Università di Bologna in Romagna vede qui un altro protagonista perché il professor Patrizio Bianchi in realtà è stato uno degli iniziatori di questa esperienza, poi ci ha tradito, è andato a fare il Rettore a Ferrara, ma questa è un'altra storia.

Io partirei dicendo che da alcuni anni ormai si parla di quella che viene chiamata la terza missione dell'università, oltre alla formazione e alla ricerca, quella che inizialmente è stata definita come il trasferimento tecnologico; un trasferimento tecnologico che ha riguardato sostanzialmente il settore industriale, manifatturiero in particolare ha una sua storia e anche delle esperienze molto rilevanti nella Regione Emilia Romagna.

In realtà, studi più recenti in Europa, soprattutto in Germania, in Inghilterra, ma anche in Italia, si sono concentrati sul ruolo che l'università può svolgere in un ambito più ampio di quello che non sia strettamente il trasferimento tecnologico, ma che riguarda in modo più ampio lo sviluppo economico e sociale in molti settori. Naturalmente non solo in campo industriale, ma anche nel settore dei servizi, nel settore pubblico e recentemente anche in un particolare tipo di problemi che è quello della creazione di nuove imprese. E questo è, diciamo, un settore su cui ci sono state proprio recentemente, negli ultimi anni, delle ricerche ad hoc, per vedere quali sono gli effetti positivi che la presenza dell'università può avere verso lo sviluppo di nuove imprese.

Ora, questi studi, in realtà, sottolineano che ci possono essere degli effetti positivi del ruolo dell'università, però se si verificano delle particolari condizioni. Cioè, non è così



scontato e non è così semplice che questi effetti positivi si esplicano, ma sono richieste particolari condizioni. Ora, una di queste condizioni è la vicinanza della presenza universitaria all'interno del territorio per il quale si utilizzano, appunto, e si cerca di verificare questo tipo di influenze.

La vicinanza, in questi studi in generale dal punto di vista geografico la vicinanza è definita a livello provinciale, a livello di quello che in Italia è la provincia, in altri Paesi appunto sono concetti analoghi. Ora, è ovvio che una delle condizioni è che la vicinanza consente la interazione, anche fisica proprio, tra i giovani imprenditori, comunque coloro che intendono a diventare imprenditori, quindi sviluppare una loro imprenditorialità, e i docenti e i laboratori e gli istituti universitari che possono essere sfruttati, le cui produzioni scientifiche possono essere sfruttate a questo fine.

Questo in qualche modo smentisce, diciamo, quelle critiche che vengono spesso fatte verso la diffusione dell'università al di là delle grandi città. Tradizionalmente le grandi università sono all'interno di città di una certa dimensione, e si è sviluppato, in Italia in particolare ma anche in altri Paesi europei, una diffusione della presenza universitaria al di là di queste città. Ora, se è vero che viene in qualche modo smentita la critica che è stata fatta nei confronti di questa diffusione, la seconda condizione però è una condizione che richiama la qualità dell'ateneo, cioè in qualche modo gli effetti positivi della presenza universitaria si creano se la qualità dell'università che ha decentrato è a un certo livello.

Proprio ricerche empiriche hanno fatto vedere che laddove la qualità dell'università è bassa, in generale la qualità dell'università viene misurata con i ranking internazionali e quindi in qualche modo si va a vedere qual è il ranking che quell'università ottiene all'interno delle valutazioni che vengono fatte sia a livello nazionale che internazionale, laddove la qualità è bassa questi effetti positivi non si verificano. Quindi non è sufficiente una presenza qualsiasi ma ci vuole una presenza qualificata, sia a livello della formazione che a livello della ricerca. Naturalmente, formazione e ricerca sono sempre connesse fra di loro.

Un'altra qualità della ricerca sappiamo che tende a produrre dei laureati con competenze più elevate e quindi, in qualche modo, quelle università che hanno una capacità di sviluppare ricerca in certi tipi di settori, quelli che sono comunque interessati a livello territoriale nella produzione di possibili nuove imprese, naturalmente producono anche una formazione di capitale umano di alta qualità. Naturalmente è ovvio che questa capacità di ricerca è strettamente connessa a livello di internazionalizzazione dell'ateneo, quindi sono atenei che hanno dei forti rapporti internazionali, riescono ad aggredire in qualche modo i progetti di ricerca europei, e che quindi producono e riescono a produrre; questa condizione, in qualche modo, è una condizione che questi studi ritengono appunto cruciale.

Un'altra condizione riguarda la tipologia della struttura territoriale all'interno della quale si deve sviluppare questo rapporto. E qui naturalmente è importante il ruolo delle regioni e soprattutto il ruolo delle politiche regionali che possono o no, in qualche modo,

facilitare questo tipo di rapporti, soprattutto nello stimolare e nel sostenere la qualità della ricerca.

In Italia c'era stata una riforma della legislazione e della Costituzione che riguardava la concorrenza della regione e dello Stato, quindi diciamo quelle competenze che sono suddivise fra Stato e regioni, per quanto riguarda proprio la ricerca scientifica e tecnologica e il sostegno all'innovazione nel settore industriale. Ora, appunto, Patrizio Bianchi mi accennava che la più recente riforma, ma forse dirai qualcosa tu dopo, potrebbe essere ritoccata in un modo non positivo.

Un'altra condizione che è necessaria è quella della situazione degli atenei dal punto di vista proprio della legislazione. Sono due i punti cruciali, in questo caso: da un lato certamente è l'autonomia universitaria, dall'altro sono i finanziamenti che arrivano. Questi due aspetti sono sempre due aspetti che sono in competizione fra di loro, cioè se lo Stato finanzia gli atenei ed è restio a concedere l'autonomia. Tant'è vero che in qualche modo una maggiore autonomia è stata concessa nel momento in cui i finanziamenti sono calati. Le università si sono trovate ad avere un'autonomia di spendere delle risorse che non c'erano più. Quindi questo rapporto è sempre un rapporto problematico.

La recente riforma che noi qui in Italia chiamiamo Riforma Gelmini, dal nome del ministro che l'ha portata a compimento, non facilita certo questa situazione. In particolare questa legge ha reintrodotto un forte accentramento di certe decisioni a livello ministeriale, anche se, come dire, è un accentramento che è al di fuori della legge. L'accentramento reale che si è verificato supera anche quelle che sarebbero le previsioni legislative, ma poi oltretutto molti atenei... tra cui anche quello di Bologna ha molto accentrato all'interno del proprio ateneo le decisioni, lasciando ad esempio nel nostro caso specifico le sedi romagnole in una situazione molto diversa da prima, cioè con una molto minore autonomia di comportamento.

Questo naturalmente diventa un ostacolo in qualche modo, soprattutto nel campo di questa che abbiamo chiamato la terza missione. Un ostacolo perché questo crea minori possibilità di avere contatti e relazioni autonome con gli enti locali, con le imprese e così via, perché tutte le decisioni sono accentrate, e quindi questo può ostacolare... ci vuole come dire una forza più decisa per perseguire questa terza missione.

Pensiamo anche che un altro ostacolo che c'è proprio a livello dei rapporti fra università, imprese ed enti locali è dovuto alla struttura che si è creata all'interno dell'università, che riguarda il problema della carriera universitaria. La carriera universitaria si fa soprattutto, in certi settori in particolare, basandosi soltanto sulla produzione scientifica, la produzione scientifica in molti settori è legata alla pubblicazione di certi temi su certe riviste internazionali, questo in generale esclude dalla valutazione della carriera universitaria gli studi locali e applicativi, e quindi questo crea soprattutto nei giovani, quello che non c'era fino a qualche anno fa, una maggiore distanza dalla possibilità, se uno pensa alla propria carriera, di spendere una parte rilevante del proprio tempo per collaborare a livello locale con imprese e gli enti pubblici, e così via.



Questi sono problemi interni all'università, che però in qualche modo poi trasbordano verso i temi di cui stiamo parlando.

Quindi, cosa deve fare l'università? Certamente il tema dello sviluppo economico e sociale e del territorio all'interno del quale opera è un tema che non può essere abbandonato e non può essere trascurato. Ci vuole comunque una capacità di sposare l'attività di ricerca con le esigenze di innovazione. In alcuni settori è più facile, in alcuni settori è più difficile. Per esempio quello sulle politiche pubbliche potrebbe essere un settore potenzialmente fruttuoso, perché negli studi delle politiche pubbliche, sia a livello economico sia a livello sociale, possono essere oggetto di ricerche innovative che possono avere anche una loro presenza, una loro diffusione all'interno di riviste internazionali di prestigio, mentre in certi settori questo può essere più difficile, questo può essere più facile. Non c'è un'impossibilità, c'è comunque uno sforzo che devono fare i docenti e le strutture universitarie per sposare queste due esigenze.

Certo, in Romagna l'Università di Bologna ha decentrato delle competenze che possono essere di grande interesse, perché sicuramente sono ricoperte – ad esempio gli studi sull'ambiente, gli studi sul welfare e sul benessere –, c'è un forte investimento sui problemi culturali, non solo con la ex Facoltà di Beni Culturali noi siamo sempre abituati a parlare di facoltà, ma non so se tutti sanno ma quella famosa legge ha anche eliminato le facoltà, e quindi dobbiamo imparare a utilizzare dei termini diversi, comunque le competenze sono rimaste naturalmente, anche se sono cambiati i nomi, quindi c'è comunque un dipartimento di architettura, c'è un dipartimento che studia le politiche pubbliche e c'è una forte competenza nel caso delle politiche nei confronti dei paesi dell'est europeo.

In qualche modo è un'università che può offrire un contributo proprio all'interno dei temi che qui ci interessano, oltre a quelli tradizionali che hanno comunque già avuto un certo sviluppo di interazione, che sono quelle dell'ingegneria, soprattutto dell'ingegneria informatica, che ha avuto un suo forte sviluppo. Naturalmente è ovvio che l'altra grande parte che può fare l'università è proprio nella formazione del capitale umano, questa capacità che hanno le università di qualità di attrarre i giovani anche al di fuori del territorio, e poi il tentativo che deve essere fatto di trattenere questi giovani, che sono giovani in generale di alta qualità e escono con una formazione qualitativamente elevata, di trattenerli nei luoghi in cui sono venuti a studiare. Questo in generale, anche nella nuova imprenditoria, è un fenomeno che si verifica, cioè i laureati che intendono intraprendere questa attività imprenditoriale facilmente preferiscono lavorare laddove hanno studiato, vicino all'università in cui si sono laureati.

Quello che può fare l'università poi si deve già affiancare a ciò che possono fare le regioni, e qui naturalmente io sorvolo su questa parte che è di competenze di altri, però sicuramente uno dei problemi sarà quello di cercare delle condizioni di omogeneità in un'area così di questo tipo. Per cui effettivamente se non si creano delle condizioni di omogeneità, non solo di infrastrutture e di condizioni generali, ma anche proprio di cultura

nei confronti della ricerca, della qualità della ricerca, della formazione professionale... cioè, bisogna proprio che ci sia una condivisione delle politiche su obiettivi precisi che devono essere condivisi, quindi questo è tutto un lavoro molto importante.

C'è certamente anche un discorso che riguarda i privati e, come dire, uno dei problemi in una zona come la Romagna, per esempio, è certamente quello della presenza di molte piccole imprese, meno imprese grandi. In generale in una zona dove ci sono piccole imprese c'è anche una facilitazione nella creazione di nuove imprese, perché le condizioni di ingresso sono più basse. Però ci vogliono invece delle organizzazioni particolari, perché le piccole imprese riescono poco a utilizzare gli effetti... i risultati della ricerca. Questi studi, per esempio, verso la creazione di nuove imprese dimostrano che mentre c'è un grande interesse nella nascita di nuove imprese, per l'utilizzazione dei risultati della ricerca, c'è molto meno interesse, anzi una quasi assenza, delle imprese esistenti, nelle piccole imprese esistenti in questo caso.

Vorrei concludere con un richiamo a quello che possono fare anche le fondazioni e le associazioni. Io mi trovo in questo momento a essere presidente di una fondazione che si chiama Fondazione Garzanti, che è stata fondata dall'editore, che è stato un grande editore italiano all'epoca, negli anni '50, in cui il mecenatismo industriale era ancora più sviluppato, adesso ci sono alcune grandi esperienze, alcuni grandi esempi di mecenatismo, però è molto meno diffuso. Invece, un'altra associazione di cui faccio parte, che si richiama al nome di Leonardo Melandri, che è stato l'iniziatore dal punto di vista locale, insomma, dello sviluppo dell'università di Bologna e Romagna, ecco questa è un'associazione che per la prima volta comprende sia professori universitari che imprenditori, professionisti, amministratori pubblici, dirigenti di impresa, i presidi delle scuole superiori... quindi in qualche modo ha messo insieme tutte le possibili categorie con lo scopo di creare il legame fra università e mondo esterno. È nata con questo scopo preciso e per la prima volta siamo riusciti a mettere insieme tutte queste persone. Noi speriamo che questa esperienza possa avere qualche effetto positivo, visto che in qualche modo saremmo all'interno di questa macro-regione di cui stiamo parlando.

Grazie.

LUCIO POMA

Buongiorno. Oggi facciamo una cosa diversa, visto che voi avete fatto una visita, oltretutto che è piaciuta molto, riprendiamo alcuni pezzi della visita che abbiamo fatto, e li leghiamo a cosa ci raccontano oggi ... e poi 5 minuti di riflessione finale sulle cose che ha detto il professor Gambetta.

Io parto proprio dal mio gruppo della visita. Abbiamo visto che Bologna cresce con la seta. Cresce con la seta che in realtà imita dai cinesi. Questo è un punto che non va sottovalutato, perché quello che sta accadendo è stato fatto perché noi abbiamo pensato che i cinesi fossero sempre gli imitatori delle imprese della periferia, com'è stata



l'Argentina negli anni '70. In realtà i cinesi hanno una tradizione, hanno un'istituzione, hanno una storia, e ce lo stanno facendo vedere sul mercato competitivo. Quindi le ruote si muovono.

Secondo punto, è che Lucca inventa la macchina, Bologna fa un'innovazione importante, trasforma la macchina da forza umana a... Noi abbiamo, e questo è il secondo punto di riflessione, l'idea che l'innovazione nasca in un'impresa, o nasca in una singola persona. E' vero, ma Sean Peter ci dice ben di più: "l'innovazione è un fatto collettivo". Bologna organizza tutta una serie di infrastrutture, di reti di canali, che rendono possibile questa innovazione. Senza la parte pubblica l'innovazione delle singole imprese non avrebbe assolutamente funzionato.

Questo ci racconta anche però un'altra cosa: Bologna non era la città delle acque, come poteva essere Mantova, la fanno diventare la città delle acque. Quindi un'altra idea che noi abbiamo è che l'innovazione, lo sviluppo parte solo dove ci sono le materie prime già pronte: non è vero. Se ci sono istituzioni pronte e dinamiche lo sviluppo può partire anche laddove non ci sono le condizioni per. Bologna ha un progetto e segue questo progetto come sistema, sistema che porta a cento mulini per 350 ruote. La più grande concentrazione di forza motrice moderna.

Ma fa un'altra cosa. Capisce che non basta trasformare l'innovazione in produzione. Questa deve essere commercializzata, per avere una dimensione sufficiente. E quindi con l'acqua cosa fa? Utilizza l'acqua come forza motrice e utilizza l'acqua come logistica. Vi dicono: a trasportare le merci a Milano, grazie al sistema di canali e ai porti che vengono fatti ci si mette 2 giorni invece che 15.

Quindi voi vedete un progetto della città, non l'innovazione del singolo imprenditore. Se non è calata all'interno di un progetto, sono istituzioni, famiglie, perché a un certo punto la seconda chiusa, il secondo canale, è un gruppo di famiglie che lo fa, quindi avete pubblico e privato, ma dietro un progetto.

Andiamo avanti e vedete a un certo punto la casa dove viene fatta la casa-impresa, la seta. E vedete che non ha finestre. Non ha finestre perché i segreti di produzione sono fondamentali. Sono talmente fondamentali che vi hanno detto "il comune di Bologna mette la pena di morte se un bolognese racconta le tecniche a un altro fuori dalla città".

Questo è fondamentale, se ci pensate: le risorse umane, la conoscenza tacita è strategica. E' vero questo oggi? Be', parlavo pochi giorni fa col direttore del personale di Finmeccanica, che adesso che non c'è la Fiat forse è l'impresa più grande che abbiamo, in ogni caso è l'impresa che ha più brevetti in Italia, quindi l'impresa che ha più codificato la sua conoscenza. I dirigenti e i quadri devono firmare un contratto che se vanno via da lì non possono lavorare per nessuna impresa del settore. Quindi, un'impresa come Finmeccanica, che ci fa dagli aerei a reazione alla supertecnologia codificata di brevetti, con super ingegneri, ha una parte di conoscenza tacita che è fondamentale per la vita e la crescita dell'impresa, e che non riesce a governare solo con i meccanismi di incentivo. Ha bisogno di una forma contrattuale.

Andiamo avanti. A un certo punto vedete quella macchina, quella che si azionava spingendo il pulsante, dove fanno vedere le due persone in gesso. Dice: “la macchina sostituisce completamente le persone”. A quel punto abbiamo il momento della macchina che ha sostituito le persone. L'avete vista funzionare con tutti gli ingranaggi, alcuni di voi l'hanno anche filmata. Qui c'è un passaggio importante che vorrei sottolinearvi. Il signore o la signora ha fatto una foto di quella macchina. Nel 1500-1600 fa una foto che non c'è ancora, la tecnologia, e la porta, fa un disegno. Uno è in grado di riprodurre completamente quella macchina in un'altra città. Cioè, la tecnologia e l'innovazione è tutta riprodotta dentro la fisicità della macchina.

Se noi prendiamo il telefonino del prof., che non glielo prendo e non glielo rompo perché mi uccide, e lo apriamo a metà, o apriamo un computer e facciamo una foto, voi cosa vedete? Dei fili di rame. Se voi prendete un microprocessore cosa vedete? Nulla. Allora, a un certo punto la tecnologia e la meccanica, cioè la fisicità di espressione di questa tecnologia, si separano. Fino anche agli anni '50 le macchine del packaging che vedete, tutto ciò che la conoscenza tacita viene fisicizzata nella macchina. Allora voi potete prendere una macchina, smontarla tutta, capire tutti i processi e ricostruirla. A un certo punto, per certe tecnologie, la fisicità del bene e la conoscenza non vanno più... Voi prendete un computer, lo smontate e non capite niente. Perché la tecnologia che è dentro a quel computer risiede da un'altra parte rispetto a quel computer.

Andiamo avanti, camminiamo, entriamo nel Novecento, nell'altra sala, e ci sono tutta una serie di riflessioni, molto utili. Prima vedete che il cavalier Gazzoni, che fa l'Idrolitina, chiede all'ACMA di fargli una macchina. La personalizzazione della parte meccanica. Non è la produzione in serie, è il *problem solving*. Il *packaging* con comparto che nei dati 2013 che ho è ancora in crescita, sia come fatturato che come occupazione, crescita che è maggiore di quella del 2007, quindi ha avuto una flessione nel 2009, come tutte, è ripartito ma è molto di più di quello che era, fa tuttora delle macchine personalizzate. Macchine da 2 miliardi delle vecchie lire, macchine molto costose.

Se le vedete in funzione sono delle macchine di Formula 1, hanno la stessa tecnologia dentro, perché devono chiudervi 5000 sigarette in un secondo, e quindi un grado di umidità cambia... Quindi super sofisticate, ma personalizzate. C'è una parte di personalizzazione della clientela fondamentale. Perché è fondamentale? Perché le risorse umane e l'assistenza di queste macchine è tutto. Voi non potete vendere una macchina a 2 miliardi in Giappone e non dare un'assistenza in un giorno. E quindi formare delle persone che sappiano. Quindi tanto più queste macchine crescono di complessità, tanto più abbiano della tecnologia ma abbiamo delle risorse umane che crescono di pari grado. E allora le risorse umane che sono espulse da quella macchina che avete visto in azione oggi ritornano al centro della produzione di conoscenza.

Poi vedete un'altra cosa. Vedete che a un certo punto le moto che venivano fatte tutte da una stessa impresa, cioè faceva tutto l'impresa, il motore, le sospensioni, la sella, con la caduta del mercato delle moto per l'entrata delle auto piccole, iniziano a specializzare la



produzione. E quindi singole componenti non diventano fasi di produzione, ma diventano imprese stesse. Ve ne hanno citate alcune. Ad esempio nel nostro gruppo hanno citato la Marzocchi, che fa le sospensioni. La Marzocchi però oggi il suo business non ce l'ha sulle moto, ma ce l'ha sulle mountain bike. Quindi si è trasformata da sospensioni per moto a sospensioni per mountain bike. La sospensione per mountain bike viene 1500-1800 euro, non sono cose da 200 euro. C'è loro e la Rosholt che è un'altra marca nel mondo, e hanno messo un punto di osservazione in California per essere sul mercato di. E quindi vedete come un'impresa che fa una componente, al cambio dei gusti di valore riorganizza la sua produzione.

Qui abbiamo un'altra riflessione. Perché crolla il mercato della seta? Perché abbiamo dei concorrenti che ci abbassano i prezzi? Assolutamente no. Perché a un certo punto entra con la Corte di Francia il cotone, l'idea che si cambiano abiti ogni anno, e quindi la seta è un abito costoso, per molti anni, non funziona più. Questo ridefinisce tutto l'apparato produttivo di una città.

Pensate oggi al pronto moda. Siamo a visitare anche anni fa, qui al Centergross. Il pronto moda vi distrugge le collezioni; gli Armani, Max Mara ecc.. Devono fare collezioni, pre-collezioni, pre-pre-collezioni... il fatto di inserire il pronto moda nel tessile non è una semplice variante: riorganizza tutto il sistema di committenza su forniture logistiche. Ma questo viene da fuori, non lo riescono a creare le imprese, è un sistema che cambia.

Una cosa non hanno fatto vedere nella nostra visita. Perché si è fermata un attimo prima, l'ha citato ma c'era uno stand subito dopo. Quando siamo andati a vedere la Maserati, l'auto della Maserati, nella moto ha detto "il telaio lo faceva la Verlicchi". C'era uno stand, non so se l'altro gruppo l'ha visto, dietro la Maserati, dove vi facevano vedere i telai della Verlicchi, adesso. Il telaio più importante della Verlicchi, che era quello in esposizione, è quello che ha dato origine al Ducati Monster. Che è quello che nel '93, grazie anche all'entrata dei fondi di pensione americani, ha rilanciato la Ducati, perché ha creato una nuova moto che si chiamava Naked, la nuda, dove il telaio era il punto di design fondamentale.

C'è una cosa però che i miei studenti a volte non colgono, e forse neanche voi e ve lo voglio sottolineare. Nella nostra regione ci sono circa 3000 imprese in grado di saldare dei tubi e fare della... Perché solo una, Verlicchi, attenzione Verlicchi poi il suo telaio lo vende anche all'Aprilia, quindi abbiamo il caso di un subfornitore che diventa così importante e strategico da essere lui il punto di riferimento per gli altri. Perché fare un telaio che pesa 200 grammi o 300 grammi, che vi tiene una moto di 194 kg, dritta per strada a 294 all'ora non è una cosa che può fare tutti. Anzi al mondo c'è uno che lo riesce a fare. Perché un millesimo di millimetro di saldatura diversa fa sì che la moto non tenga.

Se noi non capiamo questo, se noi non capiamo che nel packaging, quando vi chiudono il formaggino, avete presente il formaggino quello Tigre, che aveva quella carta velina, quella argentata che vi rimaneva appiccicata alle mani quando lo aprivate, c'era solo un'impresa in tutto il mondo, ed era in Emilia, che era in grado di fare delle lame

che riuscivano a tagliare il triangolo senza rimanere attaccate a. Questa è la differenza del nostro sistema. Se non capiamo queste differenze non capiamo perché i cinesi non ci hanno già fatto le macchine del packaging, le macchine del sollevamento idraulico o via dicendo. E' in queste iper-specializzazioni.

Ultimo punto della visita. Anche qui abbiamo fatto veloce, quindi non l'abbiamo sottolineato a sufficienza. Le Aldini Valeriani. Se guardate dietro le macchine del packaging c'erano sempre tutte quelle foto, che vi fa già vedere che un tempo l'impresa era la famiglia... Tutti i grandi dirigenti della GD, della SACMI venivano dalle Aldini Valeriani, e non avevano la laurea. Erano a capo di imprese che sono dei colossi industriali. Le Aldini Valeriani non è stato un pezzo qualsiasi della storia del distretto del packaging e della meccanica avanzata in generale, è stato "il" motore. E quando noi diciamo "scuola-laboratorio", se vi ricordate dicevano che erano le stesse imprese che fornivano i macchinari, perché così avevano risorse umane formate.

Tuttavia, leggiamo questo pezzo oggi. Se oggi la differenza fra la mia impresa non è più nella produzione fisica del bene, ma è nella produzione di conoscenza. Perché? Perché molte imprese del packaging hanno iniziato a mettere la farmaceutica, la chiusura in ambiente asettico. E quindi è più la chimica, la farmaceutica, non la meccanica in quanto tale che mi fa la differenza. Io non vado a dare la mia macchina a una scuola. Cioè i segreti di produzione tornano a essere fortemente decisivi sulla strategia. Facciamo fatica anche a fare *joint venture* di ricerca e sviluppo. Nei nostri progetti, che abbiamo delle piattaforme tecnologiche... un po' uno dice, ci sto io se non ci stanno gli altri tre grandi. E difficile far entrare tutte le quattro grandi di un settore.

Andiamo alla conclusione e andiamo anche a sintetizzare tutte queste cose e quale lezione c'è per oggi, per voi.

Primo, il professor Gambetta ci parlava di una cosa importante, la terza missione dell'università che è entrata di prepotenza negli ultimi dieci anni in un certo tipo di letteratura internazionale. Questa terza missione dell'università è sposata, va in parallelo con un altro pezzo di letteratura, che è quello della tripla elica, il cosiddetto modello della tripla elica. E cosa ci dice questo modello? Che in realtà il gioco non è più fra università e imprese, non è più fra scienza e industria, se vogliamo dare dei nomi per dei convegni, ma è *government*, università e imprese, cioè c'è il ruolo del governo. Dove con *government*, ci diceva Guido prima, spesso non è declinato nel governo centrale. *Government* può essere la regione, può essere la provincia, può essere un'unione di regioni come un Interreg, come può essere il comune.

Allora, primo punto, non abbiamo più un livello di azione unico. Il nostro livello di azione comunale, provinciale, regionale, interregionale, internazionale, europeo dipende dal progetto che noi stiamo costruendo. Per alcune azioni la *governance* locale è più efficace, per altre sarà più efficace una *governance* più ampia.

Secondo punto. Giustamente Guido diceva "se è stato abbandonato il progetto trasferimento tecnologico", l'idea del trasferimento tecnologico, *liaison office*. Qual è l'idea



del progetto tecnologico? L'università deteneva la conoscenza, le imprese ne avevano bisogno, e c'erano un *mismatch* di informazioni fra impresa e università. Il gioco era molto semplice, bastava chiudere questo. Questo è vero nella vecchia ondata di tecnologia, dove i nostri brevetti ci identificavano con chiarezza la loro funzione. Faccio un cacciavite per chiudere la ruota del mulino a seta... Allora in quel caso è solo un problema di conoscenza che gli operai del mulino sappiano che l'università ha brevettato quel cacciavite.

Oggi tutta la parte che si chiamano tecnologie abilitanti, tutta la parte delle nanotecnologie e via dicendo, sono tecnologie aperte, sono tecnologie che nascono in un settore ma vanno a dare i loro frutti su settori totalmente diversi e impensabili. Per questo motivo ci sono due riflessioni che ne discendono: primo, non basta che l'università trasferisca alle imprese ma devono co-progettare assieme il percorso di ricerca, perché il percorso di ricerca deve essere personalizzato per l'esigenza di "il nostro ricercatore bravissimo a muovere le nanotecnologie o i nanotubi, non sa per niente l'applicazione che può essere fatta su un ombrello, su quella vostra seggiola", è l'imprenditore che sa questo, e ci debbono lavorare insieme, non potete fonderle *ex post*, dovete fonderle *ex ante*, e se già lui ci diceva che era difficile un percorso di scambio informativo, figuratevi un percorso di co-progettazione, tuttavia la strada è questa.

Seconda considerazione, oggi per questo motivo non c'è più un solo prodotto che avete voi che dipende da un solo campo del sapere, se voi avete la scarpa della Nike avete dentro l'*air* che dipende dalla parte chimica, la parte anallergica, la parte di Tecnogym, non è solo parte meccanica, anzi quella meccanica non c'è più, c'è tutta la parte della postura, tutta la parte farmaceutica, tutta la parte di psicologia per i colori, per come deve essere fatta la palestra, fino a brevettare la valle del benessere con il ...

Non esiste più e quindi non possiamo più fare quello che noi diciamo in maniera dotta da accademici, il problema gerarchie-mercato. Cioè in assenza di un sistema universitario territoriale che non mi dà l'innovazione, io internalizzo tutta la mia innovazione al mio interno, come aveva fatto Olivetti, come aveva fatto Fiat. Non è più possibile perché la dimensione dei saperi è troppo ampia.

Quindi, per concludere, anche per un'impresa di grandissime dimensioni, avere i rapporti con un intreccio di conoscenze, considerate che tutta la parte di cellule staminali sta dentro veterinaria, tutta la parte di matematica più avanti, ho visto in Israele, si fa nelle parti del DNA e non negli istituti di matematica, abbiamo già dei dipartimenti che non corrispondono più alla parte di ricerca, allora c'è bisogno di ricombinare questa conoscenza. Se noi ricombiniamo questa conoscenza, il ruolo della regione non diventa più semplicemente di mettere a disposizione conoscenze all'università e alle imprese, ma di fatto crea nuova conoscenza. Questo è quello che ci darà la differenza con la competitività dei cinesi, che stanno già iniziando a fare queste cose. Se non lo facciamo in tempo, a mio avviso, siamo messi molto male.

Grazie.

PATRIZIO BIANCHI

Io ringrazio sia Guido Gambetta che Lucio Poma per queste due letture incrociate del tema “produzione e diffusione delle competenze della conoscenza”. In particolare, io credo che le due riflessioni di oggi, ma soprattutto la visita a questo museo, serva nel dibattito AdriGov per domandarsi perché serve una macroregione dal punto di vista industriale, se cioè la macroregione è semplicemente un luogo di relazione politica, di relazione istituzionale, o ha una sua dimensione economica e produttiva.

Noi abbiamo avuto due ascolti che mi sono sembrati molto importanti. Da una parte Guido ci dice: “Guardate che lo stesso ruolo delle università dipende dalla qualità dell’università”. Qualità complessiva dell’università”. Perché anche noi in questo paese abbiamo lungamente dibattuto se avere delle università generaliste o delle università iper-specializzate. Quindi le università di Economia, le università di Ingegneria, oppure le università generaliste. Vi ricordo che in Francia era stata scelta 15 anni fa la via delle università specialistiche. Tant’è vero che le grandi università erano state spaccettate, divise in parti, ed erano state sostanzialmente suddivise. Ad esempio, Bordeaux, che è nella regione di *Aquitaine*, che è la nostra gemellata, la vecchia università di Bordeaux è stata divisa in 1, 2, 3 e 4. La 1 era medicina e dintorni, la 2 erano gli humanities, la 3 erano ingegneria, la 4 erano sostanzialmente economia, giurisprudenza, scienze politiche.

Questi stanno tornando indietro, cioè stanno rifacendo delle università generaliste, per il ragionamento che sia Guido che Lucio facevano, cioè diventa sempre più difficile confinare l’innovazione, invenzione, in un ambito disciplinare. Perché sempre di più la capacità di invenzione è figlia di un cumulo di conoscenze pregresse, ma la sua trasformazione in innovazione è trasversale. Si può anche immaginare che ci sia un processo di invenzione disciplinare, ma il processo di innovazione sicuramente ormai è transdisciplinare, non interdisciplinare, tutte le volte è transdisciplinare.

Guardate che il passaggio non è da poco. Esempio è quello che abbiamo fatto prima entrambi: se un tempo immaginavi che gran parte della ricerca “biomed” avesse funzioni strettamente connesse con una ricaduta clinica, buona parte della ricerca “biomed” oggi invece ha ricadute in settori industriali anche molto lontani.

Attenzione a questo passaggio perché questo implica due cose: implica la capacità di avere dei presidi universitari che siano essi stessi presidi di ricerca di base di grande dimensione. Su questo, attenzione, perché in molti Paesi recentemente vi è stato un processo di liberalizzazione delle università e abbiamo avuto la moltiplicazione di università che università non sono. Cioè di luoghi di didattica senza ricerca. Questo non è uno degli esiti positivistissimi, perché benissimo che puoi moltiplicare le facoltà di economia, giurisprudenza e scienze politiche. Non sto pensando all’Albania, sto pensando alla Luiss, dove ho fatto un corso in questi due anni quindi parlo con cognizione.

Puoi moltiplicare questi corsi, ma sul sistema economico la capacità di disporre di una trasversalità continua fra l’area biomed, l’area ingegneristica, l’area delle fisiche dure,



scienze dure, le chimiche, le fisiche e la matematica, le aree *humanities* e le aree economiche diventa fondamentale. Vi faccio un esempio. Tutto lo sviluppo dell'informatica logica è strettamente connesso con il linguaggio. Voi potete sviluppare nuove imprese nel settore dell'informatica logica, se avete degli straordinari informatici, però anche degli straordinari linguisti. E se avete i linguisti vuol dire che tutta la parte della i-linguaggio, la sua formazione, la cultura intrinseca in quel linguaggio, diventa essenziale.

Tanto più queste cose diventano intrecciate fra di loro, tanto più l'ambito di interazione tra sistemi universitari deve essere stretto. Quindi quando nell'ambito AdriGov ci stiamo perché vi sia una forte interazione fra i sistemi universitari, e perché ormai questa dimensione di interazione non può essere più nazionale, non è nazionale. Ogni università sta dentro a sistemi diversi e diversi sistemi diventano dinamici proprio perché la singola università diventa il trasduttore di pulsioni diverse. Noi stiamo dentro ad un pezzo che va sostanzialmente verso Bordeaux, ma contestualmente dobbiamo averlo verso ad esempio, vedo Loretta, verso Tirana, però con una grande selezione. Cioè questo è un gioco in cui è fondamentale che tutti partecipano, non è essenziale che tutti vi siano dentro. Perché vi è una selezione, perché la selezione diventa cruciale in questo punto.

Secondo passaggio. Il passaggio "le università non sono e non possono rimanere cose astratte". Un'università è tanto più forte quanto più tutto il sistema educativo sotto è forte e coerente. Come Lucio diceva giustamente prima, tutto quello che voi avete visto qui è figlio di una cultura tecnica che diventa anche tecnologica, ma che in prima battuta è tecnica, cioè con una forte componente di formazione tecnica e professionale che permette la realizzazione delle cose richieste e quindi la capacità di risolvere i problemi che si pongono. Perché molte volte noi abbiamo una cultura tecnologica che non essendo assistita da una cultura tecnica, poi non riesce mai a trasformarsi in realizzazione, cioè in prodotti, in processi. La capacità qui di percepire il sistema educativo come un continuo, diventa assolutamente cruciale.

Ognuno parla sempre dei suoi mali, per cui vi ricordo che noi nel nostro Paese, dove pure abbiamo avuto come ministri recenti tre rettori, ognuno è stato rettore di un'università iperspecialistica, che non solo non vedeva gli altri pezzi delle università, ma non sapeva cosa c'era sotto. Faccio notare tra l'altro che la formazione professionale non è al Ministero dell'Educazione, ma è al Ministero del Lavoro. Quindi c'è uno straordinario bisogno di *institutional building*, sia da un lato che dall'altra parte dell'Adriatico. *Institutional building* vuol dire la capacità di mettere insieme istituzioni che finora sono qualificate per il loro specialismo, quindi per la loro incomunicazione.

La capacità di fare progetti e progetti integrati e progetti europei dipende largamente dalla capacità, quindi, di strumentare gruppi di persone che lavorando all'interno delle diverse istituzioni sono capaci di fare la sintesi, non solo l'analisi. Noi veniamo tutti da una cultura che è essenzialmente analitica, non di sintesi, mentre nel mondo complesso e veloce che caratterizza la fase attuale, perché velocità e complessità, *speed and complexity*,

caratterizzano questa fase. E quando ci sono caratteri di velocità e caratteri di complessità è la cultura della sintesi che alla fine premia.

Sulla base di questo, voi avete visto in questo museo degli straordinari esempi di sintesi. Quando voi vedete la macchina per seta al piano di sopra, voi vedete uno straordinario mezzo meccanico pensato per il mercato della seta. Quando voi vedete tutte le macchine che vedete qui, sono tutte macchine che sono state fatte con delle tecnologie che avevano uno specifico tecnico che però rispondevano dei bisogni di un altro comparto.

Io credo che questo valga anche a livello oggi di Europa allargata. Io credo che nell'Europa allargata noi dobbiamo essere capaci di esercitare una funzione politica di forte sintesi, perché l'Europa non è mai stata così diversa come adesso al suo interno, i singoli Paesi non sono mai stati così diversi come adesso al loro interno. Mai il Paese Italia ha avuto delle *disparities* interne come oggi. L'illusione errata di poter risolvere il problema del *disparities*, riportando al centro nazionale la soluzione dei problemi è un errore. Per contro bisogna cogliere che non tutte le regioni sono state capaci e sono capaci di affrontare contestualmente lo stesso tema.

Quindi l'idea di un federalismo asimmetrico si pone sia per l'Europa che per i governi nazionali. Questo implica però un fatto: il superamento della fase Barroso. I dieci anni di Barroso, soprattutto nella seconda parte di Barroso, come ho detto la volta scorsa, sono stati devastanti, perché ha riportato l'iniziativa politica al consiglio dei capi di Stato, non alla Commissione. Nel momento in cui la Commissione deve rispondere al parlamento, ancorché è un parlamento che per un terzo è fortemente scettico nei confronti dell'Europa, porrà necessariamente il problema politico di dove sta il potere di iniziativa. Se sta negli stati nazionali o sta nella Commissione Europea.

Io credo che questo sia un bandolo essenziale della questione, perché la questione è la Commissione Europea non può avere come riferimenti gli stati nazionali, ma le articolazioni del territorio, con cui si organizza l'Europa allargata. E quindi anche le macro regioni. La macro regione ha bisogno di un forte referente europeo che vada al di là degli stati nazionali. Quindi sintesi.

Io credo che questa sia anche la riflessione che faremo oggi nel pomeriggio, dove oggi nel pomeriggio i temi di fondo che noi dovremmo affrontare sono proprio questi. Da una parte come stanno le tematiche di innovazione. Prima Lucio ha detto una cosa che io trovo estremamente giusta. Mentre l'invenzione può essere un percorso individuale, l'innovazione è un percorso sociale, e i percorsi sociali vanno analizzati nella loro complessità.

Non ci sarebbe stato lo sviluppo della macchina da seta se non ci fosse stata la capacità di fare il canale. Non ci sarà sviluppo se non ci sono infrastrutture, ma le infrastrutture non possono essere basate, per quanto abbiano un impatto locale, su una dimensione assolutamente più grande del locale, quindi la visione diventa cruciale. Questo è anche per le regioni. O nei prossimi anni le regioni, parlo per l'Italia ma credo anche di parlare anche per le altre, si riducono a sottospecie amministrative dello stato nazionale, quindi



niente più che consorzi di comuni, allora tanto vale parlare di comuni, o diventano il luogo della visione che va al di là degli stati nazionali per costruire le macro regioni. Io scelgo nettamente la seconda e quindi è per quello che siamo qui oggi.

Grazie.

SIMONETTA SALIERA

Grazie a tutti e tre. Per me è stato illuminante e interessantissimo. Facciamo uno stop, ci riposiamo un attimo, c'è il buffet.

28 maggio 2014. RER 02

SIMONETTA SALIERA

Io darei inizio alla seconda parte, anche perché è ora. Abbiamo qua in questa seconda parte della giornata rispettivamente, a partire dalla mia destra, oltre al professore Bianchi che ci raggiunge adesso, a minuti, abbiamo il direttore generale, programmazione territoriale, intese e attività europee della regione Emilia Romagna dottor Enrico Cocchi, il presidente della regione di Scutari (Albania) Maxhid Cungu, il professor Francesco Privitera dell'Università di Bologna e due ricercatori del GREP, che collaborano al Regional lab, che ci faranno un interim report, che sono il dottor Samuele Paganoni e il dottor Mirko degli Esposti.

Cedo la parola al dottor Cocchi che gestisce questo secondo panel, grazie.

ENRICO COCCHI

Allora, intanto si dice sempre così quando si inizia: il non formale ringraziamento a tutti. Però, chi mi conosce lo sa, visto che molta parte degli amici ci si è visti nei vari progetti, nella gestione dei vari programmi, io ringrazio tutti gli intervenuti, ringrazio chi ha organizzato e mi sento io in colpa e dispiaciuto di non aver potuto cogliere tutti i lavori, visto che fortunatamente nel percorso che abbiamo costruito in questi anni, non solo in questo progetto ma più in generale nel sistema Adriatico e Adriatico-Ionico, è stato un percorso che mi permetto di dire che ha costruito conoscenze e competenze, non ha semplicemente, come posso dire, creato le condizioni per accedere in modo spot a delle risorse, ma attraverso una serie di esperienze, le avete già ricordate prima l'euroregione, poi il percorso di EUSAIR che verrà riportata anche più avanti nei nostri lavori dalla rappresentante di CRPM, si è sempre cercato di accompagnare di costruire un processo organico di una crescita consapevole dei ruoli e dei rapporti, con quelle che erano le iniziative puntuali rispetto alle quali abbiamo poi operato andando a implementare

mattoncino per mattoncino quelle che erano un sistema di conoscenze e di competenze. Quindi, sono dispiaciuto di non aver seguito tutti i lavori, ben contento almeno di seguire una parte e di poter tutti insieme contribuire a questo processo di implementazione.

Apriamo il percorso, come dicevo poc'anzi, con, spero di pronunciare bene, Maxhid Cungu.

MAXHID CUNGU

Onorevoli partecipanti, signore e signori... prima devo ringraziare la Regione Emilia Romagna, che ha preparato questo convegno, questi due giorni di lavoro, nonché l'euroregione adriatico-ionica, che sta dando un contributo molto importante per la cooperazione fra i nostri Paesi e le nostre regioni.

Abbiamo una tematica molto interessante, che è un fattore dello sviluppo nei nostri Paesi, le ricerche per l'innovazione stanno tenendo il posto principale per quanto riguarda il contributo all'occupazione e alla crescita economica in tutto il mondo: la globalizzazione, i cui effetti si sentono e li commentiamo ogni giorno, e soprattutto il risultato della rivoluzione delle tecnologie, dell'informazione e della comunicazione del sistema liberale di scambi commerciali nell'ambito dell'OMC⁵³ o di accordi regionali in diversi continenti del mondo; in sostanza, la globalizzazione e lo sviluppo dell'economia della conoscenza e gestione della conoscenza.

L'aumento della concorrenza su scala internazionale dopo questo processo è molto forte rispetto alla classica concorrenza di beni e prodotti che venivano finora. Davanti abbiamo un sistema economico strettamente connesso con il processo innovativo permanente basato sulla conoscenza scientifica profonda e soprattutto la capacità di distribuire e l'acquisizione in scala immediata. In queste condizioni, l'accelerazione del contenuto intellettuale del processo di concezione, fabbricazione e distribuzione del prodotto o servizio rendono economica e conoscenza e gestione delle informazioni un fattore essenziale di sviluppo.

Ma qual è la relazione tra l'innovazione e il business in Albania? Quando l'Albania usa l'innovazione è perché questa innovazione sta contribuendo all'occupazione, al miglioramento delle condizioni di vita. Prendendo in considerazione solo le innovazioni più importanti che sono avvenute in Albania si potrebbe menzionare il porto di Durazzo, punto strategico in cui con vari interventi e progetti con l'introduzione dell'innovazione e della tecnologia, ha portato cambiamenti importanti per il settore dei trasporti. Il settore elettrico è un altro settore nel quale ci sono stati importanti investimenti e innovazione portando dietro i loro benefici.

Continuando con le innovazioni del sistema bancario e di quello manifatturiero si

53 OMC = Organizzazione Mondiale del Commercio.



può dire che anche l'Albania essendo anche vicina al mercato europeo, ha usufruito dei benefici dell'innovazione.

Qual è la posizione dell'Albania con gli sviluppi mondiali per quanto riguarda l'innovazione? Anche se negli ultimi anni in Albania la popolazione ha investito molto sull'istruzione, portando il livello di diplomati a un livello soddisfacente, l'apertura del centro per l'informazione turistica in partner con la regione Molise ha potuto aumentare la conoscenza sulle attrazioni culturali e turistiche che offre il nostro territorio. La fototeca Marubi, con la regione di Scutari e il Friuli Venezia Giulia, sta creando la sua pagina online di un museo virtuale, varie istituzioni pubbliche e private che offrono i dati per l'economia e la vita sociale. Come regione ci siamo impegnati molto a partecipare nei diversi programmi europei e oltre a trovare la possibilità tramite una collaborazione stretta e corretta con i nostri partner, per trasferire le buone pratiche nelle quali sono state verificate le possibilità a contribuire verso i nuovi sviluppi che, modestamente, li possiamo chiamare anche innovazione per il nostro sistema pubblico.

Il progetto Adri-Youth (YOUTH Adri-net), un progetto supportato dall'Unione Europea, ha portato le sue conoscenze innovative nella creazione di un network fra i giovani nei Paesi dei partner del progetto. Insieme alla regione Emilia Romagna, con il progetto Albania Domani e con il progetto SEE-NET, abbiamo inviato la qualificazione della formazione professionale collegandola sempre di più al mercato del lavoro e alle esigenze delle imprese nell'informatica e ambiente, che adesso vogliamo completare. La stessa cosa si può dire anche per i progetti NEXT IPA e MEDPLANT, il cui obiettivo principale è il network sul campo dell'agricoltura e nuove tecnologie agricole. E' pure AdriGov che crea le condizioni per ognuno di noi ad avere una conoscenza e una *operational governance* per gestire insieme con un'effettività gli interessi dell'area Adriatico-Ionica.

Secondo l'ultima analisi dei *report* internazionali, per quanto riguarda il mercato e l'innovazione, le connessioni tra imprese e centri di ricerca e università, l'Albania si pone debole nelle posizioni a livello mondiale. Questa classificazione è considerata come uno dei parametri più completi per analizzare il livello di dinamica economica e della capacità di flessibilità e adattamento con l'economia mondiale. Per questo la regione di Scutari pensa che oggi è prioritario per l'Albania investire sulle capacità umane e sulle competenze delle persone, investire sul capitale umano. E ritiene che la formazione professionale e l'istruzione superiore, insieme all'università, siano l'asse fondamentale e portante dello sviluppo economico dell'Albania. Senza formazione e istruzione qualificata non c'è innovazione e non c'è sviluppo.

In Albania l'intero sistema di formazione e istruzione va formato e vanno costruite delle connessioni fra gli istituti professionali, gli istituti tecnici e le esigenze delle imprese, per una efficienza dei risultati, una modularità e una armonizzazione dei criteri rispetto agli standard europei.

Abbiamo presentato insieme al Ministero del Welfare e della Gioventù, alla regione

Emilia Romagna e alla regione Molise, in qualità di *partner*, una proposta sul programma della conversione del debito, IADSA⁵⁴, che prevede l'unificazione di corsi professionali e di istruzione superiore, e un collegamento fra gli istituti per la formazione e tecnici agrari, veterinari, forestali, alberghieri, che sono presenti nella regione di Scutari. E' un modello che riprende la riforma del professor Bianchi, realizzata in Emilia Romagna, che a noi interessa molto e che si può ripetere su altri settori produttivi presenti a Scutari in Albania. Intendiamo mettere in atto nel nostro territorio, a Scutari, in collaborazione con il ministero, un approccio innovativo e integrato che mette insieme tutti i soggetti nel territorio, l'istruzione, imprenditori, uffici del lavoro, centro di formazione professionale, scuola, camera di commercio, banche ecc., per creare un patto territoriale per lo sviluppo e l'innovazione, che parte dalla formazione che vada a colmare la richiesta di lavoro con un'offerta il più possibile adeguata e di qualità.

L'obiettivo è quello di creare occupazione per i giovani e di rendere anche spendibile la professionalità degli studenti dell'estero. Un'innovazione nell'approccio al sistema della formazione e dell'istruzione nel suo complesso può portare enormi benefici a tutta l'economia albanese, a partire da un drastico calo della disoccupazione. La qualificazione del corso umano, in modo che possano imparare il meglio e metterlo in pratica sul territorio, andando a colmare la richiesta di lavoro con un'offerta il più possibile adeguata, di qualità, è un grande passo avanti che si potrebbe e si dovrebbe fare.

Crediamo che questo tema debba diventare una delle scelte politiche prioritarie e di interesse comune di tutti i partner, anche a livello europeo e della regione adriatico-ionica, per lavorare insieme a questa difficile sfida dell'innovazione e del cambiamento.

In Albania oggi si sta spendendo non tanto per l'innovazione e tutte le capacità e conoscenze vengono solamente trasferite dall'estero. Oltrepassando gli investimenti monetari direi che l'innovazione è lo strumento principale che il sistema cronico albanese deve utilizzare per poter, consigliandosi, passare a uno sviluppo sostenibile diventando sempre più competitivo e innovativo.

L'utilizzo dei nuovi strumenti, nuove tecniche di produzione, marketing e comunicazione, energia e, la più importante, le idee saranno la nuova sfida del governo e del sistema economico del Paese.

Tante grazie per l'attenzione e scusatemi per qualche parola che non sono stato...

ENRICO COCCHI

Guai a lei, anzi, è stato veramente perfetto, anche per rappresentare una serie di esigenze, mi permetto di dire, sacrosante, e mi riconnetto anche all'intervento successivo, del Dottor Paganoni e cioè del fatto, di questo particolare momento, dove alcune delle tematiche che hanno riempito gli anni e la letteratura sono state improvvisamente un

54 IADSA = Programma Italo-Albanese di Conversione del Debito.



po' messe in un piccolo cono d'ombra, e faccio riferimento al modello di sviluppo, al tema dello sviluppo locale e di come il sistema delle autonomie contribuisce a questo percorso. Tema che è filone conduttore generale di AdriGov, ma è, quindi non soltanto, tema della progettazione, quanto di una riflessione che vede in questo momento contemporaneamente da una parte i Paesi Balcanici che si stanno avvicinando, o da poco entrati, penso a Croazia, o chi è in procinto, in una fase di avvicinamento, quindi di come avvicinarsi, accompagnando l'intero sistema, a poter utilizzare al meglio quelle che sono delle novità istituzionali, a saltare delle fasi dei processi di sviluppo che hanno percorso altri, per inserirsi già nella catena dei valori in un punto più elevato. E nello stesso tempo cosa possono fare, veniva ricordato in alcuni passaggi dell'intervento, le autonomie e le amministrazioni locali, a essere parte diligente, si direbbe in termine burocratico, per agevolare questo percorso? Tutto il tema della formazione è una specificità tipica e una sensibilità tipica del sistema territoriale. La coerenza e il tema della vulnerabilità territoriale letto in logica di sviluppo, è un tema tipicamente locale, tipicamente da sensibilità locale.

Quindi c'è tutta una filiera che in questo momento deve essere, non dico riscoperta, ma rideterminata. Il fatto che ad esempio in Italia, con la scomparsa delle province, si rimetta in un nuovo percorso di quelle che possono essere le filiere istituzionali, i rapporti, i ruoli, ci pone in una riflessione ancora più importante, nel rapporto del contributo del pubblico e di quelle che sono le possibilità dello sviluppo locale, a dover essere "reinventate". Perché come ci veniva ricordato, per lo sviluppo è fondamentale l'innovazione, ma l'innovazione non può essere solo di prodotto, non può essere solo un problema dell'impresa. E' un problema anche dell'amministrazione che deve imparare ad accompagnare in un modo nuovo e rapportarsi tra livelli istituzionali e tra quelle che sono le esigenze e le iniziative del proprio territorio.

Per quello dico, l'oggetto generale e il contributo per quanto riguarda il dottor Paganoni e successivamente il dottor Degli Esposti, ritocca e ci porta di nuovo a una cosa che noi a livello regionale riteniamo fondamentale, che è quello dello sviluppo locale.

SAMUELE PAGANONI

Mi presento, sono Samuele Paganoni, sono un membro del GREP, il Gruppo di Ricerca in Etnografia del Pensiero dell'Università di Bologna. In questo intervento parlo a nome del *Regional Lab* in cui il GREP è membro. Il *Regional Lab* è costituito dal GREP, dallo IECOB, da alcuni tecnici della regione Emilia Romagna, esperti in vari campi, posso citare oltre al servizio statistico, la Direzione di programmazione territoriale e relazioni europee... Diciamo che adesso presento semplicemente un *report* delle attività svolte sinora, un'idea dei primi risultati ottenuti e una piccola parte che lascerò al mio collega Mirko degli Esposti, relativa alle questioni metodologiche. Questo è rapidamente il quadro della situazione. E passando direttamente a fare un rapido quadro

della situazione, parlerò di come la regione Emilia Romagna si confronta con la strategia EUSAIR.

Il primo approccio della regione Emilia Romagna è stato quello di prendere parte al progetto AdriGov, il progetto di *governance* per l'Adriatico. In realtà, preesistente a questo progetto c'è l'euroregione Adriatico-Ionica, che era operativa già dal 2006. Mentre il terzo elemento è il programma Adriatico-Ionico, che è un programma di cooperazione territoriale per il quale l'autorità di gestione, tra l'altro mi risulta che sia stato annunciato ieri, è proprio la regione Emilia Romagna.

Qua abbiamo visto rapidamente tre punti a sostegno delle strategia EUSAIR. Qui abbiamo una mappa che indica la copertura territoriale del partenariato di AdriGov, a cui però bisogna aggiungere, e mi scuso, il distretto di Scutari, che per motivi tecnici non è stato evidenziato. Queste sono le aree in cui opera AdriGov.

Possiamo fare un paragone con la cartina seguente, che è la cartina dei finanziamenti IPA-Adriatico, e sempre molto rapidamente vediamo la cartina che indica il partenariato dell'euroregione. Faccio notare semplicemente, a questo punto, che c'è una certa convergenza tra gli strumenti finanziari che abbiamo visto nella slide precedente e gli strumenti di gestione. Questa invece è la futura strategia per l'area in questione, cioè l'EUSAIR.

Ci sono sempre due obiettivi generali del progetto AdriGov, che vedremo poi più avanti. Comunque l'obiettivo 1 è un piano operativo di *governance* che sia innovativo e partecipato, e un secondo obiettivo è la messa in pratica di azioni e trasferimento della conoscenza.

Come funziona AdriGov? Funziona per pacchetti di lavoro che sono una sorta di macro-azioni. Quelle che ci interessano qui sono il WP3 e il WP5. In realtà, il WP5, che si occupa proprio di fornire analisi a supporto del processo macroregionale, dà vita al Regional Lab. Ecco che, come avevo detto prima, era giusto per spiegare come nasceva il Regional Lab, che si occupa di temi macroregionali.

Il *Regional Lab* è costituito in termini pratici da una componente accademica e una componente tecnica, istituzionale e tecnica. Quella accademica è costituita dal GREP, Gruppo di ricerca in etnografica del pensiero dell'Università di Bologna, dallo IECOB, l'Istituto per gli studi sull'Est Europa e i Balcani; la parte istituzionale e tecnica è costituita dalla direzione generale e programmazione territoriale ed Europa e dal servizio statistico della regione Emilia Romagna.

Come si muove il *Regional Lab* sulle tematiche macroregionali, quindi cos'è? E' una piattaforma aperta che riunisce in un confronto costante il mondo accademico e i rappresentanti della pubblica amministrazione, per svolgere un lavoro congiunto.

Cosa fa? Si confronta su temi come la *multilevel governance*, o sulla dimensione territoriale delle politiche di sviluppo.

Come lo fa? Si dà delle sfide e degli obiettivi comuni sempre nuovi.

Le caratteristiche di questo laboratorio sono la flessibilità nella struttura e nella



tempistica, e cioè con tempi e struttura che sono adattabili alle svariate situazioni, ha un focus territoriale a livello della macroregione Adriatico-Ionica, questo è il centro di interesse, e ha un approccio qualitativo, informa ad esempio il modo di condurre le indagini sul campo, le mappature che vengono prodotte eccetera.

Nella prossima slide, possiamo vedere una convergenza tra le due iniziative, cioè tra il WP5, l'azione 5.4 del WP5, e la *mission* del Regional Lab. WP5 ci presentano come obiettivo uno studio sugli strumenti innovativi per lo sviluppo territoriale integrato della macroarea Adriatico-Ionica, sempre ad un livello locale-regionale, e il Regional Lab uno studio della regione Emilia Romagna sull'innovazione degli strumenti multilivello per l'integrazione nello sviluppo sostenibile territoriale nell'area Adriatico-Ionica... ho semplicemente tradotto.

Quali sono i primi risultati del Regional Lab? Come abbiamo detto, ha svolto un lavoro congiunto sulla strategia EUSAIR, congiunto nel senso impostato come un *think thank*, e grazie a questo abbiamo capito che mancava, ad esempio, il contributo dell'università, la consultazione EUSAIR, che invece è un elemento fondamentale di qualificazione. Quindi il Regional Lab ha organizzato e supportato la costituzione di un forum accademico tra l'università adriatico-ioniche, che ha già prodotto un contributo formale alla consultazione EUSAIR. In realtà dal forum è nata anche la candidatura su iniziativa COST, a valere sul programma quadro HORIZON 2020, di ricerca di ricercatori coinvolti, a giugno sapremo se è andata a buon fine.

Un altro risultato, abbiamo lavorato con risultati interessanti sulla necessità di arricchire il quadro conoscitivo, sempre per l'area in questione, e abbiamo messo in atto tre tipi di mappature: una delle competenze regionali locali, grazie a una serie di questionari; una mappatura del pensiero amministrativo, sempre con dei questionari e, adesso, che sono in corso questi giorni, con una serie di interviste che stiamo conducendo; in più, una terza mappatura è una mappatura degli indicatori di sviluppo territoriale, orientati a Europa 2020, che vedremo nelle slide successive.

Tutto questo, parallelamente è stato supportato da un lavoro metodologico sul metodo da utilizzare per portare avanti queste operazioni.

Le *slide* che seguono sono il prodotto che presento io a nome del servizio statistico della regione Emilia Romagna, i cui componenti purtroppo oggi sono a un altro convegno e quindi sono assenti. Rapidamente dirò che questo lavoro è il frutto di un processo di omogeneizzazione dei dati, premesso che lo staff statistico lavora sulla ricerca dei dati statistici affidabili e comparabili, con l'intento di costruire un database di indicatori a scala macro regionale. Ora, il problema è in realtà nella disomogeneità degli indicatori. Anche l'Europa ha dei dati che sono di buon livello e comparabili per i membri, dato che invece qui stiamo parlando di una situazione più complessa con la metà dei membri non UE, alcuni... per farla breve, si trattava di omogeneizzare i dati che adesso sono a livelli di classificazione diversi.

Sostanzialmente, il problema da risolvere è che i territori dei partner di AdriGov

fanno riferimento a diversi livelli NUTS. Non sto a entrare nei dettagli della cosa, passo direttamente ad alcuni esempi.

Il primo è un rapporto tra la popolazione lavorativamente attiva e quella non attiva, in età pensionabile. La seconda mostra il PIL espresso in potere d'acquisto. La terza il tasso di disoccupazione. L'ultima sono i link e i contatti del servizio statistico, per chi avesse necessità di mettersi in contatto con loro.

A questo punto lascio la parola al mio collega Mirco degli Esposti, che invece parlerà delle questioni metodologiche che hanno accompagnato tutto il lavoro del Regional Lab, a partire dal punto di vista del GREP. E' il mio collega del GREP.

MIRCO DEGLI ESPOSTI

Sarò breve. La metodologia del GREP, del Gruppo di ricerca di etnografia del pensiero, come tentativo di contribuire ovviamente alla costruzione di questa macro-regione, in realtà è un esperimento anche per noi, quanto noi come tipo di inchieste, di lavoro etnografico, prevalentemente abbiamo sempre praticato nell'ambito delle relazioni industriali, delle inchieste di fabbrica. Quello che noi pensiamo che possa essere utile indagare è la dimensione soggettiva, e, quindi, rispetto alla costruzione di uno spazio comune, condiviso, crediamo che conti la dimensione soggettiva, cioè che la soggettività degli attori che concretamente costruiscono l'architettura di uno spazio possa essere decisiva.

Il nostro punto di accesso alla soggettività è il pensiero, intendendo per pensiero qualcosa che ha una natura di carattere tetrico, insomma, un'apertura al possibile. Mentre, appunto, attualmente si definisce l'architettura di uno spazio, di un *network*, crediamo che sia importante indagare le idee e i pensieri di chi lavora a questa costruzione, perché queste idee e questi pensieri possono essere una risorsa importante per identificare eventuali criticità o possibilità altrimenti non conoscibili.

Il pensiero che noi proviamo a indagare, prima di tutto provando a identificarlo attraverso delle inchieste, cioè fondamentalmente dei lavori di interviste, è un punto di esposizione del sapere al reale come possibile. Quindi qual è il fin dei conti reale del progetto su cui noi tutti stiamo lavorando, nel tentativo di costruire questa nuova realtà che è la macroregione Adriatico-Ionica? Insomma, in fin dei conti il reale è lo stesso spazio da costruire, cioè la stessa regione, che è in qualche misura da inventare. Quindi il reale rispetto a cui i saperi disponibili anche di tutti coloro che lavorano a questa costruzione, dev'essere esposto. Diciamo che la messa in rete, la condivisione dei saperi, è fondamentale, però condizione di possibilità di ogni messa in rete è appunto che vi sia una condivisione di qualcosa, una condivisione di una soggettività.

Concretamente, abbiamo fatto alcune interviste, adesso abbiamo in progetto, e stiamo già iniziando a farne delle altre, con i funzionari che lavorano alla costruzione dell'architettura di questo nuovo spazio, e a partire da queste interviste tentiamo di



vedere quali sono appunto le possibilità o le criticità che questa costruzione, secondo i nostri interlocutori, ha, esponendo in qualche misura alla dimensione ignota, perché in fin dei conti c'è dell'ignoto nella costruzione di questo spazio, non è già tutto definibile o semplicemente si tratta di riprodurre qualcosa a partire da delle ricette già date, se c'è dell'ignoto come crediamo va un po' conosciuto e indagato e il nostro modo di farlo è provare a interrogare chi, i protagonisti, gli attori di questa costruzione, rispetto a quello che pensano di questo spazio, di questa costruzione.

Grazie per l'attenzione.

ENRICO COCCHI

L'intervento successivo è del direttore di CRPM, direttore Patrick Anvroin. Siamo passati dal ragionamento sullo sviluppo locale e del come dare una soggettività di come mettere a sistema la nostra rete territoriale, sul dibattito macroregionale c'è anche il tema del come ricostruire una governance, al di là di quella cui ci candidiamo noi, dal basso. Quindi l'intervento del dottor Anvroin riguarderà proprio il rapporto fra la governance delle strategie macroregionali, quello che sta succedendo proprio in queste settimane nel nuovo ciclo di programmazione.

Grazie.

PATRICK ANVROIN

Vorrei parlare di come la CPMR intende operare in relazione alla gestione delle macroregioni e più specificatamente in relazione a EUSAIR.

CPMR è un'organizzazione creata 40 anni fa con lo scopo di favorire l'impegno delle regioni verso l'integrazione europea, promuovendo all'interno dell'UE maggior coesione territoriale e politiche marittime integrate. L'organizzazione conta 150 membri sia interni che esterni all'Unione e sei commissioni geografiche. Al vertice si trova la Presidente, Annika Jansson. Noi lavoriamo con alcuni gruppi di lavoro che definiscono l'orientamento politico e tecnico. Un gruppo è dedicato all'Unione Adriatica, all'Adriatico-Ionio.

Attualmente, dopo la fase negoziale e i conseguenti accordi, si cerca di influenzare le politiche europee rispetto alle 3 priorità:

9. Coesione territoriale
10. Politiche marittime
11. Accessibilità ai trasporti

Facciamo questo con le nostre Commissioni geografiche e con loro proviamo anche a contribuire ai programmi e alle strategie EU transnazionali.

Per quanto riguarda EUSAIR, quello che fa la CPMR è fornire supporto alla Commissione Europea e agli Stati membri e non nelle loro iniziative. Inoltre, promuove il ruolo delle autorità regionali nella progettazione e implementazione delle strategie e

dei piani d'azione. Ad esempio, noi siamo stati l'unica autorità interregionale invitata per la promozione della strategia ad Atene in febbraio.

Oltre a questo, abbiamo gestito un evento a Corfù, nel quale abbiamo organizzato, assieme alla Commissione, la presidenza greca, per quanto riguardava la consultazione e la strategia sul piano marittimo.

Siamo in prima linea per aiutare i nostri Stati membri a partecipare a qualsiasi programma EU di mobilità che possa utilizzare e mettere a frutto la strategia EUSAIR.

In più, cerchiamo di proporre sfide specifiche come ad esempio in merito all'accessibilità, che riteniamo un'assoluta priorità nella strategia. Recentemente abbiamo fatto una presentazione all'Adriatic and Ionian Region Transport Group a Fiume per l'importanza data dalla Commissione al budget nei trasporti con riferimento alla correlazione tra i 9 corridoi nella zona EUSAIR.

L'idea è valutare quale cambiamento ci sarà nei prossimi anni tenendo conto del fatto che nel 2017 la mappa potrebbe cambiare. Un'altra sfida di carattere tecnico riguarda ad esempio il trasporto marittimo professionale del contenuto sulfureo nei carburanti e i conseguenti e necessari investimenti.

In riferimento a veri e propri progetti, e citando lo Slogan della CPMR: "La gioventù è il futuro di EUSAIR", credo si dovrebbe investire sui giovani delle nostre regioni, per esempio tramite progetti come "Vasco de Gama", per il quale la CPMR è leader.

Questo progetto, che è una sorta di Erasmus marittimo, si sviluppa nel territorio europeo marittimo. Partendo da questo possiamo poi organizzare un progetto specifico dedicato a scambi nel settore della formazione marittima all'interno dell'area dell'Unione Adriatica. Abbiamo infatti già due centri di formazione marittima, la Scuola di Logistica e Trasporto internazionale, dell'Università di Venezia e la Scuola Marittima nelle Isole Ioniche a Corfù.

Speriamo anche di sviluppare un progetto Vasco de Gama per l'Unione Adriatica nel prossimo programma interregionale.

Quindi è importante essere pratici, operativi, ma anche mantenere la dimensione strategica. L'operatività fa comprendere il valore dell'attività, la strategia è necessaria.

Le regioni mediterranee, ad esempio, vogliono un'integrazione globale della strategia mediterranea che include tre ulteriori strategie tra loro interconnesse: EUSAIR che già conoscete, una strategia per il Mediterraneo occidentale e una per il Mediterraneo orientale. Queste regioni ritengono che EUSAIR potrebbe essere adatta per la guida di tale progetto globale.

Un'altra dimensione strategica è naturalmente quella dell'allargamento. Questo è un argomento chiave per noi, ad esempio riferito al fatto che EUSAIR rappresenta un'opportunità di alto valore per preparare gli Stati che ancora non ne fanno parte a diventare membri dell'UE.

Vorrei parlare ora della relazione della Commissione di Governance pubblicata il 20 maggio sul controllo delle strategie macroregionali.



Emerge il bisogno di una leadership politica di cui si è sentita l'assenza di recente, di nominare rappresentanti specifici per le decisioni strategiche, di migliorare il sistema in modo che gli Stati che non fanno parte dell'UE assicurino un pieno impegno e partecipazione.

Nel rispondere a questi commenti vorrei specificare i seguenti:

- La Commissione non ha menzionato il fatto che la CPMR è riuscita a fare in modo che gli Stati che non fanno parte dell'UE investissero finanziariamente nel settore delle risorse umane.
- La Commissione sostiene che la Commissione Europea non presenta molti casi eccellenti sulle attuali strategie macro-regionali. La CPMR riconosce quindi a questo punto che se effettivamente non ci sono casi di eccellenza è il momento di rinnovare e questo può essere l'obiettivo di questo seminario.

Credo, in conclusione, che occorra fare buon uso dei consigli forniti dalla Commissione se allineati con quanto noi proponiamo.

Forse sapete che si sta ventilando l'ipotesi di avere un coordinatore per le strategie, argomento che si potrebbe discutere tra le regioni e con i nostri partner. Se avete un'idea di un coordinatore europeo accettabile per tutti i paesi, tutte le parti politiche, ecc... potreste avanzare una proposta.

ENRICO COCCHI

Grazie al direttore. Mi viene una micro-sollecitazione, all'ultima parte dell'intervento. Noi col cosiddetto corridoio adriatico iniziammo in tempi non sospetti, uso questa battuta, a ragionare nella logica delle autostrade del mare, nella logica appunto dell'integrazione fra quello che voleva essere un sistema fluvio-marittimo dell'Adriatico e dello Ionio, e la penetrazione attraverso il fiume Po verso l'entroterra. Quindi il percorso che ci dovesse essere un sistema adriatico-ionico che facesse riferimento a una serie di occasioni infrastrutturali e economiche, di un sistema diciamo omogeneo, è un punto di partenza ma di unione, su cui tutti quanti ci siamo ritrovati poi nel tempo.

Passavo la parola al prof. Privitera dell'Università di Bologna, per quanto riguarda una focalizzazione su quelle che sono le prospettive delle novità su cui possiamo immaginare a completamento si questi ragionamenti della governance, sul sistema macroregionale adriatico-ionico.

Grazie.

FRANCESCO PRIVITERA

Sono Francesco Privitera, dell'Università di Bologna, insegno alla facoltà di Scienze Politiche, oggi Scuola di Scienze Politiche, in verità, dell'Università di Bologna, e sono un esperto dell'Est Europa, attualmente presiedo l'Istituto per l'Europa Centrorientale e Balcanica. Da vent'anni si occupa delle trasformazioni che sono in atto nei Paesi dell'Europa orientale, e quindi da quest'osservatorio oggi sono qui a riflettere con voi sugli scenari rappresentati dallo sviluppo dei sistemi macroregionali nell'ambito di quelli che sono i grandi cambiamenti in corso ormai da vent'anni nello spazio europeo, a seguito appunto della caduta dei blocchi e della costruzione dell'Unione Europea.

Alla metà degli anni '90 un grande studioso, che poi ha avuto una funzione politica molto importante nel processo di integrazione dell'Unione Europea, ossia Bronisław Geremek, che è stato uno dei leader di *Solidarność*, ministro degli Esteri polacco, che ha negoziato l'ingresso della Polonia nell'Unione Europea, ma che è appunto un grande studioso storico, medievista, scrisse un saggio che tuttora, a mio avviso, rappresenta uno dei capisaldi del pensiero dell'integrazione europea. E cioè Geremek scrisse che *l'unico modo, per l'Unione Europea, per diventare un sistema efficace, efficiente e, quindi, per assumere una dimensione positiva nel suo sviluppo, sarebbe stato solo se fosse stato capace di ricostruire un sistema macroregionale europeo sulla base di quelli che hanno i sistemi macroregionali che esistevano in Europa prima della costituzione degli Stati-nazione.*

Solo quindi attraverso il superamento dello Stato-nazione e quindi nella ricostruzione di reti territoriali integrate, quali erano quelle rappresentate dai sistemi macroregionali europei, si sarebbe potuto garantire non solo lo sviluppo politico dell'Unione Europea, ma anche ovviamente uno sviluppo economico, sociale, culturale, perché queste reti territoriali che preesistevano si sarebbero potute ricostituire all'interno di uno spazio comune europeo laddove, grazie per esempio agli accordi di Schengen, la scomparsa fisica dei confini, grazie a quelli che potevano essere i processi di deepening comunitario, tutto ciò avrebbe permesso una ricomposizione di questi spazi che, in molti casi, erano ancora scomparsi da tempi recenti. Se pensiamo che per esempio tutta l'Europa orientale è ancora fondamentalmente fino al 1918 un sistema macroregionale, un sistema di macro regioni, l'impero Asburgico, l'impero Ottomano, l'impero tedesco, sono sistemi macroregionali che sono organizzati su un impianto storicamente più antico che è quello delle macro regioni medioevali.

Oggi noi siamo qui a parlare di corridoi europei, e i corridoi europei altro non sono che la riproposizione di quelle che erano le rotte tradizionali dei flussi commerciali, culturali, della mobilità dell'Europa medioevale. Quando parliamo di corridoio adriatico-baltico stiamo parlando della via dell'ambra, cioè un corridoio che metteva in comunicazione l'area del Baltico con tutto il Mediterraneo orientale ai tempi dell'impero bizantino. Quando parliamo del corridoio danubiano-renano stiamo parlando di un sistema di comunicazione interno ai Balcani e all'Europa centrale che appunto metteva in comunicazione tutto l'asse renano con tutto il Mediterraneo orientale. Non c'è niente di nuovo.



Quello che voglio dire è che all'interno dell'Unione Europea non c'è niente di nuovo. Noi presentiamo i corridoi paneuropei come se fosse la scoperta del fatto che stiamo costruendo qualcosa di nuovo in Europa, ma i corridoi paneuropei esistono da quando esiste l'Europa, o perlomeno da quando l'Europa ha cominciato ad assumere una dimensione organizzata, e questa è stata data innanzitutto in epoche molto remote, o dall'impero Romano o da quelle che sono state le compagnie transnazionali del Medioevo.

Dobbiamo infatti attendere la nascita dello Stato-nazione, per avere la prima interruzione di questi percorsi, perché è lo Stato-nazione che diventa il primo ostacolo a quelle che sono le reti infrastrutturali europee. István Bibó per esempio ha scritto dei saggi bellissimi su quanto la dissoluzione dell'impero asburgico abbia rappresentato per i Paesi successori dell'impero una regressione economica, sociale, culturale, che ha fatto dell'Ungheria, della Romania, della Polonia Paesi che comunque non sono stati in grado di sostenersi con le proprie forze nel momento in cui si sono costituiti come Stati-nazione.

Se andiamo a vedere i risultati del disastro jugoslavo, ebbene, noi di nuovo ci troviamo di fronte a Stati-nazione che peraltro abbiamo contribuito a costruire sulla base della logica dello Stato-nazione, che sono assolutamente inefficienti.

Quindi da questo punto di vista la dimostrazione esiste, è evidente ai nostri occhi. Parliamo di un bacino adriatico-ionico che di fatto è sempre esistito. Il bacino adriatico-ionico è uno dei bacini più antichi a livello macroregionale all'interno dello spazio europeo. E questo noi lo abbiamo evidente sotto i nostri occhi andando semplicemente a Ravenna. Ovunque noi troviamo tracce dell'interconnessione culturale, sociale, economica che esisteva all'interno di questo bacino. Quindi da questo punto di vista noi stiamo parlando di cose che in realtà sono sempre esistite, ma che oggi riscopriamo sulla base del fatto che i processi di integrazione europei ci stanno dando la possibilità, per la prima volta, di ragionare in termini sovranazionali. Tuttavia, questa dimensione sovranazionale non è una dimensione scontata.

Come si diceva stamattina, a chiusura del dibattito della mattinata, l'Unione Europea ha perso almeno 10 anni con le commissioni Barroso per quanto attiene al processo di integrazione e di *deepening* comunitario. Barroso è stato messo poi, diciamo, è stato eletto in quanto Commissario, presidente della Commissione Europea, proprio perché doveva in qualche modo congelare il processo di integrazione europeo dopo la lunga cavalcata degli anni '90, che attraverso il trattato di Maastricht e di Amsterdam ci aveva portato al Big Bang, cioè all'allargamento simultaneo dell'Unione Europea verso dieci Paesi dell'Est Europa più Malta e Cipro. Quindi da questo punto di vista il desiderio di rivalsa degli Stati-nazione all'interno dello spazio europeo per preservare quelle che erano o ritenevano essere le loro prerogative nel momento in cui l'Unione Europea sembrava ormai predisporre definitivamente a un processo di integrazione profondo, hanno comunque rappresentato un danno notevole in termini di gestione del processo, con un decennio perduto, i cui effetti vediamo non solo dai risultati delle elezioni europee di domenica scorsa, ma anche da quello che è stato il disastro della Grecia, ovvero sia

dell'incapacità e dell'insipienza delle classi dirigenti europee di far fronte alla crisi finanziaria che ha colpito l'Europa a partire dal 2008, e quindi dall'incapacità di dare una soluzione onorevole alla questione greca.

Da questo punto di vista, quindi, torno alle riflessioni di stamattina. Solamente i sistemi macroregionali sono in grado di dare stabilità all'Unione Europea. Noi dobbiamo uscire definitivamente dalla logica di un rapporto governato esclusivamente dagli Stati europei. Per fare questo dobbiamo rafforzare i meccanismi di integrazione macroregionale che sono gli unici che possono fare da contrappeso a un rapporto fra la Commissione, quindi l'Unione Europea in quanto tale, e le rappresentanze governative, cioè quindi ciò che rappresenta gli Stati-nazione, gli Stati nazionali dell'Unione Europea.

Un terzo soggetto, ovvero sistemi macroregionali che a loro volta possono esercitare un'azione di lobbying politica, e quindi economica e sociale e culturale, quindi intessere a livello locale, qui torniamo appunto alla dimensione del locale di cui parlavamo stamattina, una rete profonda, sono gli unici strumenti che noi abbiamo a disposizione per, da un lato rilanciare effettivamente il *deepening* comunitario, dall'altro per dare reale stabilità all'Unione Europea, altrimenti non abbiamo alternative. L'equilibrio esistente fra le rappresentanze degli Stati-nazione rispetto a quelle che sono le rappresentanze delle istanze comuni, è comunque a vantaggio, per il momento, delle istanze rappresentate dagli Stati-nazione. E se non riequilibrano questo processo e questa dinamica non abbiamo la possibilità di raggiungere l'obiettivo reale dell'integrazione europea, così come perlomeno ce lo siamo posto a partire dagli anni '90.

Peraltro, noi comunque abbiamo sempre a disposizione la lezione della Jugoslavia. La Jugoslavia era un sistema federale che se emarginiamo da questa riflessione l'elemento ideologico, cioè il fatto che la Jugoslavia fosse un Paese comunista, i meccanismi di funzionamento della federazione jugoslava erano, di fatto, i medesimi dell'Unione Europea, cioè un sistema funzionalista e consociativo. Cioè un sistema che era basato su un complesso sistema di equilibri interni che si basava su un funzionalismo che era esercitato dalla federazione e che, a sua volta, aveva come contrappeso il consociativismo degli elementi interni alla federazione, quindi le singole entità repubblicane. Nel momento in cui si è rotto il punto di equilibrio fra le rappresentanze e quindi i meccanismi di governo, ha prevalso inevitabilmente l'elemento delle entità repubblicane.

Cosa è sempre mancato nell'esperienza jugoslava? E' sempre mancato, nonostante ci fossero stati vari progetti per realizzarlo, un sistema macroregionale. Cioè quindi la possibilità di costruire, al di là di quelle che erano le strutture amministrative rappresentate dalle repubbliche e dalle province all'interno della federazione, un sistema macroregionale che facesse da tessuto connettivo a quelli che erano, dal basso, le strutture federative della Jugoslavia. Su questo infatti c'è sempre stata una forte opposizione da parte delle repubbliche e delle province, rispetto alla possibilità di costituire delle strutture macroregionali. Esattamente come la timidezza dell'Unione Europea rispetto alla possibilità di costruire sistemi macroregionali è dovuta al fatto che è chiaro che questo



avrebbe nel tempo un influsso potente nell'ambito di quello che è il ridimensionamento della sovranità degli Stati all'interno dei processi governativi e decisionali dell'Unione Europea.

Ecco perché le macroregioni oggi hanno un'importanza ancora maggiore, se vogliamo, non è semplicemente un'importanza simbolica o un'importanza legata alla dimensione economica, alla dimensione commerciale, tutte cose che di per sé possono esistere e avviarsi autonomamente. Se noi andiamo a vedere di nuovo nel processo di integrazione dell'Unione Europea degli ultimi vent'anni rispetto all'allargamento Est, noi possiamo immediatamente osservare come da un punto di vista delle relazioni economico-commerciali si siano rinsaldate immediatamente quelle che erano le strutture macroregionali che preesistevano agli Stati-nazione europei.

Se andiamo a vedere qual è il rapporto che esiste oggi nell'Europa centrale, fra i sistemi produttivi, i sistemi economici, i sistemi finanziari, i sistemi commerciali, questi si sono rinsaldati esattamente nella loro dimensione preesistente al crollo dei grandi imperi sovranazionali. Quindi da questo punto di vista questi sono meccanismi che si mettono in atto autonomamente e direi quasi automaticamente, ma è la dimensione politica che diventa determinante per poter dare poi gambe a questi processi e renderli processi duraturi, renderli processi capaci di dipanarsi nel tempo e diventare essi stessi poi il tessuto connettivo dell'Unione Europea.

Ecco perché a mio avviso oggi parlare di macroregioni, e con questo concludo, è fondamentale in funzione dell'idea di un progetto comunitario che è profondamente indebolito e che dev'essere rilanciato, e dev'essere rilanciato dal basso, cioè dai sistemi regionali, perché dall'alto, cioè i sistemi nazionali, questo progetto per il momento è profondamente indebolito, cioè le classi dirigenti sono troppo timide rispetto a quella che è la scommessa di un futuro dello spazio dell'Unione Europea. Ecco perché oggi l'idea di partire da sistemi macroregionali non è solo un modo per collegarci ad aree, come quelle dei Balcani occidentali che in questo modo esse stesse avranno un volano in più per entrare rapidamente all'interno dell'Unione Europea, ma è anche l'opportunità, soprattutto quando parliamo di un'area come la nostra, per garantire una stabilità a livello locale che si riverbererebbe a livello europeo nel suo complesso.

E in un sistema di inter-relazioni macroregionali, perché quando parliamo di asse Adriatico-Baltico stiamo parlando di tutta l'Europa centrale, e quando parliamo di Adrigov stiamo parlando di tutto il bacino Adriatico, e quando parliamo di asse danubiano-renano stiamo parlando praticamente dell'asse che dal Mar Nero va a Rotterdam, noi siamo in grado di costruire un tessuto connettivo e un sistema di rappresentanze che dal livello locale sale verso il livello sovranazionale e diventa il collante necessario alla tenuta dell'Unione Europea. Non possiamo aspettare più che questo venga costruito dall'alto, come veniva immaginato 20 anni fa.

Questa è una straordinaria occasione ed è per questo che io penso l'Emilia Romagna e tutte le altre regioni che sono coinvolte debbono avere ormai chiaro che non è più

semplicemente un progetto di consolidamento a livello locale di quelli che possono essere vantaggi acquisibili nell'ambito, ma diventa una scommessa europea, cioè è la stessa sopravvivenza dell'Emilia Romagna nella sua percezione di un futuro a medio-lungo termine che si costruisce attraverso un sistema macroregionale. Perché questo diventa lo strumento di tenuta dell'Unione Europea.

E con questo chiudo. Grazie.

ENRICO COCCHI

Ringrazio il professor Privitera per il suo intervento e dei punti essenziali nel gioco di ruolo fra i livelli istituzionali. Anche qui una battuta: Stati nazionali, Sauvagnargues, era Ministro degli Esteri francese, dichiarò che la più grande stupidità fatta dall'uomo dopo la torre di Babele era il canale Reno meno Danubio, per connettere l'Europa occidentale con l'Europa orientale. I tedeschi l'hanno inaugurato nel 1990, in corrispondenza con la caduta del muro, ricongiungendo e arrivando "just in time" a cogliere un'occasione storica.

Passavo all'ultimo intervento.

PATRIZIO BIANCHI

Io riprendo le considerazioni che ho sentito oggi...

Innanzitutto grazie a tutti per essere ancora una volta venuti a Bologna per questa riflessione su AdriGov.

Vorrei riprendere le parole del professor Privitera, che mi sembrano del tutto illuminanti rispetto a questa riflessione.

Il professor Privitera fa una considerazione che io condivido molto, e già nella chiosa di stamattina avrete sentito nei miei accenti questa condivisione. La macroarea non è e non può essere né un luogo interessante di dibattito né può essere semplicemente un luogo in cui si svolgono interessi locali. La macroarea è, come ha detto il professor Privitera, una delle grandi chiavi di lettura della storia d'Europa, che di fatto è venuta meno, si è obnubilata, con l'affermazione degli Stati nazionali. L'affermazione degli Stati nazionali che ha avuto ed è stato un elemento fondamentale nella storia d'Europa, ma che non può risolvere in sé tutto il futuro dell'Europa.

Sicuramente non può risolvere in sé tutto il futuro dell'Unione Europea, perché è chiaro che l'Unione Europea riesce a essere qualcosa che va oltre gli Stati nazionali... o l'Europa riesce ad andare al di là del suo stato confederale, in cui semplicemente si confederano gli Stati nazionali, e essa stessa assume una legittimazione tale da essere la rappresentanza di tutti i luoghi, di tutti i territori, di tutti gli interessi, o altrimenti il rischio, come diceva Privitera, se non di una svolta jugoslava ma almeno di registrare disastri come quello che abbiamo visto in Grecia è una verità che abbiamo di fronte a noi.



Di fronte a questo, dare corpo alle macroaree è uno degli elementi per dare forza a una visione forte dell'Europa.

Di fronte ad un Parlamento, che si aprirà nei prossimi giorni, che avrà un terzo dei suoi rappresentanti eletti contro l'Europa, l'idea di dare forza all'Europa vuol dire tornare a ragionare su una natura veramente federale di questa, dove il concetto di federale vuol dire il potere della legittimazione sta in basso e man mano che vai verso l'alto si enumerano i poteri, non l'inverso. Su questo, non c'è dubbio, che il tema delle aree e delle macroaree oggettivamente periferiche allo sviluppo dell'asse centrale europeo tornano a essere importanti. Dopo 7 anni di crisi, 10 anni... di più... 15 anni ormai, 14 anni di euro e 20 anni di globalizzazione, noi vediamo che si è realizzata la facile profezia che tutti gli economisti, almeno gli economisti da bene, avevano previsto. La creazione di un'area monetaria, particolarmente in un momento di crisi, aumenta l'intensità degli scambi delle aree forti e mette in evidenza le difficoltà delle aree deboli. Voi lo vedete prendendo due dati, i dati che ci sono stati presentati di recente sulla coesione sociale in Europa, i dati sul reddito e sulla occupazione, ma anche i dati sulla innovatività dei sistemi che vedono un'area centrale ancora più compatta di prima, e vedono delle aree periferiche ancora più periferiche di prima.

Immaginare l'area adriatico-ionica nel suo insieme, in tutte le sue declinazioni, le aree marittime e periferiche, torno sulla centralità delle cose che hai detto prima tu, come aree che debbono crescere e debbono avere una forte opportunità di sviluppo, vuol dire garantire la stabilità dell'Unione Europea nel suo insieme. Perché non c'è nessuna unità statuale che può sopravvivere a lungo avendo il continuo aumento delle disparità interne al sistema.

Se l'Europa deve sopravvivere, di fatto recuperando in maniera legittima quegli antagonismi che oggi sono parte del Parlamento europeo, deve riuscire a garantire alle aree periferiche marginali marittime delle possibilità di crescita che vadano al di là degli Stati nazionali. Per questo, questa nostra riflessione su questa che è stato uno dei grandi cantieri della civiltà europea, perché l'area adriatica-ionica questo è stato, in realtà torna a essere cruciale perché lo sviluppo integrato di questa area è l'elemento che garantisce lo sviluppo di tutta Europa, o meglio è quello che legittima la crescita di tutta Europa.

Per questo io credo che noi dobbiamo non solo continuare con spirito forte questa nostra esperienza, ma dobbiamo anche cominciare a capire come armarla di strumenti operativi che integrando i diversi programmi ci diano una stabilità operativa nel tempo. E' sicuramente importante usare le funzioni di rappresentanza di cui noi disponiamo, però è anche vero che nessuno vuole creare nuove strutture, posto che anche i diktat che ci sono stati messi, no risorse no strutture, in un qualche modo sono figli di una visione totalmente nazionalistica dell'Europa, ma non vi è dubbio che noi utilizzando al meglio quello che abbiamo dobbiamo riuscire a dare a tutti noi una struttura in cui il principal sia chiaro, ed è l'insieme dei soggetti legittimati che fanno parte di questo insieme, ma che d'altra parte abbia anche capacità di agire in maniera adeguata.

All'interno di questo stanno anche diverse azioni. Io devo ringraziare moltissimo il presidente della regione di Scutari, l'amico Cungu, perché ha avuto la gentilezza non solo di essere presente fra noi oggi, ma di essere presente con un'azione operativa, la grande operatività di un accordo, che noi siamo pronti immediatamente a firmare, ma credo anche la regione Molise sia pronta, per poter fare proprio nel centro dell'Adriatico un triangolo fra noi, Scutari e il Molise, che io spero si possa allargare il più ampio possibile, proprio sulla formazione professionale.

Io credo che la nostra regione possa crescere e diventare competitiva con altre regioni del mondo se noi progressivamente facciamo crescere le competenze e le capacità delle nostre persone. Quindi presidente grazie, noi siamo pronti, diamo disposizione di non solo firmare questo accordo, ma anche di metterci in condizioni di farlo, perché questo diventa assolutamente cruciale.

Egualemente io credo che il fatto che la regione Emilia Romagna disponga dell'autorità di gestione degli altri interventi, credo che sia assolutamente importante ma come pezzo di un mosaico, di un'azione collettiva che deve prendere l'area adriatica-ionica nel suo insieme, in tutte le sue potenzialità.

Noi abbiamo qui una grande responsabilità ed è la responsabilità di dimostrare che è possibile, costruendo dal basso delle relazioni che dall'inizio possono essere bilaterali o trilaterali, costruire una rete talmente fitta che tiene insieme non solo le due sponde dell'Adriatico, ma anche il sud e il nord dell'Europa. In questo, noi come regione Emilia Romagna siamo non solo presenti adesso ma lo saremo anche in futuro, ma soprattutto io credo che questa nostra azione collettiva debba essere ben testimoniata e con forza durante il semestre di presidenza italiana dell'Unione Europea. Io credo che durante il semestre di presidenza italiana dell'Unione Europea noi dobbiamo assolutamente dimostrare che questi nostri lavori, in tutte le sue varianti, sono capaci di essere uno dei motori dell'integrazione europea. L'integrazione europea non è solo un'integrazione economica. Ricordatevi che, nella storia dell'Europa, l'Europa nasce con un fine politico, che era no alla guerra. Poiché questo dal punto di vista istituzionale non poteva raggiungersi, è stata scelta il *détour* dell'integrazione economica per indurre i governi nazionali a ragionare insieme.

Noi siamo in una situazione molto simile. Usiamo strumenti come la formazione professionale, come dei progetti comuni, come delle azioni convergenti per spingere i governi nazionali a pensare che un'Unione Europea deve essere al di là dei governi nazionali.

Ancora una volta grazie a tutti, grazie agli organizzatori e grazie ancora per tutto il lavoro che faremo da qui alla volta prossima.

...Solo se c'era qualche informazione per così dire di servizio, che al di là della chiusura dei nostri lavori, viene messa a disposizione...



FRANCESCO PRIVITERA

Io ringrazio anch'io per quest'ulteriore momento di confronto... Non lo farò né per il progetto, perché sia Elena sia il professore che ha parlato prima hanno spiegato che cos'è AdriGov, avete avuto due presidenti, Dubrovnik e Scutari qui presenti, invece voglio dire che chiaramente questo percorso continua, non è un percorso semplice, il professor Bianchi ha fotografato in qualche battuta un contesto di riferimento articolato e difficile, che comunque stiamo portando avanti da un bel po' di anni.

Noi abbiamo dei prossimi appuntamenti, li abbiamo in un momento delicato, perché voi sapete che nel secondo semestre di quest'anno, sotto presidenza dell'Italia nell'Unione Europea ci sarà l'approvazione della strategia macroregionale adriatico-ionica, e continueremo con degli approfondimenti. Il primo ci sarà il 26 di giugno, organizzeremo a Bruxelles un momento di confronto per capire come i programmi a gestione diretta dell'Unione Europea, voi sapete che è una parte rilevante dell'impegno comunitario, anche in termini finanziari, di capire come questi programmi, quelli più grossi (Horizon, Cosme, Europe for Citizens, Life, questi nomi che conoscete tutti quanti), possono interagire con la strategia. Questo perché una strategia deve utilizzare tutte le possibilità che ha, questa è forse quella più difficile, fondi strutturali, la cooperazione territoriale europea, i fondi di preadesione degli Stati che si stanno avvicinando all'Europa, le parti di cooperazione internazionale che i POR FESR, Fondo Sociale, hanno le singole regioni sono strumenti più programmabili, questo è un po' più complicato. Però abbiamo il compito di fare anche questo, per cui questo ci sarà il 26 giugno, lo faremo all'interno di questo stesso progetto, in autunno continueremo degli approfondimenti su pesca, Youth Guarantee, che è tanto caro al professor Bianchi, lo faremo tra l'altro utilizzando collaborazioni con reti amiche, soprattutto CRPM⁵⁵ che è qui presente.

Fatemi però fare solo un'ultima riflessione, che non vuole assolutamente riaprire il dibattito, perché il professor Bianchi ha fatto la chiusura più adeguata. Guardate che questo non è un compito semplice. Noi stiamo parlando di un contesto geografico incredibilmente difficile. Stiamo parlando di un perimetro statale che in maniera molto anomala sta riuscendo fuori, abbiamo detto tutti che è il vero grande rischio di questo nostro cammino, perché le strategie macroregionali valorizzano e vivono se i sistemi territoriali funzionano, noi stiamo andando in una direzione opposta, compreso il sistema italiano. E' questo il vero pericolo, però è una cosa su cui ci stiamo confrontando.

Io vi faccio solo un esempio, noi siamo addetti ai lavori, anche tra di noi le confusioni tra strategia macroregionale ed euroregione adriatico-ionica, tra programma IPA-Adriatico e tra iniziativa adriatico-ionica, tra programmi transfrontalieri e cooperazione territoriale... certe volte abbiamo difficoltà anche noi a interagire, a incrociare queste cose. Poi le complichiamo con tavoli clamorosi, con tematiche diverse. Però è un percorso

55 Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe

che noi abbiamo l'obbligo e l'onere di portare avanti. Questo noi lo riusciamo a fare con un minimo di risultato se troviamo due buone pratiche: gli esempi virtuosi, cioè quando realtà territoriali come in questo caso si mettono insieme anche da parecchi anni, hanno necessità di trovare esempi virtuosi che vanno fatti girare sul territorio, e passione e amore, passione e amore che metto prima della ricerca delle personalità. Si è detto da parte di tutti che la leadership di una strategia o viene fuori o se no la strategia è morta.

Noi dobbiamo trovare persone che abbiano amore, passione e buone pratiche. Io sfrutterò tantissimo il professor Bianchi, come fanno già in Emilia, perché... io glielo sto dicendo da parecchio, però sono queste le occasioni che possono portare a qualche risultato pratico, perché se no il cammino sarà veramente complicato, per cui i prossimi appuntamenti li avrete in tempi reali, non ci sono solo queste leadership, ne abbiamo altre, altri presidenti, penso al presidente della regione Marche, che pure si sta impegnando tanto su questo percorso, ma ad altre espressioni, che però o hanno la capacità di avere riscontri chiari e operativi utilizzandole queste persone e queste leadership, o se no avremmo delle difficoltà. Per cui credo che saranno mesi molto duri e accolgo anche l'invito dell'assessore Bianchi a immaginare un momento importante nel semestre di presidenza italiano, non solo perché la strategia verrà approvata, ma perché è il fine ultimo di un percorso complicato ma che può riservare piacevoli sorprese.

Ricordo che le regioni cooperano e collaborano in questo territorio da decenni, e io lo dico anche con una battuta, anche quando in questi territori in molti di questi territori, cadevano bombe. I progetti non si sono mai interrotti e adesso abbiamo l'occasione di dargli una cornice più ampia. Per cui grazie per questo evento, che continua nella tradizione positiva, e sicuramente nei prossimi appuntamenti utilizzeremo momenti di approfondimento per tematiche importanti.

Grazie.

Grazie ancora a tutti gli intervenuti e questa volta chiudiamo il lavoro in modo formale. Grazie.



Agenda



AdriGov WP3 2' /0184/0 IPA Adriatic CBC 2007/2013
AIE Joint thematic Committees on Environment and Welfare and
Focus on innovation in public policies

INNOVATION AND INTEGRATION FOR QUALITY IN TERRITORIAL POLICIES AT A MACRO-REGIONAL SCALE

Qualification of the macro-regional human capital as a key to innovate in local and regional policies towards common objectives of sustainable development

May 27th from 14,00 to 18,00
May 28th from 9,30 to 17,00

Venues in Bologna:

Emilia-Romagna Headquarters Rooms B, C, D III Tower v. Fiera 8
 Emilia-Romagna Headquarters Room Poggioli III Tower v. Fiera 8
 Industrial Heritage Museum, v. della Beverara 123, Bologna

During the two-day event, a translation service from and to IT/EN will be available.

Agenda of the Day 27/5

Location: Emilia-Romagna Region Headquarters - Rooms B/C/D and Room Poggioli viale Fiera 8, Bologna

Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion Thematic Committees on Environment and Welfare

- 13,30 V.le Fiera 8, Bologna, Regional HQ, Registration
- 14,00 – 18,00 Rooms B-C-D, Opening of the joint sessions.

Mrs. Simonetta Salera, Emilia-Romagna Region Vice President, in charge of Budget and European affairs, Committee of the Regions and A-I Interregional Group member, appointed AIE member. Welcome speech with an introduction to the overall theme for this AIE two-day working session. Advantages of an innovative and integrated approach in public policies at a macroregional scale, with a bottom-up perspective.

Mr. Nikola Dabroslavić, Dubrovacko-Neretvanska Županija President, Committee of the Regions' member and Vice President of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion. Welcome speech with a brief introduction to the thematic sessions of the AIE Committees.

- Rooms B/C/D Thematic session to be held in parallel: Workshops with round table.

AIE Thematic Committee on Welfare
Chair: Mrs. Teresa Marzocchi, ER Regional Minister for Welfare Policies and Volunteering
 Including a technical seminar on the theme: *Innovation for quality in social policies*. Emilia-Romagna Region will introduce a draft document proposing the qualification points for a successful Welfare policy in the 2014-2020 period, and some good practices will be shown and discussed. Shkodër Region (Al) has been invited as a guest partner to illustrate its vision of the theme

AIE Thematic Committee on Environment
Chair Mrs. Paola Gazzolo, ER Regional Minister on Soil protection and management – with the participation of **Mr. Giuseppe Bortone, Permanent Secretariat of the Thematic Commission on Environment and ERR's General Director of the Environment Department.**
 Including a technical seminar on the theme: *Innovation for quality in environmental policies*. Emilia-Romagna Region will introduce a draft document proposing the qualification points for a successful policy in

environmental issues for the 2014-2020 period, and some good practices will be shown and discussed.

- 16,00 Coffee break
- 16,30 Second part of the Workshops and vote on documents

AIE thematic session on Welfare: the draft AIE Thematic Report –already sent to the AIE members – will be discussed and voted, together with a proposal for a draft AIE Political statement, with some points to qualify the Welfare policies at a macroregional scale

AIE thematic session on Environment: the draft AIE Thematic Report – already sent to the AIE members –will be discussed and voted, together with a proposal for a draft AIE Political statement, with 5 points to qualify the Welfare policies at a macroregional scale

- 18,00 Aperitif networking event (the catering service is provided by the Istituto Alberghiero Vergani-Navarra –Institute for Vocational Training in Tourism – Ferrara; recognized as regional best practice for the qualification of the touristic offer and the overall attractiveness of the region, by empowering the human capital).

Agenda of the Day 28/5

Location: Industrial Heritage Museum –Museo del Patrimonio Industriale, via della Beverara 123, Bologna.

Focus:

Innovation, integration and human capital, as instruments for competitiveness of territories and qualification in local and regional public policies

- 9,00 Shuttle service from the Emilia - Romagna Region's Headquarters and the Train Station (9,10) to the venue
- 9,30 AdriGov partners briefing (for partners only)
- 10,00 Welcome coffee
- 10,30 Study visit to the Industrial Heritage Museum.

• **Professor Patrizio Bianchi**, former Dean of the Ferrara University, Emilia – Romagna's Regional Minister for Research, School, Vocational Training, University and Labour will chair the following panel:

- 12,00 **Professor Guido Gambetta**, Department of Economy, Bologna University, President of the Garzanti Foundation and former President of the IECOB Institute for Central-Eastern and Balkan Europe. University, research and SMEs, the challenge of the innovation uptake for a sound territorial development.

- 12,30 **Professor Lucia Poma**, Ferrara University, Director of the CREIC Research Center on Economy of Innovation and Knowledge - Centro di Ricerca sull'Economia dell'Innovazione e della Coscienza

Adaptation of innovative development patterns and tools for the territorial assets: The Emilia-Romagna blueprint (modello emiliano): a quality circle comprising research, innovation, education and local human capital empowerment, as main levers for the competitiveness of the territorial economy.

- 13,00 Light buffet lunch
- 14,00 Second panel on Innovation, integration and the new role for the human resources as key assets for qualification in local and regional public policies and competitiveness

• **Chair: Prof. Patrizio Bianchi**

- **Mrs. Mariuluisa Coppola**, Veneto Region Regional Minister for Economy and Development, Research and Innovation, CoR' CoR's ENVE Commission. Innovation as a necessary approach for efficacy and efficiency in local and regional public policies
- **Mr. Maxhid Cungu**, President of the Qarku Shkodër, Albania. A regional approach to the innovation theme; the importance of the territorial cooperation to reduce gaps and face common challenges.
- **Mr. Samuele Paganoni**, Mr. Mirco degli Esposti, GREP Think Tank Researchers and members of AdriGov Regional laboratory on macroregional issues: The AdriGov project and the innovative approach in territorial development policies: an Interim Report on the AdriGov action 5.4., preparing a study on innovation and integration in the sustainable territorial development instruments in the Adriatic-Ionian macroregion.

- 15,30 coffee break

• **Chair: Mr. Enrico Cocchi**, Director of territorial planning and European Affairs, Regione Emilia-Romagna

- **Mr. Patrick Anurov**, CRFM Director: The DG REGIO Report on the Governance in the macroregions strategies and the importance of an adequate and innovative governance for a successful macroregional strategy. A proposal for the EUSAIR.
- **Professor Francesco Pruitera**, Bologna University, current President of the IECOB Institute for Central-Eastern and Balkan Europe. The Adriatic-Ionian knowledge community and the perspective of innovation; the Baltic-Adriatic corridor and the importance of connectivity as a cross-cutting theme for EUSAIR.
- **ETP European Training Foundation representative**. The potential of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region human capital as a key asset to be harnessed through the reform of education, training and the labour market.

Conclusions Prof. Patrizio Bianchi

Invitation



INVITATION

*Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion joint thematic sessions on
Environment and Welfare*

**INNOVATION AND INTEGRATION FOR QUALITY IN LOCAL AND REGIONAL
TERRITORIAL POLICIES AT A MACRO-REGIONAL SCALE**

Dear Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion members and stakeholders,

Dear AdriGov partners,

In the framework of the EUSAIR process, for the definition of a European strategic macro-regional framework, with the aim to orient toward common priorities the multi-level development policies, we are glad to invite you to take part to **a joint AIE thematic session, to be held in Bologna on May, 27th and 28th.**

The agenda of the two-day event, which will be completed in details and sent to you as soon as possible, will include:

- **a thematic Commission on Environment of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion** (debate and approval of an AIE Thematic Document and a Political statement);

- **a thematic Commission on Welfare of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion** (debate and approval of an AIE Thematic Document and a Political statement);

- **a focus on how innovation and integration can be used to qualify the local and regional territorial policies**, through the empowerment of the macro-regional human capital, to design a new, more effective governance in our macro-area, with a discussion panel and case studies. Furthermore, on May, 28th, the Emilia-Romagna Regional Minister for Innovation, Education and Research will accompany the attendants to a **study visit to the Bologna Museum of Industrial Heritage**, to demonstrate how Emilia-Romagna did create an innovative development pattern, the *"modello emiliano"*, which empowered the local human capital to become the key to the regional competitiveness.

As you certainly know, the AdriGov project, financed in the framework of the IPA CBC 2007/2013 programme, aims at enabling Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion partners, and macro-area regions and cities, to define a common position on the more innovative tools and aspects related to the macro-regional strategy. We expect therefore from the Bologna joint thematic sessions to find out a common political approach from the local and regional point of view about the Welfare and Environment policies to be indicated by the EUSAIR strategy for our territories. The AIE Thematic Documents and Political statements approved during the sessions will be formally forwarded to the EU institutions responsible for EUSAIR.

We think also that the Adriatic-Ionian regions and cities cannot succeed in the qualification of their cooperation for development purposes, without sharing a strong common commitment to innovate and integrate local and regional policies, particularly working to empower and qualify the macro-regional human capital, to build together the macro-region of the future.

So we warmly invite you to register for the above mentioned event, filling in the form in attachment, and to involve the stakeholders that are interested in attending. Your participation both in the AIE thematic Committees works and in the focus on innovation in public policies will be crucial for the efficacy of our initiative, and for the success of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion.

Please, send the registration form to the following contact person:

Elena Tagliani etagliani@regione.emilia-romagna.it, tel. 0039 051-5273609 or by fax, to the fax number: 0039 051 5275504, or to:

Best regards

Emilia-Romagna

Vice President

Simonetta Scherera



The IPA Adriatic CBC Programme is co-financed by the Instrument of Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

Bologna, 2014, May 27th and 28th

Adriatic Ionian Euroregion joint thematic sessions:

AIE Environment Committee

AIE Welfare Committee

Focus on innovation and qualification of human capital

REGISTRATION FORM

In order to organize the joint sessions in the best way possible, we kindly ask you to fill this form in for every people which will attend the event, and to resend it by fax or e-mail, to confirm your participation, as soon as you will be able, to the attention of the contact person Mrs. Elena Tagliani, Vice President Assistant, to the following addresses:

Fax n.: +39 051 5275504

Email: etagliani@regione.emilia-romagna.it

The registration is mandatory, particularly concerning the study visit, because places available are limited; your registration will be confirmed by e-mail. The participation is free of charge. For any request, or for any other information you may need, you can phone or write to Elena Tagliani (+39 051 5273609 or: etagliani@regione.emilia-romagna.it).

During the Seminar, there will be translation service from/ to Italian and English.

How to reach the Emilia-Romagna venues: please click on the following links to see the maps.

From the airport: <http://goo.gl/maps/0Merr>

From the train station: <http://goo.gl/maps/NbtqO>

For public buses see: www.tper.it

To the attention of Mrs. Elena Tagliani

Bologna, 2014, May 27th and 28th

Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion

JOINT THEMATIC SESSIONS AND FOCUS ON INNOVATION

PARTICIPANT'S DATA:

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| NAME | | | | |
| SURNAME | | | | |
| ORGANISATION | | | | |
| DEPARTMENT | | | | |
| POSITION HELD | | | | |
| OFFICE ADDRESS | | | | |
| COUNTRY | | | | |
| OFFICE TEL. N.: | | | | |
| FAX N.: | | | | |
| E-MAIL | | | | |
| I Will attend to | May, 27th EMK HQ Torre Terna v.le Piana 8 Bologna Thematic Commission on: <input type="checkbox"/> Environment <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare | May, 27th EMK HQ Torre Terna v.le Piana 8 Bologna <input type="checkbox"/> Networking aperitif | May, 28th Museum of the Industrial Heritage v. Berzenga 123 Bologna <input type="checkbox"/> Study visit to the Museum of Industrial Heritage | May, 28th Museum of the Industrial Heritage <input type="checkbox"/> Focus on innovation and qualification of human capital |

Slides Anvroin



Adrigov Seminar

Bologna, 28 May 2014


CPMR : EUSAIR and Governance




***CPMR, GATHERING REGIONAL AUTHORITIES
SINCE 1973***

**CREATED ON THE BASIS OF
A THREE FOLD OBSERVATION**

- **Need for greater involvement of Regions in European integration**
- **Disparities in competitiveness between the central part of Europe and its peripheries**
- **Insufficient enhancement of Europe's maritime interfaces**







CRPM CPMR

MEMBERS

- 150 Regions
- 28 EU member and non-member States
- 200 million inhabitants
- 6 Geographical Commissions



CRPM CPMR

A COMMON ORGANISATION AND 6 GEOGRAPHICAL COMMISSIONS



Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe

North Sea Commission



Baltic Sea Commission



Islands Commission



Balkan and Black Sea Regional Commission



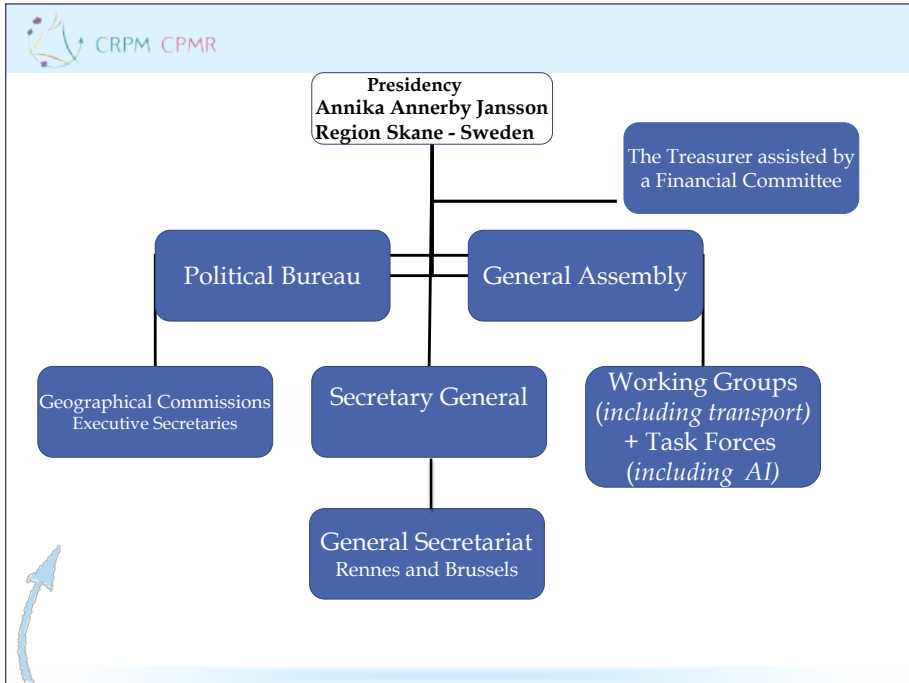
Atlantic Arc Commission



Intermediterranean Commission







CRPM CPMR

LOBBYING IN THE RIGHT PLACE, AT THE RIGHT TIME

CPMR makes Herman Van Rompuy President of the European Council on 23 November to warn him about the precarious position of Cohesion Policy for 2014 - 2020 following the non-agreement at the European summit last week. A late agreement on the MFF would mathematically reduce the Cohesion Policy budget and would seriously put at risk the ability of regions to develop operational programmes on time for the next programming period.

According to the failure of Member States to reach an agreement on the MFF at the 2013 November European summit, President La Drieh voiced his concern about the risk posed by a late agreement on the MFF. More recent economic growth projections for Member States will be published by the European Commission early next year, which will mean a mathematical reduction of at least 15 billion Euros, according to preliminary estimates by the CPMR. Such a loss would constitute a significant challenge for the regions.



Key issues at stake in CPMR **current activities**

- **IMPLEMENTATION OF EU POLICIES /BUDGETS WITH 3 MAJOR PRIORITIES**
 - TERRITORIAL COHESION
 - MARITIME POLICIES
 - ACCESSIBILITY

- **WITH OUR GEOGRAPHICAL COMMISSIONS, CONTRIBUTE TO EU TRANSNATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES**
 - EUSAIR, DANUBE, BALTIC, NORTH SEA, BLACK SEA ..
 - INTERREG, ENI CROSS-BORDER ...
 - PROXIMITY TO DGs REGIO AND MARE



CPMR and EUSAIR ...

- Promotion of the initiative
- Support to European Commission and States
- Promotion of regional authorities in the preparation and implementation of strategy and action plan
- ...



Accéder à plus de res...

Cohesion, CPMR News by Hafida



Representing the only Association of Regions and Local Authorities present, Annika Annerby Jansson, President of the CPMR and of the Regional Council, Region Skåne (SE) was a speaker at the Stakeholder Conference on the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region that took place in Athens on 6-7 February 2014. During this conference, presenting the results of the recent consultation, the CPMR congratulated the European Commission and the Greek Presidency – both organisers of the event – and called for the completion of the EUSAIR strategy and action plan during this year's Mediterranean Presidencies of the EU.

Antonis Samaras, Prime Minister of Greece, Johannes Hahn and Maria Damanaki, Commissioners for Regional Policy and Maritime Affairs, Evangelos Venizelos and Kostis Hatzidakis, Greek Ministers for Foreign Affairs and

28%

16:37

 CRPM CPMR

EUSAIR SEMINAR
EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR):
Regions get involved
18 and 19 November 2013, Corfu (GR)



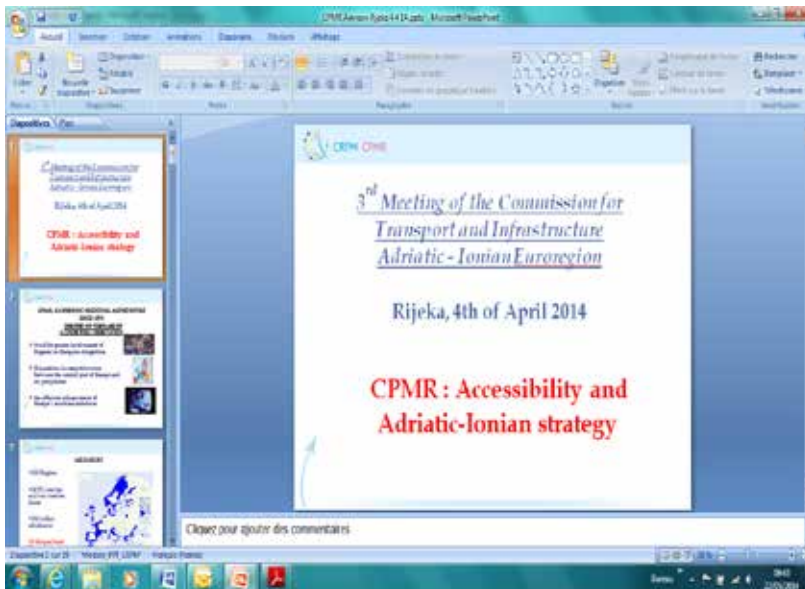
The banner in the background reads: "EU STRATEGY FOR THE ADRIATIC AND IONIAN REGION (EUSAIR) - THE REGIONS GET INVOLVED". Logos for the Ministry of the Aegean Islands, the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure, the European Union, and the CRPM are visible.



... CPMR and EUSAIR ...

- Raising awareness of Regions and actors on specific challenges
- Availability for participation in Interreg, TEN-T, Youth mobility ... programmes, with the help of our geographical commissions

Being as practical and operational as possible ...



CRPM CPMR

When Macroregions cross sectorial policies
TEN-T : the 9 corridors

A map of Europe illustrating the 9 Trans-European Transport Corridors (TEN-T). The corridors are represented by colored lines connecting major transport hubs across the continent. The colors used are red, blue, green, yellow, purple, orange, pink, brown, and grey. A blue arrow on the left side of the map points upwards.

CRPM CPMR

TEN-T : overall picture for
EUSAIR area

A detailed map of the EUSAIR area (Eastern Adriatic-Ionian region) showing the TEN-T network. The map includes a legend with the following categories:

- Corridors:**
 - Blue line: Baltic-Adriatic Corridor
 - Red line: Mediterranean Corridor
 - Green line: Danube-Baltic Mediterranean Corridor
 - Yellow line: Scandinavia-Mediterranean Corridor
- Core Network:**
 - Red circle: RRT Core
 - Blue circle: Ports Core
 - Grey circle: Airports Core
- Comprehensive Network:**
 - Red square: RRT Comprehensive
 - Blue square: Ports Comprehensive
 - Grey square: Airports Comprehensive

The map also shows the Adriatic-Ionian Macroregion boundary and the website www.opmr.org.

« YOUTH IS THE FUTURE OF EUSAIR »

Priority objectives of Vasco da Gama –
TRAINING FOR GREENER AND SAFER MARITIME
TRANSPORT PROJECT

A balanced network widely covering
EU coasts and seas

CRPM CPMR

... CPMR and EUSAIR ...

➤ *Being as practical and operational as possible
... but still remaining strategic*



CRPM CPMR

Extract of the Patrasso Declaration : “The variable geometry”

“A global Integrated Mediterranean Strategy to be developed in the mid-long term perspective - EUSMED (Global draft action plan by 2017 during the Maltese presidency, to be updated every 3 years starting from 2020) that should include three interconnected strategies:

- **the Adriatic-Ionian Strategy - EUSAIR (ongoing pilot. Action plan by 2014),**
- the Western Mediterranean – EUSWEST Med (Action plan by 2016),
- the Eastern Mediterranean – EUSEAST Med (Action plan by 2020).

The EUSAIR, could work as a first pilot at a governance level as well, while considering to a greater extent the formal participation of 4 non-EU Member states and the synergies that will have to be drawn with the Danube and the Alpine Strategies »



CPMR and governance of macroregions *what the European Commission stated on 20 May*

**REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL,
THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE
REGIONS**

*concerning the governance of macro-regional
strategies*



CPMR and governance of macroregions *what the European Commission stated on 20 May (summarised conclusions)*

Macro-regional strategies require (1):

- **political leadership and clearer responsibility,**
- **continued involvement by the Commission,** in partnership with countries and **regions,** ensuring a coordinated approach at EU level
- a sustainable framework to provide **systematic linkage** between this political level and coordination and implementation, including clear lines of responsibility ensured by regular ministerial meetings, **and where so agreed, by the appointment of a special representative**
- **improved mechanisms to ensure full engagement of non-EU countries at all levels**
- **better use and complementing work of existing regional organisations, at the appropriate level**
- **stronger management** at the level of National Contact Points, giving strategic coordination and monitoring implementation;





Macro-regional strategies require (2) :

- better focused **use of existing funds** and better coordination of sector-specific initiatives and programmes,
- **sustained support to key implementers, using especially the institutional and capacity-building support of newly-aligned transnational programmes 2014-2020;**
- better **publicity and communication** about the work ;
- enhanced use of **information and communication technologies** to facilitate modern, fast and cheap communication between stakeholders;
- **stronger involvement of civil society, including through national and regional parliaments and consultative networks or platforms,** enhancing awareness of the strategic objectives and timetable.



CPMR and governance of macroregions

First CPMR official reaction to EC communication : press release

(CPMR) - the only macro-regional based organisation - has expressed its satisfaction on the report, especially as regards the proposal to draw on existing regional organisations, as is the case of the CPMR's Geographical Commissions which bring together the Regions bordering Europe's main sea basins. Similarly, the CPMR supports the need to jointly address macro-regional strategies and those relating to the sea basins. In this regard, the CPMR asks the Commission to ensure better coordination of the actions led by its different Directorates-General in order to align these strategies better with existing EU sectoral funding.

"The driving role of regional governments should be highlighted more in the implementation of macro-regional or sea basin strategies, since regional politicians are closely in tune with the concerns of the citizens living in these territories," said Annika Annerby Jansson, President of the CPMR and of the Council of Region Skåne (SE).

Furthermore, the CPMR regrets the Commission's static vision of governance based on Member States, national contact points and experts, and calls for the establishment of a flexible and adaptable system of governance, involving politicians, actors working on the ground, and notably regional authorities, who are much closer to citizens' concerns. The Commission should nevertheless maintain a leading role in supporting the launch of these strategies in order to ensure that they have EU added value.





CPMR and governance of macroregions

A few personal comments (1) :

- **No more mention of the 3 Nos rule**
- **Clear role given to Interreg in making the strategy operational**
- **The role of European Commission as « fueller » of the strategies not sufficiently emphasised** : all States do not have at their disposal sufficiently numerous and qualified human resources . If the strategy doesn't work well, they should not be pointed as first responsables
- In the same range of ideas : **little information on the effective and coordinated commitment of EC DGs**. Regio must be assisted by Mare, Move, Eac, Enlarg, etc.
- **No mention on how practically to enable non-EU countries to invest financially and in human resources in the strategies**



CPMR and governance of macroregions

A few personal comments (2) :

- Great expectations from EC as regards Interact added value and involvement : **why not if Regions are committed ?**
- **Yes to platforms hosted by regional institutions in the frame of cooperation programmes**
- **EC does not present many cases of good practice on current macroregional strategies (Baltic, Danube). It would have been profitable for preparing and running the new strategies**





CRPM CPMR

**THANKS A LOT
FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION**



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Slides GREP

Interim Report

Regional Laboratory on Macro-regional issues

Bologna, May 28 th, 2014

Table of contents

- 1 – Context: AdriGov project objectives and the Action 5.4.
- 2 – The Regional lab mission: innovation and methodological aspects
- 3 – Achievements
- 4 – Next steps





IPA Adriatic CBC 2007/2013 programme eligibility areas

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The Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion membership map

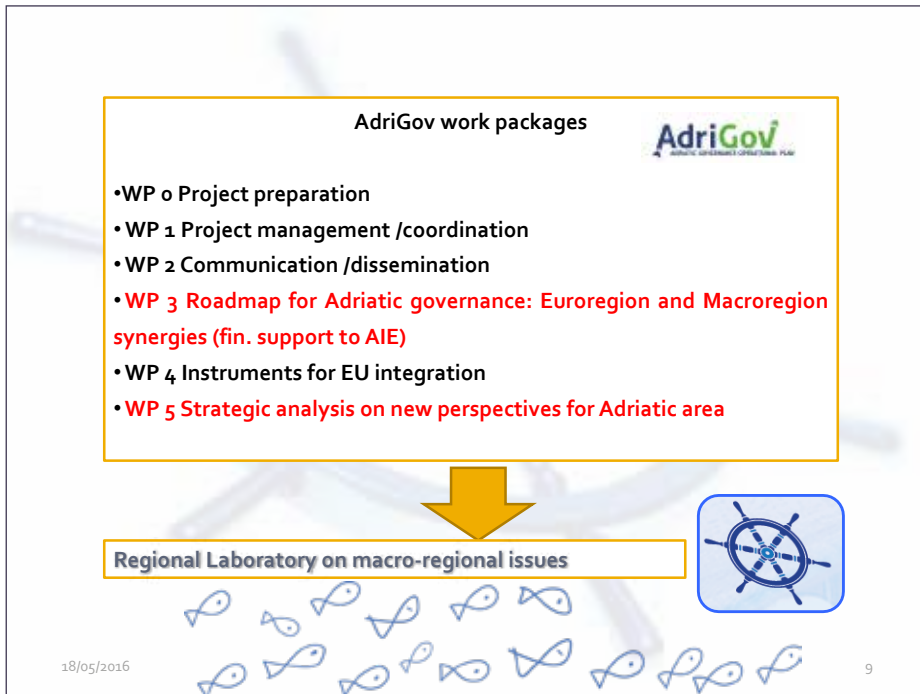
EUROREGIONE ADRIATICO IONICA
 JADRANSKO IONIA EUROREGIJA
 ADRIATIC IONIAN EUROREGION
 EURO RAJONI ADRIATIKO IONIAN
 ΕΥΡΩΠΕΡΙΕΡΕΙΑ ΑΔΡΙΑΤΙΚΩΝ ΙΟΝΙΩΝ

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AdriGov Project Overall objectives

- ❑ Definition of an **innovative and participated Adriatic Governance Operational Plan** to foster institutional cooperation and to promote **an effective model of governance in the area** by identifying and disseminating best practices and encouraging joint initiatives.
- ❑ **Implementation of knowledge-transfer actions** to enhance information and awareness on European integration and EU accession with a view to improve the knowledge and skills of representatives of the involved local and regional authorities.



The Regional Lab on macro-regional issues



- **Open platform** gathering University and public administration representatives
- **Confrontation on multi-level governance** topics and territorial dimension of development policies
 - Common challenges and objectives to be identified
- **Flexibility** in structure and timing
- **Territorial focus at a macro-regional scale**
- **Qualitative approach (Qualification** through territorial cooperation and bilateral relationships between regional and local partners as a key asset for the MR)

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Regional lab outputs

- A)** Joint work on EUSAIR strategy (think tank)
 - A1) A-I Universities contribution to EUSAIR consultation (A-I Univ. FORUM dec. 2013)
 - A2) Birth of a macro-regional knowledge community candidated under the initiative COST / supported by the EU RTD Framework Programme
 - A3) Work on HP of a need for a MR/AdriGov knowledge framework (questionnaires)
 - A3.1) EU2020- oriented mapping of territorial dev. Indicators at a MR/AdriGov scale
 - A3.2) mapping of the LRA competences in territorial dev. field
 - A3.3) mapping of the administrative thought
- B)** Methodological work: qualitative approach issues

First outputs - some samples

Emilia-Romagna Statistic Staff is working on the selection of **reliable and comparable indicators** to describe socio-demographic, economic, structural characteristics of AdriGov partner's territories.

The aim is a **EU2020** oriented database at a macro regional scale.

Eurostat source is public and provides official statistics with **high standard levels of comparability and reliability** among EU28 regions and candidate countries.

Eurostat uses a hierarchical system for dividing up the economic territory of the EU, the NUTS classification (Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics):

- ❖ NUTS 0: countries
- ❖ NUTS 1: major socio-economic regions
- ❖ NUTS 2: basic regions for the application of regional policies
- ❖ NUTS 3: small regions for specific diagnoses

For the **candidate countries** (Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina) only the **NUTS 0** level is available.

For the **NUTS3** level (**Croatian partners**) only a subgroup of indicators is available.

AdriGov partner's territories correspond to different NUTS levels.

The indicator selection is then conditioned by the different territorial levels available in Eurostat database.

At present, the AdriGov database contains **25 indicators** with:

- ❖ NUTS0 level for Albania, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- ❖ NUTS2 level for Italy and Greece partners.

With respect to Croatian partner's regions:

level) 8 indicators are referred to the 7 Croatian partner's territories (NUTS 3

EXAMPLE 1 and 2

→ 17 indicators are referred to the macroregion NUTS2 Adriatic Croatia

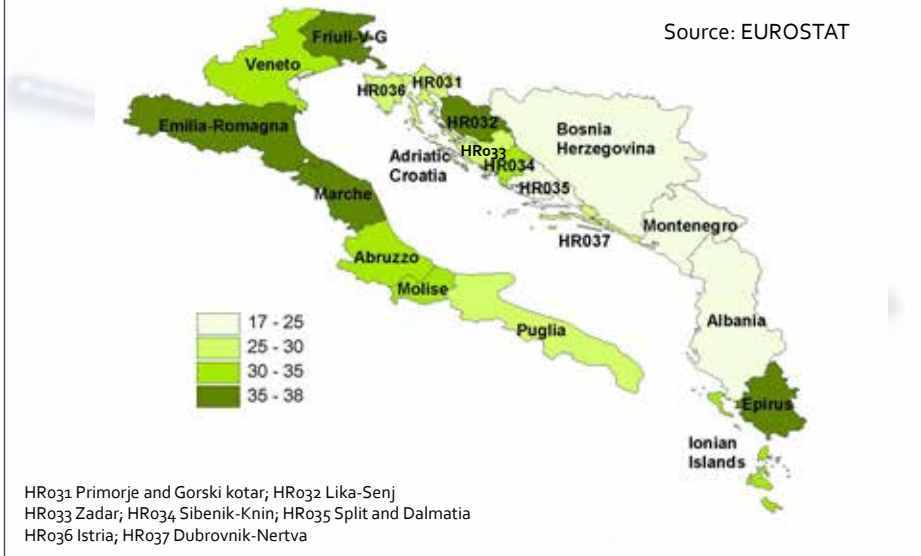
EXAMPLE 3

→

Example 1: Old-age-dependency ratio % - 2012

Ratio between the total number of elderly persons of an age when they are generally economically inactive (aged 65 and over) and the number of persons of working age (from 15 to 64) x 100.

Source: EUROSTAT



Example 2: Gross domestic product (GDP) per inhabitant, in purchasing power standard (PPS) - 2010

PPS: a common currency that eliminates the differences in price levels between countries allowing meaningful volume comparisons of GDP between countries

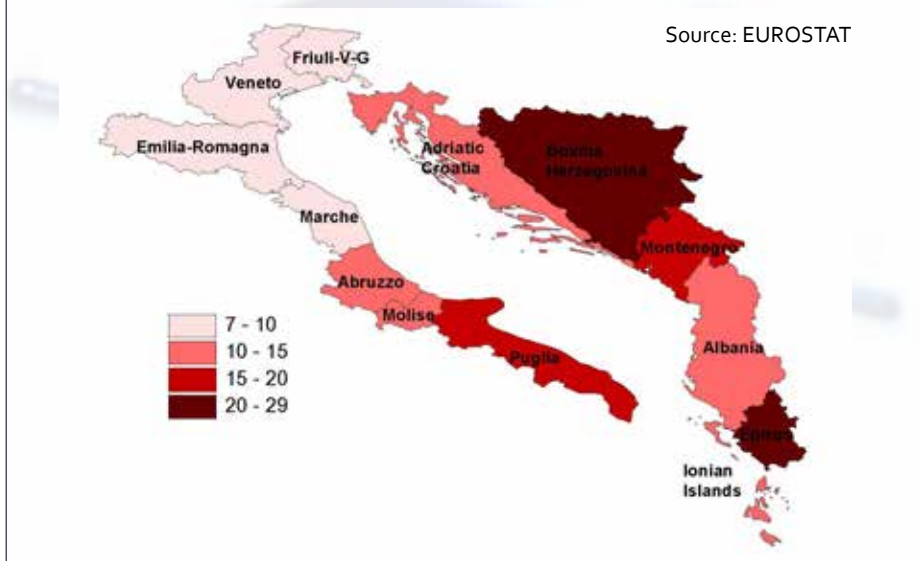
Source: EUROSTAT



Example 3: Unemployment rate % - 2012

Unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force.

The labour force is the total number of people employed and unemployed.



LINKS:

Eurostat Database for Regional Statistics (for the territories inside the EU borders):

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/region_cities/regional_statistics/data/database

CPC (Candidates and potential candidates) Database (for those outside the EU borders):

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/enlargement_countries/data/databases

CONTACTS for the statistical issues:

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Annalisa Laghi alaghi@regione.emilia-romagna.it

Stefano Michelini smichelini@regione.emilia-romagna.it



Methodological Issues

Some points and aspects

Next steps....

- Interviews**
- Analysis of the answers**
- Comparison of the outputs**
- Drafting a HP**



Thank you for your attention!

Regional lab on macroregional issues
Contact person Elena Tagliani etagliani@regione.emilia-romagna.it



Slides Tagliani



AdriGov

IPA Adriatic CBC 2007/13 - 2° ord./00184/0






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12/06/2014



AdriGov Operational plan for a new governance in the Adriatic-Ionian macroarea

- Capitalizzazione di AdriEUrOP
- Priorità 1. economic. Social and Institutional Cooperation
- Misura 1.4. Institutional cooperation
- Budget totale 3.346.712 € - ora 3.176.678,09
- Budget RER: 285.897,15 (il 9%)
- Durata: da ottobre 2012 a marzo 2015

2

12/06/2014



AdriGov - Obiettivi generali

- Promozione e adozione di un Adriatic Governance Operational Plan (modello di governance innovativo / partecipato / efficace / di macroarea)
- Supporto a Commissioni Euroregione Adriatica
- Implementazione azioni di trasferimento di conoscenze e sensibilizzazione su temi: integrazione europea e accesso, democrazia, capacity building

3

12/06/2014

Partners AdriGov



- LB Regione Molise
- FB1 Istarska Zupanija (contea)
- FB2 Dubrovacko – Neretvanska Zupanija (contea)
- FB3 Regione Puglia
- FB4 Opstina Kotor (comune)
- FB5 Regione Marche
- FB6 Informest – Centro servizi e documentazione per la cooperazione della Regione FVG (agenzia di sviluppo in house)
- FB7 Regione del Veneto
- FB8 Regione Abruzzo
- FB9 Perifereia Ipeirou (regione)
- FB10 Regione Emilia Romagna
- FB11 Qarkut Shkoder (regione)
- FB12 Hercegovacko – Neretvanska Zupanija (cantone)

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12/06/2014



The Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion membership map



EUROREGIONE ADRIATICO IONICA
 JADRANSKO IONJSKA EUROREGIJA
 ADRIATIC IONIAN EUROREGION
 EURO RAJONI ADRIATIKO IONIAN
 ΕΥΡΩΠΕΡΕΓΙΕΡΕΑ ΑΔΡΙΑΤΙΚΟ-ΙΟΝΙΩΝ

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12/06/2014

EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region





AdriGov - WP di progetto

- WP 0 Project preparation
- WP 1 Project management /coordination
- WP 2 Communication /dissemination
- **WP 3 Roadmap for Adriatic governance: Euroregion and Macroregion synergies**
- WP 4 Instruments for EU integration
- **WP 5 Strategic analysis on new perspectives for Adriatic area**

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12/06/2014



Focus WP 3: Roadmap for Adriatic governance

Supporto alle Commissioni tematiche dell'Euroregione Adriatica:

Molise: Risorse Umane
 Puglia: Turismo e Cultura
 Emilia-Romagna: Ambiente e Sociale
 Ipiros: Pesca
 Kotor: PMI e Attività produttive
 Shkoder: Trasporti e Infrastrutture

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12/06/2014

WP 3 Roadmap for Adriatic governance: Deliverables

1. Policy Action Plans approvati da Commissioni tematiche dell'Euroregione Adriatica
2. Statements (raccomandazioni politiche) sottoposte alle assemblee elettive dei PP per coinvolgimento livello politico
3. Thematic Report = Documento strategico da adottare per contribuire alla definizione di un Piano d'azione e Roadmap macroregionale Adriatico-Ionica

11

12/06/2014

Focus WP 5 Analisi strategica: nuove prospettive per l'area Adriatica

- **Marche:** coordinamento e creazione di un high level group of experts
- **Istria:** Roadmap sul processo di adesione
- **Abruzzo:** proposta di modello di convergenza di enti pubblici per l'area adriatica
- **RER:** Studio su modelli e strumenti ML innovativi per lo sviluppo territoriale integrato a scala macroregionale

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12/06/2014



Azione 5.4 Studio e analisi comparativa e di fattibilità di strumenti e modelli ML innovativi a scala macroregionale

Feasibility analysis for the implementation of new multi-level tools for the governance of the Adriatic-Ionian macroarea

- Descrizione dell'azione:
 - Simulation and feasibility report
 - Taking into account action plans and strategic documents of Thematic Committees
 - Promotion of the implementation of new multi-level tools for the governance and coordination of sustainable development in the Adriatic basin area
 - Selection, pre-evaluation, agreement on methodology and details of the simulation
 - Preparatory activities and site visits to individuate most suitable area for simulation
 - Bilateral agreements with local authorities (when needed for interviews and survey)

13

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Spunti di qualità – innovazione

- Regional lab sui temi macroregionali: luogo di confronto e sperimentazione peer to peer tra p.a. e Università: metodo per un approccio efficace all'analisi e valutazione delle policies
- Metodologia di indagine e di analisi: valutazione su base qualitativa per miglior governance delle politiche
- Concetti chiave: integrazione verticale e orizzontale, approccio territoriale integrato, funzionalità propri delle strategie macroregionali / principi-guida per la elaborazione dello studio
- Valore aggiunto: opportunità di crescita per le p.a. (capacity building dal basso) – efficacia e visibilità politiche regionali



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12/06/2014

Grazie dell'attenzione

Elena Tagliani

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Direzione Generale Programmazione Territoriale e Intese.
Relazioni internazionali e relazioni europee.
etagliani@regione.emilia-romagna.it



Regional Lab on macro-regional issues' experimental laboratory of education to the collaboration.

Milan, EXPO 2015, Palazzo Italia, 22th September, 2015. Transcription



The following proceedings and/or transcriptions were only delivered in Italian; so, for those contents, please refer to the Italian section

Trascrizione atti dei lavori della giornata del 22 settembre 2015

(nel quadro della due giorni "LEuroregione Adriatico-Ionica ad EXPO Milano 2015")

Azione pilota sul WP 5 del progetto AdriGov:

formazione alla cooperazione, formazione all'autoformazione

Progettisti: *Regional Laboratory on macro-regional issues*

Coordinatore: Elena Tagliani, Regione Emilia-Romagna

22 settembre 2015, EXPO Milano 2015, Palazzo Italia, ore 11,00

Elena Tagliani

RER, Project Manager AdriGov, referente EUSAIR e EAI e coordinatore del Regional Lab

Questo incontro punta principalmente a metterci a nostro agio, ad essere gratificante per tutti noi; questo, perché molti di noi hanno in atto rapporti di collaborazione pregressi, e sulla base di questo sono venuti a contatto con il lavoro del Regional Lab più volte nel corso di questi ultimi anni. Penso e spero quindi che essi siano curiosi di capire meglio e approfondire con noi i temi che ci hanno appassionato, che vi proponiamo oggi. Quanto a chi invece è venuto qui, in questo contesto, e per la prima volta entra nel nostro gruppo, e vuole capire come funziona, siamo lieti di avere l'opportunità di fare la reciproca conoscenza e di allargare anche a loro la discussione. Questa ricerca dell'inclusività è appunto uno degli scopi del Regional Lab.

Il contesto è questo nostro, di collaborazione e di condivisione nonché di approfondimento sul piano tecnico da parte di persone che però, poi, saranno comunque chiamate a fare le proposte di politiche migliori ai nostri rappresentanti elettivi. Quindi, in effetti, abbiamo un ruolo borderline, e spesso ci chiediamo anche in che modo si potrebbe valorizzare questa nostra trasversalità rispetto alle materie di cui ci occupiamo. Questa potrebbe essere anche un'occasione per poter riflettere assieme anche su questo; e quindi potrebbe essere un primo passo sul percorso di una possibile qualificazione collettiva.

Quindi, partendo da questa nostra condivisione di esperienze, non solo nell'ambito del progetto AdriGov, ma anche con attività bilaterali nate da questo progetto, cito ad esempio la visita di studio che la delegazione della Regione Istriana ha svolto in Emilia-Romagna nel marzo del 2015 per uno scambio di esperienze sul tema della riforma dei sistemi della formazione professionale, e anche la visita della delegazione della Emilia-Romagna nel febbraio del 2014 a Scutari, sempre sul tema della qualificazione delle politiche per la formazione professionale; entrambe sono state esperienze importanti.

La nostra presenza qui ha essenzialmente questo senso: lavorare assieme per dare una base di contenuti seria e solida al lavoro di networking che ieri, 21 settembre 2015, i nostri politici, nel contesto della plenaria dell'Euroregione Adriatico-Ionica, hanno fatto. Faccio presente che diversi tra noi, presenti qui oggi, rivestono anche un ruolo politico, oltre a quello tecnico, però ritengo che questo sia una cosa molto utile e proficua, perché per fare le buone politiche prima bisogna rendersi conto bene del contesto e capire di cosa si tratta.

Ho convocato qui in questa sede alcuni dei membri del Regional Lab, che in questi anni hanno collaborato con me su varie attività; così finalmente avremo l'opportunità di condividere con noi parte di quello che è stato il nostro lavoro in questo periodo, perché spiegare questa esperienza è sempre difficile; viverla, è stato bello, coinvolgente, difficile.

Ascolteremo quindi Serena Cesetti, che lavora per il Servizio Statistica della Regione Emilia-Romagna, e già ieri il suo dirigente, dott. Michellini, se vi ricordate vi ha anticipato dei dati. Questo dei dati, delle informazioni e di conoscere cosa c'è nel quadro per fare poi delle politiche migliori, è un tema che noi del *Regional Lab* trattiamo da tempo – la dottoressa Cesetti poi ci spiegherà meglio come – e che di recente è tornato d'attualità ad esempio a Ioannina, quando il partenariato AdriGov ha partecipato alla Commissione Pesca dell'Euroregione Adriatico-Ionica, che è stata molto interessante appunto anche per questo. In effetti, si è capito in quella occasione che a tutti interessa questo tema, capire su cosa si deve lavorare, ma i dati per capire e conoscere questo sono spesso confusi, contraddittori, o addirittura le varie politiche settoriali si procurano e gestiscono dati che non si parlano tra di loro e non sono utilizzabili quindi per altre politiche.

Avremo anche il supporto importante dal punto di vista del mondo accademico, dato che questa è componente accademica del Regional Lab, e che allo stesso modo nostro si è aperta a queste questioni, per un arricchimento che oserei definire reciproco. Bene, lascio la parola a loro, sperando che sia di vostro interesse, e poi vi invito a dire la vostra, anche se si tratta di una critica, e quindi ad intervenire quando volete, quando vi va, perché lo scopo è proprio questo, di arricchirci reciprocamente.

Samuele Paganoni

Ricercatore UNIBO e gruppo GREP, membro Regional Lab.

Sono Samuele Paganoni, sono qui con il mio collega Mirco degli Esposti, facciamo parte del GREP, che a sua volta è parte del *Regional Lab* di cui parlava la dottoressa. Il



GREP è un gruppo di ricerca di etnografia del pensiero, che fino ad ora si è occupato di tutta una serie di ricerche che, per la verità, soprattutto all'inizio riguardavano inchieste nelle fabbriche per poi ampliare il proprio campo di ricerca nel sociale; ed ora per la prima volta ci occupiamo di questioni di istruzione e formazione. Questo, per presentare un po' chi siamo.

Il nostro approccio è etnografico, antropologico, e quindi, secondo la tradizione di queste discipline, quello che ci interessa sono i modi di rappresentare la realtà; o meglio, riteniamo che questi modi di rappresentare la realtà di fatto siano costitutivi della realtà stessa. Quindi, anche le diversità di culture, che sono molto importanti perché organizzano dei modi diversi di spiegare il mondo; però adesso non voglio fare un discorso accademico, perché questo è un altro contesto; ritengo però giusto fare un appunto, che affido al collega Mirco degli Esposti, perché secondo me in questo contesto sono importanti le origini del GREP, che deriva da un tipo di antropologia che ha messo in campo Sylvain Lazarus, che lui conosce molto bene, dato che ha fatto la tesi di dottorato con lui.

Mirco Degli Esposti

Ricercatore UNIBO e gruppo GREP, membro Regional Lab.

Sì ecco, poi magari... sarebbe utile capire perché degli antropologi sono qui, questa potrebbe essere la vera questione. Questo riporta al perché ci hanno chiamato a far parte di questo gruppo di lavoro; qual era la questione che chi ha costituito questo gruppo di lavoro pensava potesse essere utilmente affrontata e supportata dai ricercatori dell'Università di Bologna che si occupano di ricerche di carattere etnografico e antropologico. È utile anche andare a vedere la dimensione soggettiva dei fenomeni sociali – e comunque, la dimensione soggettiva della costruzione di qualcosa di nuovo. Voi state in effetti costruendo una realtà nuova, sia dal punto di vista istituzionale che da quello soggettivo. Si tratta in qualche misura di un'incognita. Si tratta di tradurre dei programmi elaborati altrove, di tradurli per differenti territori, dove essi vengono ad incrociarsi con diverse situazioni, sia oggettive che culturali. Per cui, l'idea, che penso possa essere condivisa, e che io condivido, è che si tratta di una questione appunto relativa alla qualità, come accennava la dottoressa Tagliani, ed al tema della soggettività, su cui magari ora dico qualcosa, per mettere in contatto questi due elementi.

È un'idea che, essendo da costruire, comporta una ricerca, una ricerca anche comune tra di voi, relativa a come potete lavorare insieme, a come potete collaborare, a come potete, magari, mettere in piedi dei modi di relazione tra di voi che siano più funzionali alla costruzione di questa nuova realtà.

Perché qualità e soggettività? Questo è un tema classico delle scienze sociali, e qui ne parlo in modo breve: le scienze sociali in sostanza si dividono in due grandi famiglie, quelle che utilizzano dei metodi quantitativi e quelle che utilizzano dei metodi qualitativi, diciamo che l'aspetto qualitativo è appunto l'aspetto soggettivo relativo ad un fenomeno.

Ad esempio, nell'ambito delle relazioni industriali, della ricerca di fabbrica, sul lavoro, c'è tutta la dimensione qualitativa del lavoro che è un classico tema di studio; quando si cerca di vendere un'autovettura, si cerca di evocare delle sensazioni, delle percezioni possibili, e anche questo è la dimensione qualitativa. Poi c'è la dimensione quantitativa, che riguarda la oggettivazione e il tentativo di misurazione, di quantificazione anche magari in relazione, se ci si riesce, a questa dimensione relativa all'esperienza personale.

Ecco, noi ci occupiamo di questa dimensione soggettiva e qualitativa, non a partire dalle sensazioni o dalle percezioni, ma - e questo lo dice la scuola a cui faceva riferimento il dottore Paganoni - a partire dai modi di pensare, cioè la nostra tesi è: la gente pensa, quindi noi pensiamo, voi pensate, e nel momento in cui pensiamo noi rappresentiamo, proviamo a mettere insieme delle esperienze, a valutarle, ciascuno ovviamente con delle proprie categorie, con delle proprie tesi, e prescrizioni rispetto a quel che è, e a quel che può essere una certa realtà.

Per cui l'idea di questa giornata era quella di provare a fare un esperimento di carattere un po' formativo, di provare a formarci tutti insieme, di provare a lavorare ed a collaborare tutti assieme in modo produttivo, a partire ciascuno dalla propria situazione, dalla propria realtà, e dai problemi che poi ciascuno deve concretamente affrontare nel proprio lavoro, quotidianamente. L'idea è quella di sperimentare, di riuscire ad aprire una discussione, con un focus group, però qui siamo veramente in molti per un focus group, per cui direi che la cosa risulterebbe un po' complicata. Partiamo da una riflessione, che sia una discussione tra di noi, insomma.

S. Paganoni

Partiamo dall'idea che formazione, la parola formazione, deriva da formare, e quindi dal concetto di "mettere qualcosa in forma", calandolo in una forma predefinita, e in questo caso anche in una forma definita all'esterno della situazione considerata. Noi vogliamo provare a fare una cosa nuova, di fare una cosa diversa da quella solita, che punta ad uniformare, e quindi che rende tutto uguale, ma poi non è qualcosa che sia specifico per quest'area, per voi che ci lavorate. Vogliamo proporre qualcosa che tenga conto di tutto questo, delle caratteristiche che in realtà costituiscono le peculiarità e le caratteristiche fondamentali di questo territorio macroregionale, visto che ci troviamo davanti la sfida di costruire l'identità macroregionale.

Non vogliamo utilizzare dei modelli predefiniti, proprio per queste ragioni. Nella seconda parte della giornata, se ci sarà tempo, proveremo a fare questo esperimento, tramite un "grosso" *focus group*, dove ognuno sarà chiamato ad intervenire portando la propria esperienza e discutendola con gli altri, e provando a capire quali sono i modi per rendere possibile la collaborazione tra enti diversi e territori diversi, persone diverse ma con un unico fine; una sorta di "palestra per la collaborazione", definiamola così. Questa è la proposta per il pomeriggio. Ora vogliamo fare una breve carrellata di presentazione?



E. Tagliani

Volete parlare adesso del questionario? Dei vari questionari?

Risposta GREP

Contavamo di parlarne magari dopo, ora vorremmo andare avanti con questa idea di formazione con un approccio innovativo.

S. Paganoni

Per quanto riguarda i vari questionari a cui i presenti hanno preso parte, intanto voglio subito ringraziare chi ha preso parte alla compilazione, sono stati molto collaborativi e ci hanno aiutato moltissimo.

E. Tagliani

Ok, allora facciamo dopo, passiamo la parola a Serena?

Serena Cesetti

Regione Emilia-Romagna, Ufficio Statistico, membro Regional Lab

Purtroppo ci sono ancora dei problemi tecnici di collegamento per la proiezione delle slides.

S. Paganoni

Allora proponiamo di introdurre il discorso della collega del *Regional Lab* Serena Cesetti, intanto che si approntano le slides, ritornando un attimo sul tema della qualità. Diciamo che il concetto di qualità non coincide esattamente con la partizione accademica di cui abbiamo parlato prima, che separa il metodo qualitativo e i metodi quantitativi, anzi. In un certo senso, possiamo anche dire che c'è un certo margine di sovrapposizione, perché ci sono dei metodi o dei dati quantitativi che di fatto rendono anche informazioni di tipo qualitativo, cioè la qualità è sempre legata alla dimensione soggettiva dell'esperienza; quindi sono stati fatti svariati tentativi nel corso della storia di oggettivare la qualità, ma questo concetto non si è mai riuscito a separarlo dalla sua dimensione, comunque soggettiva.

Ad esempio, qui, posso citare le teorie sulla produzione industriale, per dirne una, quei tentativi di incasellarla, alcuni di essi veramente ben riusciti, e qui posso proprio citare ancora l'esempio del mio collega di prima, quello sulle tecniche di vendita delle automobili, dove in realtà assistiamo ad un avvicinamento all'idea che ti stiano vendendo una sensazione piuttosto che un pezzo di metallo.

E. Tagliani

Vi interrompo un attimo, per introdurre delle persone che sono arrivate dopo l'inizio di questa sessione, e permettere loro di capire che cosa stiamo facendo.

C'è una domanda sulla questione della ripartizione tra metodi qualitativi e metodi quantitativi: dovuta al fatto che uno può mettersi lì a tavolino e pensare a quello che può avere nel proprio territorio, e usare approcci che sono i più vari; ce ne sono tanti, possibili, e sarebbe utile conoscerne più di uno, perché diventa poi utile nel proprio lavoro poterli combinare.

S. Paganoni

Beh certo. Sarebbe ancora meglio che questi approcci differenti tra di loro lavorassero tra di loro in collaborazione, in sinergia, per cui anche prima volevamo dire che questa partizione accademica di fatto non significa che un metodo quantitativo non è di qualità, perché si può ingenerare questo errore. Questo volevo precisarlo.

E. Tagliani

Kristina (Crnjac, rappresentativa del Cantone di Mostar, BiH) ed io stavamo appunto parlando prima di qualità, in relazione alle politiche per i nostri rispettivi territori. Il legame era questo, prima non se n'era parlato. Grazie, scusate.

M. Degli Esposti

E per aggiungere qualcosa, se appunto l'obiettivo era quello di costruire delle politiche di qualità, ovviamente, io immagino, a almeno, io penso questo, anche dopo avere parlato con voi, immagino che attuare un certo tipo di programma può avvenire in modi molto differenti, con un impatto che varia molto, ad esempio rispetto alla realtà sociale in cui si cala questo tipo di intervento; per cui, ecco, la dimensione qualitativa è questo tipo di dimensione, diciamo, più aleatoria, cioè non prevedibile, non determinabile a priori, in cui si gioca una dimensione soggettiva, dei funzionari, degli operatori, e anche dei politici, insomma di tutti i *decision makers*. E appunto, rispetto a questa realtà nuova che si sta costruendo, a questa realtà che ha anche una dimensione incognita, che non è uniforme, l'idea è la formazione; che significa poi questo, *dare una forma*.

Quindi, la nostra idea era quella di chiedere anche a voi, ad esempio, quale tipo di formazione secondo voi è più appropriata per costruire questa nuova realtà, dal punto di vista appunto della capacità dei funzionari di intervenire in modo più consapevole, più qualificato rispetto all'attuazione dei programmi europei. Vogliamo chiedervi anche se, appunto, ritenete che vi sia questo margine, questa dimensione soggettiva rilevante rispetto all'attuazione di questi programmi, in mood tale che voi possiate incidere su questi programmi in modo che, ad esempio, lo sviluppo territoriale e la qualità della vita delle popolazioni dei vostri territori possa essere incrementata. Questo è il tema della giornata...



E. Tagliani

... ed era anche il tema del questionario...

M. Degli Esposti

...esatto, dei questionari, perché noi abbiamo fatto un lavoro preparatorio di questi discorsi, che comprende ad esempio delle interviste con alcuni funzionari, per capire quali erano i modi di pensare, le questioni problematiche rispetto alla *multilevel governance*, come appunto, garantire un'efficace collaborazione tra i soggetti coinvolti in questo progetto, come io chiamo questa nuova realtà. Quindi sottopongo a voi la questione.

E. Tagliani

Sarebbe opportuno se Serena (n.d.r: dott.ssa Cesetti) completasse queste informazioni, successivamente, in modo da dare un quadro di completamento anche di quello che ci ha detto ieri (n.d.r.: alla plenaria dell'Euroregione Adriatico-Ionica del 21 settembre 2015) il dott. Michellini sui dati. Infatti, abbiamo visto che in tutti i nostri territori – e voi lo sapete bene, anche perché vi abbiamo mandato vari questionari, e ancora devo ringraziarvi per aver risposto e dato vita anche voi con le vostre preziose informazioni a questa esperienza – si poteva fare questo esperimento. Abbiamo preso la strategia Europa 2020, abbiamo detto: quali sono i suoi macro-indicatori, gli obiettivi macro, e soprattutto come possiamo riferirli ai nostri territori, alla nostra scala territoriale? E lì è saltato fuori, ovviamente, quello che noi tutti già sappiamo, che però spesso si tende a dimenticare nel lavoro di tutti i giorni, e che poi è stato rilevato anche nelle risposte ai questionari; e infatti vedo che da noi (Nota: Regione Emilia-Romagna) sviluppo territoriale significa pianificazione urbanistica, da altri invece significa fondi, è interessante questa differenza, quindi queste molte informazioni convergevano verso uno stesso senso.

Ad esempio, in Albania abbiamo una cultura amministrativa peculiare, abbiamo dei dati, ma questi non sono immediatamente omogeneizzabili rispetto ai nostri. Quindi, capire qual è il livello di benessere, facendo un esempio le scuole per l'infanzia, alla nostra scala territoriale, potendo confrontare i dati con quelli di un altro territorio, ad esempio l'Italia, la Croazia, dove vogliamo, è importante.

Perché come faccio senza poter confrontare i dati a capire se il mio territorio va bene, va male, devo impegnarmi di più per il suo sviluppo, so che questa è la politica e tutti noi ce l'abbiamo presente. E soprattutto, come possiamo fare per rappresentare questo sulla carta, in modo che il nostro politico di riferimento, che viene eletto per quattro o cinque anni, sia messo in grado di capire e di decidere qual è la cosa migliore da fare per il benessere delle persone che vivono e lavorano nel nostro territorio.

Loro hanno fatto un bel lavoro, questa parte del nostro lavoro l'hanno fatta tutta loro, anche perché tecnicamente era molto difficile, hanno recuperato i dati e li hanno confrontati, forse il punto più difficile è stato il territorio del Montenegro, dove

chiaramente manca un livello di governo adeguato per fare un confronto, inoltre nei paesi dove arriva Eurostat il lavoro è relativamente più facile, però, ad esempio su temi pur importantissimi come l'energia, abbiamo comunque visto che non era possibile immediatamente confrontare i dati.

S. Cesetti

Diciamo che gli indicatori "UE 2020" nel *subject* dell'energia non hanno degli aggregatori territoriali inferiori al livello di governo 0, cioè quello dello Stato nazionale. E questo vale anche per i Paesi UE, e quindi anche per l'Italia.

E. Tagliani

Certo. Ed è ovvio che un Presidente a capo di una Regione è interessato anche a come va l'Italia, ma non solo, perché deve impostare le politiche del suo territorio. Ed è per questo che ci piaceva affrontare qui questo problema da un punto di vista molto tecnico, per trovare un possibile modo di affrontare assieme la questione e magari poter fare delle proposte, non a caso, ma proprio dentro al quadro disegnato nella giornata di ieri (Nota, 21 settembre 2015, Assemblea plenaria Euroregione Adriatico-Ionica ad EXPO presieduta dall'assessore RER alle attività produttive Palma Costi) dall'assessore Palma Costi, che ieri ha centrato in pieno il problema.

Ed ecco perché la rete delle Università Adriatico-Ioniche che si è riunita a Bologna nel dicembre 2013, quelli di voi che c'erano lo ricorderanno sicuramente, riunisce e coordina professori e ricercatori provenienti da Università e enti di ricerca di tutta la macroarea Adriatico-Ionica – e quindi dagli 8 Paesi coinvolti nella strategia EUSAIR – e adesso è stata non solo formalmente costituita, ma anche candidata formalmente su Horizon 2020, allo scopo di lavorare assieme, come una rete, ed anche a lavorare assieme a noi, per dare assieme i contenuti di una Scuola di alta formazione dedicata alle esigenze di una nuova generazione di funzionari adriatico-ionici, per metterli in grado di proporre, e di gestire, in maniera integrata, le nuove politiche per l'area Adriatico-Ionica. Quindi, stiamo provando a porre le basi per una cosa che finora non c'era.

Io non posso sapere adesso se questo nostro intento avrà una riuscita oppure no, ma è proprio oggi che possiamo avere un'occasione per dire la nostra su questo punto.

Altre poche parole, non solo sul questionario che abbiamo somministrato per preparare questo incontro, questa riunione, per fare in modo che comunque essa rispondesse anche a qualche vostra curiosità, se possibile; volevo dire che questi questionari e questa esperienza che viviamo ora assieme costituiscono un precedente, una azione pilota che confluirà nello studio che la Regione Emilia-Romagna presenterà a valere sul progetto AdriGov. Non ci è dubbio che qui si parli e si tratti appunto di una azione – pilota. Ho qui anche qualcuno dei risultati del precedente questionario, il primo della serie, quello dove noi prima di tutto abbiamo sostanzialmente preso contatto con i referenti dei membri EAI e dei *partners* AdriGov, per capire chi poteva essere il



funzionario di Regione o di città in grado, e disposto a capire gli aspetti di innovazione e interessato a fare degli esperimenti per influenzare le politiche della propria regione o distretto; per provare insomma a muovere le cose a livello locale o regionale (anche divertendoci, perché no).

Ed era per questo che mi rivolgevo a voi, Katerina (Nota: Aikaterini Siaplaoura della Regione Epiro, Grecia), perché vedo che voi qui in questo questionario già mi riferite di una differenza notevole tra approcci; nel senso che, per la Regione Epiro, e per il contesto nazionale greco, il concetto di sviluppo territoriale che altri, e tra questi noi, danno per scontato, da loro non esisteva fino a pochissimo tempo fa, e questo già di per se è un rilievo interessante. E quando nei loro documenti parlano di sviluppo territoriale, loro ne parlano in termini e in relazione strettissima alla pianificazione urbanistica. Il che va benissimo, intendiamoci, anche noi pianifichiamo lo sviluppo territoriale attraverso piani e programmi, però per loro è più importante e dirimente la dimensione urbanistica e quella paesistica. E quindi se prendiamo questa politica, vediamo subito che c'è un gap.

Ecco che qui si trova quindi uno dei concetti che si possono proporre alla discussione per lavorarci assieme, o per proporre un argomento di discussione di interesse comune. Mi ero segnata poi altre indicazioni. Anche per esempio (scherzando) ... questa indicazione sull'approccio *command-and-control*...

Perché adesso devo confessarvi una cosa; questi questionari sono tutti, come anticipato e promesso, rigorosamente anonimi, come prescritto dalle regole procedurali dei ricercatori che hanno somministrato il questionario, però noi ci conosciamo oramai talmente bene, pur vedendoci pochissimo, che dal questionario io riesco a capire la persona che lo ha scritto.

Io speravo a questo punto di poter esaminare e discutere assieme a Serena Cesetti quei dati che sono appunto a mio parere molto interessanti; ieri non sarebbe valsa la pena di buttare lì sul tavolo di discussione (Nota: della plenaria EAI), perché alla presenza dei nostri rappresentanti politici il concetto di base che doveva passare era questo: ci servono dati migliori e più omogenei. È qui che possiamo invece approfondire per capire in che modo possiamo leggere questi dati, possiamo utilizzarli, possiamo compararli ed integrarli per fare politiche migliori.

S. Cesetti

Se vuoi posso introdurre io la questione.

E. Tagliani

Sì certo, prego.

S. Cesetti

A meno che non ci siano prima delle domande o degli interventi.

Francesco Cocco

Regione Molise

Vorrei fare una domanda.... Ho sentito la riflessione iniziale, che sembrava andare in una direzione, invece la riflessione ultima di Elena, il suo ultimo intervento, secondo me va in un'altra direzione. Dell'inizio mi pare di aver capito che l'ambizione è di intercettare a livello tecnico le cose da fare, con l'ambizione di determinare, di intercettare poi anche la scelta politica, per proporre.

La riflessione finale è l'opposto, cioè è quella di dare competenze ai funzionari pubblici rispetto a scelte che sono già state fatte e che vanno tradotte in atti amministrativi; atteso che, in questo decennio, le competenze amministrative dei funzionari di quest'area sono molto disomogenee, sono in organizzazioni diverse amministrativamente. Questo lo dico perché, se non sciogliamo questo dubbio, atteso che anche le due cose dovrebbero stare insieme, e abbiamo difficoltà a continuare; detto questo, sappiamo che il capacity building è una esigenza che non finisce mai di esistere, mentre la strategia macroregionale – ed i suoi famosi due pilastri trasversali – vale soprattutto per le nostre Regioni, che questa attività la fanno, la stanno facendo da anni. Io ricordo, e lo diceva anche Elena, che a febbraio 2010 noi organizzammo un evento, una cosa generica e chiamammo i membri dell'Euroregione Adriatica a raccontarci un po' qual era la loro esperienza e la loro esigenza dal punto di vista della formazione, per capire quello che serviva nei mercati dei Paesi della comunità. Ora noi come Regione Molise da questa esperienza avevamo fatto dei passaggi, fino ad istituire la Scuola regionale di pubblica amministrazione dell'Adriatico-Ionio.

Poi, visto che noi siamo italiani e viviamo in Italia, non voglio coinvolgere tutti ma insomma, il sistema Italia è uguale, così come creiamo le cose, la settimana dopo le bruciamo, però non è che non abbiamo fatto questi percorsi. C'è un progetto, c'è la scelta di un partner internazionale, c'è l'inizio di dieci corsi di formazione, fatti anche in Albania, quindi ci sono dei percorsi anche su questo stesso progetto; e c'è un partner, l'Istria, che soprattutto all'inizio ha aperto un centro anche fisico di formazione, ci sono stati altri scambi; io credo che dovremmo capire se questo percorso continua ad andare avanti in maniera disunita o può avere la funzione di avere una organicità.

Va qui detto che c'è una Scuola regionale di pubblica amministrazione della Commissione Europea, e noi dobbiamo capire se tutte queste cose le vogliamo mettere sul tavolo adesso.

E finisco dicendo che questo è un passaggio essenziale. Io ricordo anche che il presidente della Regione Marche – quello precedente ma anche quello attuale – fece mettere anche in un documento della strategia l'esigenza di istituire una scuola; per quello che so, la Regione Abruzzo in questo momento sta facendo una valutazione per andare in quella direzione. È chiaro che per smentirmi, soprattutto quello che ho detto sul sistema Italia, cioè che parliamo, facciamo e poi spesso e volentieri distruggiamo, cerchiamo di mettere insieme queste cose per offrire questo scenario ai nostri interlocutori, livelli



centrali, ecc. quello che avevamo fatto noi non era proprio sulla formazione di funzionari pubblici perché non avrebbe avuto senso, c'era l'accademia ma c'era anche il mondo delle piccole e medie imprese, che è un'esigenza sentita. L'ultimissima cosa – la dico proprio per esperienza fatta, purtroppo, sulla mia pelle, realmente, e quindi la conosco bene, e vorrei capire qual è la partnership economica, perché per quanto riguarda la mia esperienza noi, senza soldi, non possiamo andare da nessuna parte. Quando siamo partiti con quell'idea i soldi erano tanti, e neanche sono bastati. Ma se la definiamo bene, questa può diventare un'idea più concreta.

E. Tagliani

Vorrei dire qualcosa a proposito di quanto appena detto. Ovviamente qui in questo contesto c'è una sorta di principio di fondo che è lavorare per capire le politiche, e lavorare per poterle implementare. Adesso qui siamo nella fase in cui vogliamo capire; questa fase, che è essenziale e necessaria, perché attualmente tutti dicono che da loro la fanno ma non funziona così davvero da nessuna parte, perché quante volte ci siamo sentiti dire che “tanto comunque poi arriva il politico e ha già deciso che cosa fare”. Funziona così dappertutto. Se vieni eletto per un partito, è chiaro che tu poi ascolti anche le esigenze del partito con il quale sei stato eletto. Anche se in Italia mi permetto di dire che dovrebbe funzionare che se hai un mandato politico tu rispondi ai tuoi cittadini, questo in teoria, però la teoria è una cosa, la pratica un'altra. Non so come vada dalle altre parti. Quindi c'è questo gap, lo teniamo ben presente.

L'approccio del laboratorio regionale che presentiamo oggi è un approccio che punta alla qualità. Successivamente, quando avremo visto quali possono esserne gli strumenti, vedremo come metterli in pratica. Ma al momento noi vogliamo, posso dire, crearci un bagaglio deontologico comune, definire le cose che sono quelle secondo noi di maggior qualità. Poi vedremo, con questi strumenti, ivi comprese le leve economiche, oltre che i quadri istituzionali e politici, vediamo cosa può essere fattibile o meno. Non vogliamo usare il solito approccio – e qui sta l'innovazione – che è quello in sostanza dove si parte da quanti soldi abbiamo, o da quali sono i politici che abbiamo per i prossimi quattro anni, e sulla base di questo disegniamo i programmi prioritari per il futuro. Cosa che per un progetto ambizioso che abbiamo, che prevede non dico di risolvere, ma almeno di migliorare la capacità amministrativa globale dei funzionari a livello macroregionale, non va bene. Secondo me, partendo così, ci si ritrova per forza con le gambe tagliate. Vedi ad esempio, Francesco, proprio la storia della vostra esperienza che ci hai appena raccontato; mi sembra di capire che la vostra era una proposta solida, e anche parlando con il Direttore della Regione Abruzzo è venuto fuori che dobbiamo sì parlarne tutti assieme e condividere, ma soprattutto devono condividere e lavorarci le Regioni, perché i funzionari del livello europeo sono sì bravissimi. Ma fanno quello che vogliono loro, secondo le loro aspettative; per cui poi li vediamo che vanno ad esempio in Montenegro, organizzano e gestiscono una loro scuola, ed insegnano quello che loro ritengono importante e

prioritario. Ma cosa veramente serve ai funzionari delle pubbliche amministrazioni di questa macroarea, siamo noi che lo dobbiamo decidere che cos'è – e che lo dobbiamo dire a loro. E la voce delle nostre regioni siamo noi funzionari, noi che lavoriamo sul campo, non solo i nostri politici di riferimento; siamo noi che sappiamo come si vive nella nostra regione, siamo noi che con queste informazioni facciamo i progetti, i piani, i programmi.

Chiaro che come dicevamo prima è difficile informarsi bene per capire cosa è meglio proporre e muoversi bene in questo campo; però siamo noi l'anello della "catena territoriale" che garantisce la giusta dimensione territoriale alle politiche. E' faticoso anche perché siamo noi che dobbiamo sempre proporci e prendere coscienza di questo; lo abbiamo visto da poco proprio con la strategia EUSAIR. Non è che ci sono venuti a chiedere cosa volevamo, quali erano le aspettative dei nostri territori e dei nostri cittadini. E questo vale non solo per le regioni italiane, ovviamente, ma per chi in generale, distretti, contee, è garante di tutti i cittadini del proprio territorio.

E questo ruolo non è che ti dicano come impostarlo, come gestirlo, come giocarlo; purtroppo ce lo dobbiamo inventare noi, lo dobbiamo pensare, è così. Ma qui potremmo avere lo spazio almeno per discuterne assieme e per coordinarci, alla scala territoriale adeguata, una volta tanto. Purtroppo ma anche per fortuna, perché questa condizione ci dà la libertà per poterlo fare con la maggiore ampiezza di visione e la maggior libertà possibile.

Quindi, se oggi qualcosa di quello che abbiamo detto o diremo qui vi suggerisce qualche idea, o proposta, commento o suggerimento, qualcosa da dire, o anche qualcosa da presentare come un punto di attenzione, come quello di prima, sarebbe utilissimo. In ogni caso ogni vostro contributo avrebbe un valore positivo, perché qui stiamo raccogliendo la massa critica per poter fare una proposta più concreta. Cioè, quello che verrà posto sul tavolo molto presto.

Io credo che stavolta la rete accademica (Nota: rete accademica sui temi macroregionali candidata a valere sull'iniziativa COST di Horizon 2020 nell'agosto 2015) partirà, perché la proposta è strutturata benissimo e la stessa agenzia di Horizon 2020 ci aveva sollecitato di riproporla, quindi ci hanno già detto che il partenariato è ottimo, l'idea è pure ottima, dovevamo solo precisarla, e ci hanno anche detto in quali termini farlo. L'occasione è grossa; potremmo avere questa piattaforma – e proprio questa piattaforma chiederà a noi che cosa vogliamo imparare assieme, che diventi patrimonio comune. Seguiremo quindi questa traccia, che secondo me è un'ottima occasione. Ognuno di voi all'interno delle vostre amministrazioni, ad esempio ho parlato con Diego (Nota: Diego Vecchiato dirigente Regione del Veneto) fin da subito di questa rete, con lui ho parlato presto perché lui svolge un doppio ruolo, di funzionario pubblico e di accademico, ed ho provato a coinvolgerlo anche in qualità di partecipante alla rete.

Comunque, questa rete dovrebbe concretizzarsi nei prossimi mesi, i tempi sono sempre molto incerti in queste cose, ma io penso che noi qui potremmo cominciare a prepararci per essere pronti a partecipare ad un'esperienza nuova, che non sia già pre-



strutturata, o che non configuri una risposta a domande già confezionate, o una reazione ad un ordine della mia amministrazione che mi dice di fare una cosa. speriamo che questo strumento possa invece essere utilizzato da voi nelle rispettive amministrazioni per proporvi anche in un ruolo un po' diverso da quello solito o attuale. Penso per esempio a chi lavora in un Comune; anche io ho lavorato per un Comune, e il contesto è diverso da quello delle regioni; si tende ad accumulare tante attività concentrandole sulla stessa persona, e a cumulare più responsabilità per interi processi decisionali, che nelle regioni vengono suddivisi tra tante persone. Gli uffici sono pochi e non c'è sempre la possibilità di farsi sostituire o di delegare attività o interi procedimenti.

Comunque sia, però, quale che sia l'ente che rappresentiamo, sarebbe meglio che potessimo disegnarci un ruolo più consapevole, anche soltanto in termini di una maggiore propositività nei confronti dei propri superiori o referenti politici. Mi fermo qui.

A domanda, rispondo sulla questione del sostegno finanziario alla rete accademica di cui ho parlato: se parte, la questione della sostenibilità economica sarà basata – ovviamente per quanto riguarda la sola piattaforma – sui fondi Horizon 2020. Da lì, la piattaforma è abilitata a divenire una sorta di generatore di idee e progettualità, non soltanto aperto ai soli finanziamenti su Horizon 2020, perché è basata su una forte condivisione.

F. Cocco

Però io credo che sia importante precisare, se no rischiamo di parlare facendo confusione. Forse sono io che non ho capito. La tua riflessione mi lascia vivo il dubbio; tu parli di implementare delle azioni politiche, di raccogliere delle esigenze dal basso, di poterle dettagliare e renderle più fruibili, per poi riferirle ad un contesto di policy makers.

E. Tagliani

Io parlo delle premesse di tutto questo, di porre le condizioni perché questo possa avvenire. È la consapevolezza delle persone che sono qua oggi, che deve costituire un precedente per mettere le persone che lavorano nelle pubbliche amministrazioni in condizioni di essere intellettualmente autonomi.

F. Cocco

Sì, quindi autonomi per definire politiche, per dare input politici...

E. Tagliani

... per innovare. Per definire condividere e definire assieme un nuovo ruolo per i funzionari.

F. Cocco

Ok. Cosa diversa è la formazione ai funzionari. Nel senso che tu devi avere delle competenze per sapere che cosa è Horizon; come si gestisce, come si va avanti.

S. Paganoni

C'è in effetti su questo punto una questione preliminare che non abbiamo ancora chiarito, e quindi vengo a chiarirla ora. L'intento di questa sperimentazione formativa era quello di non dare della normale ordinaria formazione di tipo amministrativo; ma anzi, partendo proprio dal presupposto che le competenze amministrative che servono sono le più diverse, l'idea è quella di mettere le persone che dovranno usarle in grado di collaborare assieme, non per uniformare queste competenze, cosa che appiattirebbe tutto portando via il valore aggiunto di questa macroarea, ma di renderli capaci di collaborare per migliorarsi e qualificarsi. Questo era l'intento. Ne consegue che qui non si sta parlando di una scuola di formazione in senso tradizionale.

F. Cocco

La modalità di gestione di un programma deve essere uguale no?

S. Paganoni

Ma quel tipo di formazione, anche se non sono uno specialista di questo, direi proprio che già c'è, e ce l'avete in abbondanza, proprio fornito dagli enti di cui tu stesso parlavi prima. Per quanto riguarda le ricadute a livello politico, diciamo che esse sono rese possibili semplicemente perché quando un funzionario pubblico lavora in un certo modo – e di nuovo, soprattutto quando lavora di concerto con altri – si verificano certamente delle ricadute a livello politico, ma non a livello “dei politici”. Sono ricadute a livello di politiche che si fanno a vantaggio del territorio, quindi impatti sulla qualità della vita delle persone che vivono e lavorano in quel territorio. Ci tenevo a precisare questo, perché altrimenti rischiamo di girare a vuoto nel lavoro che stiamo intraprendendo.

F. Cocco

Se per esempio consideriamo la questione degli *stakeholders* della strategia, che dovrebbe essere il terzo anello, quella va implementata, e da noi, mica da altri; magari riuscissimo a farlo qui noi.

S. Paganoni

Cediamo adesso la parola a Serena Cesetti, che ci sembra pronta con le slide.



S. Cesetti

Mi ricollego all'ultima discussione appena svoltasi perché, al contrario dell'approccio proposto dai colleghi dell'Università di Bologna, il nostro intento è stato quello di provare ad uniformare i dati a nostra disposizione... Il nostro è stato un approccio statistico: l'informazione statistica, per essere comprensibile e utile ha bisogno di rispettare degli standard.

Ci è stato chiesto, in qualità di Ufficio Statistico della Regione Emilia-Romagna, di supportare i lavori del *Regional Lab* di AdriGov e di fornire una sorta di fotografia del territorio che il progetto copre, a livello socio-demografico, economico e strutturale; proprio perché a partire da considerazioni di tipo oggettivo si può provare poi a costruire un futuro comune con criteri qualitativi e priorità comuni per questo territorio di riferimento. L'intento che abbiamo concordato con il *Regional Lab* era di misurare in particolare i principali indicatori della strategia Europa 2020; questo obiettivo iniziale si è poi scontrato con il problema dell'indisponibilità di dati, che poi vi spiegherò più in dettaglio.

Per questo, l'obiettivo iniziale, che era ambizioso, è stato ridimensionato a quel pacchetto di dati che, ad oggi, ci riesce a fornire Eurostat; e sui quali abbiamo lavorato, fino a produrre alcuni risultati che intendo presentare oggi. Siccome qui stiamo sperimentando un nuovo approccio di "formazione alla collaborazione", possiamo proporre anche una riflessione non solo sui risultati, ma anche sulle molte criticità che abbiamo incontrato e che sono tipiche di questo settore.

La strada per approfondire, e quindi per avere il maggior numero di dati possibile sul nostro territorio, la strada principale, sarebbe quella di ottenerli direttamente dai nostri *partners*: affiancando ai nostri referenti delle policies settoriali dei supporti statistici, oppure utilizzando i referenti oggi presenti come un tramite verso i propri uffici statistici. Certamente i dati raccolti da ciascuno avrebbero dovuto comunque rispondere agli standard di comparabilità richiesti da Eurostat per poter essere confrontabili. Avremmo così avuto informazioni per tutti i territori di riferimento dei *partners* AdriGov.

Questo tentativo è stato fatto; non so se vi ricordate, ma avete ricevuto dall'Elena (ndr Tagliani) una richiesta di dati proprio per questa attività sperimentale, purtroppo però la risposta non c'è stata, ma non per mancanza di volontà da parte vostra, piuttosto perché il collegamento tra voi e i referenti statistici dei vostri territori non esiste ancora. Quindi, quello che vi farò vedere oggi è un prodotto dei dati che abbiamo tratto da Eurostat, la nostra fonte ufficiale; proprio perché non abbiamo ottenuto dati dai *partners* al livello di disaggregazione territoriale di cui avevamo bisogno. Inizio con il dirvi come lavora Eurostat; spero che sia utile, e che non siano delle informazioni che già conoscete.

E. Tagliani

Ti interrompo per dire ai presenti di mettersi in contatto se lo ritengono utile. O di mettere gli statistici di ciascun territorio in contatto con il Regional lab, sempre che sul territorio ce ne siano. Per statistici, dato che la laurea in materie statistiche non esiste in tutte le università, intendo persone specializzate in valutazione delle politiche, quindi valutatori delle politiche; l'invito è a contattarci, se ci parliamo, soprattutto su questi temi dove c'è bisogno di coordinamento, farà senz'altro bene a tutti quanti.

S. Cesetti

Infatti l'obiettivo finale è proprio quanto proposto da Elena: a partire da AdriGov e dal *Regional Lab* possiamo provare a creare una rete di statistici che sono interessati alla macroarea Adriatico-Ionica. In Italia, per le politiche italiane, usiamo la rete del SISTAN, che è un modello che funziona e che può essere esportato. Il SISTAN è la rete tematica multilivello che collega ISTAT – il livello nazionale – con gli uffici di statistica comunali, provinciali, regionali e più in generale con tutti gli Enti produttori di statistiche pubbliche (Ministeri, Banca d'Italia, ecc...).

Questa (SLIDE 2) che vi mostro ora è la mappa del territorio AdriGov; potrebbe sembrare una cosa scontata, invece un primo, grande risultato del nostro lavoro congiunto è stato quello di georeferenziare un territorio peculiare come quello di AdriGov. Infatti vedete che non si tratta semplicemente di un disegno tratto da *google maps*, ma questa è la mappa di un territorio georeferenziato. Vuol dire che le coordinate geografiche del territorio di AdriGov ora sono contenute in database e in sistemi informativi e questo ci consente di associare alle coordinate geografiche delle informazioni statistiche e di mapparle

Non è stato facile, perché abbiamo dovuto ottenere da Eurostat la georeferenziazione territoriale di tre differenti livelli di governo: il livello regionale, il sub-regionale, il municipale, e poi la georeferenziazione peculiare per i territori non-UE.

Infatti, come vedete i territori non-UE sono rappresentati in azzurro mentre i partner di progetto UE sono in colore verde. I puntini rossi che vedete in realtà non sono georeferenziati, sono un semplice disegno. Questo perché la georeferenziazione di Eurostat per i territori non-UE è stata fatta soltanto al livello di governo corrispondente allo Stato nazionale. Eurostat con i suoi dati non può scendere sotto quel livello al di fuori dei confini UE.

Questa è una grossa lacuna per noi, per il nostro lavoro; quindi, i dati che vedremo per Bosnia, Montenegro e Albania sono soltanto a livello nazionale. Ma come ragione Eurostat? (SLIDE 3) Eurostat ha un sistema di classificazione gerarchico dei dati, a seconda di quelle che sono definite come NUTS (*Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics*).

Con il livello NUTS 0 intendiamo gli Stati, NUTS 1 delle macro-zone, come per esempio in Italia Nord-ovest o Nord-est, NUTS 2 sono le Regioni, NUTS 3 sono le



Province o i livelli ancora minori. In AdriGov abbiamo informazioni di livello NUTS 0 per Albania Montenegro e Bosnia Erzegovina, NUTS 2 per i partners italiani e greci, e NUTS 3 per i partners croati.

Quindi, d'ora in poi, tutte le mappe che vedrete saranno articolate in questo modo (SLIDE 4), rispettando i codici di Eurostat, che sono a due cifre per gli Stati, a 4 cifre per le Regioni e a 5 cifre per i partners croati. Se i *partners* croati vengono considerati nel loro insieme, con il codice NUTS 2 “*Adriatic Croatia*”, il numero di indicatori cresce notevolmente; per cui in alcuni casi i *partners* appartenenti alla Croazia adriatica verranno considerati come un'unica regione (SLIDE 5).

Queste differenze territoriali, che voi conoscete, perché i *partners* AdriGov hanno *asset* territoriali e amministrativi molto diversi, causano una selezione naturale degli indicatori, per cui gli indicatori non li abbiamo scelti noi, gli indicatori che abbiamo trovato sono dati dell'intersezione tra vari database di Eurostat. Quindi, al momento noi possiamo lavorare soltanto qui (*indicando l'intersezione* SLIDE 6).

Eurostat ha due *database*: quello regionale, riferito alle NUTS 2, che contiene un sottoinsieme di dati per le NUTS 3, e un database riferito ai “*Potential Candidates data*”. Questi due database non sono purtroppo sovrapponibili; per cui noi possiamo lavorare solo sull'intersezione. Questo, purtroppo, ci fa arrivare, ci fa raggiungere informazioni soltanto su tre *subjects* fra i tanti possibili: *Demographic Statistics*, *Economic account*, *Tourism statistics* (SLIDE 7). Allo stato attuale, degli altri indicatori degli altri subjects, purtroppo, non sappiamo niente: ciò significa che non abbiamo dati confrontabili tra di loro relativi all'intero territorio AdriGov.

Vi faccio una carrellata veloce dei nostri risultati. Come vedete in queste mappe (SLIDE 8), i colori più accesi indicano un indicatore più forte in quei territori, e all'opposto, un colore più lieve indica un indicatore più debole. Iniziamo con la popolazione, e quindi abbiamo dei territori con popolazione più o meno numerosa – per cui vediamo che anche a livello di quantità di popolazione il territorio AdriGov è molto disomogeneo. Abbiamo territorio con più di un milione di abitanti ed altri con meno di trecentomila abitanti.

Più interessante la raffigurazione della densità di popolazione (SLIDE 9), cioè la raffigurazione di come questi abitanti sono concentrati nel territorio; abbiamo dei territori dove la concentrazione è maggiore, altri dove è minore, e questa popolazione ha anche una struttura per età molto diversa. Questo ha delle conseguenze politiche che potete comprendere benissimo; ci sono quindi territori molto più giovani, e altri più anziani. Questa mappa che vedete ora è la percentuale di popolazione che sta sotto i 15 anni (SLIDE 10); poi abbiamo la percentuale di adulti, cioè dai 15 ai 64 anni, e cioè quella che definiamo come la classica “popolazione attiva” (SLIDE 11). Anche qui vedete che ci sono dei Paesi dove la popolazione attiva è più numerosa e altre Paesi dove lo è meno, e questo implica tutte le dinamiche migratorie che potete ben immaginare.

La popolazione anziana (SLIDE 12) si concentra di più, ad esempio, in tutti i territori

delle Regioni italiane, tendenzialmente lo sappiamo, come ad esempio nell'Emilia-Romagna e nelle Marche. Questa struttura per età della popolazione influenza un indice, un indice statistico molto importante, che si chiama "indice di dipendenza", che misura in un territorio come la "popolazione non attiva" – quindi quelli con meno di 15 anni o più di 64 anni – è sostenuta dalla popolazione attiva, che infatti è messa al denominatore dell'indicatore. Quindi un indicatore (SLIDE 13) con valori superiori al 50 per cento ci indica una non sostenibilità del territorio, perché significa che i "non attivi" stanno pesando troppo sugli "attivi". E dove troviamo questa non sostenibilità? Soprattutto nelle Regioni colorate con un arancio più forte, quindi Emilia-Romagna e Marche.

E. Tagliani

Posso chiedere un chiarimento su questo tema? Quello che stai dicendo vuole quindi anche dire che ci sono delle famiglie in questi territori, intendo quelli "più arancioni", che tendenzialmente sono legate, e delegate, per tradizione, al sostegno di bambini, anziani e malati?

S. Cesetti

No, non si può trarre da questi dati una conclusione così diretta. Come la politica per il welfare risponde ad una situazione demografica dipende da tanti fattori, anche se è vero che in Italia è normalmente la rete familiare che spesso è messa a sostegno; non so se negli altri territori il welfare è delegato a supplire a questo in qualche altro modo.

E. Tagliani

Anche questo può essere un bello spunto di riflessione; ad esempio vedo che in Grecia c'è una situazione analoga, e sarebbe probabilmente utile poter paragonare anche le politiche che si fanno per lavorare sul territorio su questo indicatore.

S. Cesetti

Inoltre, questa discrepanza può essere dovuta ad una eccessiva presenza di giovani oppure al contrario ad una eccessiva presenza di anziani. Nel primo caso, è una cosa che nel tempo si va a sanare, o a mitigare, ad esempio perché i tassi di fecondità possono diminuire; nel secondo caso, questo diventa un problema che le politiche territoriali devono affrontare. Andiamo a mappare questo indice, coniugato soltanto per i giovani (SLIDE 14), e invece con al numeratore dell'indicatore soltanto gli anziani (SLIDE 15), vediamo che è proprio questo l'effettivo problema che riguarda un po' tutta la zona del partenariato AdriGov.

Passiamo poi a degli indici differenti. Ecco per esempio, questi sono i tassi grezzi di natalità e mortalità (SLIDES 16 e 17). In realtà, questi due indici non sono molto informativi, perché, trattandosi di tassi "grezzi" dipendono anzitutto dalla struttura per età della popolazione. Cioè, se una popolazione è molto giovane, naturalmente



nasceranno molti più bambini, mentre se la popolazione è molto più anziana, moriranno più persone. Purtroppo i dati che abbiamo non ci consentono di andare oltre il tasso grezzo, al momento. Ad esempio, non possiamo calcolare per questi territori il tasso fertilità totale, che invece ci dice la quantità di nati su donne in età fertile, e quindi è molto più informativo rispetto al tasso grezzo di natalità. Purtroppo, i dati che abbiamo non ci consentono al momento di andare oltre questa fotografia, che ci dice solo, appunto, che in Albania e Montenegro ci sono più nascite, ma come abbiamo visto si deve anche considerare che la popolazione di questi Paesi è più giovane.

Più interessante è il tasso di crescita della popolazione: come cresce la popolazione? Cresce quando i nati sono più dei morti, e contemporaneamente gli immigrati sono più degli emigrati. Sull'immigrazione, anche se è un argomento caldissimo, non abbiamo dati disponibili. Qui parliamo soltanto della crescita "naturale" della popolazione di questi territori (SLIDE 18). E come potete vedere, ci sono solo il Montenegro e l'Albania che crescono. Tutti gli altri partners AdriGov calano, cioè per ogni anno abbiamo un 5 per mille di popolazione in meno, quindi muoiono più persone rispetto a quelle che nascono. Ma tutto questo, ripeto, senza considerare il fenomeno delle immigrazioni.

Passando a degli indicatori di carattere economico, questo è il PIL (SLIDE 19), cioè la misura standard della ricchezza di un Paese, ed è misurato in standard di potere d'acquisto; quindi è depurata della possibili influenze delle monete nazionali. Vediamo come il territorio AdriGov presenta molte diversità per quanto riguarda la ricchezza territoriale. Andiamo a vedere adesso quali sono le branche produttive che più concorrono a questa ricchezza. Quindi, questa per esempio è la composizione del valore aggiunto (SLIDE 20), valore aggiunto che ci indica come ogni anno la ricchezza viene costruita da un Paese, e la crescita può essere dovuta all'agricoltura, all'industria oppure ai servizi.

In questa mappa vedete il valore dell'agricoltura, percentualmente, sul totale del valore aggiunto. Ci sono dei territori *partners* di AdriGov per i quali il valore aggiunto dell'agricoltura sul totale ha un apporto superiore al 5 % (preciso che questo è un errore di battitura e la legenda va letta come "dal 2 al 5 per cento"). Invece abbiamo dei territori a vocazione tendenzialmente più industriale (SLIDE 21), come possono essere ad esempio tutti quelli italiani, per cui l'industria dà un apporto superiore al 20 %, e invece ci sono territori la cui vocazione è più legata ai servizi (SLIDE 23). Quanto ai servizi, una parte da leone la fa il turismo. Vedete come ad esempio in Puglia e nei territori greci questo si noti, mentre non abbiamo dati disponibili per il territorio albanese.

Passiamo quindi ad un indicatore tipico del settore del turismo, che è la capacità ricettiva del territorio (SLIDE 24). Questo indicatore ci dice il numero di posti letto in hotel o similari sul totale degli abitanti. Purtroppo questo indicatore, e i dati a nostra disposizione, non tengono conto di altre forme di accoglienza turistica, quali appartamenti, campeggi, bed and breakfast, per cui alcune regioni, che offrono un tipo di accoglienza diverso dallo standard, come di nuovo la Puglia, da questo indicatore

vengono notevolmente penalizzate. Vedete invece come l'accoglienza in hotel va molto forte in Istria o in Grecia.

Se, come dicevo prima, consideriamo la Croazia un'entità NUTS 2, e quindi raccogliamo tutti i partner croati insieme, il paniere di dati a disposizione di amplia un po' (SLIDE 25). Quindi in questo diagramma analizziamo anche la parte che vedete indicata con le frecce gialle e abbiamo finalmente dei dati per qualche indicatore della Strategia UE2020. Per esempio, questo (SLIDE 26) è un indicatore tratto direttamente dalla strategia UE2020, cioè il tasso di occupazione dai 20 ai 64 anni.

Il target macro che l'UE si prefigge di raggiungere entro il 2020 è il 75%. Siamo lontanissimi; abbiamo poi avuto di recente un lunghissimo periodo di persistente crisi, per cui abbiamo un tasso di occupazione in alcuni territori partner inferiori al 55%. La disoccupazione stessa è molto alta, in alcuni territori il tasso di disoccupazione è superiore al 20 % (SLIDE 27).

Qui (SLIDE 28) ci siamo concentrati sul dato della disoccupazione giovanile, che considera quelli che hanno meno di 25 anni, che poi risulta essere in questo periodo uno dei fenomeni più gravi dovuti alla crisi. Abbiamo la disoccupazione giovanile che supera il 30 per cento, ed in alcuni casi il 45 %. Questa ulteriore slide (SLIDE 29) riguarda la disoccupazione di lunga durata, cioè la percentuale di chi è alla ricerca di lavoro da più di 12 mesi sul totale dei disoccupati. Possiamo quindi vedere come fra i disoccupati si trovino persone disoccupate da più di un anno nel 50 % dei casi. Questo dato accomuna i territori croati e anche la gran parte delle regioni italiane e greche.

Passiamo agli ultimi tre indicatori, che sono indicatori relativi al settore sociale, che ci possono dire com'è la situazione a livello sociale. Ecco la mortalità infantile (SLIDE 30). Non vi preoccupate per i territori colorati in rosso che vedete nella mappa perché in realtà sono dati comparati, ma in valore assoluto si tratta di valori tutti molto buoni. Considerate che il dato peggiore è quello dell'Albania, che ha una mortalità infantile attorno al 7 per mille, mentre i valori italiani sono in complesso attorno al 3,3 per mille; ma ci confrontiamo con numeri che sono di 127 bambini che muoiono su mille in alcune zone, ad esempio in Afghanistan, soltanto nel primo anno di vita.

Questa mappa riguarda i dati sull'abbandono scolastico (SLIDE 31); anche qui si tratta di un indicatore relativo ai macro obiettivi della strategia Europa 2020, e il target europeo da raggiungere è la riduzione degli abbandoni al 10 per cento. Devo dire che anche qui, comunque, la situazione è abbastanza buona, perché ci sono parecchi *partners* che hanno già raggiunto l'obiettivo; immagino che in questi territori ci sia un sistema di istruzione molto severo. Sono io ora a chiedervi, perché sono curiosa: in Croazia, in Bosnia, come mai non c'è nessuno che abbandona? Mentre in Emilia-Romagna, ad esempio, abbiamo un 15 % di abbandoni.

Risposta collettiva

Magari è perché poi non c'è lavoro, la gente continua a studiare. (risate).



S. Cesetti

(sorridente) ...beh anche in Italia la situazione non è molto migliore. Tornando a noi, per abbandono si intende chi inizia a frequentare un livello di istruzione paragonabile a quello che per noi in Italia è una scuola superiore, e poi, dopo un paio di anni, o comunque prima della fine del triennio formativo, non prosegue.

L'ultimo indicatore (SLIDE 32), e anche questo è tra quelli macro che prescrive la Strategia Europa 2020, è la quota di persone laureate con riferimento alla popolazione da 30 a 34 anni. Il target sarebbe del 40 %, e su questo indicatore direi che tutti i *partners* sono molto indietro. L'Emilia-Romagna e l'Epiro superano il 25 per cento, rispetto al target quel 40 %, quindi sull'istruzione di livello cosiddetto "ISCED 6" siamo ancora molto indietro.

Questi sono gli indicatori che siamo riusciti ad ottenere mettendo insieme i database Eurostat. Diverso, e auspicabile, è provare a creare una rete informativa statistica a supporto delle politiche regionali e locali della macroarea Adriatico-Ionica. Vi lascio quindi i link ai due database Eurostat di cui vi ho parlato (SLIDE 33), dopo di che, se siete interessati, io ho qui qualche copia del database, oppure posso inviarvelo se lasciate i vostri contatti. Siamo a vostra disposizione.

Andrea Jakova

Distretto di Scutari, Albania

Questi dati di Eurostat che vado spesso a vedere, hanno un formato strano. Questi si riescono a vedere con le applicazioni più semplici?

S. Cesetti

Sì certo. Si possono scaricare in tantissimi formati di file, tra cui si può scegliere anche *excel*. Il database Eurostat in sé è ovviamente molto complicato, per questo serve la nostra competenza per "entrare" nelle questioni e saper leggere le informazioni statistiche in modo utile.

E. Tagliani

Per concludere dico anche che Serena Cesetti e gli statistici lavorano per la mia Regione (Emilia-Romagna, NdR), e fanno per noi un libro, che si chiama *Regional Factbook*, e il lavoro che fa questo *Factbook* sostanzialmente è questo: loro vanno per noi a consultare Eurostat, valutano cosa può interessare ai policy makers regionali, tirano fuori i dati che pensano possano interessarci, e ci mettono questi dati e valutazioni a nostra disposizione per fare buone politiche. Peccato che poi nessuno lo guardi, purtroppo (risate).

S. Cesetti

Aggiungo che a partire da quest'anno lo strumento del *Factbook* è passato da cartaceo a online, e questo ha permesso la sua georeferenziazione. Sono state introdotte nel *Factbook* mappe a colori, rendendo tutto anche più immediato e gradevole da leggere, e devo dire che gli accessi ultimamente sono stati molti. Condivideremo il link anche del *Factbook* per la vostra consultazione, e magari può interessare anche gli statistici che lavorano presso le vostre amministrazioni di riferimento.

E. Tagliani

(commento rivolto alle rappresentanti della Regione Veneto): so che anche voi come Regione avete una struttura di tutto rispetto su questi temi, che vi supporta molto bene per costruire buone politiche, e che condividete una buona esperienza con la Regione Friuli Venezia-Giulia, che purtroppo non è qui presente. Ci sono domande?

Paolo Rotoni

Regione Marche

Ma ESPON non lo avete utilizzato? Come mai? Si poteva partire da lì e poi spostarsi sulla parte che mancava, sui Paesi mancanti?

S. Cesetti

ESPON presenta il problema che per diversi territori AdriGov non ha punti di riferimento. Inoltre il punto di partenza per noi è stato del tutto diverso. Come vi ho detto, il primo obiettivo è quello di avere dati comuni a tutti i territori di AdriGov. Per questo la prima richiesta è stata fatta ai partner di AdriGov, tra cui la Sua regione. Vi avevamo fornito tutta una serie di indicatori su cui fare una query al giusto livello territoriale, e vi abbiamo chiesto riscontro.

P. Rotoni

Ma io dicevo, visto che esistono studi disaggregati sulle politiche territoriali...

E. Tagliani

Ti posso rispondere io, così condividiamo anche quanto è stato discusso nel recente incontro di progetto tenutosi questa estate a Ioannina. Un problema è che ESPON è uno strumento che rientra nella grande famiglia delle politiche europee in senso proprio, e quindi proprio per questo a prescindere dalla sua validità taglia fuori fin dall'inizio tutti i partner non UE. Quindi il focus territoriale è molto diverso da quello che serviva a noi qui. Inoltre, e questo è dirimente, ESPON si occupa solamente delle politiche relative alle aree cosiddette "urbane". Pertanto, tutto ciò che avviene al di fuori di queste aree urbane, non lo considera.



Visto che tutti dovremmo convergere o far convergere le nostre politiche per uno sviluppo territoriale sostenibile ed integrato, noi abbiamo lavorato a partire da un concetto del tutto differente, che sono i 5 macro obiettivi del ciclo di Europa 2020, perché questo è quello su cui comunque tutti i partner di AdriGov dovranno in qualche modo concordare. Siamo partiti quindi guardando quello che potevamo avere disponibile in questo campo.

S. Cesetti

Inoltre, nuovamente devo ricordare che i dati di ESPON sono per politiche nazionali, quindi sono a livello di aggregazione solamente nazionale, e non potevano servire al nostro scopo. Noi invece abbiamo cercato di mettere in dialogo dati per le NUTS 2, le NUTS 3 quando possibile. ESPON ha la stessa potenzialità, anzi direi molto minore, rispetto al database di Eurostat.

Seconda parte dell'incontro

E. Tagliani

Riprendiamo i lavori, in attesa di qualcuno che ci sta ancora raggiungendo. La nostra intenzione era quella di fare una ripresa dei lavori e di poter disporre del tempo sufficiente per poter organizzare quello che definiamo un “*focus group*”. Questo *focus group* ha un senso, perché noi abbiamo raccolto in questi mesi – a più riprese – le vostre opinioni il vostro pensiero e le vostre risposte su vari temi. Se vi ricordate, il primo dei questionari, dal quale in effetti è passato molto tempo, vi faceva delle domande suddivise in due sezioni. Una parte chiedeva a tutti come sono strutturate le rispettive amministrazioni, cioè quali sono le competenze e il riparto, che tipo di pianificazione e di programmi sono di vostra competenza, eccetera. In effetti ci sono anche dei liberi dove uno può documentarsi sulla carta, ma questo questionario è servito anzitutto per dare a me un’idea precisa della situazione amministrativa del partenariato AdriGov, considerato anche che vi sono frequenti evoluzioni e ogni pochi mesi la situazione può cambiare, e quindi era opportuno chiederlo direttamente alle amministrazioni interessate.

Il questionario ci è stato molto utile non solo per questo, ma anche per poter essere messi in grado di sviluppare la parte che riguarda il metodo, che abbiamo esaminato con i ricercatori del Regional lab che ci hanno assistito a proposito dell’approccio qualitativo, di cui abbiamo parlato prima. Io ho adesso qui con me un breve sunto - molto laconico - di questa esperienza, un promemoria di alcune delle indicazioni che abbiamo ottenuto, e i risultati sono buoni; in effetti sono stati rilevati alcuni temi di grande interesse e alcuni punti chiave su cui avremmo voluto impostare appunto questo momento di focus.

S. Paganoni

Sì, siamo partiti da tutti i questionari somministrati in precedenza, ma ci sembra che ora non ci sia il tempo di approfondire, di fare il focus di cui avevamo parlato prima.

E. Tagliani

Non c'è il tempo di approfondire, ma è stato interessante poter porre le basi di accordo per un eventuale lavoro futuro; ci piacerebbe avere un'idea comunque, in particolare delle risposte che aprono, o hanno aperto delle questioni; quelle questioni che ci piacerebbe, in un momento successivo, elaborare, discutere e approfondire assieme a voi.

Ne parlavo giusto prima assieme alle colleghe che rappresentano la Regione del Veneto, e pensavamo che forse saremmo riuscite da qui a dicembre, data prevista per la chiusura delle attività di progetto di AdriGov, ad avere forse un'altra occasione di incontro di questo gruppo, se possibile.

S. Paganoni

Noi avevamo pensato di partire da due questioni, quelle che ci sembravano avessero un ambito più ampio, e poi da lì di scendere gradatamente nei dettagli di varie altre questioni.

M. Degli Esposti

La prima delle due questioni su cui vorremmo aprire il confronto con voi è questa, la leggo come vi è stata proposta per iscritto nelle domande del primo questionario che vi abbiamo mandato: come pensate possa esistere una forma di soggettività dei funzionari della macroregione in grado di incidere nell'attuazione dei programmi europei – e di gestire diverse forme, Paese per Paese, di multilevel governance, in modo da garantire un migliore sviluppo territoriale e la qualità della vita.

La seconda questione era: secondo voi, che tipo di formazione comune sarebbe auspicabile fornire a questo scopo.

Vorremmo appunto far dire a voi, prima di tutto cosa poteva servire per porre in essere una dimensione di collaborazione tra diversi contesti territoriali, di livelli di governo coinvolti e di diversi tipi di governance utilizzati, con l'intento di raggiungere l'obiettivo di garantire il più possibile lo sviluppo territoriale e la qualità della vita; questi ultimi sono i due temi che nel corso di questi mesi sono emersi come centrali sia nei questionari che nelle nostre interviste ai funzionari.

E. Tagliani

Possiamo quindi dire che è stato trovato un minimo comun denominatore, da usare come punto di partenza per questa nostra indagine.



M. Degli Esposti

Sì, diciamo che partendo dalla questione della multilevel governance come strumento dello sviluppo territoriale, noi avevamo fissato questi come punti comuni nelle risposte che ci avete dato.

E. Tagliani

Quindi possiamo dire che tutti voi, o quasi tutti voi, nei questionari, davate come finalità ultima e obiettivo cui tendere nella pratica amministrativa e programmatica quotidiana delle regioni e città l'intento di garantire un miglioramento della qualità della vita delle persone. Questa è una buonissima risposta di consapevolezza.

M. Degli Esposti

Sì, si può dire così; noi abbiamo analizzato i risultati di questionari e interviste, e abbiamo identificato delle indicazioni che vanno d'accordo tra di loro, tra quelle di cui vi abbiamo detto.

E. Tagliani

Un altro risultato che abbiamo avuto, mi sembra di ricordare che ci abbiamo lavorato assieme, ma confermatemi se ricordo giusto oppure se sbaglio è una peculiarità delle interviste fatte su questo tema. Cioè i ricercatori del GREP che collaborano nel Regional lab hanno una buona esperienza di *recherche de terrain*, e quindi anche di interviste, ed hanno confrontato le nostre interviste con altre che hanno fatto in precedenza, con target altri gruppi, che non erano di funzionari o rappresentanti di città e regioni, ad esempio gruppi di operai nelle fabbriche, operatori e studenti nelle scuole ecc.

Ebbene hanno notato che il nostro "campione", cioè il nostro gruppo, è molto omogeneo quando si tratta di dare delle risposte imparate sui libri. Mi spiego meglio; si vedeva che noi siamo stati tutti molto bravi ad imparare "sui libri" la lezione, ad esempio, dei fondi strutturali, abbiamo studiato e sappiamo molto. Ma siccome abbiamo studiato bene, le risposte tendono ad essere spesso stereotipate. Su questo, la parte interessante viene dopo, la capacità amministrativa "vera" viene dopo la semplice conoscenza di un fondo; viene nel saperla coniugare al contesto, e non solo al contesto territoriale locale ma a quello di macroarea, in un'ottica di collaborazione aperta e paritaria.

Per questo i ricercatori si sono concentrati soprattutto laddove hanno trovato piuttosto che l'uniformità, la divergenza, dove saltava fuori appunto che qualcuno la pensava su qualcosa in un modo "personale", e per questo forse anche innovativo.

M. Degli Esposti

Si tratta delle cosiddette “domande aperte”, in gergo tecnico. Queste sono per definizione meno definite, quindi consentono di lasciare spazio all’espressione di un pensiero, in questo caso di un possibile pensiero delle politiche pubbliche di sviluppo territoriale.

E. Tagliani

E qui possiamo avere un esempio di come si possa far venire fuori la differenza tra lavorare solo quantitativamente e anche con un approccio qualitativo, in parallelo. Saltano fuori dei gap, delle differenze, che possono servire a farci andare avanti in una strada di innovazione, secondo indicazioni che troviamo noi e che non ci vengono dettate dall’alto, dall’esterno. Quindi la qualità della vita è un altro punto...

M. Degli Esposti

... e anche lo sviluppo territoriale.

E. Tagliani

Giusto perché tutti potessero avere un’idea di cosa avrebbe potuto inquadrare il focus, se ci fosse stato più tempo a disposizione; l’idea appunto era di partire da queste idee, di chiedere tutti, uno per uno, di esprimersi in proposito, di mettere assieme i punti di vista e le idee, e in diretta di tirar fuori una proposta comune.

M. Degli Esposti

E poi, appunto, di passare da qui a discutere anche dell’idea centrale, che poi risulta essere quella di impostare un nuovo approccio alla formazione, visto che se ne è tanto parlato. Si tratta infatti di impostare un percorso, oltre che di descrivere con esattezza i principi e le linee di intervento. Noi vogliamo infatti chiedere alle persone che sono qui presenti, ed alle altre che sono state e sono coinvolte in questo progetto, che tipo di formazione sarebbe auspicabile avere.

E. Tagliani

E questo secondo questionario che abbiamo mandato, in effetti era molto più specifico proprio su questo tema in particolare. Intendo il questionario che vi abbiamo mandato nei mesi scorsi proprio allo scopo di preparare questa riunione. Abbiamo ricevuto molte risposte, e in queste risposte abbiamo avuto anche un sacco di suggerimenti su come procedere o su altre possibili argomenti da esplorare assieme. Ci sono anche temi davvero molto specifici; ad esempio, Katerina (Siaplouora, funzionario della Periferiea Ipirou, Grecia) ci ha fatto una richiesta, a nome della sua amministrazione; vorrebbe sapere se si può approfondire il concetto di politica trasversale, se si può lavorare assieme sul



concetto di partenariato, su quello della multilevel governance, ecc. Quindi se prendiamo il loro esempio, le risposte che la Regione Epiro ha dato al questionario sono state molto precise, molto approfondite e di dettaglio.

Questo per introdurre l'esigenza che è emersa, che è quella di arrivare ad un progetto comune di formazione alla collaborazione, ma passando attraverso una necessaria fase di partenza e preparazione di un pacchetto di principi, che devono essere comuni e condivisi, per ispirare il lavoro di tutti e armonizzarlo.

Un altro tema che è uscito fuori dalle risposte al secondo questionario, per fare un altro esempio, è la richiesta di discutere assieme, approfondire, e trovare una risposta comune e condivisa alla domanda cosa vuol dire in una amministrazione locale o regionale della nostra macroarea la lotta alla corruzione, cosa in pratica significa lavorare per combattere la corruzione in una amministrazione al giorno d'oggi. Questo per costruire assieme un set di politiche specifiche e davvero efficaci, sul posto, ed al livello di governo più appropriato per ottenere risultati concreti. Dico qui per inciso che spesso nei nostri territori, che tutti appartengono all'area Sudest dell'Europa, si fa un confronto con l'ambiente di lavoro dei Paesi del Nord Europa e dei territori regionali ad esso riferiti. In quei territori c'è la forte convinzione che il problema della corruzione non riguarda loro. Eppure, nel corso di una visita in Svezia, patria della trasparenza dell'azione pubblica, ho potuto constatare che tutto il grosso patrimonio di attività di ricerca di punta che loro effettivamente vantano è finanziato interamente da Nokia, e quindi è progettato, realizzato, monitorato e in sostanza organizzato sulle esigenze del colosso della comunicazione. Quindi capite che è una buona cosa sapersi valorizzare, però sarebbe come se nel territorio emiliano-romagnolo noi facessimo la ricerca più all'avanguardia solamente sulla base dei finanziamenti e delle indicazioni programmatiche non del CNR, che è l'organismo nazionale che coordina la ricerca in Italia, ma, che ne so, sulla base delle indicazioni della Barilla. Capite anche voi che le pressioni del privato sul pubblico sono difficili da controllare per il bene di tutti; nei Paesi del Nord però questa idea è meno radicata.

Ecco, questo è un tema su cui ci piacerebbe lavorare di più nel futuro con voi, per capire come nel concreto la corruzione si forma e agisce a livello territoriale nella nostra macroarea, e quindi quali politiche si possono impostare per dare una risposta più efficace; e anche come costruire assieme politiche che meno prestano il fianco allo strapotere di alcuni soggetti privati, perché il compito delle amministrazioni pubbliche è quello di garantire e dare voce non solo ai soggetti forti del territorio, ma anche alle minoranze.

S. Paganoni

Facciamo un breve giro di tavolo perché purtroppo il tempo stringe, ma ci piacerebbe almeno che, se qualcuno di voi se la sente, venissero messe sul tavolo alcune proposte di discussione.

E. Tagliani

Ci farebbe piacere perché così possiamo preparare una ipotesi di prosecuzione di questa attività, anche sulla base delle vostre indicazioni e proposte. Prego Andrea Jakova, della regione di Scutari, di dire quello che pensa, tu sei sempre molto propositivo e questo è benvenuto.

A. Jakova

Quello che vorrei sottolineare, dove vorrei concentrarmi, è sul tema della scuola, cioè della formazione. Io vorrei dare la mia adesione per questa scuola, perché è il sistema per avvicinarci. Se non riusciamo ad avvicinarci, a capirci, poi non riusciremo a capire nemmeno le politiche tematiche di cui dobbiamo occuparci. Il contesto è importantissimo, visto che veniamo da culture diverse. Ho assistito alla discussione per quello che riguarda il futuro dell'Euroregione; noi dovremmo prendere tutto quello che c'è di positivo in quello che sta succedendo, per farci avvicinare il più possibile alle idee dell'Unione Europea.

E. Tagliani

Quindi anche tu sei d'accordo con quello che si diceva prima, che è importante piuttosto valorizzare le differenze, invece di appiattirle? Perché probabilmente le differenze possono essere valorizzate e utilizzate al meglio solo in contesti come questi, sincretici; non possiamo chiedere alle istituzioni europee di valorizzare come oggetti queste cose, che sono "altro da loro". Questo è un altro di quei concetti che ci piacerebbe aggiungere alla famosa "lista delle parole chiave da discutere".

A. Jakova

E non mi limiterei soltanto a quella. E parlando a proposito degli aspetti culturali, bisognerebbe anche avere delle conoscenze più approfondite, non solo sulla programmazione, ma in campi non immediatamente "utilizzabili", come la formazione, la musica, le tradizioni, ed evitare di specializzarsi solo su qualcuna delle materie che servono nell'immediato per organizzare delle attività. Altrimenti si rischia di organizzare dei progetti, delle attività, che sono svuotate di senso (non avranno finalità precise).

E. Tagliani

Quindi dobbiamo aggiungere alla lista la necessità di conoscere, riferita non solo ai settori culturali, ma applicato anche alle politiche.



A. Jakova

Io mi sono trovato in vari contesti culturali, con spagnoli, nordeuropei, eccetera. Ma la base culturale è diversa, e bisogna conoscere bene quali sono le basi che possiamo mettere in comune per poter poi lavorare meglio. Bisogna che ciascuno sia messo a parte della cultura degli altri che collaborano con lui.

E. Tagliani

A me sembra che ci sia identità di vedute tra te e chi ha parlato prima; sostanzialmente, fatta la tara della questione linguistica, che non è da poco, dobbiamo tenere presente che in ciascuna parola ci sono significati che hanno un portato culturale che promana da chi le dice. Questo è vero a maggior ragione per il gergo della programmazione territoriale e la progettazione europea. Anche le prassi amministrative, ad esempio quella dei visti per uscire dall'Albania, si accumulano nel tempo e si strutturano a seconda delle caratteristiche identitarie delle pubbliche amministrazioni che le gestiscono. Le parole che usiamo sono un segnale, un sintomo di qualcosa di profondo che ci identifica e rende diversi, con tutto il nostro bagaglio specifico che parla del nostro territorio agli altri che collaborano con noi. E questo è una ricchezza.

Queste considerazioni che stiamo facendo sono, a ben vedere, un “valore aggiunto” rispetto al modo di lavorare ordinario, dove per questo non c'è mai spazio e tempo. Se noi siamo in grado assieme di trovare – e nel discorso di oggi sono già venute fuori almeno tre o quattro questioni di questo tipo – queste questioni comuni da mettere in discussione, allora sì che possiamo costruire una lista, da consegnare a chi avrà le competenze per disegnare un progetto più ampio di formazione, per dare i contenuti più adatti ad un'idea di creazione di una comunità amministrativa macroregionale per il futuro.

A. Jakova

Un'idea che leghi assieme comunicazione e cultura.

Rosanna Mattoscio

Regione Abruzzo

Io ho solo una perplessità rispetto alle cose che ha detto Andrea. Cultura è un universo, e quindi è meglio specificare di quale pezzo stiamo parlando. E serve anche preliminarmente un ragionamento sull'approccio che vorremo utilizzare.

Però concordo pienamente sull'ultima parte di quello che ha detto, che è esattamente quello che avevo in mente anche io, e cioè che la conoscenza – più che la cultura – anzi, la conoscenza delle culture degli altri, è elemento basilare per partire e creare assieme, come collaboratori che lavorano sull'Europa, una sorta di codice comune; questo, come Regioni, ma per arrivare a contribuire a questo codice, che sia comune e quindi per tutti, e che possa influire proprio a partire dal coordinamento di tutte le politiche settoriali, che dovrebbe stare nelle norme comuni e nei principi comuni. In questo sono d'accordo.

Quindi, noi dobbiamo prima conoscerci, come europei, e poi condividere un codice comune che salvaguardi le nostre priorità a partire dalle nostre radici.

E. Tagliani

Veneto, volete dire qualcosa?

Alessandra Valerio

Regione del Veneto

Mi torna tutto, ho soltanto una difficoltà a capire quanto potremmo con questo lavoro incidere sulle politiche che ci chiamano a gestire.

E. Tagliani

Ah certo, questo è un problema che per ora rimane. Anche a mio parere, l'approccio della creatività, che è quello che stiamo usando qui adesso, è un valore inestimabile perché permette di vedere le cose sotto un'ottica nuova e diversa e quindi di trovare modi di migliorare e innovare le politiche; è ovvio che bisogna scremare le idee di progetto dai possibili risultati. Se però, con vari tentativi, riusciamo a trovare gli spazi per collaborare meglio, io penso che ne valga la pena, perché, comunque, cambieremo le cose.

A. Valerio

È anche vero però che nel nostro gruppo ci sono diversi piani, diversi livelli, e questo è da considerare. E non solo in senso transnazionale, ma anche all'interno dello stesso Paese, e anche all'interno di ogni singola regione, ci sono gap di comunicazione.

E. Tagliani

Certamente, però se ognuno di noi, di quelli che hanno lavorato qui assieme, torna nella propria amministrazione di appartenenza, non saremo cambiati tutti di punto in bianco, ma magari abbiamo acquisito una maggiore consapevolezza reciproca, e questo di sicuro è un atteggiamento nuovo. Possiamo quindi aggiungere alla nostra lista di parole-chiave anche questa, la consapevolezza.

Patrizia Bosich

Regione Istria, HR

Tu sai bene che noi come regione abbiamo lavorato con molta intensità sul tema della formazione, anche in momenti recenti, in collaborazione proprio con voi, e sai che questo era anche il nostro obiettivo centrale nell'ambito di AdriGov. Quello su cui abbiamo ragionato anche prima proprio con Alessandra (ndr Valerio, Regione Veneto), durante la pausa, è proprio quello di cui abbiamo parlato adesso, di cui ci stai parlando tu. Noi abbiamo anche imparato ad usare gli strumenti finanziari, i programmi europei



e cose del genere, i tecnici sono abbastanza ferrati; ovvio che io sto parlando qui del contesto istriano, di quelle che sono le istituzioni maggiori del contesto regionale istriano. Vedo comunque, lo abbiamo notato tutti, che c'è ancora una certa mancanza di sapere, conoscenza, eccetera, sulle politiche, sia quelle europee, certo, ma anche e soprattutto sulle politiche che puntano allo sviluppo. Parlo qui sia del livello operativo che di quello più alto, quello proprio politico. Qui, comunque, un certo lavoro c'è da fare, assolutamente, ed è soprattutto al livello strategico.

Ormai, l'esperienza e la conoscenza dei singoli strumenti finanziari ce l'abbiamo, ci possiamo lavorare bene, ma ad esempio il lavoro di far confluire verso obiettivi unitari più politiche, di centrare le forze e gli obiettivi sulla politica giusta, di correggere ed orientare definitivamente delle politiche e delle strategie rispetto a quelle che sono le necessità che ci mostra la statistica, questo è proprio un lavoro che dovremmo fare assieme.

E. Tagliani

Noi questo possiamo dire che è un 'saper fare'.

P. Bosich

Sì esatto. Appartiene anche all'ambito di un'azione di coordinamento, perché l'individuazione e la gestione di un problema non viene più affidata soltanto ad una istituzione, o ad un singolo dipartimento all'interno di una istituzione, ma si cerca una visione molto più complessa e si cerca una soluzione integrata, che possa tenere conto di molte sfaccettature territoriali del problema.

E condivido anche quello che ha detto prima Andrea, che è poi l'obiettivo di sempre, quello che è stato sempre comune. E per fare un esempio concreto, rispetto all'esperienza delle visite di studio che abbiamo fatto in Emilia-Romagna con i professori della formazione professionale istriana, per conoscere come funzionano i vari istituti, certo questo è stato molto buono come esperienza, ma è una cosa che si può organizzare quasi sempre nell'ambito di progetti che possiamo definire ordinari. Noi qui invece chiediamo di lavorare e mettere in comune i frutti di questo lavoro collettivo, al di là del lavoro ordinario della cooperazione territoriale, oltre i contenuti della programmazione operativa, lavorando appunto sulle differenze di cultura amministrativa e politica.

E. Tagliani

Grazie per questa condivisione, che supporto pienamente. Ioanna, vuoi dire qualcosa anche tu?

Ioanna Papaioannou

Regione Ipiros GR

Volevo solo dire che anche io sono d'accordo su tutto quello che è stato espresso poco fa. In particolare, mi riferisco a quello che è stato detto sugli aspetti della cultura,

della cultura anche amministrativa e politica dei vari Paesi. E ribadisco che non è più, non è solo, una questione di apprendere le tecniche operative delle varie politiche, perché ormai tutti tra di noi hanno avuto occasione di apprenderele, e di lavorare su progetti e programmi che sono nel pacchetto dei fondi europei. Tutti noi abbiamo dei referenti per la cooperazione, per i progetti, dei responsabili che se la cavano anche bene. Noi qui dobbiamo e possiamo approfondire sugli aspetti alti delle politiche, cioè proprio sulla politica che vogliamo scegliere per i nostri territori. Dobbiamo prima di tutto capire quali possano essere le scelte politiche a monte che possono interessare i nostri territori.

E. Tagliani

E sono felice di notare che anche con voi siamo sulla stessa lunghezza d'onda, abbiamo quindi le stesse esigenze di fondo, preliminari alla programmazione operativa ed agli aspetti tecnico-amministrativi della fase di gestione di una strategia.

I. Papaioannou

E poi devo anche ammettere che, purtroppo, soprattutto negli ultimi anni, in Grecia abbiamo dovuto affrontare un periodo di riflessione molto profonda e un lavoro molto duro di riorganizzazione delle amministrazioni a tutti i livelli di governo. Questo ci ha fatto comunque molto riflettere anche su cosa veramente vogliamo e possiamo fare, anche come risultato della riflessione seguita alla grande crisi... e ovviamente anche da noi c'è un sacco di seminari, che potrei definire piccoli, perché insegnano le tecniche operative, ma non c'è una vera formazione alle politiche o una formazione di tipo strategico, non c'è proprio un indirizzo su questo.

E. Tagliani

E anche questo ha un senso, perché quando il cuore delle politiche, il centro delle politiche, non decide su come organizzare e come far vivere le politiche a tutti i livelli di governo, ovvio che poi non arrivano nemmeno indicazioni e formazione sui principi e criteri comuni. e per ultimo, sentiamo cosa dice la Regione Marche.

P. Rotoni

Io chiudo dicendo che comunque penso che sia un percorso difficile da mettere in atto, e basti vedere l'esperienza della Regione Molise di cui abbiamo parlato anche prima. Abbiamo anche in Italia una scuola nazionale per la pubblica amministrazione; forse alcune delle azioni del suo programma ha attinenza con quello che vogliamo fare noi. Forse anche il DPS, con il Fondo di Coesione, vuole lavorare su questo. E personalmente, suggerisco di portare anche molta attenzione agli aspetti legati all'uso delle nuove tecnologie, andando oltre la formazione tradizionale, quella in classe, per intenderci. I problemi che sono stati qui riscontrati non esistono solo all'esterno, ma anzi, anche nella pubblica amministrazione italiana dovremmo dibatterne maggiormente. Potrebbe essere



un'idea partire per affrontare questo compito molto complesso scegliendo una scala territoriale un po' più ridotta, per non trovarsi davanti ad un compito troppo difficile. Però è opportuno finalmente cominciare a fare qualcosa in questo senso, qualcosa di concreto; la Regione Marche aveva anche messo a disposizione dei fondi, sul POR FESR c'è proprio una misura dedicata alla formazione per i pubblici funzionari. Chiaramente è una opera che non può essere realizzata e messa in atto dalla sola Regione Marche, necessiterebbe della collaborazione di tutte le Regioni interessate.

E. Tagliani

Grazie a tutti per avere partecipato così attivamente. Speriamo di avere altre occasioni di confronto così interessanti e produttive.



Save the date

Bologna, April 7th

Subject: Invitation to join EXPO 2015 within the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion delegation. Save the dates: September 21st and 22nd 2015.

Dear all,

It's for us a real pleasure to invite you to take part to the Adriatic-Ionian delegation, which will participate to the big forthcoming event of EXPO 2015, to be held in Milan (see the info portal in: <http://www.expo2015.org/en/>).

During the week from the 18th up to the 23rd of September, the Emilia-Romagna Region will host many events and conferences; between them, we are glad to propose to all of you two specific events, directly related to the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion mission, as it follows:

- On **Monday, September 21st**, during an afternoon session in the European Union Room, the Presidency and the Secretariat of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion will invite you to take part to an **Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion plenary assembly**, focusing on the *EXPO main themes (Feeding the planet – Energy for life)¹, in relation to the EUSAIR and AIE pillars, and how to merge them.*

This event is aimed at involving all the political and administrative representatives from the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion, and the members representatives of the AdriGov project². Please save the date! A formal invitation by AIE will follow.

- On **Tuesday, September 22nd** (morning session in the High Delegation Room), the Emilia-Romagna Region, as a EAI member and AdriGov project partner, is glad to invite representatives of the civil officers from the Adriatic-Ionian macro-regional area with

¹ The plenary of the AIE will be enriched with additional item to be proposed, starting from the presentation of common interest projects (Emilia-Romagna Region will present the results of the Intermodal project financed under the IPA Adriatic CBC programme 2007/2013). Please contact Mrs. Elena Tagliani at etagliani@regione.emilia-romagna.it if you wish to discuss some additional topic of common interest, in order to arrange it.

² The AdriGov project, co-financed under the IPA Adriatic CBC programme 2007/2013 aims at defining the right conditions for improvement and innovation of the governance framework in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, with a strong regional and local approach to the common interest issues.





EAI membership to take part to the **First experimental Laboratory of the Adriatic-Ionian school for integration in administrative studies**. The laboratory is organized by the *Regional Lab on macro-regional issues*³ under the scientific supervision of the University of Bologna. We propose to start working together to the definition of common quality working conditions and a common juridical and administrative framework, in compliance with the EU *acquis* and the external administrative principles and criteria. To this aim, we kindly ask you to fill a very brief questionnaire in, in order to focus on the best issues and matters to be dealt with during the laboratory, and to choose for attendance to the event the right people, with the best motivation, among the administrative officials coming from the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area. You'll find the questionnaire in attachment to this letter; please fill it in and send it to etagliani@regione.emilia-romagna.it as soon as possible. We count on you!

Please, save the above mentioned dates on your agendas, and help us to find out the right people in your administration to give a contribution to the success of those initiatives; we believe that with your cooperation we'll be able to create new opportunities to increase our common skills and to improve our capacities. For any kind of information you may need, please contact Mrs. Elena Tagliani, PMU of the AdriGov project and Emilia-Romagna Region technical representative in the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion (0039 051 5273609 – email: etagliani@regione.emilia-romagna.it).

Yours sincerely

Enrico Cocchi
General Director
Territorial Planning and European Affairs
Emilia-Romagna Region

³ The Regional Lab is a think tank on innovation in the public administration, co-owned by the Emilia-Romagna Region, IECOB and the University of Bologna, supported by the AdriGov project.



Agenda



The Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion at EXPO 2015 - *Feeding the planet, Energy for life*

WORKSHOP

Promotional Laboratory of the Adriatic-Ionian School of political and administrative studies – with a round table on the quality in local and regional public policies.

Tuesday, September 22nd, EXPO Milan


(Morning session - High Delegation Room)

Target: civil servant, civil officers, policy makers coming from the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area local and regional authorities.

Draft agenda:

- **11, 00 Opening and registration**
Opening of the experimental Laboratory, organized by the Regional lab on macro-regional issues, participated by the Emilia-Romagna Region, the University of Bologna and the IECOB of Forli.
- **11,30 Introduction to the proposal** for a new knowledge community, composed by researchers and practitioners of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, through a continuous confrontation, self-assessment, self-qualification, and reciprocal dialogue about the leading themes of common interest. This is the Laboratory's main aim.
- **11,45 Introduction to an innovative approach** to the education theme: the qualitative methodology, the ground research approach, the ethnographic principles. **Maieutic approach.** Self-training techniques.
- **12,00 coffee break**
- **12,30 Introduction to the crucial words and themes for the macro-area** – to be proposed for discussion to the audience: quality, centrality of the human factor as a main leverage for a sound development in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region, sharing of the main leading principles for a new local and regional public administration community in the macro-area: legality, fight to corruption, transparency, innovation, impartiality, cohesion, appropriateness, integration, subsidiarity, partnership, governance, participation, accountability, ownership.
- **13,30 A round table**, aiming at finding out, discussing and proposing a shared set of issues of common interest, to be forwarded to the forthcoming Adriatic-Ionian School for political and administrative studies, as a **proposal for future education/training programmes targeted on the specific needs** of the Adriatic-Ionian local and regional officials and policy-makers community.

Invitation to the plenary AIE



Date 07-08-2015
 Ref. No. 14/2015

**To the Members of the
Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE)**

Object: invitation for Extraordinary Plenary Assembly of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion

Dear Members,

We hereby have the pleasure in inviting you to take part in the next **Extraordinary Plenary Assembly** of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion which will be held on September 21st, 2015 in Milan (Italy) at the *Universal Exhibition, Expo Milano 2015 - "European Union Pavilion"* from 11.00 a.m. to 14.00 p.m.

The agenda of the Plenary Assembly will focus on the themes of EXPO 2015 – *Feeding the planet, Energy for life* with a round table, as it follows:

1. Opening of the plenary assembly focused on the themes of EXPO – *Feeding the planet, Energy for life* – in relation to the perspective of the local and regional authorities from the EUSAIR area: *proposals for confrontation and collaboration;*
2. Presentation and Discussion through a round table of EXPO 2015 - AIE Joint Political Declaration "*Feeding the planet, Energy for life and the Regions and Cities of the Adriatic Ionian Macroregion: Proposals for collaboration*" to be voted by the Assembly;
3. Assessment and endorsement of the Policy Paper on Integrated Maritime issues elaborated by the project COM&CAP Marinamed;
4. Last updates on EUSAIR and European Territorial Cooperation Programmes in the area;
5. Brief presentation of some outputs of AdriGov Project:
 - a. Update on the study elaborated by Emilia Romagna Region on the innovation and qualification of regional and local public policies in the A-I Macroregion;
 - b. Illustration of a proposal for an open inter-institutional platform for the qualification of the human resources of the public administrations and the development policies in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area (submitted under HORIZON 2020 - COST initiative).

Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion - Presidency and Secretariat
 c/o Molise Region - Via Genova, 11 - 86100 Campobasso (Italy) - Tel. +39 0874 314 342
www.adriaticionianeuroregion.eu

6. Brief presentation of the contents and results of the project INTERMODAL, financed by the IPA Adriatic CBC Programme 2007/2013 on the intermodal sustainable transport in the Adriatic and Ionian macro-area with the signature of an agreement among the project partners.
7. Assessment about the request of membership submitted by the Municipality of Herceg Novi (Castelnuovo di Cattaro) – Montenegro;
8. Statute of the organization and financial issues;

At the end of the working day, the General Assembly will be called to subscribe the **AIE EXPO 2015 - Joint Political Declaration** and the **EXPO 2015 Charter of Milan**. The meeting will be closed by a **press conference**.

In the hope that you will be available to attend, we look forward to meeting you in Milan.

Best Regards,

The President of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion
Paolo DI LALARA CONTUSSA



Joint political document of the EAI about the Milan Charter themes



Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion
Memorandum of Understanding
EXPO Feeding the planet, Energy for Life.
Position paper of the Adriatic-Ionian local and regional authorities

Preamble

1) The members of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion, below indicated as AIE, in fulfillment of the statutory mandate of supporting and accompanying the EUSAIR Strategy implementation, for the benefit of all the territories involved in the above mentioned initiative, hereby agree and endorse the leading principles of EXPO 2015 – Feeding the planet, Energy for life.

Food plays a crucial role in the definition of the territorial identities, whose is an essential component. Farmers, breeders, fishermen are all working to ensure the access for all to good, safe and secure food; this is the key to get better health conditions for people all over the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area. Therefore, the members of the AIE hereby share and pursue within the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area the concepts of food safety, food security, food sustainability, as pillars for a macro-regional sustainable development framework, enabling all levels institutions to promote and protect the manifold territorial identities, as parts of a harmonized whole macro-region.

2) The AIE underlines that all the strategies, starting from Europe 2020, to get to the thematic strategies (environment, natural resources, forestry, soil defense, energy, industrialization, better regulation, transport, blue growth,

tourism, etc.) and to the place-based ones, like the EUSAIR, there's evidence that a sound approach, oriented to results, isn't enough to get measurable impacts and good outcome in terms of wealth and quality of life. An adequate territorial dimension is needed, and only the local and regional authorities can provide it, on the basis of a detailed knowledge of the assets, the opportunities and the local needs, and in order to improve quality in standards of life and territorial resources in their areas.

The members of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion are responsible towards their territories and population for the custody of the ground, of the marine resources, for the protection of the landscape and the sea, and the sustainability of the touristic activities, for the knowledge of productive processes both traditional and innovative, which could ensure the efficiency in the agriculture and fisheries (at a household and industrial stage), they intend to use a systemic approach (involving social, cultural, economic and environmental aspects) and integration, with the involvement of institutions and territorial stakeholders.

- 3) The AIE wants to become the necessary territorial connection between EXPO 2015 Feeding the planet, Energy for life, and the ongoing EUSAIR strategy, because the local and regional authorities from the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area can give a crucial contribution to the dialogue and coherence between those strategies, in order to successfully implement the priorities of the above mentioned EUSAIR, following the principle of the multilevel governance and optimizing the harmonization of the public policies in the macroarea.
- 4) The AIE underlines that the local and regional authorities in the Adriatic-Ionian area share, among others, the following priority challenges:
 - sustainable qualification in crucial policies, like agriculture, research, fisheries and aquaculture;
 - promotion and preservation of the historical, cultural, linguistic identities;



- promotion and preservation of the natural and landscape identities, also through integration in touristic policies, under the criterion of the respect for the macro-regional peculiarities, and moreover:
- - promotion of innovation in the entrepreneurial context, simplification and reduction of the administrative and bureaucratic burdens, better and smarter regulatory techniques, and:
- - a strong qualifying action for the connection networks (logistic, freight, passengers transport by train, road, sea) and most of all the non-material networks, enabling people, students, workers, researchers, to circulate all over the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, in order to create a new knowledge community at a macro-regional scale, able to elaborate quality proposals for development and solution to face the common challenges.

The AIE underlines that those themes are priorities both to the strategy EUSAIR, and to the reflection framework of EXPO Milan 2015.

- 5) All that premised and shared, the AIE declare hereby its support the principles of the Milan Charter, and intends to take active part in the construction of a sustainable and innovative Adriatic-Ionian macro-region. Therefore, the members of the AIE, in the framework of the EUSAIR priorities, subscribe as a representative of the local and regional authorities of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area the Milan Charter, with the view to engage themselves to collaborate, in order to define the best available conditions for quality policy making in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region, and among them, the following:
- access for all to a sufficient, good, healthy food, in order to ensure to the Adriatic-Ionian populations an active life during all the lifetime
 - a right consideration about the social and cultural value of the food, as a crucial component of the macro-regional identity

- an equal, rational and efficient management of the territorial assets in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area (natural, marine, energetic, cultural, food resources)
- a sustainable and equal access to the clean energy sources, and the promotion of sound and sustainable investments in the territorial resources (soil management, natural biodiversity, water, waste, agriculture, fisheries), and most of all in the human resources (education, fight to the social exclusion and poverty, solidarity, micro-credit and local entrepreneurship), the key to enhance efficient trends for a better development in the whole Adriatic-Ionian macro-area.

On the basis of the considerations above exposed, and of the common awareness of the importance of the engagements they consent to, the AIE members hereby undertake, in relation to the respective territorial competence, the following engagements:

- to strengthen furthermore the inter-regional network already operating within the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region, and to disseminate and foster the leading principles and themes of EXPO 2015 – Feeding the planet, Energy for Life, in order to promote into the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region instruments to defend and sustain the income of farmers, breeders and fishermen, and local entrepreneurs, actors of an advanced form of development, and to adopt actions of environmental and food education, as key tools for health;
- to support the adoption of regulatory measures by all levels of government institutions in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-area, in order to make it effective the right to a good, safe, secure and accessible food for all, to ensure the health of the populations;
- to support the adoption of legislation for the protection of the ground for agricultural activities, for the promotion of investments in the natural resources and in the green research fields, with the view to protect the local




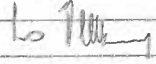
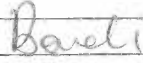
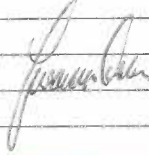

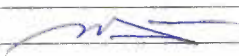


inhabitants, to eliminate juvenile and non-regular work practices, in particular in the agro-food and fisheries fields;

- to find out and circulate at a macro-regional scale the best good practices in public policy-making, in coherence with the local needs, to promote an equal access to food, ground, credit, education, energy, technologies, through adequate public and private investments, to get a substantial improvement in productivity. Promotion of Territorial Pacts about the urban and rural food strategies, to gather more resources for the agro-food and environmental research;
- to contribute to the development in the Adriatic-Ionian of an open commercial market area at a macro-regional scale, based on common rules;
- to put the food at the center of the common cultural heritage in representation of the variety of territorial identities of the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region.

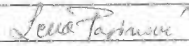
Milan, 21st September, 2015

Signature of the AIE Members who did attend to the plenary

| | |
|--|---|
| PALMA COSTI Regione Emilia-Romagna |  |
| NATAŠA ACIMOVIC Municipality of Herceg Novi |  |
| GRETA BARDELI District of Shkober |  |
| IVO BENZON County Dalmatia |  |
| PATRIZIA BOSICH County Istria |  |
| FRANCESCO COCCO Regione Molise |  |
| PAOLA DI SALVATORE Regione Abruzzo |  |
| NIKOLA DOBROSLAVIC Contea Dubrovnik-Neretva |  |



LENA PASINOVIC



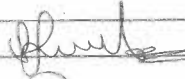
Municipality of Koror

FAUSTO SAVOIA



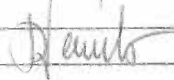
Regione Puglia

AIKATERINI SIAPLAOURA



Region of Ipiras

DIEGO VECCHIATO



Regione Veneto



Thanks to:

- Simonetta Saliera, President of the Emilia-Romagna Regional Assembly, who actively supported the AdriGov project, by encouraging the dialogue and the research, and also by engaging herself to the debate.
- Patrizio Bianchi, Emilia-Romagna Regional Minister for Education, Vocational Training, University, Research and Labour market, who gave a sound contribution to raise the quality in the debate about innovation in public policies.
- Enrico Cocchi, Emilia-Romagna's ITC Institutional-Technical Committee for the project AdriGov IPA Adriatic CBC 2007/2013
- Paola Di Salvatore, Managing Authority of the IPA Adriatic CBC 2007/2013 programme for Abruzzo Region, for her encouraging words and her appreciation about the Regional Lab initiatives during the two-days events of Milan EXPO 2015
- The AdriGov project staff hosted by the Molise Region, and all the project partners (Puglia Region, Abruzzo Region, Marche Region, Veneto Region, Informest Documentation Centre for the international economic cooperation in Friuli - Venezia Giulia Region, Istarska Županija, Dubrovacko - Neretvanska Županija, Opština Kotor, Keshilli I Qarkut Shkoder, Hercegovacko-Neretvanska Županija – Ured Predsjednika Vlade (Mostar Kanton), Perifereia Ipirou.
- Monica Antinori, Silvia Lippi, and the AdriGov project staff inside the Emilia-Romagna Region
- Adela Franja, from staff of the IPA Adriatic CBC 2007/2013 local technical assistance
- Monica Chili, Regione Emilia-Romagna, for her decisive support to the set-up of the framework and the visual concept, and more...
- Julia Unwin, from the FAV - Aldini-Valeriani Institute, and her competent staff, for her passionate support to the transcription, the translation and more...

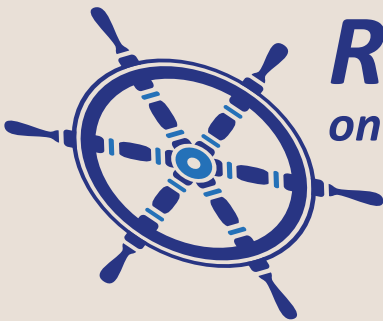
A special thanks to people who choose to participate, somehow with enthusiasm, beyond the AdriGov outlook, and made it possible to share and improve ideas and proposals, for future reference:

Antonija Babic, Patrizia Bosich, Ivana Dragišić, Sanja Labinjan (Istria Region, Croatia), Greta Bardeli and Andrea Jakova (Scutari District, Albania), Diego Vecchiato and Alessandra Valerio (Veneto Region, Italia), Vanessa Sanson (Informest, Italia), Aikaterini Siaplaoura, Ilias Manis and Ioanna Papaioannou from the Perifereia Ipirou, Greece, Kristina Crnjac from the Mostar Kanton (BiH), Lorena Totoni, Tirana District (Albania), Pasquale Frattaruolo from the University of Bologna, and my deepest apologies to whom was neglected here, just for brevity.

I want to thank also the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion, which made it possible to successfully run several ground inquiries in preparation to that study, by allowing many officials and local/regional representatives from the Adriatic-Ionian territories to become active part of our experience. Special thanks to Mr. Nikola Dobrosravić, President of the Dubrovacko - Neretvanska Županija (Croatia) and current President of the AIE, also valued member of the Committee of the Regions.

The cover features the “Mosaico delle barche”, which can be seen in the Rimini's Municipal Museum (www.museicomunalirimini.it), by approval from the Soprintendenza ai Beni archeologici dell'Emilia-Romagna (regional detached seat of the Italian Ministry of the Cultural Heritage and Tourism).

*“labore gentium et cognitione
omne novum aedificatur”*



Regional lab
on macro-regional issues



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