

Scientific report

Regarding the implementation of the project PN-III-P1-1.1-PD-2019-0219 (52/2020)
between Ianuarie – Decembrie 2021

I. Presentation of the project and the general objective

Project name PN-III-P1-1.1-PD-2019-0219: "Better knowledge for based assessment of public sector performance in European countries/ Problematika măsurării performanței sectorului public în țările Europene" (PN-III-P1-1.1-PD- 2019-0219, Contract 52/2020)" (hereinafter referred to as "the Project").

The research objective proposed within the project aims to analyze the performance of the public sector considering an innovative and robust research tool in terms of methodologies and aggregate indicators. The results of the research can generate benchmarks to understand the different ways in which a society must prioritize its public policies, in the context of socio-economic transformations in the geography of the European space mainly.

Stage 1 (September – December 2020): Conduct a review of recent literature (Objective 1) + Research dissemination (objective 3)

Stage 2 (January – December 2021): Econometric analysis (Objective 2) + Research dissemination (objective 3)

Stage 3 (January – August 2022): Econometric analysis (Objective 2) + Research dissemination (objective 3)

II. Implementation of the project during September - December 2020

During 2021, the project had only one stage scheduled, between January 1 and December 31, 2021. Stage 2 had as its main objective the realization of 1 study that will take into account the membership to the Euro Zone versus the Non-Euro Zone (partially) and 1 study taking into account the geographical and geopolitical position of the countries (partially), as well as the dissemination of the results obtained.

The literature was analyzed through <https://www.e-nformation.ro/>, as well as through the databases available in the universities where the two documentation-research internships were carried out. The variables database was created with the help of data extracted through Eurostat, European Commission, Statista, as well as the two databases acquired during stage I.

The government plays the primary role in ensuring the welfare of the people. Thus, in the context of continued digitization, we affirm the need for public policies, structural reforms and common action plans so that all EU countries can improve their performance in as many areas of the public sector as possible. Therefore, EU countries need to create common approaches, as demonstrated by the uniform and interoperable approach to vaccination, or develop compelling applications for monitoring and warning of COVID-19 infection. The

health of citizens is closely related to their level of well-being, thus to the performance of governments in each country.

The research carried out in this stage is based on econometric analysis of data collected to investigate the measurement of public sector performance in EU countries. Our research has highlighted that the most complex method of performance measurement in this field, namely the public sector, is that of aggregate indicators as well as cluster analysis. On the one hand, it was observed the need for common approaches for EU member countries, and on the other hand, the fact that countries that do not belong to the EU Zone or that are more recent members, are the ones that register changes in their position in times of crisis.

Regarding the dissemination part of the results obtained through the project, it is presented below in detail, being able to summarize the main results as follows: 6 international conferences, 1 ISI article, 1 ESCI article and 1 article sent to the ESCI journal.

Expected results of Stage II:

- [1] 1 database with European country variables
- [2] 1 study that will consider the membership of the Euro Area versus the Non-Euro Area (partially) and 1 study considering the geographical and geopolitical position of the countries (partially) (2 articles of which 1 ISI proceedings and 1 ISI sent to journal)
- [3] 4 participations in national / international conferences
- [4] 2 documentation internships
- [5] 1 updated project website
- [6] 1 Annual scientific report

Results obtained at the end of Stage II:

- [1] 1 database with European country variables
It is reflected in published and submitted articles containing econometric analyses
- [2] 1 study that will consider the membership of the Euro Area versus the Non-Euro Area (partially) and 1 study considering the geographical and geopolitical position of the countries (partially) (2 articles of which 1 ISI proceedings and 1 ISI sent to journal)

ESCI articles

How should we measure public sector performance? (2021) Mustea L., Mihit L.D. & Lobonț O.R., *Postmodern Openings Journal*, vol 12., p 71-89.

Does crisis influence different performance in Eurozone versus Non-Euro countries?, Mustea L – in evaluation.

ISI articles

Challenges on radical health redesign to reconfigure the level of e-health adoption in EU countries (2021) Luca M., Mustea L., Taran A., Stefea P, Vataavu S., *Frontiers in Public Health*, section Health Economics, vol 9 , pp. 1-15.

[3] 4 participations in national / international conferences:

3.1 SOCIAL INNOVATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The 17th annual International Scientific Conference, with the article "Public sector performance around crises in European countries", Lithuania, April 28 - 29, 2021, Mustea L., Mihiț L.D. & Lobonț O.R.

3.2 Competitiveness and stability in the knowledge-based economy - 13th iCOnEc Conference, with the article "Composite index of public sector performance in Eurozone versus Non-Euro countries", Craiova, October 29 – 30, 2021, Mustea L., Mihiț L.D. & Lobonț O.R.

3.3 The 8-th International Conference REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – THROUGH COMPETITIVENESS, INNOVATION AND HUMAN CAPITAL - MOVING TOWARDS NEW PARADIGM OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, with the article: Performance in Europe. A geopolitical perspective, Bucharest, Satu-Mare, November 19, 2021, Mustea L.

3.4 Economic security in the context of sustainable development -2nd edition International Conference, with the article "Does crisis influence performance in European countries?", Republic of Moldova, December 17, 2021, Mustea L.

3.5 Economic Scientific Research - Theoretical, Empirical and Practical Approaches ESPERA 2021, with the article "Performance in European countries and "bad periods", Bucharest, December 9-10, 2021, Mustea L. & Lobonț O.R..

3.6 7 th International Conference Recent Advances in Economic and Social Research, with the article "Does crisis influence different performance in Eurozone versus Non-Euro countries?", Bucharest, December 16–17, 2021, Mustea L.

[4] 2 documentation stages

Two documentation stages were carried out as follows: one at the University of Economics in Bratislava and one at the University of Szeged.

[5] Project web page updated with research progress:

<https://performeu.projects.uvt.ro/>

[6] 1 Annual scientific report – available on the project web page

III. Conclusions

The objectives of the second stage of the project, corresponding to the calendar interval January - December 2021, have been achieved, with good premises for the next stage. Stage III consists of econometric analysis and dissemination of the obtained results.

Project director,



Lavinia Mustea