International Conference on Multilevel Governance and Democracy in the EU

Cluj-Napoca, Romania 28–29 May, 2009 František Turnovec*

This conference, organized by the Altiero Spinelli Center for the Study of European Governance of Babes-Bolay University with the support of the Jean Monnet Programme of the European Commission, took place in Cluj-Napoca (Romania) on May 28-29, 2009. Participants were from leading Romanian universities, Sapienza University, the University of Roma III (Italy), the University of Paris VIII (France), and Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic).

The French and Czech universities presented a broad portfolio of papers on European Union governance and its democratization, EU decision-making models, legitimacy, institutions and the communication strategy of the European Union, problems of federative and intergovernmental development in the European Union, the new role of the European Parliament, civil society and national minorities in the 21st Century, problems of the Roma and Kurdish minorities in integrating Europe, the historical heritage of national communities in Eastern Europe, European citizenship, the protection of human rights at the European level, multi-level governance in the EU, and changes of governance design after the Lisbon Treaty. The conference provided new impulses towards the ambitious international research program of European governance studies, initiated by Adrian Ivan from Babes-Bolay University and his team, which is supported by the European Commission.

As the communication base of this collaborative research a new international academic journal was launched at the conference: *The Romanian Review of European Governance Studies* (ISSN 2066-4885) is a peer-reviewed open access journal, edited on a biannual basis by the Altiero Spinelli Center for the Study of European Governance of Babes-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca.

The first issues of the review, published in 2009, cover a wide range of topics from the field of International Relations and European Studies, such as: the institutional economics of European integration including governance and multilevel governance, theories of European integration, European policies, civil society, and case studies on Central and Eastern Europe. The review is addressed to specialists from the academic world and the general public, and seeks to provide an important contribution to academic debates. The first two issues of volume 1 (2009) are available at http://www.cassoe.ro/?q=english/revista/ archive#.

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