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## **EASTERN PARTNERSHIP: FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Life of an Eastern Partnership is longer than usually it is presented. Mainly many authors are starting with the first Eastern Partnership summit In Prague on May 7, 2009. On that summit a Joint Declaration concerning Eastern Partnership was adopted. However we have to come back to some others initiatives provided by Poland when starting the accession negotiations In 1998 with the European Union. Such commitment to strengthen common Union's Neighbourhood Policy always Has been Expresses by Polish government. We have not forget about that already In June 2001 the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs presented a paper on the European Union's eastern Policy. In that dokument was stated, that the EU eastern Policy "should have as its main objective abolishing the existing division lines through assistance and closer co-operation with the adjacent countries that should be based on the common values and interests." It was very natural that such a policy should deal with direct neighbours such as Ukraine, Russia, Belarussia, Moldova and than towards the Caucasus and Central Asian countries. Polish point of view Has been shared by the joint letter of the High Representative, Secretary General J. Solana and Commissioner Ch.Patten of August 7, 2002 and In the Swedish non paper of June 2002. In a Polish non-paper (drafted In 2002 and presented In 2003 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs it was stated that "the Policy of the enlarged EU towards its eastern neighbours should consist of three pillars: community (within the CFSP [Common Foreign and Security Policy] and External Relations), governmental (Policie pursued by the member states both bilateralny and within multilateral Framework) as well as non-governmental (involving NGO-s and Rother non-governmental actors).

What has been said above it is already history. The new Polish-Swedish concept undertaken several years after first initiatives however it is of great importance as the direktion towards closer relations with the East, but there is necessity to take into account new factors. First of All the change of a geometry of powers on a global scale. Secondly, that the Lisbon Strategy (adopted In 2000) collapsed and new strategy EUROPE 2020 has no alternative. What more there is no one Word on the Eastern Partnership. We can only think that it is included through neighbourhood policy.

Exactly it is stated as follows: "The Europe 2020 strategy is not only relevant insi de the EU, it can also offer considerable potential to candida te countries and our neighbourhood and better help anchor their own reform efforts. Expanding the area where EU rules are applied, will create new opportunities for both the EU and its neighbours."<sup>1</sup> I guess it is one of the weaknesses of that strategy, wchich what more has no alternative similarly to the Lisbon Strategy. Personally I am In favour of strenghtening this strategy and to avoid threats for its realisation. For the Eastern

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<sup>1</sup> Communication from the Commission. Europe 2020. A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Brussels, 3.3.2010 COM(2010) 2020, page 21

Partnership could be better to have an emergency alternative taking into account last turbulences with the Lisbon Strategy. It is our task as Member States of the European Union to prepare appropriate strategy looking at changing geometry of international environment of the European Union. The strategy for 10 years should provide permanent monitoring of a situation and to build on time tools to avoid a risk of uncertainty.

The Eastern Partnership Initiative should be seen as the process. I mean that the process characterised as:

- long term;
- multilevel;
- multinational with different interests.

So it requires comprehensive and system approach. Of course there are appropriate financial resources needed as well. The Partnership launched In Prague In 2009 foresees financial support. That's why European Commission has earmarked 600 million of Euros for the period of 2010-2013, including 350 million Euros of fresh funds. This 350 million Euros top up adds to existing funds for the six Partner Countries within the Framework of the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument.

Now we have to answer on very important question: what will be financed?

The 600 million Euros earmarked for the Eastern Partnership are part of the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) and the rules guiding their programming and implementation are those set up In the ENPI Regulation.<sup>2</sup> The funds constitute about a quarter of the total funding that will be made available to Eastern Partnership countries over the period 2010-2013. Taking that into account it has been necessary to establish main purposes of those resources.

There are three main purposes for using those resources:

1. **Comprehensive Institution Building** programmes aimed at supporting Partner Countries reforms (approximately 175 million Euros).
2. **Pilot regional development programmes** aimed at addressing regional economic and social disparities within Partner Countries (approximately 75 million Euros);
3. Implementation of the **Eastern Partnership multilateral dimension** In the Framework of the ENPI Regional East Programme 2010-2013 (approximately 350 million Euros).

What are those purposes exactly:

- **Comprehensive Institution Building programmes (CIB):** The Association Agreements (that include *Inter alia* the establishment or the objective of establishing a DCFTA [Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement] and the long term goal of visa liberalisation require considerable further reform efforts within the Partner Countries' institutions which implement the related obligations. The **CIB** programmes under the Eastern Partnership aim to support this process. The preparation of **CIB** programmes and initial activities

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<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument, O.J. L310 of 9.11.2006, page 1

have started In 2010. Implementation of the **CIB** programme is foreseen starting with 2011, subject to timely signature of Financing Agreements with Partner Countries. Twinning will be at the core of the implementation of the **CIB** program measures. Other possible measures may include high-level advice, training and Exchange, Professional placements and internships, secondment of personnel to sister-institutions in interested Member States, scholarships for Professional training. Funding can also be made available for equipment complying with European Union' norms and specialised infrastructure (e.g. laboratories) needed for their operation.

- **Pilot Regional Development Programmes:** aim to avoid sharp economic and social disparities between regions and population groups within certain Eastern Partnership Countries. Funding will be provided to support pilot regional development programmes addressing local needs for infrastructure, human capital, and small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) modelled on EU cohesion Policy. The programmes will be based on the needs of the respective Partner Country and take into account its territorial organisation. It is expected that these programmes will be agreed between the Commission and the Partner Countries by mid 2012.
- **Supporting the Eastern Partnership multilateral dimension:** it is one of the most important and significant to the whole Eastern Partnership concept based on multilateral dimension to the co-operation between the EU (as a new international organisation according to the Lisbon Treaty – entered into force on December 1, 2009) and the six Partner Countries. It introduces a new co-operation Framework based on four policy Platforms: namely on democracy, good governance and stability; economic integration and convergence with EU policies; energy security; and contacts between people, with the aim of bringing the Partners closer to the EU. It also establishes a Civil Society Forum. Finally it foresees the launch of a number of Flagship Initiatives in the following areas: Integrated Border Management, support to Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs); Civil Protection; Electricity interconnections/ Energy efficiency/ Renewable Energy Sources and Environmental Governance. EU support to in the form of Project in the Framework of the Regional East Programme 2010-2013. Alongside these new initiatives continuous support will be provided to existing regional initiatives on energy and transport such as **INOGATE** and **TRACECA**.

The main beneficiaries of provided by the EU assistance will be State level public administrations as well as local level public administrations, Civil Society Organisations and SMEs.

One of the crucial problems is timing for a four year period it is proposed by the European Commission to cover that period as follows (In millions Euros):

	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total
Eastern Partnership Funding	85,0	110,0	175,0	230,0	600,0

Besides official EU funds there are different funds on a bilateral basis. The Member States of the EU have own approach to the Eastern Partnership Initiative. For instance Germany. Germany already set up bilateral agreements with Partner countries. So from Germany's point of view the Eastern Partnership Initiative should be perceived as an element, however important, of the European Neighbourhood Policy. Germany several times presented opinion, that this Initiative should not be quasi pre-accession instrument. The Eastern Partner Countries are very important for Germany, but not only, as a great potential market. Bearing In mind, that Germany's economic position within the European Union is of great importance for the whole European integration, it is quite clear that they would like to use economic power as an instrument of building strong, permanent position In Europe.

To conclude characteristic of that approach I underline:

- The Eastern Partnership should not be an pre-accession instrument (so consequently Germany is against signing any declaration on future accession of Partner Countries to the EU;
- Germany is In favour of tightening economic relations but not political;
- The Initiative should not be factor of contradictions between the European Union and Russia which is in fact priority for Germany taking into account Germany's engagement with Russia on different areas, especially economic relations;
- Germany has large network of bilateral agreements with Eastern Partnership Countries, including Ukraine;
- The Germany's policy encourages other EU's Member States do not support Initiative as important factor of future change of geometry of European environment.

Why I made Germany as an example of the Eastern Partnership Initiative Gamble? Because it is real global player In world economics and there is no doubt that has significant impact on what the European Union is going to do with that Initiative. Bearing In mind all those contradictions among the Member States within the EU we have to notice that Germany is one of the most important donors for development. According to the data of the OECD Germany's official development aid for countries of the Eastern Partnership Initiative during 2007 and 2008 (in milion USD) and its position on the list of main contributors was as follows:

Country	Yearly average contribution	Germany's position on the list
Armenia	25	4 (after USA, IDA, Japan)
Azerbaijan	29	4 (after IDA, USA, Turkey)
Belarus	20	1
Georgia	58	4 (after USA, IDA, EU)
Moldova	10	7 (after EU, IDA, IMF, USA, Sweden, Turkey)
Ukraine	74	3 (after EU, USA)

Germany recognizes importance of the Eastern Partnership Initiative countries market and potential of Latour market as well. So using its well experienced methods of being on better position than other competitors decided to contribute special aid In framework of German development aid to different sectors of the country's life. For instance Ukraine is one the most import ant countries for present and future activity within the region. Especially taking into account importance of the Black Sea Area. Germany would like to be better placed In that region as France made it already In the Mediterranean Area.

Only in Ukraine Germany provided significant development aid In comparison with 600 million Euros earmarked by the European Union in amount of approximately 276 million Euros. By sectors it is as follows:

- Economic – 134,5 million Euros;
- Financial – 104,5 million Euros;
- Technical – 30,0 million Euros;
- Legal – 310 000 Euros;
- Projects within the framework of the International Climate Initiative of the German government – 4,5 million Euros.

Others:

- Project supporting human rights 130 000 Euros;
- Scholarships granted by DAAD<sup>3</sup> about 1100 scholarships per year<sup>4</sup>.

Finally, today it is quite obvious that without bigger support will be impossible to achieve effects of double win-win strategy: the EU and Eastern Partnership. It is not my wish, that we lose a chance in Europe to be more competitive on a global market. If such differentiation of an approach to the Eastern Partnership Initiative will continue there is no other way than to strengthen bilateral co-operation between Ukraine and Poland. Synergy effect will be seen very fast. Both countries have such a significant human resources potential that it should be a target of both countries for development. Our own history, culture and tradition of fighting for liberty and independent country are the crucial factors of common co-operation. Both countries have own energy resources, vast areas of real ecological agriculture and Poland has large experience with market oriented agriculture which even during centrally planned economy had own independency. Both countries have to some extent complimentary economies and education systems and there is time to start new era of common history and common understanding. Ukrainian and Polish proverb sounds with the same words, exactly the same: *Zgoda buduje, niezgoda rujnuje. Згода будує, а незгода руйнує.* Let start to build our new Home.

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## **ВЛИЯНИЕ ДЕНЕЖНО-КРЕДИТНОЙ ПОЛИТИКИ НА ПРЕДПРИНИМАТЕЛЬСТВО И МЕЛКИЙ БИЗНЕС**

Развитие предпринимательства является критерием развития рыночной экономики, индикатором развития рыночной экономики и индикатором конкурентной среды страны. В развитых странах это означает, что на 1 млн. жителей страны приходится 35-40 тыс. субъектов мелкого бизнеса, которые производят 50-60 % ВВП и дают 45-60 % доходов в бюджет.

В Республике Беларусь, Украине и Российской Федерации эти показатели пока не достигнуты. Так в Республике Беларусь за 18 лет реформ создано лишь 78 тыс. малых предприятий вместо 350 тыс., которые производят 11 % ВВП.

В странах Центральной и Восточной Европы, также находящихся в трансформационном периоде, показатели приближаются к нормативным. Так, в Болгарии в 2007 г. число мелких предприятий составляло 252 682 на 8,5 млн. жителей, что составляет около 30 тыс. мелких предприятий на 1 млн. жителей. Фиксированные материальные активы к началу 2008 г. стали около 20 млрд. евро, средняя стоимость малых предприятий составила 78 тыс.

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<sup>3</sup> German Academic Exchange Service

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.auswertigesamt.de/diplo/de/Laenderinformationen/Ukraine/Bilateral.html>, on 27 May 2010

евро. За 2001-2007 гг. инвестиции в малые предприятия выросли в 5,4 раза и составили в 2007 г. 8,3 млрд. евро.

Суммарный оборот малых предприятий в 2007 г. составил 5,7 млрд. евро, сумма добавленной стоимости малых предприятий в 2007 г. составила 8,7 млрд. евро (64 % добавленной стоимости всех частных рассматриваемых предприятий). Вклад в ВВП составил 37,8 %. Число лиц, занятых на малых предприятиях, в 2007 г. составило 1 410 тыс. человек (38 % от общего числа занятых в экономике).

В наших странах эти показатели гораздо скромнее. Анализ показывает, что основным фактором, отрицательно влияющим на деятельность малого бизнеса, является их финансирование. Так, в той же Болгарии подъем развития малых предприятий начался после того, как коэффициент монетизации и объем банковских ресурсов относительно ВВП стали равняться к 2001 г., что составило 60-70 %.

Доступ к финансам является решающим фактором при основании малых предприятий, их развития и роста. В 1998 г. Европейским Союзом был введен набор финансовых инструментов (гарантии и венчурный капитал) в целях увеличения объема финансирования, доступного малым предприятиям. За последние 11 лет около 360 000 малых предприятий получили поддержку с использованием правительственных инструментов. В период с 2007 по 2013 гг. эти инструменты были заложены в структурную программу конкурентоспособности и инновации, которая имеет бюджет 36,2 млрд. евро.

Существуют две другие инициативы, также направленные на поддержку малых предприятий:

1. Европейский региональный фонд развития, который до 2013 г. окажет поддержку предприятиям в размере 23 млрд. евро.
2. Европейский инвестиционный банк, который обеспечит финансовую поддержку в размере 30 млрд. евро в период с 2008 по 2011 гг.

При среднем росте долгосрочных долговых обязательств за 2004- 2006 гг. на 34,5 %, в 2007 г. рост долгосрочных обязательств Болгарии составил 84 % и достиг 17,8 млрд. евро. Краткосрочные долговые обязательства в 2007 г. составили 24 млрд. евро. Вместе с этим изменилось и соотношение краткосрочных к долгосрочным обязательствам – в 2005 г. данное соотношение составляло 2,02, в 2006 г. – 1,78, в 2007 г. – 1,36.

Наибольший объем долгосрочных долговых обязательств составляют кредиты финансовых учреждений – 39,2 %, банковские кредиты составляют 30,6 %. Стоит упомянуть, что большая часть кредитных предложений имеет максимальный срок погашения – от 10 до 20 лет, обычно с льготным периодом в 12-16 месяцев. Средняя сумма кредита составляет 100-250 тыс. евро, процентная ставка устанавливается индивидуально и составляет от 6,75 до 12 %.

Лизинг становится в Болгарии очень популярной альтернативой банковскому, так в 2005 г. он составил 500 млн. евро, а в 2008 г. этот показатель достиг уже 3 млрд. евро.

Из приведенных данных видно, как много еще нужно сделать банковскому сообществу Республики Беларусь, Украины и Российской

Федерации для содействия экономическому развитию через  
предпринимательство и малый бизнес.