

Foreword – 10-year Anniversary of RJEА

On the occasion of the ten-year anniversary of the Romanian Journal of European Affairs (RJEА), we would like to express our thanks to you, our readers, for being alongside us since the early days of our journal.

Issued on a quarterly basis, the journal has focussed on EU debates and it has gradually gained popularity and scientific recognition in the fields of political and social sciences and European studies. This publication could not be what it is today without its initial team, the founding Director – Mr. Nicolae Idu, former Director General of the European Institute of Romania, now Head of the Representation of the European Commission in Romania, Mr. Jacques Pelkmans – Jan Tinbergen Chair for European Economics, Director of European Economic Studies at College of Europe, Bruges and Associate Senior Fellow CEPS, Brussels. Special thanks to the first Editor-in-Chief, Mr. Lucian Branea, Executive Secretary of Epsilon III Association, whose project and concept of a Romanian journal covering the area of European affairs turned into the appearance of RJEА as the first Romanian publication focussed on European integration. Also, a warm Thank you! to the current Director of the journal, Ms. Gabriela Drăgan, Director General of the EIR, to all the members of the Editorial Board, to its dedicated scientific reviewers and to all the editors who have focused their work to constantly improve this journal during the past ten years.

Yet a publication would be nothing without its authors and therefore we would like to thank and congratulate the people who have delivered interesting papers for the 40 issues of the journal, their articles (over 200) turning RJEА into a scientific instrument available to the worldwide academic area.

In the current period of economic turmoil, any journal needs to have, apart from its dedicated human resources and passionate authors, access to financial resources. Therefore we appreciate the confidence we were invested in by individual buyers and subscribers to the journal, either legal or natural persons. Their financial efforts help to keep RJEА alive and further stimulate its continuous upgrading in order to provide a state-of-art scientific journal.

The recognition of the positive role of RJEА within the European studies research area has also been confirmed by its acceptance into various specialized scientific databases, such as: ProQuest, SCOPUS, EBSCO, DOAJ, Index Copernicus, HeinOnline etc.

The ten-year anniversary of RJEА represents not only a celebration, but also a time of reflection on the journal's future and goal. We are committed to enter, step by step, into the league of major journal players and this requires an extra effort and dedication from us all. Therefore we are currently in a rebranding process, not only in shape and graphic presentation, but most importantly on the content, a process

that will have as ultimate end the creation of a new and better journal regarding its scientific stature and usefulness.

Currently, we are heading towards a regional scientific environment where every national journal is important in itself. In these times of economic downturn, both the state authorities and the scientific actors should raise the standards in order to face up the challenges ahead. The area of European studies is becoming a major research area that might help us be better prepared for the future and may serve as a mirror for our own fears and hopes, dilemmas and solutions.

Having in mind the invitation for you to write articles in the years to come, we thank once again all our contributors for their support and we hope that our journal was and will continue to be a useful instrument for the academia and the public administration dealing with EU affairs.

*Oana Mocanu
Editor-in-Chief*