

# THE IMPACT OF STRUCTURAL FUNDS ON ROMANIAN SOCIETY - BUILDING GOVERNANCE

*Răzvan COTOVELEA*

**Abstract:** *In this paper I analyze the implications of the European Regional Development Policy/Cohesion Policy on the institutional, behavioral and economic transformations associated to such policy in Romania.*

*I consider that this paper clarifies to a certain extent this dynamic process. It is an attempt to include in the explanation the increase of the number of stakeholders involved in governance, of political, socio-economical and institutional stakeholders who increasingly complicate the coherence of our political system. This study provides a starting point for the evaluation and understanding of the political, administrative and economical Romanian system, for analyzing and comparing the general trend of reconfiguration, of redefining positions within State, as well for understanding the link between governance, economic performance and structural funds. The empiric evidence demonstrated that certain political systems can better solve public problems, while others do not manage to do so at all. My study is trying to bring a higher degree of visibility of the current transformations. The purpose of the paper is to examine the manner in which a new model of governance is born, and provide a clearer understanding of the factors which are behind of this process. The logic of this methodology is to extract certain basic elements, which might have a significant influence in the discussed empiric problem (governance building). My intention is to isolate certain features, certain factors that channel the change of the Romanian politico-organizational system and to explain them.*

**Keywords:** *structural funds, Romania, public policy, growth, governance*