



CASE – Centrum Analiz Społeczno-Ekonomicznych  
CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

## **Annual Report 2021**

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## Letter from the President

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Dear Colleagues, Friends, and Readers,

2021 has been marked as a special year for our institution, as CASE has celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. For over 30 years, CASE people have been assisting international policy makers, public authorities, and societies with solid evidence-based policy advice to help them boost economic growth and the well-being of individuals all around the globe.

Registered in September 1991, CASE was created with the aim to support systemic transformation in Poland and other post-communist countries. In its mission, CASE has underlined the importance of the basic foundations of market economies: strong institutions, the rule of law, and private ownership. Over the 30 years of our existence, around 1,200 experts have worked at CASE, providing policy advice in over 105 countries. The experiences of working with CASE have been gathered in a special CASE Anniversary Book entitled: “My CASE.”

I would like to express my sincere gratefulness and immense appreciation to all 82 co-authors and editors of the CASE Anniversary Book. Thanks to their pro-bono contributions, we are able to share with the future generations the history of the institution that contributed so intensively to the economic development of European societies. I strongly encourage you to read the memories in full. They constitute an unforgettable source of wisdom and knowledge on how the institution can be shaped under dynamic and sometimes turbulent circumstances.

To complement the celebrations, we also organized the CASE 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference “Looking back to look forward: the Future of the EU Economy,” where together with over 300 guests we discussed the lessons learned over the past 30 years and reflected on how to handle the challenges of the European Union and Poland in the future. The topics discussed were global value chains, the sustainability of public debt, the labor market, health policies, and other economic and social issues.

But CASE Anniversary celebrations would not have been so prosperous had it not been for CASE’s dynamic project-based statutory activity. In 2021, we performed 55 projects (13 more than in 2020) with an overall turnover of almost EUR 1.4 million. EU institutions continued to be the biggest CASE clients, with Eurostat, DG Taxud, and the Committee of the Regions taking the lead. Once again, we had the privilege of carrying out the measurement of the VAT gap for all EU Member States. We have undertaken very ambitious projects for Eurostat on Commercial Real Estate Markets and Consumer Price Statistics which employed automatic data collection. We implemented a CGE model to better measure agri-food policy analysis within an H2020 project. We also conducted a Territorial Impact Assessment of policies and strategies within the EU Member States.

On top of this, we continued our activities related to sustainable development policies, social policies, the labor market, and migration. Projects from our pool of activities focused on European challenges: decent work for migrants, collaborative local decarbonization, challenges related to climate change, and digitalization. We also continued implementing

projects examining the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the well-being of individuals in Europe (for example, an analysis of access to social services by the elderly during the pandemic), or the economic characteristics of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the effectiveness of the monetary policy response measures. Our activities included an examination of the value added of the Recovery and Resilience Plans after the pandemic as well as an analysis of restoring “lost connections” between the EU and the UK after Brexit.

As for dissemination activities, we organized 12 events and prepared 35 publications, all related to the CASE mission. During our 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the scientific workshop on fiscal policies, we presented the relationship between taxes and the European Green Deal, and our regular mBank seminars brought together over 1,300 participants to debate challenges in the banking sector, healthcare reforms, and tax challenges in the growing digital economy.

This year we have also carried out projects in the Eastern European Neighborhood and Mediterranean region. It is enough just to mention one project, financed by the EC and implemented together with IEMed, on economic development, security, and migration in the Southern Neighborhood and beyond, where CASE experts worked on a regular basis on the challenges and opportunities in the region.

Our continuous efforts, our competences and dedication in providing evidence-based policy advice, and our presence in different regions of the world would not be possible without our devoted team, the Supervisory Council, and CASE Fellows. At this point, on behalf of the whole Management Board, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to every single person contributing their knowledge and experience to CASE activities.

I strongly encourage you to read this CASE Annual Report and to monitor the CASE website and social media channels for new CASE initiatives and events. I can assure all CASE friends that we will keep doing our good job to support societal and economic reforms for the next 30 years and beyond.

## About CASE

**CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research** is an independent, non-profit research institute founded on the idea that research-based policy making is vital for the economic welfare of societies.

Established in Warsaw in 1991, CASE today is recognized as the top think tank in Central and Eastern Europe and is one of the most highly regarded think tanks internationally.

CASE carries out policy-oriented research and development assistance projects, specializing in the areas of:

- Fiscal, Monetary, and Financial Policies;
- Sustainable Development Policies;
- Trade, Innovation, and Productivity Policies.

Drawing on an experienced in-house staff, a network of fellows, and a database of approximately 1,000 experts, CASE provides rigorous quantitative and qualitative analyses, innovative methodologies, and sound recommendations.

## **The CASE Network**

CASE boasts of a network of independent research institutes across post-communist countries (including, among others, Ukraine, Belarus, Georgia, and Russia) as well as numerous partner organizations.

We are a member of five pan-European research networks: The Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission (EuroMeSCo), The European Forecasting Network (EFN), Forum Euroméditerranéen des Instituts de Sciences Économiques (FEMISE), Vision Europe, Economic Think Tank Exchange (ETTE), The Global Trade and Innovation Policy Alliance (GTIPA)

## CASE Internal Network

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CASE has helped establish a network of independent research institutes across post-communist countries, starting with CASE-Kyrgyzstan in 1998. As of 2021, the CASE Network boasts a substantial presence in the CIS and includes the following institutions:

- a. CASE-Belarus
- b. CASE-Moldova, Chisinau
- c. CASE-Georgia, Tbilisi
- d. CASE-Ukraine, Kyiv
- e. CASE-Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek

This network represents CASE's continuing effort to increase the range and quality of economic information available to decision-makers and the public across the post-communist world, as well as to foster vibrant think tank sectors in these societies. However, due to a difficult situation of CASE in Belarus, CASE Belarus is planned to be incorporated in CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research in 2022. The activity of the remaining member of the CASE network is going to be reviewed in 2023.

## CASE External Network

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In addition to the CASE Network, CASE is also an institutional member of five pan-European research networks.

### **EUROMESCO**

The Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission (EuroMeSCo) is the main network of research centers on politics and security in the Mediterranean. EuroMeSCo was established in 1996 with the goal of fostering research, information, and social relations among its members as well as acting as a confidence-building measure in the framework of the Barcelona process. EuroMeSCo comprises 107 institutes coming from 32 countries out of the 43 members of the Union for the Mediterranean.

### **EUROFRAME-EFN**

The European Forecasting Network (EFN) is an initiative for improved forecasting and macroeconomic analysis in the European Union. Coordinator: Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), Dublin.

### **FEMISE**

Forum Euroméditerranéen des Instituts de Sciences Économiques (FEMISE) is a network that brings together more than 70 independent economic institutes from across the Mediterranean regions to conduct socio-economic analysis of the Euro-Mediterranean

Partnership. Coordinators: Institut de la Méditerranée (IM), Marseille, and the Economic Research Forum (ERF), Cairo.

### **VISION EUROPE**

Vision Europe is a consortium of think tanks and foundations collaborating to address some of the most pressing public policy challenges facing Europe. Through research, publications, and an annual summit, they aim to be a forum for debate and a source of recommendations to improve evidence-based policy making at both a national and EU level and to foster as appropriate European integration.

### **GTIPA**

The Global Trade and Innovation Policy Alliance (GTIPA) is a global network of independent think tanks that are ardent supporters of greater global trade liberalization and integration, deplore trade-distorting “innovation mercantilist” practices, but yet believe that governments can and should play important and proactive roles in spurring greater innovation and productivity in their enterprises and economies.

### **Economic Think Tank Exchange (ETTE)**

Economic Think Tank Exchange is an informal network of national think tanks. The ETTE format provides a frame for regularly discussing nationally relevant subjects such as competitiveness of the economies, growth, employment, productivity, new digital business models and the platform economy.



## CASE People

At the heart of CASE is its full-time employees as the quality of a think tank must be measured by the quality of its staff.

CASE Fellows play a key role in conducting and organizing our research activities. CASE Fellows are drawn from the ranks of senior researchers and experts with outstanding and internationally recognized academic and professional records in economics and other social sciences.

## Supervisory Council

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### Chairwoman

**Ewa Balcerowicz**, Economist, Vice-president of the Association of Polish Economists, Coordinator of mBank-CASE seminars

### Vice Chairwomen

**Barbara Błaszczuk**, Senior Researcher, Institute of Economics, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Member of the Association of Polish Economists, Warsaw

**Stanisława Golinowska**, Head of the Health Economics and Social Security Department, Jagiellonian University, Krakow

### Members

**Tadeusz Baczko**, Associate Researcher at the Institute of Economics of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

**Andrzej Cylwik**, President of Neo-Doradcy Sp. z o.o., Warsaw

**Michał Górzyński**, Head of Impact Section, European Institute of Innovation and Technology

**Piotr Kozarzewski**, Professor of Political Science and Economics at the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin

**Dariusz Ledworowski**, Economist and Consultant, former Chairman of the Finance Working Group, Social Council for a Low-Carbon Economy; former President of the Management Board, Rabobank Polska S.A.; former Minister of Foreign Economic Relations

**Agnieszka Sowa-Kofta**, Researcher at the Institute of Labour and Social Affairs, National expert for health care and long-term care, European Social Policy Network, European Commission

**Maciej Stańczuk**, President of Sapere and MS Consulting, Member of the PBG SA Supervisory Council, Member of the Aforti Holding SA Supervisory Council

**Richard Woodward**, Lecturer in International Business at the University of Edinburgh Business School, Edinburgh

## Advisory Council

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### Chairman

**Anders Aslund**, Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council, Washington DC

### Members

**Vittorio Corbo**, Member of the Management Council of the Fundación Chilena del Pacífico (Chilean Pacific Foundation), Santiago

**Fabrizio Coricelli**, Professor of Economics at the Paris School of Economics, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris

**Georges de Menil**, Professor of Economics, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Science Sociales, Paris

**Daniel Gros**, Member of the Board and a Distinguished Fellow at CEPS – Center for European Policy Studies, Brussels

**Irena Grosfeld**, Emeritus Professor at the Paris School of Economics, Paris

**Simon Johnson**, Ronald A. Kurtz (1954) Professor of Entrepreneurship, Professor of Global Economics and Management at MIT Sloan School of Management, Boston

**Lucjan T. Orłowski**, Professor of Economics and International Finance, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield

**Vladimer Papava**, Professor of Economics at Tbilisi State University, Senior Fellow of the Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies (GFSIS), Tbilisi

**Jeffrey Sachs**, Director of the Center for Sustainable at Columbia University, New York, Director of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network

**Susan Schadler**, Former Senior Fellow at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), Waterloo, Ontario

**Krassen Stanchev**, Associate Professor, Sofia University, Sofia

**Nicholas Stern**, IG Patel Professor of Economics and Government, Chairman of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment and Head of the India Observatory at the London School of Economics, London

**Jan Svejnar**, Professor of Global Political Economy and Director of the Center on Global Economic Governance at Columbia University

**Wing Thye Woo**, Professor of Economics East Asian Studies, University of California, Davis; Research Professor at Sunway University in Kuala Lumpur

**Charles Wyplosz**, Emeritus Professor of International Economics at the Graduate Institute in Geneva

## CASE Fellows in 2021

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**Mark Allen**, expertise: global economic governance, financial crises, economics of transition

**Łukasz Arendt**, expertise: labour market, information society

**Misha Belkindas**, expertise: statistics, development economics

**Alexander Chubrik**, expertise: macroeconomics, private sector development

**Marek Dąbrowski**, expertise: monetary and fiscal policies, financial crises, international financial architecture, EU and EMU enlargement, perspectives of European integration, European Neighbourhood Policy, political economy of transition

**Christopher Dembik**, expertise: macroeconomics, monetary policy, financial crises, financial markets, economic policy, trade and globalization

**Stanisława Golinowska**, expertise: social policy, labor market, pension system in Poland

**Christopher Hartwell**, expertise: applied macroeconomics, private sector development, financial sector reform, economic growth, transition economics, public finance, and public administration reform

**Iraj Hashi**, expertise: microeconomics, governance reforms, industrial competitiveness, innovation and firm performance, SME policy

**Elena Jarocińska**, expertise: political economy, fiscal federalism, public economics, labor economics, institutions

**Matthias Luecke**, expertise: migration and development, social policy, and poverty reduction

**Malcolm Maguire**, expertise: youth labor market, vocational education and training, lifelong learning, employee development,

employer recruitment strategies, career guidance

**Susan Maguire**, expertise: social policy, youth transitions, young people, NEET, policy development, post-16 education and training

**Roman Mogilevsky**, expertise: macroeconomics, fiscal and social policy, foreign trade, agricultural economics

**Boris Najman**, expertise: labor market, development economics, economics of transition

**Jarosław Neneman**, expertise: microeconomics, public finance, managerial economics, game theory, tax policy

**Richard Pomfret**, expertise: regional integration in Central, Eastern, and Southeast Asia, international economics, development economics, international trade

**Yochanan Shachmurove**, expertise: international finance and economics, venture capital, emerging financial markets, economies of the Middle East, monetary systems, banking and financial institutions, applied econometrics, Middle East emerging financial markets, the Israeli economy

**Janusz Szyrmer**, expertise: economic forecasting, statistical and data analysis, economic policy

**Irena Topińska**, expertise: poverty measurement, social policy, poverty reduction

**Uladimir Valetka**, expertise: labor market, demographic economics, urban and regional development

**Canan Yildirim**, expertise: banking in transition, corporate governance, insurance, the markets of EU and Turkey, international capital flows

**Anna Wziątek-Kubiak**, expertise: economy of innovation, international economics, development

**Katarzyna Zawalińska**, expertise: agricultural economics, international economics, development

## CASE Office in 2021

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### **Management Board**

The Management Board is responsible for CASE and CASE Network activities, as well as the generation and management of projects in order to ensure the growth and development of the institution.

#### **President:**

Izabela Marcinkowska (Styczyńska)

#### **Vice Presidents:**

Grzegorz Poniatowski (until 6.2021)

Agnieszka Kulesa (since 7.2021)

Jan Hagemeyer (since 7.2021)

### **Operational Staff**

#### **Director of Trade and Macroeconomics**

Jan Hagemeyer (from January 2020)

#### **Director of Fiscal Policy Studies**

Grzegorz Poniatowski

#### **Director of the Middle East and North Africa Department**

Katarzyna Sidło

#### **Senior Economists**

Mikhail Bonch-Osmolovskiy

Tomasz Tratkiewicz

Mehmet Burak Turgut

#### **Economists & Social Science Specialists**

Oskar Chmiel

Kateryna Karunska

Jan Bazyli Klakla

Agnieszka Pechcińska

Adam Śmietanka

Abdoul Karim Zanhoouo

Karolina Zubel

#### **Business Development Team**

Stanislav Bieliei

Marek Peda

Olga Sulkowska

#### **Trainer**

Joanna Starczewska (since 10.2021)

Aleksandra Teliszewska (until 09.2021)

#### **Communications**

Monika Rębała (until 12.2021)

#### **Coordinator, mBank-CASE Seminars**

Monika Rębała (until 12.2021)

#### **Secretariat**

Paulina Kocot

#### **IT Specialist**

Michał Dąbrowski

#### **2021 Interns**

Damien Tourte, Maria Chiara Basilim,

Mariam Harutunyan, Giuseppe Scullari

## CASE Highlights

## CASE achievements in 2021

**55** PROJECTS

**35** PUBLICATIONS

**12** EVENTS



**Total 2021 budget: 6,176,672.17 PLN**



<b>SOCIAL MEDIA</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>TWITTER</b>	<b>1417</b>
<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<b>3544</b>
<b>LINKEDIN</b>	<b>1330</b>



**On average 250 website visits per day;**  
**Almost 70 000 users out of which 11% returning visitors;**  
**Over 261 000 views on the website**

<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>	
<b>CASE REPORTS</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>WORKING PAPERS</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>EXTERNAL PUBLICATIONS</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>MBANK-CASE SEMINAR PROCEEDINGS</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>ShowCASE</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>MY CASE</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>6</b>



## Highlights: Events

### CASE 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference

The purpose of the conference was to bring together international researchers, policymakers, and different stakeholders to discuss the lessons learned over the past 30 years as well as to discuss how to bring them to bear on the challenges of the European Union and Poland specifically.

*It is hard to believe, but CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research is turning 30 this year! It is a great achievement that an institution founded in August 1991 by 10 people, without the experience and knowledge needed to run a private institution, and without financial capital, has survived in good shape for three decades. CASE has carried out much-needed activities in Poland and internationally, ensuring the high quality of its work at all times. Despite the limitations due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Foundation has entered its jubilee year in good financial shape, and we can celebrate our anniversary with satisfaction.*



*Ewa Balcerowicz  
Chairwoman of CASE Supervisory Council*

The conference featured five panel sessions devoted to the challenges that Poland and Europe have been facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the corresponding policies employed by governments. The topics discussed were global value chains, the sustainability of public debt, the labour market, health policies, and other economic and social issues. The first



discussion panel was devoted to the lessons to be drawn from the experience of the transition countries in Eastern Europe. This topic has been significant to CASE since its founding in 1991, and we believe it continues to be an important issue for discussion.



The Conference also featured two keynote speeches delivered by notable economists. Prof. Beata Javorcik's speech focused on CEE's economic recovery after the COVID19 pandemic. Prof. Leszek Balcerowicz talked about the institutional systems and the quality of life.

CASE 30th Anniversary Conference was organized under the patronage of the European Commission, the Mayor of Warsaw, and the World Bank. Media patrons for the Conference included Rzeczpospolita, Emerging Europe, and Euractiv.pl.

**The event attracted approximately 300 guests from Europe, USA and Asia.**

## **mBank-CASE Seminars**

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mBank-CASE Seminars are project with a 29-year tradition. The Seminars provide a forum for discussion among academics, economists, bankers, students of economics, and journalists specializing in economic affairs. With four Seminars per year, the project brings in highly respected and visible policy makers and academics to speak on key issues of the day, including macroeconomics, the financial sector, and public finance in Poland and the EU, as well as important economic policy issues in Poland, the EU, and worldwide. The Seminars are broadcast on the Bankier.pl portal to increase their reach, and are followed by a publication, “mBank-CASE Seminar Proceedings,” published in both Polish and English and available via CASE’s website.

**The Seminars are organized thanks to the generous support of mBank.**

In 2021 1310 participants took part in mBank-CASE seminars:

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Bankier. tv</b>	<b>Bankier. pl</b>	<b>LIVE</b>
<b>THE 168TH MBANK – CASE SEMINAR: CAN THE PROBLEMS IN THE BANKING SECTOR SLOW THE POLISH ECONOMY’S CONVERGENCE PROCESS?</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>378</b>
<b>THE 169TH MBANK-CASE SEMINAR: REFORM PRIORITIES FOR THE HEALTH SERVICE: WHAT CHANGES WILL THE COVID-19 CRISIS BRING?</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>375</b>
<b>THE 170TH MBANK-CASE SEMINAR: THE POLISH DEAL: THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROPOSED NEW TAX SYSTEM</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>325</b>
<b>THE 171ST MBANK-CASE SEMINAR:TAX CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF THE GROWING DIGITAL ECONOMY</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>232</b>

## **Lessons from the economic transition. A discussion based on Oleh Havrylshyn’s book "Present at the Transition"**

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The discussion was focused on the lessons to be drawn from the experience of the transition countries in Eastern Europe. This topic has been significant to CASE since its founding in 1991, and we believe it continues to be an important issue for discussion. During the meeting, our three distinguished guests: Prof. Anders Aslund, Prof. Leszek Balcerowicz and Prof.

Christopher Hartwell, analyzed the key problems facing the transition countries of Central and Eastern Europe, and the need for further reforms.

The speakers not only have academic backgrounds, but they also advised governments on economic policy issues. Prof. Anders Aslund is a leading specialist on economic policy in Russia, Ukraine and East Europe. He has served as an economic adviser to several governments, notably the governments of Russia (1991-94) and Ukraine (1994-97). Prof. Leszek Balcerowicz is a key architect of Poland's economic and financial reforms in years 1989-91 (known as "The Balcerowicz plan"). He served as both Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Poland from September 1989 to December 1991. The moderator of the discussion, prof. Christopher Hartwell, is a leading scholar on the evolution of institutions. His research concerns transition dynamics, the economics of institutions, and financial sector development. In addition to his academic work, he has advised governments and the private sector on economic policy issues in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Poland, Croatia, Bosnia, and Kosovo, among others.

The discussion was based on the book "Present at the Transition", authored by the late Prof. Oleh Havrylyshyn, CASE Fellow and a former official in the post-independence Ukrainian government. Grounded in three decades of data, along with experiential research gleaned from nearly thirty countries, his book contains the most up-to-date assessment of economic transitions in post-communist regions. His work critically examines questions of gradual versus radical reforms, the relationship between democracy and market liberalization, and how history, individual personalities, and foreign influence determined political choices.



[Read more](#)

## **CASE tax workshop: Taxes and the European Green Deal**

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The 4th edition of a two-day scientific workshop on economic analysis of the Polish tax system took place on October 18 and 26, 2021. The event was organized by CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research in cooperation with the European Commission Representation in Poland, CenEA – the Centre for Economic Analysis, Łazarski University, the Institute for Structural Research and the Institute of Responsible Finance.

The main goal of the workshop was to build connections among Polish economists and scholars (law, sociology and psychology experts) and to review their current research. We invited scientists working on both theoretical studies and empirical ones. The workshop emphasised the following fields of research:

- a. (non)effectiveness of the tax system;
- b. the distributional consequences of tax burden and benefits;
- c. tax incidence;
- d. tax avoidance and evasion; tax morality.



[Read more](#)



## Highlights: Projects

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### Moja Szansa w Polsce / My chance in Poland

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The grant is implemented under the project "Chance - new opportunities for adults", within Priority Axis IV. Social innovations and transnational cooperation, Measure 4.1 Social innovations of the Knowledge Education Development Operational Program 2014-2020 co-financed by the European Union from the European Social Fund.

As part of the project "My Chance in Poland", an innovative support model for foreign nationals with basic skills is being developed and tested. The aim of the model is to improve skills in understanding and creating information, mathematical reasoning, digital skills and social competences.

Foreign nationals are an increasingly large group on the labour market in Poland. At the same time, activities aimed at improving their skills are not undertaken in a systemic and innovative way. The innovativeness of the model consists in the comprehensive support of this group through a combination of training and mentoring as well as the selection of innovative training methods.

The testing of the support model will cover a total of 80 foreign nationals with the right to legal employment in Poland. These will be people over 25 years old from Warsaw and the surrounding area, who have basic skills in the areas of understanding and creating information, mathematical reasoning, digital skills and social competences.

The model will offer support at three levels: educational, advisory and psychological. The educational support, which will benefit all participants, will take the form of theoretical and practical training. Their aim will be to raise the level of skills of the participants. This process will be strengthened by counselling and psychological support. Each participant will be supported by a tutor or supervisor whose task will be to work on the motivation of the participant. Their relationship will draw on mentoring practice and will include coaching, development assistance and guidance. The psychological support will benefit those participants who wish so. Due to difficult experiences in the country of origin, adaptation stress or other factors, some people may have learning difficulties and psychological support is intended to help alleviate them. It will be offered in two forms – individual meetings with a psychologist and support groups.

The project will develop operational tools to support trainers in the implementation of theoretical and practical training: training scenarios and packages for trainers. Moreover, training packages for participants in three language versions – Polish, English and Russian – will be developed. The model will be described in detail, and after testing it, recommendations will be developed. The long-term benefit of testing the model will be the improvement of skills of the participants, which will translate into support for local social and economic development of Warsaw and its surroundings. The testing will also allow to assess the effectiveness of support triangulation and applied methods and techniques. The results of this assessment can be taken into account in possible future programmes implemented by government institutions and social partners.

**Project leader:** CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partners:** Fundacja Ocalenie, Fundacja dla Somalii

**CASE experts involved:** Agnieszka Kulesa, Katarzyna Sidło, Olga Sułkowska, Aleksandra Teliszewska

**Project funding:** European Social Fund



[Read more](#)

## **TIA Territorial Impact Assessment / Assessing the territorial impact of policies and strategies within the EU Member States**

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Inequalities between places and people are prominent in development discourses around the European Union, with notions such as ‘places that don’t matter’ or ‘places left behind’ or ‘the geography of discontent’. The ‘Region-focused Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA)’ pilot action aims to better understand how different sectoral policies can shape spatial imbalances, focusing in particular on areas left behind and bringing the local levels to the forefront.

By developing a better understanding of policy impacts on territories, better policies can be designed in future which are place sensitive and address more effectively the needs of communities and citizens

The objectives of the project are:

- a. organization and process of dialogue with project partners and stakeholders;
- b. development of the Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) methodology together with a pilot project in the German-Polish interface.

The project aims to prepare a TIA method that has the potential to become a universal European method for territorial impact assessment. The CASE and Ecorys Poland teams aim to achieve this task through:

- a. an effective stakeholder dialogue process allowing the preparation of a method tailored to their needs;
- b. an analysis of the application experience of existing TIA methods and policy impact assessment methods that have not been applied in territorial impact analysis before.

The activities focus on the designated implementation area, i.e., the German-Polish area of connections. The project will equip local, regional and national authorities with information and knowledge on the factors to take consider when designing sectoral policies, in order to take into account not only interregional but also cross-border impacts.

**Project leader:** Ecorys Polska

**Partner:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**CASE experts involved:** Mikołaj Herbst, Jan Hagemeyer, Katarzyna Kopczewska, Agnieszka Pechcińska, Katarzyna Sidło

**Client:** Ministerstwo Funduszy i Polityki Regionalnej RP



[Read more](#)

## VAT in the digital age

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Value Added Tax (VAT) is a tax levied on all goods and services supplied for use or consumption within the European Union (EU). VAT is a multi-stage tax calculated, and thus charged, on the value added at each stage of the value chain. It is collected, as a general principle, from businesses through a system of partial payments. At regular intervals, a VAT registered taxable person pays the net VAT due, which is the difference between the VAT charged on its outputs and the VAT on inputs. This system ensures that the tax is neutral for businesses, regardless of the number of transactions.

The digitalisation of the economy poses new challenges to Tax Authorities and to the VAT system due, for example, to the emergence of new business models, or the sometimes-limited capacity of tax administrations to exploit the huge amounts of information that they are more and more able to collect. Nevertheless, digitalisation also creates opportunities, in that it provides new digital instruments and solutions to help Tax Authorities in dealing with their tasks while reducing regulatory costs, and simplifying tax compliance and reporting for businesses. In this respect, any future evolution of the EU VAT system should avoid the creation of new costs for businesses and the fragmentation of the Single Market.

The assignment requires an assessment of the current situation and the likely impacts of a number of policy options (to be refined and further detailed) on three topics related to VAT and the evolving technologies, digitalisation, and innovative business models, namely:

- a. digital Reporting and e-invoicing;
- b. the VAT treatment of the platform economy;
- c. single EU identification number, and aspects related to the import One-Stop Shop and the low-value threshold, with a particular focus on SMEs;
- d. the assessment is expected to contribute to the preparation of a future Impact Assessment (IA) and legislative proposal.

**Project leader:** Economisti Associati

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, Oxford Research AB, Wavestone S.A., Hedeos Société d'avocats, Mazars N.V.

**CASE experts involved:** Grzegorz Poniatoski, Adam Śmietanka, Mehmet Burak Turgut, Agnieszka Pechcińska, Tomasz Tratkiewicz

**Client:** DG TAXUD



[Read more](#)

# **Fiscal, Monetary, and Financial Policies**



## Projects

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### VAT in the digital age

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Value Added Tax (VAT) is a tax levied on all goods and services supplied for use or consumption within the European Union (EU). VAT is a multi-stage tax calculated, and thus charged, on the value added at each stage of the value chain. It is collected, as a general principle, from businesses through a system of partial payments. At regular intervals, a VAT registered taxable person pays the net VAT due, which is the difference between the VAT charged on its outputs and the VAT on inputs. This system ensures that the tax is neutral for businesses, regardless of the number of transactions.

**Project leader:** Economisti Associati

**Project partners:** CASE, Oxford Research AB, Wavestone S.A., Hedeos Société d'avocats, Mazars N.V.

**CASE experts involved:** Grzegorz Poniatowski, Adam Śmietanka, Mehmet Burak Turgut, Tomasz Tratkiewicz

**Project administrator:**

**Client:** DG TAXUD

**For more details, see CASE Highlights pp. 23.**

### Study and Reports on the VAT Gap in the EU-28 Member States

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The aim of this project was to update the estimates of VAT Gap, identify trends in the VAT Gap time series and monitor progress in closing the Gap. The study will be complemented by the econometric analysis of VAT Gap determinants. Similarly to previous studies, the set of objectives for the two subsequent updates of the VAT Gap study includes nine components, which are:

- To discuss the economic and policy context, potential VAT regime changes, sources of potential changes in VAT revenue components.
- To review and, where applicable, revise the VAT Gap estimates of previous publications for 2014-2018 by taking into account the new or updated data available at the moment of publication and the 5-years period for revision. Furthermore, each publication should include the full series of VAT Gap estimates available since the first estimate for year 2000.
- To present the estimates of the VAT Gap in 2018 at EU level and for each of the 28 Member States (dedicated individual pages).
- To include "fast estimates" for the VAT Gap for 2019.
- To analyse the trends in the VAT Gap estimates that can be interpreted from the numerical estimates.
- To present estimates of the VAT policy Gap in 2018 at EU level, with a country-by-country analysis on the respective impact that VAT reduced rates and exemptions have on it.

- To further analyse the VAT gap with respect to possible irregularities over time, such as sudden drops/increases; or with respect to possible anomalies, such as negative gaps or gaps close to zero.
- To consult the Member States' statistical offices and Ministries of Finance prior to the finalisation of the calculations, in agreement with the European Commission, in order to validate the results of the analysis and check for and correct possible anomalies in the data.
- To describe in detail the methodologies used to arrive at the findings in the report, presented in a specific annex.



[Read more](#)

**Project leader:** CASE– Center for Social and Economic Research

**CASE experts involved:** Grzegorz Poniatoski, Adam Śmietanka, Mehmet Burak Turgut, Tomasz Tratkiewicz

**Client:** DG TAXUD

## VAT GAP in the EU 2022

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The 2022 Study meets new and significant challenges related to accurate and comparable measurement of the VAT Gap in EU Member States. One of these challenges relates to the structural changes in the economies and VAT systems in 2020 and 2021 resulting from the pandemic. Meeting of this challenge will require additional means to forecast relevant Supply and Use Tables (SUT) that are the core source of information about tax base. It will also require estimating other adjustments triggered by temporary measures introduced by Tax Authorities, like deferrals. Secondly, the 2022 Study will need to lay methodological foundations for the future studies that will not benefit from fiscal data that originating from, so called, Own Resource Submissions (ORS) that were discontinued in consequence of simplifications in procedures introduced by DG BUDG. Moreover, the Study will need to meet important and increasing needs for attractive estimates' visualisation and shall take advantage of new modalities for presenting the figures.

The set of tasks, components of the analysis and elements of the presentation envisaged for 2022 Study, consist of:

- Review of the economic and policy context in 2020 and outlook for 2021, which covers as a minimum: economic conditions, VAT regime changes, sources of changes in VAT revenue components.
- Specific research topic: Analysis of the impact of coronavirus pandemic on the VAT Gap.
- VAT Gap estimates by EU Member State as well as at EU level.
- Policy Gap estimates and collection efficiency by EU Member State as well as at EU level.
- Individual country reports.
- Econometric analysis of determinants of the VAT Gap: The report shall critically review and where applicable revise the regression approach, methodology used, and the

choice of explanatory variables used in previous editions of the VAT gap study reports, significance tests and robustness checks.

- Specific research topic: Design and analysis of options in view of likely unavailability of weighted average rate calculations and data sources as of 2021 due to the amended legal framework.
- Web front end for visualisation and dissemination.

**CASE experts involved:** Grzegorz Poniatowski, Adam Śmietanka, Agnieszka Pechcińska

**Project leader:** CASE– Center for Social and Economic Research

**Client:** DG TAXUD



[Read more](#)

## Evaluation of the rates and structures of excise duty on alcohol and alcoholic beverages

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Most of EU excise duty rules for alcohol and alcoholic beverages that are currently in force have been adopted in the early 1990s and - with the exception of the changes introduced by Directive 2020/1151 - they have never been modified. This is especially the case with the EU minimum rates laid down in Directive 92/84, as well as with the excise duty bases and structures for the different product categories, which are laid down in Directive 92/83. Not only does the lack of update raises questions on the validity and effectiveness of the current minima but, more generally, a comprehensive evaluation is required to ascertain whether the provisions and tools designed in 1992 still respond to policy needs and objectives, despite the evolution of market and consumption patterns.

In this respect, the Assignment is aimed at contributing to the periodical Commission's evaluation report, set out in Article 8 of Directive 92/84, providing evidence-based inputs on the current application of excise duties in MS and the achievements of market functioning and public health objectives. The required study will also have to identify and investigate policy issues and needs, and formulate recommendations to address them, based inter alia on potentially scalable measures and tools adopted in Member State or third countries and/or laid down in international guidelines or the scientific literature.

The required study has two-pronged dimensions: a. a retrospective dimension, consisting in evaluating the performance and achievements of the current legal framework vis-à-vis its stated objective; b. a forward-looking dimension, focusing on the possible solutions and approaches that might be considered to address emerging needs and priorities.

The thematic scope of the requested services embraces excise duty rates and structures on alcohol and alcoholic beverages that are laid down in Directive 92/84 and in the Directive 92/83 provisions that are connected with Directive 92/84's regimes. It is understood that other aspects of Directive 92/83 that are not directly connected with excise duty rates and structures (e.g. exemptions for denatured alcohol, correspondences with the customs classification and the like) are outside of the scope of the evaluation. Regarding products, the Assignment will cover all harmonised categories of alcohol products, namely: beer, wine, other fermented beverages, intermediate products and ethyl alcohol.

The geographical scope will encompass the entire EU27, with case studies based on a selected sample of MS. Where relevant for comparison purposes or to analyse flows, non-EU neighbours and other third countries can be added. Regarding the temporal scope, the retrospective analysis will cover, the period 2010 - to date.

The activities are subdivided into: a. information gathering activities; b. analytical activities; c. reporting activities.

**Project leader:** Economisti Associati

**Project partner:** CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research

**CASE experts involved:** Grzegorz Poniatoski, Mehmet Burak Turgut, Tomasz Tratkiewicz

**Client:** DG TAXUD



[Read more](#)

## **Impact analysis of the review of tobacco excise duty rules**

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The purpose of this study was to provide a set of analytical findings, which can support the European Commission's work in developing its proposal for the revision of the Directive 2011/64/EU on the structure and rates of excise duty applied to manufactured tobacco.

The objectives of the study:

- a. to construct the logic of intervention on the basis of both public health and internal market objectives;
- b. to specify in detail the workable options of the intervention and provide a detailed overview of alternative design options, their key elements, impacts and technical specifications;
- c. to prepare an analysis of costs, benefits, opportunities and risks in respect of the options, and of the different variants within each option, with the expectation that the analysis will feed into preparations for a future impact assessment and legislative proposal;
- d. to assess the technical feasibility of every option identified in relation to EU law and international obligations;
- e. the output of the project will allow the Commission to establish an overview of the scale of the problems identified in the evaluation of the Directive, the evolution of the problems if no further EU action is taken and the potential impacts of several options proposed to solve the problems.

**Project leader:** Economisti Associati

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, CEPS – Centre for European Policy studies,

**CASE experts involved:** Tomasz Tratkiewicz

**Client:** DG TAXUD



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## Events

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### **The 171st mBank-CASE seminar: Tax Challenges and Opportunities of the Growing Digital Economy**

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The value of facilitation services of the 20 largest digital platforms in the EU is estimated to exceed EUR 75 billion with the value of the ecosystem they create even six times larger. Not only the value but also the pace of growth of the digital economy is immense. As an example, the earnings of people working through platforms have only increased by about 2.5 times in the past five years in the EU.

Digitalization of the economy poses new challenges to tax administration due to the emergence of new and complex business models and dematerialization of transactions. The pace of growth of the problems in recent years was immense. The digitalization also creates opportunities, in that it provides new digital instruments for improving monitoring of tax compliance and reducing its cost. Already, over half of the Member States have digital reporting requirements in place with some of them gathering information in real time.

Adapting tax systems to the challenges related to changing the nature of transactions and structure of the economy is necessary to avoid tax base erosion and declining compliance. This has already been noted by many tax administrations and institutions. It stimulated the implementation of new instruments, like 'digital taxes'.

The seminar focused on diagnosing the problems, discussing potential and forthcoming solutions in the EU as well as economic consequences of the expected changes. The seminar covered three selected thematic areas crucial for taxes in the digital age, which are: (1) taxing income of large digital companies, (2) digital reporting requirements, and (3) VAT in the collaborative economy.

**Speakers:** Giacomo Luchetta, Grzegorz Poniowski



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### **The 170th mBank-CASE seminar: The Polish Deal: The economic consequences of the proposed new tax system**

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At a public conference of the three-party governing coalition – Law & Justice, Poland of Solidarity and Jarosław Gowin's Alliance – on May 15 2021, a program called the Polish Deal was presented.

During the 170th mBank-CASE Seminar we analyzed, among others, the far-reaching proposals for changes in the tax system. One of the goals of the Polish Deal is "the fastest possible return to the path of economic growth," but the document contains no analysis of whether and how the changes in taxes will affect medium- and long-term growth. Nor are there any estimates of how they will affect the labor market, the propensity to invest (leaving aside the question

of special tax relief for investors and the plan for huge government investment in infrastructure).

**Speakers:** Marek Skawiński, Łukasz Czernicki, Dr hab. Michał Myck, Prof. Paweł Wojciechowski, Prof. Joanna Tyrowicz.



[Read more](#)

## **CASE tax workshop: Taxes and the European Green Deal**

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The 4th edition of a two-day scientific workshop on economic analysis of the Polish tax system took place on October 18 and 26, 2021. The event was organized by CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research in cooperation with the European Commission Representation in Poland, CenEA – the Centre for Economic Analysis, Łazarski University, the Institute for Structural Research and the Institute of Responsible Finance.

The main goal of the workshop was to build connections among Polish economists and scholars (law, sociology and psychology experts) and to review their current research. We would invited scientists working on both theoretical studies and empirical ones. The workshop emphasized the following fields of research:

- a. (non)effectiveness of the tax system;
- b. the distributional consequences of tax burden and benefits;
- c. tax incidence;
- d. tax avoidance and evasion; tax morality.

**Speakers:** Jarek Neneman (moderator), see programme below for the full list of speakers.



[Read more](#)

## **Publications**

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### **VAT GAP in the EU. Report 2021**

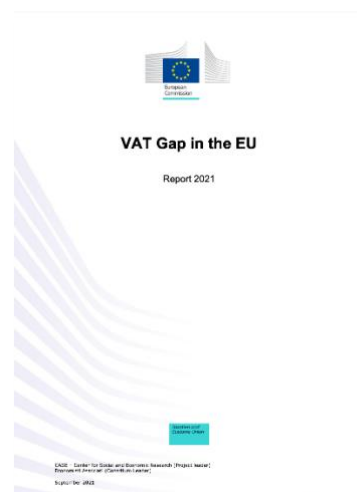
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This Report has been prepared for the European Commission, DG TAXUD, for the project TAXUD/2019/AO-14, “Study and Reports on the VAT Gap in the EU-28 Member States”, and is a follow-up to the eight reports published between 2013 and 2020.

The report provides yearly Value Added Tax (VAT) Gap estimates for the EU-28 covering the 2015-2019 period. We calculate the VAT Gap as the difference between the VAT due and the actual VAT revenues. As such, it represents the VAT revenues lost compared to a theoretical VAT calculation. The underlying reasons for this VAT Gap can be grouped into four broad categories: (1) VAT fraud and VAT evasion, (2) VAT avoidance practices and optimisation, (3) bankruptcies and financial insolvencies, and (4) administrative errors. While each of these reasons calls for a different policy response, even under the best circumstances the VAT Gap

could not be completely eliminated, for instance as regards foregone VAT due to bankruptcies and financial insolvencies.

To calculate the VAT Gap, we follow a consumption-side top-down approach, developed under the 2013 VAT Gap Study and agreed with Member States' authorities to ensure that the VAT Gap is estimated in a consistent way across time and Member States. However, the consumption-side top-down approach does not allow for a further breakdown of the VAT Gap into the causes listed above. A more targeted analysis of the components and reasons for the VAT Gap is therefore outside the scope of this report. However, DG TAXUD announced that it foresees launching more targeted studies in the future which would allow segmenting the overall VAT Gap into separate elements that could be quantified and further analysed. This additional work might then help design targeted policy measures to reduce the overall VAT Gap.



In addition, based on the updated set of estimates, we analyse econometrically the VAT Gap determinants. In order to improve the explanatory power of the models presented in the 2020 Study, we use the principal component analysis (PCA) and extend the set of “tax administration” variables. This Report also presents the overall collection efficiency (the “C-efficiency” ratio), updates of the Policy Gap estimates for 2019, and the contributions that reduced rates and exemptions made to the theoretical VAT revenue losses.

**Authors:** Grzegorz Poniatowski, Mikhail Bonch-Osmolovskiy, Adam Śmietanka, Agnieszka Pechcińska



[Read the Report](#)

## The Polish Deal: The economic consequences of the proposed new tax system

At a public conference of the three-party governing coalition – Law & Justice, Poland of Solidarity and Jarosław Gowin’s Alliance – on May 15 2021, a program called the Polish Deal was presented.

In this publication, which was created based on the 170th mBank-CASE Seminar, we analyze one of its parts: the far-reaching proposals for changes in the tax system. The analysis we present here isn’t comprehensive, which would require a broad report, but partial: it covers potential economic effects, in selected areas.

One of the goals of the Polish Deal is “the fastest possible return to the path of economic growth,” but the document contains no analysis of whether and how the changes in taxes will affect medium- and long-term growth. Nor are there any estimates of how they will affect the labor market, the propensity to invest





(leaving aside the question of special tax relief for investors and the plan for huge government investment in infrastructure).

So we asked economic experts to evaluate the effects of the proposed changes in the tax system: Dr. hab. Michał Myck, director of the CenEA research center; Kajetan Trzciński, Research Economist in CenEA; Warsaw University Professor Joanna Tyrowicz and Dr. Paweł Wojciechowski, vice president and chief economist of the organization Employers of Poland.

**Authors:** Ewa Balcerowicz, Joanna Tyrowicz, Kajetan Trzciński, Michał Myck, Paweł Wojciechowski



[Read the Paper](#)

## Thinking Beyond the Pandemic: Monetary Policy Challenges in the Medium- to Long-Term

The economic characteristics of the COVID-19 crisis differ from those of previous crises. It is a combination of demand- and supply-side constraints which led to the formation of a monetary overhang that will be unfrozen once the pandemic ends. Monetary policy must take this effect into consideration, along with other pro-inflationary factors, in the post-pandemic era. It must also think in advance about how to avoid a policy trap coming from fiscal dominance.

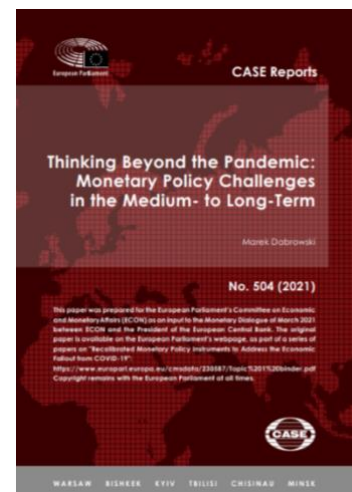
This paper is organized as follows: Chapter 2 deals with the economic characteristics of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the effectiveness of the monetary policy response measures undertaken. In Chapter 3, we analyse the monetary policy decisions of the ECB (and other major CBs for comparison) and their effectiveness in achieving the declared policy goals in the short term. Chapter 4 is devoted to an analysis of the policy challenges which may be faced by the ECB and other major CBs once the pandemic emergency comes to its end. Chapter 5 contains a summary and the conclusions of our analysis.

This paper was provided by the Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies at the request of the committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON).

**Author:** Marek Dąbrowski



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## Economic Assessment of the Euro Area. Winter 2020/2021

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With renewed containment measures in place during the fourth quarter and in the beginning of 2021, the short-term outlook for GDP has become less favourable. Resurging infection rates triggered renewed measures to contain the pandemic in autumn which derailed the recovery. Euro area GDP contracted by 0.7 per cent in the fourth quarter, according to the Eurostat flash estimate, with declines in output concentrated in France, Italy and Austria. PMI data indicate that the manufacturing sector still shows a sustained growth, whereas the service sector is increasingly constrained by severe social distancing measures. The manufacturing data from PMI are corroborated by the industrial production data from Eurostat. The renewed measures will also have a negative impact on economic activity in the first quarter of 2021. A sustained recovery will only start after large scale vaccination amongst the general public reduces contaminations. Due to an anticipated relaxation of the containment measures, production and consumption are expected to pick up from the second quarter onwards. Initially, the recovery is quite strong because of pent-up demand, with GDP growing at 4.9 per cent in 2021 (average of the EUROFRAME institutes forecasts). In 2022, the recovery will continue, albeit at a more moderate growth rate of 3.1 per cent.



The governments of CEECs responded to the Covid-19 pandemic through various fiscal measures. These measures are expected to increase government expenditure on average by 4.8 and 1.3 percent YoY in 2020 and 2021, respectively. Along with decreased tax revenues, elevated expenditure will lead to a deterioration in the state of the public finances. The average budget balance-to-GDP ratio in the region is projected to reach -7.4 percent in 2020 and -5.2 percent in 2021. Overall, the general government debt-to-GDP ratio is expected to hit 46.1 percent in 2020 and 48.2 percent in 2021, in total in the region. Due to the expected roll-out of the vaccine for the Covid-19 virus and the assumed easing of containment measures, CEEC economies are expected to rebound in 2021. However, GDP in real terms in all CEECs in 2021 will remain below the levels observed in 2019. A full recovery of CEE economies is expected no earlier than in 2022. GDP growth in 2021 is projected to reach up to 5.4 percent year-over-year in Slovakia and as low as 3.1 per cent in Lithuania. Poland, Hungary, and Latvia are the other countries are expected to grow at the pace of over 4 percent. The annual GDP growth for Poland is forecasted at 4.1 percent and 4.0 percent in 2021 and 2022, respectively. Hence, the Polish economy is expected to return to its pre-Covid growth trends.

**Authors: Mehmet Burak Turgut, Grzegorz Poniatowski**



[Read the Paper](#)



# **Sustainable Development Policies**

## Projects

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### **MIGRIGHT: Improving social dialogue for decent work of migrants and refugees in Poland**

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The main objective of the project is to raise capacity of social partners in Poland to participate in both tripartite and bipartite dialogue through the transfer of best practices and training regarding fostering migrant and refugee workers' rights and ensuring decent work conditions for this group of workers.

In order to achieve this goal, the project specifically aims to:

- a. increase the level of professionalization of the social dialogue through better preparation of its participants and by basing the dialogue on facts (evidence-based policy making);
- b. facilitate the social dialogue on migrant and labour policies through the development of a set of guidelines and recommendations regarding the cooperation between the dialogue's participants that would support the dialogue-friendly environment;
- c. disseminate knowledge on activities of social dialogue partners in Poland and Norway in the sphere of fostering migrant and refugee workers' rights and ensuring decent work conditions for this group of workers.

The project helps to establish decent work practices and will address primarily the issue of labour rights and equality of opportunity and treatment of migrant and refugee workers.

The following activities are carried out as part of the project:

- a. Three expert and consultative meetings (round tables) will be organised at the voivodship level. The meetings will be attended by the participants of social dialogue in Poland, public authorities and other organisations that promote decent work. The aim of the meetings will be twofold: 1) to enhance the knowledge base of the participants of the social dialogue on the issues related to the presence of third country nationals on the Polish labour market, with special emphasis on migrant and refugee workers' rights and ensuring decent work conditions for this group of workers; 2) to create a dialogue-friendly environment for open discussions on the issues central to the project. Each meeting will be dedicated to the specific topic related to decent work of migrants and refugees, and discussions will be informed by dedicated discussion briefs. The meetings will serve not only as a forum for the exchange of opinions but will also help to identify measures and actions that should or could be taken in order to improve the existing situation.
- b. Four workshop trainings will be organised in Warsaw and attended by all project partners and representatives of other social dialogue institutions and public authorities. Workshop participants will work jointly on the development

of a set of guidelines and recommendations regarding the cooperation between the dialogue's participants – the MIGRIGHT Social Dialogue Toolkit. The aim of the workshop trainings will also be twofold: 1) to transfer knowledge and good practices from the Norwegian partner regarding the practice of social dialogue in the sphere of migration and labour policies, and specifically on the issues related to decent work of migrant and refugee workers (case studies); 2) to map, discuss and jointly address existing obstacles in conducting an effective social dialogue on the issues central to the project.

- c. Representatives of Polish social dialogue participants will participate in the study visit to Norway. The aim of the visit will be to support transferring of best practices through a series of meetings with social dialogue organisations and public authorities from Norway. Special emphasis will be put on discussions on the transferability of best practices to the Polish ground. The results of the visit will feed into the MIGRIGHT Social Dialogue Toolkit.
- d. Final conference, attended by all project partners and other invited representatives of social dialogue organisations, public authorities and other relevant organisations, will be organised in Warsaw. The main aim of the conference will be to disseminate the results of the project and to promote the MIGRIGHT Social Dialogue Toolkit.

**Project leader:** Federacja Przedsiębiorców Polskich, FPP

**Project partners:** CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research, Ogólnopolskie Porozumienie Związków Zawodowych, OPZZ, Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise, NHO

**CASE experts involved:** Agnieszka Kulesa, Emilia Małys-Zaremba, Jan Bazyli Klakla, Oskar Chmiel

**Project funding:** Norway Grants 2014-2021, in the frame of the Programme "Social Dialogue – Decent Work".



[Read more](#)

## **Territorial impact of migration on frontline regions and cities on the EU shores of the Mediterranean**

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The socio-economic impact of migration and everyday problems relating to receiving and integrating migrants are strongly felt at local and regional level. It is evident that migration patterns vary from region to region and their impact is unevenly distributed. Some EU Member States are more exposed to these migratory flows than others owing to their geographical location. Those on the frontline are under a particularly heavy burden from migration and are seeking solutions. Recently, a group of Mediterranean states (Spain, Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Malta) created the so-called MED5 to speak with one voice on migration policies.

The challenges brought about by migratory flows from third countries are significant for cities and regions that are close to points of entry into the EU as well as for those that receive many asylum seekers or refugees. This became apparent in 2015, when record numbers of refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants arrived in the EU. In order to improve the coordination of

European assistance in areas of significant migratory pressure, the European Commission developed a 'hotspot approach' as part of the European Agenda for Migration, and this was further developed during the Justice and Home Affairs Council meetings.

Currently, five hotspots have been set up in Italy and Greece. In addition to the hotspots, which are regions that are clearly under migratory pressure, the Canary Islands experienced a surge in migrant arrivals in 2020, leaving national and regional authorities overwhelmed in trying to accommodate them. Combined with the public health restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this led to the rapid deterioration of the humanitarian situation and sparked some protests among the local population.

The objectives of the project were to examine:

- a. the territorial impact of migration on the selected EU frontline regions and cities in the Mediterranean and the implications for the local and regional authorities and their abilities to provide public services;
- b. local and regional authorities' involvement in integrating migrants in the selected frontline regions and cities in the Mediterranean, possibly facilitated by EU funds, and the social and economic gains generated through this process. In terms of coverage of the Euro-Med region, this study is to focus only on the EU Member States in this region, and from those only Spain, Italy, Malta, Greece and Cyprus.

In accordance with the above objective, the aim of this project was to provide factual, synthetic and visually friendly answers to the following questions:

Q1: What do we know about the recent impact of migration via the Western Mediterranean route, the Central Mediterranean route, and the Eastern Mediterranean route on EU frontline regions and cities in the Mediterranean?

Q2: What do we know about local integration strategies that have been developed in these frontline regions and cities in the Mediterranean, transforming the potential of migratory flows into social and economic gains benefitting both the host community and the third country nationals?

**Project leader:** CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partner:** IMED

**CASE experts involved:** Agnieszka Kulesa, Katarzyna Sidło

**Client:** The European Committee of the Regions



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## CIRCMIGR Improving circular migration between Belarus and Poland, Slovakia and Czechia

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The main aim of this project was to examine social and economic effects of circular migration between Belarus and Poland, Slovakia and Czechia. The project's core question is how managing circular migration could, in the long-term, help to optimise labour resources in both country of origin and destinations countries, while protecting migrants' rights. Migration flows between Belarus and Poland, Slovakia and Czechia include significant circular movement that is characterized by a repetitive legal back and forth mobility. Data for the mentioned V4 states indicate that the number of Belarussian citizens granted various forms of work permits has been constantly rising. Circular migration should be managed in a way to optimize labour markets at both ends. It has been identified that circular migration from Belarus contribute to ease current labour shortages in selected V4 states, and especially in services sector and industry. At this end concerns are raised around such issues as respect for migrants' social and labour rights and efficient labour matching. On the opposite end, little is known about the impact of circular migration to Poland, Slovakia and Czechia on the Belarussian labour market and economy (e.g. investments from remittances and savings). Globally, studies on the issue are fragmentary and inconsistent.

In order to make circular migration beneficial for all involved actors, we have to first understand how it works and what impacts it creates (overall goal). Such assessment would provide a reliable basis for policy-making, advocacy and action promoting orderly and well managed circular migration. To this end, CASE and its partners developed a circular migration feasibility study based on the evidence gained to date and on the regional labour market and macroeconomic forecasts for all the involved countries. The study includes a development component and verifies whether circular migration from Belarus to the selected V4 states in its current form really endow Belarussians with new skills, provide for skills transfer and prevent brain drain, and whether it supports an investment-oriented use of remittances and savings. The study includes a set of policy recommendations on organising and managing circular migration and will be discussed with policy-makers at a dissemination event. We also promote orderly circular movements and support current mobility by providing essential pre-departure information. Thus, we set up a website and produce a leaflet addressed migrants from Belarus describing main legal pathways to Poland, Slovakia and Czechia as well as their rights as labour migrants.

**Project leader:** CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partners:** CASE Belarus - Center for Social and Economic Research Belarus, Institute for Politics and Society, Institute of Economic Research, SAS, Youth Labour Rights

**CASE experts involved:** Agnieszka Kulesa, Izabela Marcinkowska

**Project funding:** Co-financed by the Governments of Czechia, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia through Visegrad Grants from International Visegrad Fund.



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## **EuroPACE Developing, piloting and standardising on tax financing for residential energy efficiency retrofits in European cities and regions**

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EuroPACE develops a scalable on-tax financing mechanism to unlock the huge potential for deployment of energy saving and generation technologies to European households. The scheme is inspired by the successful US PACE scheme that was invented in California in 2008. The project will address several fundamental challenges to EE investment by (1) A Market-Based Approach: EuroPACE will deploy private capital as up-front financing to homeowners, i.e. reduce reliance on grants and subsidies. In turn, municipalities will be the conduit for the repayment via a special levy collected with the property tax bill. (2) De-Risking EE Investment: the long-term repayments obligation is tied to a property and not its owner, (3) Technical Assistance: decision-making processes for homeowners will be optimized by training energy service contractors. They will be held to account by a comprehensive consumer protection code. (4) Aggregation and Standardization: EuroPACE will design standard underwriting requirements and project performance guidelines to enable project aggregation and Green Bonds issuance.

By 2025, The EuroPACE industry will generate measurable impact in the three key areas:

- I. Economy - over 45.000 jobs and €5bn of capital in local economies across the EU27.
- II. Society - over 300.000 homes retrofitted and improved.
- III. Environment - energy saving of 3.5MWh/year, equating to CO2 savings totalling 1.8m tons. EuroPACE will account for just 4.6% of the European renovation industry by 2025 giving way to huge growth potential.

From a policy perspective, PACE will enable local and state governments in the EU to achieve the 2050 policy targets and COP 21 Paris Agreement goals of reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, PACE-funded projects result in local job creation; every \$1M spent on a PACE project creates 15 local jobs. In a nutshell, PACE is a public policy that enables private sector investment.

Objectives of the project:

- a. Europace sets goals on the economy, environment and the society – the elements of the triple-bottom-line, concept that are considered necessary for achieving sustainability.
- b. Economy: EuroPACE aims to create successful Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) that can promote public policies leveraging private initiatives.
- c. Environment: reduces emissions leading to improved air quality in the most polluted European cities, especially when combined with existing policies. EuroPACE aims to reduce CO2 at an annual rate of 1.2m by 2025, tripling from the previous year and equating to CO2 reductions by 200 tons for each million EUR invested.
- d. Society: PACE US has shown that real estate values increased by between \$ 199 and \$ 8,900 per home. This data is aligned with the empirical findings of several



studies in the EU and Member States which demonstrated that, because of retrofitting, property values increase between 5 and 12%. EuroPACE intends to realize this potential for homeowners.

**Project coordinator:** CASE

**Project leader:** Global New Energy Finance S.L

**Project partners:** CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research (coordinator), Global New Energy Finance S.L (Spain), Joule Assets Europe (Finland), Climate Bonds Initiative (UK), Ajuntament d'Olot (Spain), Agencia Extremena de la Energia (Spain), Ente Vasco de la Energia (Spain), Social Innovation for Communities – UPSOCIAL SL (Spain).

**Project funding:** European Union's Horizon 2020



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## **GREEN HEAT - towards collaborative local decarbonization**

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Despite the fact that many Polish cities have a very well-developed district heating system, a huge number of houses still use individual boilers for heating and domestic hot water preparation. The vast majority is based on fossil fuels, mainly coal, causing air pollution and emitting huge amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

For the selected Pilot Case in Legionowo, Poland, a participatory procedure for the gradual elimination of individual fossil fuel boilers is being developed and carried out. This will lead to a recommendation on the target structure of the new local energy system based on renewables, indicating potential technology suppliers, listing financing sources and providing the business model of operation worked out together with local stakeholders. System should be socially and economically accepted and feasible in a reasonable time. This process will be used to develop a methodology to ultimately eliminate individual fossil fuel boilers from other locations/cities.

Project employs a multidisciplinary approach to achieve the project objectives, literature review, data analysis, surveys, individual and group in-depth interviews, system dynamic models, energy system analysis and modelling, co-creation and participatory process to support decision making processes.

The work is divided into thematic work packages looking at the problem from different perspectives; these are social, technical and economical. There is also one work package combining all of the aspects and developing tools - system dynamics (SD) models to support the transdisciplinary analysis.

Representatives of various stakeholders will be invited to cooperate: residents, technology suppliers, city council representatives, local businesses, potential investors, government agencies and NGOs.

**Project leader:** Instytut Maszyn Przepływowych im. Roberta Szewalskiego Polskiej Akademii Nauk

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, Akademia Leona Koźmińskiego, Norsk institutt for luftforskning (Norway), Universitetet i Bergen (Norway), Akademia Pedagogiki Specjalnej im. Marii Grzegorzewskiej, Fundacja KEZO affiliated to Centrum Badawcze Polskiej Akademii Nauk.

**Grant:** IDEALAB - Programme 'Applied Research' – NCBiR



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## Moja Szansa w Polsce / My chance in Poland

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The grant is implemented under the project "Chance - new opportunities for adults", within Priority Axis IV. Social innovations and transnational cooperation, Measure 4.1 Social innovations of the Knowledge Education Development Operational Program 2014-2020 co-financed by the European Union from the European Social Fund.

As part of the project "My Chance in Poland", an innovative support model for foreign nationals with basic skills will be developed and tested. The aim of the model will be to improve skills in understanding and creating information, mathematical reasoning, digital skills and social competences.

Foreign nationals are an increasingly large group on the labour market in Poland. At the same time, activities aimed at improving their skills are not undertaken in a systemic and innovative way. The innovativeness of the model will consist in the comprehensive support of this group through a combination of training and mentoring as well as the selection of innovative training methods.

**Project leader:** CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partners:** Fundacja Ocalenie, Fundacja dla Somalii

**CASE experts involved:** Agnieszka Kulesa, Katarzyna Sidło, Olga Sułkowska, Aleksandra Teliszewska

**Project funding:** European Social Fund

**For more details, see CASE Highlights p. 21.**

## SMARTLY - Neets' Employability in the Green & Digital Economy

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The SMARTLY Project aims to develop an innovative profiling method featuring specific elements relevant for digital and green jobs. The profiling will be integrated by the development of relevant training content aimed at strengthening key competences of NEETs in such areas. Such training content will also build on the survey finding conducted with employers and other relevant stakeholders to ascertain the needs of the sector in terms of key competences and skills required in digital and green jobs. The training will be submitted for accreditation at the end of the project.

The project also engages employers to ensure consistency between labour force competences and demand in the green economy. At the end, PES and other entities will adopt an improved

profiling and training approach that will help aligning NEETs' competences to labour market for Green and Digital sectors.

Finally, the project results will be disseminated widely through the participants' networks with the aim of transferring the solutions to other organisations that deliver the Youth Guarantee in Europe.

Smartly will generate the following results:

- a. survey and needs analysis;
- b. design of Training Content in Green Jobs;
- c. design of Training Content in Digital Jobs;
- d. design and testing of enhanced Profiling Questionnaires;
- e. organization of multiplier events;
- f. wide dissemination and promotion of project results.

To achieve the results, the partners will implement the following activities:

- a. desk research and needs analysis and data analysis;
- b. interviews with stakeholders;
- c. online and offline communication activities;
- d. writing of project reports and elaboration of findings;
- e. creation of a digital tool for the enhanced profiling questionnaire;
- f. identification and description of learning outcomes, pedagogical assessment tools, learning methods and training material.

**Project leader:** Jobsplus

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, ANCI Toscana (IT), Local Council Association Polo Universitario di Grosseto (IT), Higher Education Public Employment Service (CY), Public Employment Service (HR) Cde-petrapatrimonia (FR)

**CASE experts involved:** Izabela Marcinkowska

**Project funding:** Erasmus Plus



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## **INTERCEPT - Motivating Mobilizing Supporting Neets Green Career Pathway**

The project's goal is to tackle youth unemployment with a transnational approach. This topic, along with its multinational angle, is perfectly in line with the Europe 2020 strategy and the EU cohesion policy that takes into account the crucial role of the regions and cross-border cooperation plays in smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. In this context the INTERCEPT is an ambitious initiative characterized by a duality of purpose, reducing social inequalities and raising awareness on green economy while implementing sustainable policies. The project revolves around the idea that the green economy and the investments within it are going to be crucial for the post-pandemic recovery and are bound to change our economy and society forever. The INTERCEPT project stretches over three countries - Malta, Lithuania, Italy - and it involves a group of 300 NEETs (Neither in Employment or in Education or Training) between

the age of 25 and 29 years who will be trained accordingly and will search employment related to Green Economy.

The aim of the project is to mainstream the new approach into a structural measure to integrate NEETs in the green economy, relying also on the evaluation of piloted schemes. The project partners are public employment services that will be able to see, through the project, the effectiveness of their services. INTERCEPT will also engage employers to ensure consistency between labour force competences and demands in the green economy.

In this context, CASE will analyze the best practices which lead to the successful 25-29 years old NEETs' integration in the labour market. Another task of the project will be to identify and highlight barriers that limit the impact of the implemented practices in all participating countries. CASE's experts will take part into the assessment of pilot projects and will collaborate in the creation of the conclusions and improvements suggestions. CASE experts will also have a quality control role in the project.

**The project's operational objectives are:**

- a. analysis of the characteristics, needs, and barriers faced by the target group in partner countries; and identification of the key lessons of relevant ALMP practices implemented in the EU (with a focus on partner countries) to underpin the schemes;
- b. developing an innovative outreach and activation strategy based on green economy for the inactive NEETs;
- c. designing a tailored activation, career counselling and training package;
- d. building connections between the PES and the employers in the green economy around organising workplace insertions of the programme participants;
- e. document, evaluate and share the experience of this innovative ALMP programme at EU level.

EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Youth Employment are funded by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. The Grants have two main objectives – to contribute to a more equal Europe, both socially and economically – and to strengthen the relations between Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, and the 15 Beneficiary States in Europe. The objective of these grants is to reduce social and economic disparities and strengthen bilateral relations and the targeted population group are young people in different European countries.

**Project leader:** Jobsplus

**Project partners:** CASE - Centrum Analiz Społeczno-Ekonomicznych, Institute of Economic Research of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (Slovakia); Employment Services under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour of The Republic of Lithuania (Lithuania); Visionary Analytics (Lithuania); Anci Toscana - Association of Municipalities of Tuscany (Italy); Grosseto University hub (Italy); National Employment Agency Luxembourg (Luxembourg).

**CASE experts involved:** Oskar Chmiel

**Project funding:** EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Youth Employment



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## Shaping digital literacy for young people in the new conditions

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The main aim of the project is to promote a digital literacy among young people and improve their digital, management and communication skills by their engagement (as an assistant) in CASE research projects. The project will be an answer to the lack of operational tools, fill the gap in digital knowledge and enhance synergies between young people and potential employers.

The main objective of this project is to promote digital education among young people by implementation practical tasks, research activities, workshops and tutorials. Within the project, we tend to share our knowledge and experience among youngsters and show a set of basic skills are needed for successful implementation of contemporary research projects.

Relying on partners experience and by identifying common trends, the specific objectives of the activities are:

- a. to systematize and develop digital skills for implementing research projects and office work;
- b. to raise awareness among young people on the importance of lifelong learning;
- c. to figure out possible ways to tailor skills using online platforms;
- d. to facilitate the dialogue between different social groups in order to figure out the challenges and issues they face in daily life;
- e. to promote the social inclusion of youngsters at local/country/European levels;
- f. to contribute to the European volunteering movement as a mean of strengthening active citizenship among young people.

The project is focused on young people's needs and designed to contribute to the capacity building of youngsters at the beginning of their professional career.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partner:** MOH Associazione Socioculturale, Maison de l'Europe de Tours Centre Val de Loire

**CASE experts involved:** Stanislav Bieliei, Paulina Kocot

**Project funding:** Erasmus+, European Solidarity Corps



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## Economic Interdependency and Conflict

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The main aim of the project is to help the research community and policy makers to gain a better understanding of the relationship between economic interdependence and conflict in the context of the Arab world. The final report will consist of four chapters focusing on, respectively: i) overview of what does the literature tell us on the relationship between economic interdependence and conflict management, ii) investigation of the impact of enhanced economic interdependence on conflict management, iii) investigation of the impact of conflict on economic interdependence, and iv) exploration of institutions and their role in enhancing economic interdependence and lessening conflict management.

**Project leader:** Ahmed Ghoneim, Professor of Economics, Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University,

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, ERF, FEMISE

**CASE experts involved:** Katarzyna Sidło

**Project funding:** Economic Research Forum for Arab Countries, Iran and Turkey (ERF)



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## **USAGE – Urban Stormwater Aquaponics Garden Environment**

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The objective of this project is to create the green-garden installation for the food production which is based on aquaponic systems supported on rain and stormwater collection infrastructure. Alongside to food production, the infrastructure will play an educational and social role, integrating the citizens, creating the workplaces and propagating the environment-friendly behaviours. The design of the system will be suited to the urban tissue thanks to local community engagement and urban planners work. The aquaponic installation connected with the water collection and treatment system will create a meeting place and play a social role by integrating neighbourhoods, local citizens, boosting entrepreneurship and rising the knowledge about climate changes.

The project takes the Urban Living Lab (ULL) approach with six interrelated, feedback-driven work packages. It's a complex project, containing aquaponics with stormwater treatment and the technologic "mixture" with social component. ULL methodology assumes moving almost all research activities to the project site. Big part of infrastructure will be located in two urban sites (Wroclaw and Oslo) and research on them will be performed there. In this "cocreation" process subject infrastructure is developed in front of the local community and with their engagement. Researchers in this setting can be seen as "invited experts" that intervene within stormwater aquaponic installation but are doing this "on behalf" of society. Aquaponic farm in modern, dense cities may help accomplish the search for amorphous forms, offering expected variety and contrast in highly urbanized context. Even more important advantage that aquaponic farm offers to urban hierarchies is its potential of social interactions.

**Project leader:** Water Science and Technology Institute - H2O SciTech

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, Norwegian Institute for Water Research (Norway), Warsaw University of Technology (Poland), Politechnika Krakowska im. Tadeusza Kościuszki/Cracow University of Technology (Poland), The Fridtjof Nansen Foundation at Polhøgda (Norway)

**CASE experts involved:** Karolina Zubeł

**Project funding:** EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014 – 2021, Narodowe Centrum Badań i Rozwoju



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## CREATE 2 EVALUATE

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CREATE2Evaluate will develop innovative tools devoted to policy makers at various layers of governance (from local to national and EU) to monitor and evaluate the impact and effectiveness of Adult Education (AE) policies and interventions.

Evaluation and Valorisation are crucial steps in creating viable strategies with long-term benefits. Yet many AE policies on the local and regional levels are not systematically evaluated. This is partly due to policy makers lacking the appropriate tools. CREATE2Evaluate addresses this gap by designing a set of useful tools and templates to help AE policy makers and agents active in the AE policy processes evaluate existing strategies, draw actionable conclusions and design better strategies in the future.

The main objective of CREATE 2 EVALUATE is to advance the formulation of effective AE policies and programmes through the development of reliable tools for the evaluation of AE policies at various layers of governance, with a focus on the local/regional level.

the specific objective is to empower and equip policy and decision-makers with tools that allow to effectively monitor and evaluate the impact of AE and feed into the policy loops.

Project results:

- a. designing guiding documents which will facilitate uptake and increase impact at a systemic level (piloted and refined tools to create easy-to-use templates);
- b. stimulate the debate around the role of evaluation in strategies and the policy cycle to improve the image of evaluation;
- c. development of the virtual community established under CREATE project (partners aim to enable players in the AE field to exchange experiences and cooperate more stringently to achieve more sustainable and efficient results informed by the sector's real needs).

**Project leader:** Niedersächsischer Bund für freie Erwachsenenbildung e.V. – Germany

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, The National University of Ireland, Maynooth (Maynooth University) (Ireland), IHF asbl (Belgium), IDP, Internet Web Solutions (IWS) (Spain), ISJ Neamt, The Municipality of Pescara (Spain)

**CASE experts involved:** Izabela Marcinkowska, Machteld Bergstra

**Project funding:** Strategic Partnerships for adult education



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## Cybersecurity for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises

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The economic impact of cybercrime rose fivefold between 2013 and 2017; cybercrime is the fastest-growing form of criminal activity, with companies being the first target with a cost to businesses estimated at \$5.2 trillion worldwide by 2025 (Accenture, “Cost of Cyber Crime Study”, 2019). EUROPOL reports that “58% of victims are small businesses”. Despite this high vulnerability, only 14% of Micro/Small & Medium Enterprises are prepared to tackle cyber threats (“State of Cybersecurity in Small & Medium Size Businesses” Keeper, 2018). Another

industry report (“SME Cyber threat Study”, Keeper, 2019) confirms that MSMEs are neither aware of cyber-risks nor ready: 66% of senior decision-makers at small businesses believe they are unlikely to be a target of online criminals. Similarly, 60% MSMEs have no digital defence plan whatsoever.

Objectives of the project are:

- a. bridge the skill gaps identified at EU and national levels for micro and small businesses on cybersecurity;
- b. develop innovative training to provide new skills and competences to entrepreneurs and staff of MSMEs;
- c. make it possible for young people to become “cybersecurity experts” and identify new jobs in MSMEs. The profile of cybersecurity expert is in high demand: in 2019, IBM reports that the number of cybersecurity job postings has grown 94%;
- d. contribute to the competitiveness and growth of EU micro and small businesses by providing more relevant and high-quality training and products to tackle the challenges of cybersecurity and better manage cyber threats.

Project results:

- a. innovative training resources, courses and materials for MSMEs to empower their staff with skills and competences on cybersecurity;
- b. a toolbox with operational tools to implement cybersecurity at enterprise level;
- c. increased capacity of MSMEs to understand, anticipate, manage and contain cyber threats;
- d. enhanced operational ability to implement cybersecurity in MSMEs;
- e. validated and relevant training resources for the professional profile of “Cybersecurity Expert for MSME”.

**Project leader:** CTS Customized Training Solutions Sp. z o.o. (Poland)

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, Institut de Haute Formation aux Politiques Communautaires (Belgium), IDP SAS di Giancarlo Costantino (Italy), SC Gentlab SRL (Romania), Internet Web Solutions SL (Spain)

**CASE experts involved:** Izabela Marcinkowska

**Project funding:** Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership Programme



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## **Regulation of the workability in small and micro enterprises through multi-media tools (AKKUEurope)**

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Micro and small enterprises (MSEs) play an important role in the European economy. MSE are potentially particularly affected by a shortage of young talent, as they are unable to compete with the services offered by Medium-Sized Enterprises and large companies in various respects (e.g. job security, pay levels, promotion opportunities). MSE can and must react to this by paying special attention to maintaining the workability and employability of their



existing workforces. In addition to the classic occupational health and safety measures, measures for the preventive maintenance of work and employability must be implemented to a greater extent, so that employees can and want to carry out their work until the planned retirement age. A comprehensive promotion of work ability can help to close this gap. There is feedback from many consultants that the existing instruments cannot be used in companies with fewer than 15 employees: They are too complicated, do not fit in with the choice of words or can only be used with a larger number of employees.

The aim of the AKKUEurope project is the systematic development and testing of a multimedia toolbox suitable for the target group on the basis of existing instruments, together with the owners and employees of selected MSE companies. For this purpose, a research of existing instruments in the participating European countries of the partners of the project is carried out first. The selected instruments will be adapted to the needs of MSE or developed for this target group and especially for the employees working there and tested together with model MSE companies in all European countries covered by the project consortium. After the test phase, a final adjustment of the instruments based on the test results as well as a medial implementation of the toolbox will follow.

AKKUEurope is based on a practical, precise methodological approach: such a balance is ensured by the partners involved. The methodology is outlined along the following steps:

- a. analysis of existing instruments and their adaptation;
- b. development of the toolbox;
- c. pilot project for user-based validation;
- d. completion;
- e. complete introduction and deployment through the OER platform.

Partners involved in the project implementation will carry out the following activities:

- a. analysis of existing instruments in the partner countries;
- b. adaptation of the instruments and completion of the toolbox;
- c. test phase of the toolbox in the company;
- d. media implementation of the instruments.

AKKUEurope results will be practical and relevant solutions for micro and small businesses, available in multilingual versions, free and without restrictions through the OER platform.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partners:** Dialogo, IWS, IDP, IHS, ZIRZ

**CASE experts involved:** Izabela Marcinkowska

**Project funding:** Erasmus Plus



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## **Connecting the Dots: Research and Policy Making on Economic Development, Security and Migration in the Southern Neighbourhood and Beyond**

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In the last decade, Southern Neighbourhood countries have witnessed several changes significantly impacting the economic, security and political situation in the region. In order to adjust its policies to the new context, in 2015 the EU has published a reviewed ENP, identifying conflicts, rising extremism, human rights violations, economic upheaval and refugee flows as the major challenges. Stabilising the region and strengthening Southern neighbourhood countries to enable them to address the emerging threats were mentioned as the priorities of EU external policy. The main rationale of the project is that evidence-based policy making on key areas of ENP South requires strengthened cooperation and reinforced dialogues between all relevant actors, including policy makers, research institutes, civil society, universities and private sector and inclusive participation based on gender, age and geographical origin.

The project aims at facilitating these interactions through a set of intertwined activities that fall under 3 main pillars:

1. The first pillar relates to the production of evidence-based and tailor-made research on priority areas of ENP South.
2. The second pillar is about multi-stakeholders cooperation and capacity building.
3. The third pillar is about dissemination and outreach of what we do.

Objectives of the project:

The main objective of the project is to contribute to increased awareness, as well as regional and national evidence-based policy making on priority areas of the ENP South (economic development, security and migration). The project aims to achieve this through the accomplishment of its specific objectives, which is to stimulate research-policy dialogues on ENP priority areas through tailor made evidence-based research, enhanced multi-stakeholders cooperation, increased research capacities, and holistic outreach and dissemination.

**Project leader:** IEMed

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, members of EuroMeSco

**CASE experts involved:** Katarzyna Sidło

**Project funding:** European Commission (EuropeAid) and the IEMed



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### **Diagnoza.plus**

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Diagnoza.plus is an innovative study which provides an almost real-time measure of the situation on the Polish labor market. To ensure comparability of the results, the e-surveys conducted within this project are based on the National Labour Force Survey (NLFS) performed by the Polish National Statistical Office (GUS).

The project is conducted jointly by CASE, Group for Research in Applied Economics (GRAPE), and Faculty of Management University of Warsaw. The partners of the project are: Institute for Structural Research (IBS), Centre for Economic Analysis (CenEA), Warsaw School of Economics, and EY.

**Project leader:** GRAPE Group for Research in Applied Economics

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, CenEA, IBS, Warsaw School of Economics, EY

**CASE experts involved:** Izabela Marcinkowska, Jan Hagemeyer

**Project funding:** University of Warsaw and own funds.



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## Remote Climate Effects and their Impact on European sustainability, Policy and Trade (RECEIPT)

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In an interconnected world, Europe's economy will be increasingly affected by climate change impacts that occur beyond its border. The movement of goods and services, people and capital occurs at ever increasing rates and volumes. This complex network reveals Europe's globalized climate exposure, vulnerability and risk structure, through which both gradual and sudden impacts of climatic features at any location on the world (hurricanes, droughts, melting ice sheets) propagate, ultimately impacting Europe's socio-economic welfare. Public awareness of Europe's sensitivity to global climate impacts is steadily growing.

A formal analysis that maps potential impacts of remote climatic features is not straightforward. Climatic drivers, connection pathways, and impacts on economic sectors are interconnected and to some extent mutually dependent. A commonly applied "top-down" model output analysis is therefore unlikely to yield useful, credible and representative information, where all relevant risk components of hazards, exposure and vulnerability are incorporated in a manner that is applicable to the current risk profiles of users.

Building on recent research implies that 'storylines', describing the interactions of remote climate effects on European economic sectors, provide complementary insights on remote climate risk. The development of storylines is driven by stakeholders, who assess the effects of remote climate change on Europe through anecdotal and explorative activities. The advantage of assessing risk through storylines over conventional risk assessment is that (a) it reduces a complex collection of data and models into recognizable and understandable storyline scenarios, and (b) since the storylines themselves are developed together with stakeholders, their risk impacts will be more easily accepted and adopted in policy and decision making.

In order to provide relevant and quantitative information on the European risks from remote global climatic features, RECEIPT will develop and implement a novel stakeholder driven storytelling concept that maps representative connections between European socio-economic activities and remote climatic hazards. Using a limited number of storylines designed for selected sectors, RECEIPT has the following key objectives:

- a. mapping of global hotspots of remote areas, which are relevant for Europe through their connection pathways and sensitivity to climate change, using state of the art climate - and climate impact archives;
- b. co-development of sectoral storylines with societal partners, describing the relationship between climate and non-climate drivers of the following socio-economic activities: European food security, finance/capital networks, international development, supply and value chains and European coastal infrastructure;
- c. assessment of European socio-economic impacts along each of the selected storylines under three “Paris scenarios”, representing different interlinked socio-economic development, adaptation, mitigation and climate change pathways towards mid-21st century;
- d. a robust synthesis of the storylines resulting in a pan-European socio-economic risk assessment focusing on the difference between the three “Paris scenarios”;
- e. innovative web-based concepts for visualizing potential impacts of remote drivers and risk mitigation options.

**Project leader:** Deltares (the Netherlands)

**Project partners:** CASE– Center for Social and Economic Research, Koninklijk Nederlands Meteorologisch Instituut-Knmi, Stichting Vu, Stichting Netherlands Escience Center, Internationales Institut Fuer Angewandte Systemanalys, Potsdam Institut Fuer Klimafolgenforschung, Eidgenoessische Technische Hochschule Zuerich, Universitaet Bern, R2 Water, Arctik Spri, Fondazione Centro Euro-Mediterraneo Sui Cambiamenti Climatici, The University Of Reading, Cicero Senter Klimaforskning Stiftelse, Stichting Solidaridad, Sayers And Partners Llp, University of Leeds, Stichting International Red Cross Red Crescent Centre on Climate Change And Disaster Preparedness

**CASE experts involved:** Jan Hagemeyer, Karolina Zubel, Stanislav Bieliei

**Project funding:** Horizon 2020



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## **Income inequalities, political instability, and the deficit bias**

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The purpose of the proposed research project is to investigate the connection between the two economic phenomena – income inequalities and excessive accumulation of public debt, both of which are perceived to be among the most important contemporary, global economic challenges.

The scientific literature suggests that the connection between these two phenomena is not direct, but income inequalities and public debt are rather linked through intensified political conflicts over the distribution of the national income, which can result in elevated political instability, ultimately leading to higher fiscal deficits and an excessive accumulation of public debt.

Two main hypotheses of the study are the following:

- a. income inequalities lead to socio-political conflicts and increase political instability;

- b. political instability, in turn, makes it more difficult for politicians to agree on measures necessary to prevent country from accumulating too much public debt.

Verifying abovementioned hypotheses is important because proper understanding the economic mechanisms connected to them is necessary to deal with problems of economic inequalities and excessive accumulation of public debt. Outcomes of the study are important not only from the scientific point of view but will also contribute to policy making, allowing for the implementation of more effective, evidence-based policies.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**CASE experts involved:** Christopher Hartwell, Lukasz Janikowski

**Project funding:** National Science Center – Poland



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## Developing a handbook on good practice in countering disinformation at local and regional level

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Having in mind the established frameworks at European level, it is necessary to ensure that the available tools are utilised at all levels and by all relevant factors that could contribute to the joint aim of empowering citizens in their resilience to disinformation. While it is beneficial to adopt broad strategies, these should be adjusted to the specific regional and local context.

There is a lack of recognition that local and regional authorities, being closest to the citizens, can be a valuable asset in fighting disinformation. It is also necessary to acknowledge their role in developing specific tailor-made activities and messaging which can support the engagement in the fight against disinformation at national and European level. Local and regional authorities should be assisted in building awareness-raising on disinformation threats in their constituencies, as well as in developing the capacity to react promptly to the threats.

The project aims at providing an overview of the existing EU framework and of the available tools to help fight against disinformation, taking into account the specific challenges encountered by local and regional authorities. Drawing from the existing framework and best practice, the project aims also to provide local and regional actors with concrete recommendations on effective measures to counter disinformation, with a particular focus on media literacy and civic education. It will contain proposals to support the CoR's foresight in this area.

**Project leader:** Millieu

**Project partner:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**CASE experts involved:** Agnieszka Kulesa, Katarzyna Sidło, Oskar Chmiel

**Client:** The Committee of the Regions



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## **Equalising opportunities for the less developed regions of Armenia due to implementation of development projects**

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The project was aimed at a group of up to 30 people representing 10-15 selected municipalities in Armenia. Due to the fairly centralized system and hierarchically subordinated administration, the central authorities in Armenia manage most of the EU and international funds. Using the experience gained during the transformation period and basing on 30 years of scientific research, CASE experts in cooperation with colleagues from the Economic Development and Research Center (EDRC) developed and conducted a course for representatives of the local government in Armenia. The course featured a presentation of Polish experience and specific solutions applied during the implementation of local government reforms in Poland, and discussed the possibilities of using this experience in Armenia.

The project included the following tasks:

- a. developing the course content for representatives of municipalities in Armenia;
- b. technical preparation and implementation of the course for local authorities representatives in Armenia;
- c. tutoring for project participants.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partners:** Economic Development and Research Center (EDRC, Armenia)

**CASE experts involved:** Stanislav Bieliej, Oskar Chmiel

**Project funding:** RITA programme, Financed by the Polish-American Freedom Foundation as part of the RITA - Transformations in the Region program



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## **Service sector re-orientation: transferring skills from the tourism sector**

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The Mediterranean region has been severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, not least because of the heavy reliance of its economy on tourism. In parallel to the recovery of the tourism sector, it might help both recovery and resilience and sustainability to explore how existent skills within the workforce, especially those (previously) employed in the tourism sector (in its widest sense), can be used and transferred towards the service sector at large to diversify and broaden it.

The study commissioned by the COR focuses on the identification of:

- a. the main transferrable skills present in the tourism sector, in its widest sense, in Morocco and Tunisia – based on academic research and backed by evidence – that can contribute to the recovery of the economy by being transferred towards the service sector and
- b. strategies (if any) are already in place in LRAs in this regard;

- c. existing opportunities in the service sector where these skills could be employed, and
- d. context conditions need to be created for such a transfer.

Policy recommendations that build on the case studies and are valid for the whole region:

- a. How can LRAs contribute to such a skills transfer and broadening of the service sector?
- b. How can they contribute to creating a conducive context for such a transfer?

The study covers 2 ARLEM member countries as specific case studies: Morocco and Tunisia. In addition, studies on skills in the whole region are identified to allow for recommendations to be broadly applicable. The ARLEM Mediterranean partner countries include: Egypt, Turkey, Algeria, Morocco, Syria (membership currently suspended), Tunisia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Palestine, Monaco, Montenegro and Libya, which participates as observer.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**CASE experts involved:** Katarzyna Sidło, Robert Lanquar

**Project sponsor:** The European Committee of the Regions



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## **Ageing policies - Access to services in different Member States**

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Access to social, health care and long-term care, housing as well as other essential services including digital communication, play a key role for ensuring active ageing. However, the recent pandemic has only exacerbated the already existing pressure on providing equal and timely access to high-quality and affordable services, notably for the most vulnerable elderly and the disabled, while also putting a strain on the sustainability of social security and pension systems.

Given the importance of universal public services in the context of ageing policies, issues to be considered could include:

- a. reflecting on access to measures delivering targeted, integrated and person-centered support respecting dignity and independence of the older persons and fostering their abilities;
- b. examining the role of quality assurance, cost-effectiveness, affordability, innovation, connectivity and digitalisation in the access to and provision of different type of services, in different types of environments (e.g., home, community and residential care) and bearing in mind the territorial dimension;
- c. exploring the advantages and disadvantages of personalised quality health care services in the digital field (e.g., telecare and telemedicine);
- d. exploring the access to affordable quality housing for older persons, including assisted living and co-habitation;
- e. exploring access to lifelong learning and digital skills for healthy and inclusive working lives and beyond (e.g., online educational opportunities);

- f. addressing the importance of qualified workers providing services in the context of ageing policies (e.g., careers).

The objective of the project is to define the ageing policies and provide an analysis and elaborate on the concept of and data on access to high-quality, affordable and sustainable services, identifying possible qualitative and quantitative criteria and indicators, in the context of modern and sustainable social protection and pension systems in the EU 27 Member States; it would equally take into account the increased urgency of the pandemic (e.g., in terms of health prevention). Moreover, provide an overview of the state of play in Member States on access to quality services including in rural and remote areas, illustrate good practices in 6-8 Member States using a representative and geographical balance and identify possible success factors; it would also identify the differences in quality (if any) between private and public provision of services. Project aims include outlining policy recommendations at EU level including as regards EU funding and legislation.

**Project leader:** CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partners:** Visionary Analytics, ICON

**CASE experts involved:** Agnieszka Sowa-Kofta, Izabela Marcinkowska, Giovanni Lamura, Ronald Schoenmaeckers, Katia Vladimirova, Anna Ruzik-Sierdzińska, Machteld Bergstra, Raimonda Mackevičiūtė

**Project funding:** European Parliament



[Read more](#)

## **Financial ABC - managing the household budget for youth threatened by financial exclusion – the 2nd edition**

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The main objective of the second edition of the project is to increase the level of knowledge of persons from youth educational centres (Młodzieżowe Ośrodki Wychowawcze- MOWs and Młodzieżowe Ośrodki Socjoterapeutyczne - MOSs) and youngsters from orphanages about the management of the household budget. This goal will be achieved by organizing 24 workshops in the Mazowieckie, Opolskie and Wielkopolskie Voivodships. About 240 people will take part in the workshops.

Scientific research shows that learning financial habits is connected with socialisation, which includes absorption of knowledge, concepts, skills, behaviours, opinions, attitudes, values and cognitive representations related to the economy by a young person. During socialization, a young person develops the ability to deal with budget. These skills are needed in everyday life. Unfortunately, the orphanages and youth educational centres children, often do not have the opportunity to learn good financial habits by watching their closest friends and family or by trainings (the youth educational centres are closed centres). In the natural environment, children watch their parents in everyday situations, e.g. during shopping, management of the household budget, planning expenses, etc.

Orphanages and youth educational centres do not have similar tools to prepare children and young people to learn good financial habits. The authors of the Supreme Audit Office (NIK) report (2015) observed that children from orphanages after leaving the institutions often have problems with the simplest tasks like shopping or money management. The pupils of



orphanages are also more exposed to homelessness, unemployment and conflicts with the law. NIK established that in the years 2010-2011, every fourth person out of thousands of people whose cases were analysed used social assistance services. On the other hand, out of over 300 persons who reached the age of majority in 2012, every third person registered in the labour office and every sixth person resigned from trying to live independently, returning to an orphanage or to a foster family. Based on these studies, it can be concluded that the situation is similar to that of the young people from MOWs and MOSs. The above data show how important it is to provide effective and comprehensive assistance in empowering young people from orphanages and youth educational centres (MOW and MOS).

**Project leader:** CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partner:** Milieu

**CASE experts involved:** Agnieszka Kulesa, Izabela Marcinkowska, Joanna Starczewska, Olga Sułkowska, Aleksandra Teliszewska

**Project funding:** National Bank of Poland (Narodowy Bank Polski)



[Read more](#)

## The territorial dimension of the Conference on the Future of Europe and its follow-ups

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The Conference on the Future of Europe provided an opportunity to reflect in a fundamental way on the most relevant challenges for the future of Europe. Clustered into nine topics, the debates in the CoFoE cover:

- a. EU policies and processes;
- b. the EU's institutional structure;
- c. citizens' expectations towards the EU.

For the success of the CoFoE, its follow ups are at least as important as the process itself. It is indeed essential that CoFoE is not only a listening exercise, but that it paves the way for tangible changes.

The CoR positioning in the CoFoE aimed to propose possible avenues for improving and strengthening the role of cities and regions, and of the CoR itself as the institutional representative of cities and regions in the EU decision-making process. In other words, the CoR aimed to strengthen the territorial dimension of European democracy.

The study commissioned by the COR and done by CASE team aims to analyse the outcomes of the CoFoE, expected in late in Spring 2022. According to the CoFoE Rules of Procedure "the final outcome of the Conference will be presented in a report to the Joint Presidency. The three institutions will examine swiftly how to follow up effectively to this report, each within their own sphere of competences and in accordance with the Treaties".

The analysis will support the CoR's follow-up to the CoFoE's recommendations concerning European Democracy and institutional issues, providing a knowledge-based backup to its legislative and political work. It will also facilitate the gathering and development of the ideas

put forward in the CoFoE that might be relevant for cities and regions and for the CoR, as well as an overview of potential CoR partners and allies.

**Project leader:** CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partner:** Milieu

**Experts:** Agnieszka Kulesa, Jan Bazyli Klakla, Karolina Zubeł

**Client:** The Committee of the Regions



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## Events

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### **169th mBank-CASE seminar: Reform priorities for the health service: what changes will the Covid-19 crisis bring?**

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Limitations on the efficient management of healthcare and on effective management in health facilities have been a constant problem in Poland for about 20 years. The Covid-19 pandemic has uncovered all of the shortcomings of healthcare in Poland, which had consistently been being brought up in expert works and the public debate. Our report on the healthcare interventions that are essential today – at the peak of the Covid-19 epidemic in Poland – is the fruit of presentations and discussions at the mBank-CASE Seminar held on April 15, 2021.

**Speakers:** Stanisława Golinowska, prof. Christoph Sowada, dr Marzena Tambor, dr Alicja Domagała, prof. Iwona Kowalska- Bobko, Iwona Bielska



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### **Belarussians in search of new opportunities**

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CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research organized two webinars which took place on the 19th and 25th February. These seminars were organized jointly with CASE Belarus, Institute for Politics and Society (the Czech Republic), Institute of Economic Research, SAS (Slovakia), and Youth Labour Rights (Belarus). These seminars were organized within the framework of the CIRCMIGR project.

The first seminar was entitled “Who are they and where do they work? Belarusian circular migrants in Poland, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic”. The important background for the seminar is that until recently, Russia was the primary destination country for Belarusian migrants. However, as Russia’s attractiveness for Belarusian labour migrants has declined in recent years due to the 2014-2016 economic recession and the depreciation of the Russian rouble, Belarusian labour migrants have started to reorientate westwards. European states, struggling with labour shortages, have also gained in popularity among Belarusian migrants as migration destinations. Additionally, the westward reorientation of Belarusian migrants was facilitated by the introduction of specific policy instruments, such as, for example, the simplified employment scheme and the Polish Card in Poland. These factors have contributed to an increase in the number of Belarusian circular migrants, and it can now be estimated that there are between 30,000 and 70,000 Belarusian circular migrants in EU and EFTA countries.

Researchers and policymakers addressed such issues as:

- Why Belarusians are interested in short-term migration to European states?
- What is the profile of a Belarusian circular migrant in Poland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic?
- What migration policy instruments introduced by the Visegrad countries have influence on circular migration flows from Belarus?

The second seminar, entitled “To regulate or not to regulate? Policy responses to the circular migration of Belarusians to Poland, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic” built on the fact that in contrast to the well-developed legal regulation of labour migration issues with Russia, Belarus’s institutional and legal cooperation with EU countries in the area of migration remains underdeveloped. Yet, Poland, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic have introduced some specific migration policy instruments with potential to influence flows of circular migrants from Belarus. Although smart mobility programmes between Belarus and Poland, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic could help to address economic challenges in all these countries and contribute to a triple win situation, such a scenario seems to be difficult to realise. None of the states under study have recognised the importance of circular migration for their economic development in policy strategic documents either.

The specific questions touched upon during the seminar were:

- What migration policy instruments introduced by Poland, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic have influence on circular migration flows from Belarus?
- Why cooperation on circular migration should matter to policy makers?
- What would be the strengths and weaknesses of such cooperation? What are the opportunities and threats?
- What should be done now to support a triple win scenario?

**Speakers:** Piotr Kaźmierkiewicz, Šárka Prát, Marek Radvanský, Kristina Richter, Andrei Yeliseyeu



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## Publications

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### **What Does the Literature Tell Us on The Relationship between Economic Interdependence and Conflict Management? An Overview with A Focus on the MENA Region**

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The present paper provides the conceptual framework for the analysis of relationship between economic interdependence and conflict prevention, management, and solving. It starts by providing an overview of arguments of two main schools of thought that have been in debate over relationship between the two variables: the liberals, arguing for the pacifying effects of economic interdependence, and the realists, according to whom as interdependence between countries increases, so does the threat to their autonomy and national security, and thus likelihood of a conflict. It subsequently explores research focused on the question of conditionality of the relationship between the economic interdependence (usually operationalized in terms of trade exchange) and conflict: the impact of the type of political regime, (a)symmetry of relationship between economic partners, multilateralism, and trade agreements on the strength (and indeed outcome) on the interdependence-peace nexus. Further, analytical papers focused specifically on the countries in the Middle East and North Africa are reviewed. Finally, the paper examines specific aspects of the MENA region, focusing on factors flagged in the literature investigated as having a potential impact on the strength (or otherwise) of the pacifying effect of the economic interdependence. It concludes

with summary of the findings from the literature review conducted, highlighting new variables such as potential trade wars or the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, that might have to be taken into consideration in future research.

**Authors:** Katarzyna Sidło



[Read the Paper](#)

# Trade, Innovation, and Productivity Policies

## Projects

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### **TIA Territorial Impact Assessment/Assessing the territorial impact of policies and strategies within the EU Member States**

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The objectives of the project were clearly identified in the Detailed Description of the Object of Procurement (SOPZ) by the Ministry of Funds and Regional Policy of the Republic of Poland. They are:

- a. organization and process of dialogue with project partners and stakeholders;
- b. development of the Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) methodology together with a pilot project in the German-Polish interface.

The project aims to prepare a TIA method that has the potential to become a universal European method for territorial impact assessment. The CASE and Ecorys Poland teams aim to achieve this task through:

- a. an effective stakeholder dialogue process allowing the preparation of a method tailored to their needs;
- b. an analysis of the application experience of existing TIA methods and policy impact assessment methods that have not been applied in territorial impact analysis before.

The activities will focus on the designated implementation area, i.e. the German-Polish interface. The project will equip local, regional and national authorities with information and knowledge on which factors to take into account when designing policies, in order to take into account not only interregional but also cross-border impacts.

**Experts:** Agnieszka Pechcińska, Jan Hagemeyer, Katarzyna Sidło

**Client:** Ministerstwo Funduszy i Polityki Regionalnej RP

**Leader:** Ecorys Polska

**Partner:** CASE - Centrum Analiz Społeczno-Ekonomicznych

**For more details, see CASE Highlights p. 22.**

### **BATMODEL Better Agri Food Modelling for Policy Analysis**

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Economy-wide assessments of multilateral and regional trade agreements often fall short of capturing the complexity of trade policy design and negotiations related to agri-food markets and supply chains. “New generation” trade agreements are not limited to changes in tariffs and tariff rate quotas, but also include provisions on sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures (part of what are called non-tariff measures, NTMs), geographical indications (GIs), public procurement and capital flows.

The overall goal of BATModel is to improve existing trade modelling tools and approaches, equipped for the analysis of 21st century trade issues with a focus on agriculture and food to support policy analysis. The current needs of the users are to better account for previously neglected or insufficiently covered issues such as NTMs, GIs, zero trade flows and quality

differentiation, as well as GVCs and distributional and sustainability impacts of trade liberalization and trade policy. BATModel addresses these shortcomings by building upon advances in international trade theory and global value chain framework. As a major contribution, BATModel will bridge the gap between the established simulation models, based on the aggregate agent paradigm, and the micro evidence revealed by models that account for heterogeneity in firms, territories, producers, and customers. The enhancements enabled by BATModel will be operationally implemented through interchangeable and well-documented open-source modules. A test case of an existing free trade agreement and different case studies will be performed to assess the capability of the new modules to improve model-based assessment of agri-food trade. Ultimately, this will provide a new generation of modular trade modelling tool to support the European Commission in designing and assessing trade-related policies and international agreements.

**Project leader:** Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, Stichting Wageningen Research, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Università Degli Studi di Milano, Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet, Jrc -Joint Research Centre, Technische Universität München, Centre D'etudes Prospectives et D'informations Internationales, Centro de Investigación y Tecnología Agroalimentaria de Aragón, Universität Bern, Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Kozgazdasag- es Regionalis Tudomanyi Kutatokozpont, Università Degli Studi Roma Tre, Centre for European Policy Studies, Inra Transfert s.a.

**CASE experts involved:** Katarzyna Zawalińska, Jan Hagemeyer, Karim Zanhooou, Błażej Jędrzejewski

**Project funding:** Horizon 2020



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## TRADE4SD Trade for Sustainable Development

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Trade is a central factor in shaping global, regional and local development. Increased trade, empowered by the growth of Global Value Chains (GVCs), has boosted productivity and incomes in many countries. However, if not fairly regulated, trade might generate increases in inequality and negative impacts on working conditions in developing countries, and compromise the environment.

The scientific objectives of TRADE4SD are:

- a. to identify a system of relevant indicators of direct and indirect linkages between SDGs and trade, and trade policies, and a clear understanding of the determinants of participation of developing countries to local and global agri-food value chains (WP1);
- b. to provide a structured review of how SDGs are currently included in trade rules by analysing the role of WTO and EU bilateral trade agreement to meet SDGs, identifying gaps and best practices (WP2);
- c. to measure the links between trade, trade policies and sustainability at global level via elaborating a new and robust sustainability toolbox integrating econometric and SDGs indicators, going beyond the present state of art in modelling the linkages between trade and SDGs and looking at new emerging issues (e.g., diets) (WP3);



- d. to provide context-specific case studies of selected agri-food value chains in relevant EU trade partners at the global and country level (including coffee, cocoa, rice, olive oil) (WP4);
- e. to analyse the coherence of the current EU trade-related policies (trade, CAP, energy, climate, bioeconomy, nutritional) in view of their impacts on trade and SDGs, and their effectiveness to prevent carbon leakage and other forms of externality exportation (e.g. pollution haven, food miles, etc.) alongside an assessment of the political feasibility and acceptability of the range of policy responses available to correct such failings (WP5);
- f. to analyse the coherence of new options for EU policies, such as carbon-tax and/or nutrition policies, in view of their impacts on trade and SDGs (WP5);
- g. to identify options for improving the sustainability impacts of EU trade policy and provide evidence-based policy recommendations, paying particular attention to the WTO gap regarding sustainability, to the role of regional agreements in reaching regulatory rapprochement between the EU and partner countries and to complementary measures beyond trade policies (WP6);
- h. to ensure that results build upon previous research, including from AGFOODTRADE, AgricISTrade, TRADEAG, SUPREMA and projects carried out by IFPRI, UNCTAD, the World Bank and FAO.

**Project leader:** Corvinus University of Budapest

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, University of Kent, CREA - Consiglio per la ricerca in agricoltura e l'analisi dell'economia agraria, Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute, Thünen-Institut - Bundesforschungsinstitut für Ländliche Räume, Wald und Fischerei, University of Sussex, University of Ghana, Luke - Natural Resources Institute Finland, The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, INRAE - l'Institut national de recherche pour l'agriculture, L'alimentation et l'environnement, Confederazione Generale dell'Agricoltura Italiana, University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City, Lumina Sprl

**CASE experts involved:** Katarzyna Zawalińska, Jan Hagemeyer, Karim Zanhooou, Vitaly Krupin

**Project funding:** Horizon 2020



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## **V4 support to promote WB6 Common Regional Market: one market for post-COVID recovery**

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The project focuses on sharing experiences, transferring knowledge and recommending further regional economic integration through development of the WB6 Common Regional Market using experiences from ex-CEFTA and V4 after integration into the EU single market. Project products (e-book and storytelling video) and events (conference, roundtable, webinar, lectures) address the difference in economic cooperation before and after entering the EU and how to speed up process of European integration, with focus on closer economic cooperation between V4 and WB6 in the post-COVID period.

**Project Leader:** Montenegrin Pan-European Union (Montenegro)

**Project partners:** CASE - Center for Social and Economic Research, Union of the Robert Schuman Institute for Developing Democracy in Central-Eastern Europe (Hungary), Institute for Politics and Society (Czechia), Macro-Economic and Social Analyses 10 (Slovakia), Albanian Center for Economic Research (Albania), Foreign Policy Initiative BH (Bosnia and Herzegovina), FINANCE THINK – Economic, Research and Policy Institute (North Macedonia), Center for Foreign Policy (Serbia), Riinvest Institute for Development Research (Kosovo)

**CASE experts involved:** Katarzyna Sidło, Stanislav Bielieci

**Project funding:** International Visegrad Fund



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## The added value of the RRF, based on a preliminary assessment of the Recovery and Resilience Plans

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The ECON Committee of the European Parliament (EP) requested external expertise on the subject “The added value of the RRF, based on a preliminary assessment of the Recovery and Resilience Plans”.

“EU value added” in the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) and Recovery and Resilience Plans (RRPs), aiming at ensuring that EU funds are used to the Union overall benefit and/or in line with EU priorities and do not replace national spending that Governments would, anyway, implement.

There were three dimensions were identified while assessing the “European value added” of the RRF and of the first set of measures put forward in national RRFs:

- a. whether and to what extent these measures are aligned with the EU policy agendas and priorities and do not replace programmed national spending;
- b. whether and to what extent are Member States using the RRF funds to develop or implement cross-country projects, thus contributing to deepening the Single Market;
- c. whether and to what extent will combined action (as opposed to individual action) of Member States create EU positive spillovers.

Type of services provided:

- a. provided a preliminary view on the extent to which the first set of national measures undertaken or envisaged are aligned with EU priorities and agendas. Identified and used a subset of criteria to facilitate comparison of national plans and should ensure that all the six pillar policies of the RRF are adequately covered;
- b. evaluated, based on publicly available information, the extent to which the first set of measures undertaken or envisaged cover new projects that were not yet foreseen in national spending programming;
- c. identified and assessed (based on the first set of measures undertaken or envisaged) possible cross-country projects and their potential positive impacts on the Single Market and possible missed opportunities for other cross-border projects;

- d. assessed the potential extent of positive spillovers (quantitative and qualitative) on the basis of available information;
- e. policy recommendations on how EU value added of RRP could be further enhanced if revisions take place and the extent to which the EU dimension can be reinforced when implementing and monitoring the Facility. Contractors are invited to draw some preliminary conclusions on the value added of the instrument going forward.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**CASE experts involved:** Jan Hagemeyer, Agnieszka Pechcińska, Christopher Hartwell, Magdolna Sass, Karsten Staehr, Gabriela Dragan

**Client:** European Parliament



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## **Innovation ecosystems and start-ups in the Mediterranean as a means of recovering from the Covid-19 crisis**

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The Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM) aims to promote local democracy, multi-level governance and peer-to-peer cooperation around the three shores of the Mediterranean. As set out in the Action Plan 2020-2020, it will focus its work on the strategic priorities of (i) sustainable economic development; (ii) climate action in the Mediterranean and (iii) women's empowerment.

The topic of innovation ecosystems and start-ups in the Mediterranean as a means of recovering from the COVID-19 crisis is linked to the first priority: sustainable economic development. Consequently, the elaboration of a report on innovation ecosystems and startups in the Mediterranean region will contribute to ARLEM's work on economic growth and social development in the Southern Mediterranean partner countries and the whole area.

Innovation ecosystems and start-ups can create job opportunities and, increasingly, spur innovation. Unfortunately, they are often prevented from reaching their full potential. As mentioned in the ARLEM report on youth entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean (adopted 2019), the business environment in the region is not conducive to the establishment of new start-ups by young entrepreneurs. Young people, especially young women, lack knowledge about business start-ups, they lack support in the form of information and advisory services, they lack collateral assets making access to finance difficult and there is a lack of supported premises where they can launch and nurture their new business start-ups<sup>1</sup>. Nevertheless, numerous projects have been introduced and co-funded by the EU to tackle these difficulties and gaps, such as "The Next Society", SEMED platform and SwitchMed initiative.

The CoR has recently adopted an opinion on A new European Research Area (ERA) for research and innovation. The CoR supports the introduction of the "ERA hub" as an opportunity to give institutional recognition and a tangible form to the concept of regional ecosystems and innovation hubs.

In the abovementioned context, the study CASE is working on consists of the following components focusing on the situation in the Mediterranean partner countries:

- a. identification of the existing innovation strategies in the Mediterranean region (case study);
- b. identification of the main obstacles and challenges – based on academic research and backed by evidence – regarding the creation and development of the innovation strategies, ecosystems and start-ups and solutions, in particular, those to which LRAs can contribute;
- c. policy recommendations to LRAs linked to the main challenges identified and how the local and regional level can contribute to and be specifically supported in fostering the development of innovation ecosystems and start-ups;
- d. list all the non-financial possibilities, from the EU or others, available to LRAs from the South Mediterranean partner countries that would allow them to support and develop projects related to the enhancement of the innovation ecosystems and start-ups;
- e. the final recommendations in the study will aim at the following countries that are ARLEM members as well as their cooperation with EU partners: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Turkey, Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Libya which has observer status within ARLEM.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partner:** IMED

**CASE experts involved:** Katarzyna Sidło

**Client:** The European Committee of the Regions



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## **Restoring "lost connections" between the EU and the UK as a consequence of Brexit through local and regional authorities**

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The study provided scientific support to the UK Contact Group in exploring possible avenues and methods of future cooperation between LRAs in the UK and the EU following the UK's withdrawal from the EU. It will look at the "lost connections" between the EU and UK as a result of the UK's withdrawal from the EU, and then consider in what areas, and with what tools, local and regional authorities could work to re-build links between the EU and the UK at their levels.

The study is based on desk research and review of available literature and resources, including legal texts and scientific literature, but excluding CoR opinions and resolutions.

Specific research questions considered were:

- What are the policy areas of EU-UK interaction and cooperation that will be most negatively affected by Brexit?
- What are the lost connections between the EU and that UK that will most affect local and regional authorities?
- In which concrete areas, and with which tools and methods, can EU and UK local and regional authorities work to re-build links and cooperation?
- To what extent are national policies conducive to enabling local and regional authorities to re-build such links?

The methodology employed involved mainly literature and press review as well as telephone interviews.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**CASE experts involved:** Jan Hagemeyer, Kateryna Karunska, Mahteld Berstra, Katarzyna Sidło

**Client:** The European Committee of the Regions



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## **EU financial assistance available to local and regional authorities in the candidate and potential candidate countries for EU enlargement**

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The projects aims to identify which EU funds and programmes the sub-national authorities from the enlargement countries have access to, keeping in mind that possibilities for cooperation vary by country.

CASE experts will prepare a note which will describe the general features of funds in place at the EU and national level and will suggest easiest ways of accessing these for the local and regional authorities in enlargement countries. It will take the CoR study of 2014 and 2018 as a basis and comprehensively update its content taking into account financial resources available within the Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA-III) for the current financial period (2021-2027). Additionally to the study of 2018, this note should cover COVID-related financial assistance for economic recovery. The note will be published in the form of a brochure to be used as a guide for local and regional authorities in the enlargement countries.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partner:** IMED

**CASE experts involved:** Katarzyna Sidło, Stanislav Bieliei

**Client:** The European Committee of the Regions



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## EU financial assistance available to local and regional authorities in Eastern Partnership countries

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The main goal of the study is to update the information on EU funds and programmes to which the subnational authorities from the Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries have access. The study will describe the general features of funds in place at the EU and national level and suggest easiest ways of accessing these for the local and regional authorities in EaP countries. Working on the study CASE experts will take the CoR publication of 2018 (done also by CASE experts) as a basis and update its content taking into account financial resources available within the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) for the upcoming financial period (2021-2027). Additionally to the study of 2018, this study will also cover COVID-related financial assistance for economic recovery.

Similarly to the previous publication of 2018, for each of the programmes, the study offers a general description of programme's priorities, structure, budget and geographical focus, gives recent examples of projects successfully funded in an EaP country, and indicates where and how LRAs can apply for funding within the programme concerned.

The study will be published in the form of an updated brochure to be used as a manual/guide for the local and regional authorities in the EaP countries and their associations.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**CASE experts involved:** Katarzyna Sidło, Karolina Zubel, Stanislav Beliei

**Client:** The European Committee of the Regions



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## EU financial assistance available to local and regional authorities in Mediterranean partner countries

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The study will describe the general features of funds in place at the EU and national levels and will suggest the easiest ways of accessing them for local and regional authorities in Mediterranean partner countries (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Syria and Tunisia). It will take the CoR publication of 2018 (done also by CASE experts) as a basis and update its content taking into account financial resources available under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) for the upcoming financial period (2021-2027). Additionally to the 2018 study, this study will also cover COVID-related financial assistance for economic recovery.

Similarly to the previous publication of 2018, the study will include, for each of the programmes, a general description of programme's priorities, structure, budget and geographical focus, recent examples of projects successfully funded in a Mediterranean partner country, and a description of where and how LRAs can apply for funding within the programme concerned. The study will be published in the form of an updated brochure to be used as a manual/guide for local and regional authorities in Mediterranean partner countries and their associations.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**CASE experts involved:** Katarzyna Sidło, Karim Zanhoou

**Project funding:** The European Committee of the Regions



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## **Investment Activity and Economic Growth in the Polish Economy**

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The CASE team conducted a study on the size, structure and determinants of investment activity in Poland. The study focused on the long-term significance of investments, especially on investments aimed at increasing productivity and competitiveness. The research is based on publicly available macroeconomic and sectoral data, as well as on a review of scientific and analytical literature on the subject of investment. Econometric research uses microeconomic data from the Notoria database and macroeconomic data.

The research work resulted in a report which addresses the following topics:

- Decomposition of the structure of the level and growth of GDP in Poland from the demand perspective - direct contribution of investments to the generation of demand in the country, Decomposition of the GDP growth from the supply side. Factors of production responsible for growth (labour factor growth, capital accumulation and ICT capital, total factor productivity).
- The model of economic growth in Poland (capital accumulation, foreign direct investment, export expansion).
- The effectiveness of public versus private investments - a review of the literature
- The investment rate and economic growth - a review of literature.
- The investment rate and economic growth - an international comparison.
- The investment rate and productivity growth - an international comparison.
- Investment determinants at the enterprise level
- Investment determinants at the country level - an international comparison
- Economic growth, tax revenues and investment (literature review and data analysis for Poland).
- Investment structure (public/private) - a comparison between Poland and EU
- Sectoral structure of investment - a comparison between sectors of the economy
- The largest investors in Poland -by sectors of activity and ownership
- The level of investment and the long-term growth rate of the sector - a comparison between the sectors of the economy
- Comparative analysis of the investment climate on the basis of available indices of economic prosperity, economic freedom, etc.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**CASE experts involved:** Jan Hagemeyer, Grzegorz Poniatowski, Mehmet Burak Turgut, Agnieszka Pechcińska,

**Client:** Orange



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## **Trade aspects of the EU-Mercosur Association Agreement**

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The study focuses on the trade impact of the EU-Mercosur Association Agreement for both, the EU and the Mercosur countries. The EU has until recently been Mercosur's most important trade and investment partner (overtaken now by China). While the relationship is very substantial both, exporters and potential investors until now still faced barriers in Mercosur markets.

The study identifies and analyses the goals and impact of the trade part of the Association Agreement including trade in goods (in particular, the agriculture and industrial sectors), services (including maritime), sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS), SMEs, and trade and sustainable development (including social, environmental, human rights, and enforceability aspects).

The overall Association-Agreement has a significant geopolitical relevance and could send out a strong sign against protectionism and unilateralism. If ratified, the trade part of the Association Agreement would establish the largest free trade zone the EU has ever created, covering a population of over 780 million, and consolidate the close political, economic and cultural ties between the two regions. Currently, EU-Mercosur relations are governed by the 1995 Interregional Framework Cooperation Agreement.

The study provides an overview of the economic (trade, growth and employment) impact that the EU-Mercosur Association Agreement could create for both, the EU and the Mercosur countries and includes future economic perspectives while also addressing the social and environmental impact of a reinforced partnership.

**Project leader:** University of Innsbruck

**Project partners:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, University of Göttingen, , LSE, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)

**CASE experts involved:** Jan Hagemeyer, Katarzyna Sidło

**Client:** European Parliament



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## Statistical Services in Relation to Commercial Real Estate Markets and Consumer Price Statistics- Lot 1: Automatic data collection (web scraping) from commercial real estate portals

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The size of the commercial real estate (CRE) sector and its strong procyclicality make it a crucial pillar of macroeconomic, financial, and monetary stability of the European Union and its Member States. At the same time, as has been exposed by the 2008 crisis, high level of the CRE sector interconnectedness with both financial and real economy represents an important source of systemic risk. This highlights the importance of the CRE markets for a sound macroprudential oversight throughout the EU.

The analysis and monitoring of the CRE sector is severely hampered by the absence of common definition and internationally accepted classification of the ‘commercial real estate’ (or ‘commercial property’), as well as the lack of harmonised and accurate data on the CRE markets. This not only limits the intra-EU comparability of the national CRE sectors, but more importantly, undermines the possibility to develop comprehensive and reliable CRE indices. The latter are particularly important for the national and the EU-level statistics, macroeconomic and macroprudential oversight and policymaking, as well as individual investment decision making.

The main objective of this project is to evaluate the feasibility of producing price or rent indices for CRE from portals that advertise CRE of sale or for rent, as well as to assess the quality of the resulting indices. The project aims also to bridge data and information gaps in the commercial real estate sector.

The following activities are carried out during the implementation phase: (1) assess and evaluate available national CRE portals in the 21 EU Member States; (2) develop the web scraping tool and apply it to extract the data from the selected national CRE portals; (3) produce price and/or rent CRE indices; (4) assess the quality of the produced indices.

**Leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partners:** Digital Economy Lab of the University of Warsaw

**CASE experts involved:** Misha Bonch- Osmolovskiy, Adam Śmietanka, Kateryna Karunska, Chihiro Shimizu

**Client:** Eurostat



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## Remuneration of EU staff and related surveys – New York and Washington, District of Columbia

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The procedure of adjusting salaries in the EU-duty stations hinges on correction coefficients (CCs), which are estimated based on purchasing power parities (PPPs) and nominal exchange rates. The coefficients and the adjustment procedure ensure that the purchasing power of salaries in various duty stations does not vary irrespective of the place of employment. International organizations and public institutions use the EU CC.

Since 1989 Eurostat has been also involved in calculating CCs for extra-EU US duty stations. This work is conducted in accordance with the methodology used for intra-EU stations. Currently, two surveys using the European Comparison Program (ECP) methodology are required in New York City and Washington DC.

The CCs in New York City use the underlying data from 2009 extrapolated with the regional Consumer Price Index (CPI). In Washington DC, CCs are based on data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics (BLS) to OECD, which differ in terms of the methodology and information source from the ECP surveys. That is why there is a risk that information used for both New York City and Washington DC already lacks precision and comparability.

The estimation of CCs due to its wide and important use, as well as challenges resulting from differences in the consumption goods market in the EU and US, require the approach that ensures high precision of the estimates.

The objectives of the study commissioned to CASE by Eurostat are to conduct an ECP-type survey of prices in Washington, DC, and New York City metropolitan areas, validate the price data, and evaluate the quality of gathered data.

The goal of this project is also to allow correct identification of the average price level in the duty station for comparison with the correct identification of the average price level in Brussels. The phases of the survey include preparation, fieldwork, validation, and reporting, including explanations and analysis.

**Project leader:** CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research

**Project partners:** ODW Consulting

**CASE experts involved:** Misha Bonch- Osmolovskiy, Adam Śmietanka, Kateryna Karunska

**Client:** Eurostat



[Read more](#)

## Events

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### The future of EU-MENA trade relations post-Covid-19

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This Webinar discussed the future of the EU's trade relations with the MENA region in the post- Covid-19 global economy.

During this event, the key findings of the EuroMeSCo Policy Study on 'Post-Covid-19 EU-Southern Neighbourhood Trade Relations' were presented and discussed. This study reviews the existing network of EU-MENA bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs) and explores the impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the intra- and inter-regional trade in goods and services.

Moreover, this event discussed the recent trade-related proposals from the European Commission towards the MENA region. This includes, for example, the "Economic and Investment Plan (EIP) for the Southern neighbours" and the proposals put forward in the recent Trade Policy Review, such as the deepening and widening of the existing EU-MENA

FTAs through the conclusion of 'Deep and Comprehensive' FTAs or Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreements.

**Speakers:** Katarzyna Sidło, Jan Vandenberghe, Blanca Moreno-Dodson, Guillaume Van der Loo, Guillaume Van der Loo (moderator)

This EuroMeSCo Policy Study was carried out in the framework of the 'EuroMeSCo: Connecting the Dots project', co-funded by the EU and the IEMed.



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## **Can the problems in the banking sector slow the Polish economy's convergence process? The 168th mBank-CASE Seminar**

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The 168th mBank-CASE Seminar was the first meeting of this series in 2021. These seminars have been held for 30 years and were one of the first projects run by CASE – Center of Social and Economic Research.

This seminar was devoted to the threats to the Polish banking sector and how they affect the economy. It began with the presentation of an analysis by Stefan Kawalec, president of the advisory firm Capital Strategy. Professor Eugeniusz Gatnar, chairman of the Department of Economic and Financial Analysis at the University of Economics in Katowice; Professor Leszek Pawłowicz, director of the Gdańsk Banking Academy; and Krzysztof Pietraszkiewicz, president of the Polish Bank Association, were invited to comment.

Various disturbing trends are under way in the Polish banking sector and its environment:

- Beginning in 2015, banks' return on equity has remained both below average returns for the enterprise sector and below their cost of capital.
- The prospect of loan losses is emerging as a result of financial problems at companies hit by the pandemic.
- Legal risk related to foreign-denominated loans persists.
- Interest rates are very low.
- The share of state-controlled banks has grown from 20% of the sector's assets in 2021 to more than 40% in 2020.
- Bank financing is being crowded out by government funds that directly target companies.

These trends are usually discussed and analyzed as separate issues. At this mBank-CASE seminar, the speakers focused on their cumulative effect on the Polish economy, and primarily on how they affect the country's long-term growth prospects.

**Speakers:** Stefan Kawalec, Eugeniusz Gatnar, Krzysztof Pietraszkiewicz, Leszek Pawłowicz, Ewa Balcerowicz



[Read more](#)

## Publications

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### **mBank-CASE Seminar Proceedings No. 168: Problems at Poland's banks are threatening the economy**

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Until now, the banking sector has been one of the strong points of Poland's economy. In contrast to banks in the U.S. and leading Western European economies, lenders in Poland came through the 2008 global financial crisis without a scratch, without needing state financial support. But in recent years the industry's problems have been growing, creating a threat to economic growth and gains in living standards.

For an economy's productivity to increase, funds can't go to all companies evenly, and definitely shouldn't go to those that are most lacking in funds, but to those that will use them most efficiently. This is true of total external financing, and thus funding both from the banking sector and from parabanks, the capital market and funds from public institutions. In Poland, in light of the relatively modest scale of the capital market, banks play a clearly dominant role in external financing of companies. This is why the author of this text focuses on the bank credit allocation efficiency.

The author points out that in the very near future, conditions will emerge in Poland which – as the experience of other countries shows – create a risk of reduced efficiency of credit allocation to business. Additionally, in Poland today, bank lending to companies is to a high degree being replaced by funds from state aid, which reduces the efficiency of allocation of external funds to companies (both loans and subsidies), as allocation of government subsidies is not usually based on efficiency. This decline in external financing allocation efficiency may slow, halt or even reverse the process, that has been uninterrupted for 28 years, of Poland's convergence, i.e. the narrowing of the gap in living standards between Poland and the West.



**Author:** Stefan Kawalec



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## Trade aspects of the EU-Mercosur Association Agreement

In this study we analyse the provisions of the EU-Mercosur trade agreement (EUMETA) in its form presented by the European Commission. Our analysis covers the potential macroeconomic effects of the agreement that are based on the analysis of the extent of trade liberalisation through the lens of a computable general simulation model, as well as more detailed analysis of trade structure, tariff structure, non-tariff protection and the trade-related provisions of the agreement including trade in services and government procurement. Moreover, we analyse the institutional provisions of the EU-Mercosur Association agreement (EUMEEA) in relation to the positioning of the European Parliament and civil society. We place a special focus on the agri-food sector and some selected sensitive subsectors. The quantitative assessments are amended by qualitative analysis, in particular with regard to the trade and sustainable development chapter of the agreement, issues related to food security and an overview of existing approaches on sustainable development in the Mercosur countries.



**Authors:** Jan Hagemeyer, Andreas Maurer, Bettina Rudloff, Peter-Tobias Stoll, Stephen Woolcock, Andréia Costa Vieira, Kristina Mensah And Katarzyna Sidło

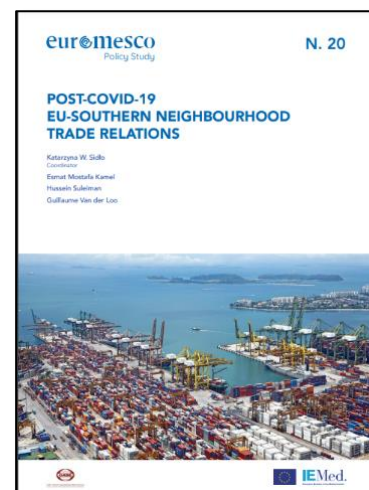
This paper was requested by the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade (INTA).



[Read the Paper](#)

## Post-Covid-19 EU-Southern Neighbourhood Trade Relations

The global COVID-19 pandemic has profoundly affected the daily functioning of societies and their economies all over the globe. While its impact on international trade may fortunately be less severe than initially expected, the decline is still palpable, with the latest estimations of 5.6% and 15.4% drop in value of trade in goods and services respectively in 2020 compared to the year before. For countries in the MENA region, where trade in goods accounts for up to 85.6% of GDP in the case of Egypt, and 65.3% of GDP for trade in services in the case of Jordan (2009-2017 averages), decline in revenue from trade creates a serious risk for their economies. Equally importantly, due to high dependence on merchandise imports – including those of staple goods – trade disruptions imperil their security and stability.



Against this background, this policy study explores the impact of the first months of the ongoing pandemic on trade relations between the EU and countries in the Southern Neighbourhood (SN), as well as – whenever possible – sub-Saharan Africa. The authors start by reviewing the existing legislative framework for trade between the EU, the SN and the

African continent as a whole. Subsequently, they assess the direct and indirect impact of COVID-19 on intra- and inter-regional trade in goods and services between SN countries and the EU. A particular focus is placed on the tourism and agricultural sectors, both of crucial importance to the region. The authors also explore the ways in which the disruptions identified have affected food security in the SN region. Finally, based on findings of the study, the authors explore different scenarios for the evolution of intra- and inter-regional trade during the post-pandemic period and offer policy recommendations for reinvigorating trade cooperation between the three regions of interest to the study as well as strengthening of the economic performance of the SN.

**Authors:** Katarzyna W. Sidło, Esmat Mostafa Kamel, Hussein Suleiman, Guillaume Van der Loo

This Study was published by the European Institute of the Mediterranean.



[Read the Paper](#)

## The political economy of Kazakhstan. A case of good economics, bad politics?

Can autocracies and their associated institutions successfully implement economic policies that promote growth and investment? Can ‘good economics’ somehow offset the effects of ‘bad’ politics? Kazakhstan is a case where an autocratic regime has actively projected market-friendly policies and attracted significant amounts of incoming investment.

These policies are to some extent reflected in the country’s governance ratings, although there has been a significant amount of investment disputes that question the attachment to the rule of law. Moreover, the political regime remains strongly personalised around the founder President, his family and associates. This is reflected in the economics of the autocracy whereby a large public sector and a set of privately held businesses coexist to mutual benefit. The latter have been formed around a very small number of highly connected individuals whose initial accumulation of assets allows them also to act as necessary gatekeepers for entrants. Competition as a result remains limited in both economic and political domains. Yet, uncertainties over the future leadership, along with latent rivalry over access to resources and markets, make the political equilibrium quite fragile. In short, ‘bad’ politics both squeezes the space for, and distorts the benefits from, ‘good’ economics.



**Authors:** Simon Commander, Ruta Prieskienyte



[Read the Paper](#)



## Ex-post Evaluation of the impact of trade chapters of the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements with six partners: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia. Final Report

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The Final Report on the evaluation of the impact of the trade chapters of the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements (Euro-Med FTAs) has been published. This study by CASE, Ecorys, and FEMISE (Euro-Mediterranean Forum of Institutes of Economic Sciences) shows how the Euro-Med FTAs benefited the EU and its partner countries, but highlights also the need to modernise the agreements to address non-tariff measures and sustainable development.

The evaluation covers the EU's trade agreements with Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia and was done on behalf of DG TRADE. It specifically looked into:

- a. the effectiveness and efficiency of the trade chapters of the Association Agreements;
- b. the relevance of the trade chapters of the Association Agreements regarding current trade issues faced by the EU and the six partner countries;
- c. the coherence of the trade chapters of the Association Agreements with the trade policy of the EU and the six partner countries;
- d. the analysis investigated the trade performance between the EU and the six partner countries looking specifically at economic, social, and environmental aspects.



Overall, the evaluation found that the performance of the Euro-Med FTAs is largely in line with the objectives set for them but not all of the objectives have been reached to the same extent. Enforcement and implementation of the agreed FTAs are key for the achievement of their objectives and for the realisation of trade benefits, but the implementation status varies from one Euro-Med FTA to another. We also found that the Euro-Med FTAs have preserved the earlier market access concessions and in some cases created new opportunities for Euro-Med trade supporting the economic performance in both the EU and the partner countries. However, our analysis showed also the need to update these agreements as the effective Euro-Med tariff preferences have gradually eroded over time and the agreements currently do not include a trade and sustainable development chapter. In this regard, we have drafted recommendations for consideration in new trade negotiations, which have already started for Tunisia and Morocco and that may start later with Jordan and Egypt.

**Authors:** Nora Plaisier, Michael Fuenfzig; Pietro Maggi, Corine Besseling; Anne Winkel; Coordination: Michael Flickenschild), Przemysław Kowalski, Katarzyna Sidło, Anna Malinowska, Patricia Augier, Maryse Louis, Constantin Tsakas, Franck Viroleau, Stephane Quefelec, Novella Bottini

The full report, as well as an executive summary, can be found on the website of the European Commission:



[Read the Report](#)

# REPORT "Digitalisation of Poland's post-COVID economy – how to make the best use of the EU Recovery Fund?"

In this report, we show that the level of digitalisation of the Polish economy as a whole is behind European benchmarks and that it is insufficient. This has two dimensions – one is the overall low digital literacy of Polish society and the low demand for digital services, while the other is the insufficient digitalisation of business activities which stems from inefficient programmes and incentives in this respect. These dimensions overlap – human capital deficiencies reduce the benefits from digitalisation efforts on the part of enterprises while digitalisation itself is performed in an inefficient way.

We analyse digitisation in several sectoral dimensions to understand the challenges facing specific segments of the Polish economy. We show that the deficiencies in digitalisation are uneven: small firms are lagging behind large firms, while manufacturing firms use existing digital solutions in inefficient ways, lacking integration and strategic vision. Given the existing empirical evidence, improvements in these areas can positively contribute to the costs of running a business and to the way a business is organised as well as improve the allocative efficiency. Improving the degree of the use of digital technology in manufacturing can contribute to maintaining the cost-competitiveness of the sector while digital process innovations can shift it towards non-price competitiveness. Improvements in the digitisation (and digitalisation) of the services sector will help with consumer outreach and facilitate entering foreign markets, in particular for small firms.

Last but not least, in light of the identified list of needed improvements, we comment on the potential use of the EU Recovery Fund which was agreed in July 2020 to mitigate the social and economic damage of the COVID-19 pandemic in EU MS. Thanks to this earmarked budget, the European Commission (EC) will be able to borrow EUR 750 billion from capital markets and redistribute it among MS as grants and loans between 2021 and 2027.



**Authors:** Jan Hagemeyer, Karolina Zubel



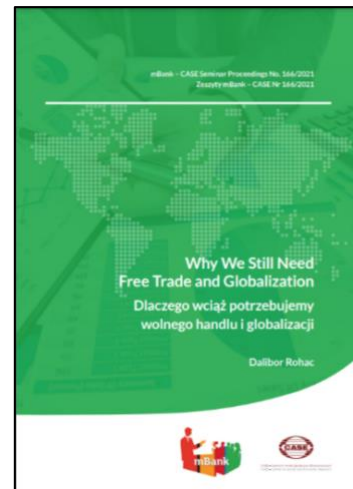
[Read the Report](#)



## mBank-CASE Seminars Proceeding No. 166: Why We Still Need Free Trade and Globalization

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The increasingly tense interplay between trade and politics should not blind us to the fact that the postwar liberalization of trade worldwide has been a resounding success and remains one of globalism's most significant achievements, if not the most important achievement, period. This opening up did not happen spontaneously in an institutional vacuum. Instead, the current degree of economic openness and the resulting prosperity are results of a combination of multilateral trade negotiations under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and later the World Trade Organization (WTO), underwritten largely by the United States, as well as a variety of regional initiatives.



The existing platforms for trade liberalization - WTO, regional trade blocs, and other preferential trade agreements (PTAs) - have their weaknesses. One is that the low-hanging fruit of slashing tariffs and removing quotas has been mostly picked. The remaining trade barriers revolve around politically thorny issues related to technical and regulatory questions, intellectual property, and distorted agricultural markets. In addition, the one-way nature of WTO membership has been subject to abuse by state-capitalist economies, particularly China, which has gained access to Western markets while jealously shielding its incumbent firms from foreign competition.

However, giving up on the institutions underpinning the current trade regime would be extremely unwise, particularly at a time of historically unprecedented economic distress accompanying the COVID-19 pandemic. Without the constraints imposed by the WTO and PTAs, nothing would stop politicians from reverting back to trade policies that cater to special interests while distributing the costs over the wider public. As the example of the Great Depression shows, such danger would be imminent in bad economic times when the temptation to impose discriminatory trade barriers would be strong and doing so would amplify the size of adverse economic shocks. A zero- or negative-sum economic environment provides fuel for extremist ideologies, militarism, and war. Avoiding such a scenario is precisely the challenge facing the world today.

**Author:** dr. Dalibor Rohac



[Read the Report](#)

### **GUIDEBOOK "Direction: an efficient state"**

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The Polish Decentralisation Guidebook aims at presenting in a synthetic way the experience of Poland regarding the re-introduction of local government and the decentralisation process since 1989. Its main goal is to provide representatives of central and regional authorities, experts, and representatives of opinion-forming circles in Armenia and Georgia with relevant

information and knowledge. The idea of the authors of this Guidebook was to facilitate mutual learning between the countries, the exchange of good practices, and lessons learned.

The territorial division of Armenia was established in 1995. Now the country has two levels of administrative division – regions and communities – and the local self-government is exercised only on the level of communities. In the case of Georgia, administrative reform aimed at introducing local government started in 1997. Currently, self-government in Georgia is exercised on just one level – in municipalities (including self-governing cities and self-governing communities).



Poland’s experience, in which local government units are established on all three levels of territorial division, might be useful to Armenia and Georgia, if they wish to further reform their territorial administration and pursue decentralisation.

This Guidebook is comprised of four main parts. The first part is devoted to the presentation of the Polish experience in five selected areas: empowerment of local communities, financing of local government units, providing public services, absorption of external funds by local governments, and crisis responses.

The second part is dedicated to the presentation and analysis of needs and main blocking points in decentralisation in Armenia, while the third one concentrates on Georgia. Both of them are structured around the five above-listed areas.

The last but very most important section of this Guidebook provides a set of recommendations for Armenia and Georgia based on the Polish experience in introducing local government and decentralisation.

The country-specific sections of this Guidebook were prepared mainly on the basis of the results of desk research. This included reviewing the existing literature, relevant state strategies and action plans as well as reports developed by local and international organisations. Key legal acts were also reviewed. In addition, interviews with representatives of local municipalities and other stakeholders were carried out in Armenia and Georgia.

**Authors:** Stanislav Bieliei, Hasmik Grigoryan, Gvantsa Ichkiti, Salome Kandelaki, Agnieszka Kulesa

This Guidebook was developed as part of the project called ‘Direction: an efficient state. Polish experiences of decentralisation and modernisation, lessons learned for Armenia and Georgia’ co-funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland. It is the joint work of three partner institutions: CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research, the Tbilisi-based Georgian Institute of Politics (GIP), and the Analytical Centre on Globalization and Regional Cooperation (ACGRC) from Yerevan.



[Read the Guidebook](#)

## EU Sanctions on Belarus as an Effective Policy Tool

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The situation of Belarus is currently quite clear. Lukashenka is hanging on to power because of his continued grasp on the security forces and Putin's support. Russia controls as much as it wants to control. So far, no significant cracks have appeared in Lukashenka's hold on the security forces. While the popular protests of 2020 were far stronger than any previous popular Belarusian protests, Lukashenka is a survivor. He has persisted during several political and financial crises. He hopes to also survive this time and he is playing for time.

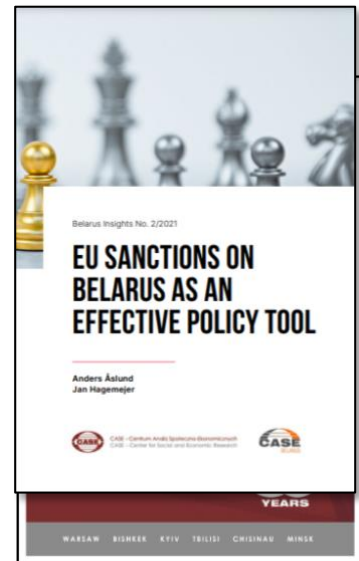
The Belarusian democratic movement understands, and it fears that its time is running out, so it calls for maximum pressure on Lukashenka. The EU should follow its lead. This runs contrary to the standard procedure of ratcheting sanctions up step by step. The aim of Western sanctions should be to maximize the cost to not only Belarus but also to Russia to ease Russian interest in controlling Belarus as early as possible.

The targets of the sanctions should be multiple: Lukashenka, his family and cronies; culprits of human rights violations; Belarusian state financial institutions; the big Belarusian state companies; Russian state banks in Belarus; big Kremlin-related companies in Belarus; Russian businessmen assisting the Kremlin in Belarus; and the Belarusian arms trade. International financial institutions should not be allowed to assist the Belarusian state. Bona fide Belarusian private enterprises and their trade should not be sanctioned.

**Authors:** Anders Åslund, Jan Hagemeyer



[Read the Report](#)



## The Biggest Problem in Post-Communist Transition: The Privatization of Large Enterprises

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Thirty years after the collapse of the Soviet Union, it is rather clear what transition policies have worked. Almost all the post-communist countries have become market economies and have achieved macroeconomic stability. Privatization was economically necessary, and its economic outcomes have been very positive. Alas, politically, these successes have often been unsustainable because of strong popular sentiments against the private ownership of big enterprises. Substantial renationalization has occurred. What went wrong? How could privatization be done better, or be defended? What should be done to defend private enterprise in the future? This paper argues that the nature of privatization is far less important than the establishment of good rule of law so that private property rights can be defended.

**Authors:** Anders Åslund

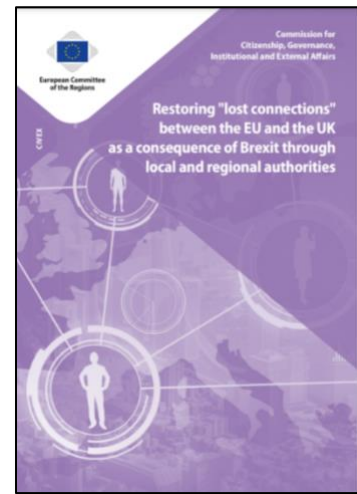


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## Restoring "lost connections" between the EU and the UK as a consequence of Brexit through local and regional authorities

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The United Kingdom (UK) left the European Union (EU) on 31 January 2020. However, the terms of the UK's departure from the EU were to a large extent unclear until as late as December 2020, which marked the end of the transition period. While Brexit itself was negotiated at the highest levels of national governments and EU authorities, it also affects local communities and regions. In recognition of that fact, the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) launched a UK Contact Group intended to maintain lines of communication between local and regional authorities (LRAs) in EU and UK cities, regions, and devolved administrations. This study aims to provide scientific support to the CoR-UK Contact Group in the assessment of the impact of Brexit on the functioning of LRAs, analysing the lost connections between the UK and the EU at the local and regional level as well as exploring possible avenues and methods of future cooperation between EU and UK LRAs following Brexit.



The study analyses the main policy areas affected by Brexit (Section 2) and the related impact on LRAs (Section 3). As Brexit is a largely unprecedented event which unfolded alongside the COVID-19 pandemic, we greatly rely on information gathered through stakeholder interviews, who deserve profound acknowledgments. They include representatives of LRAs and LRA associations located in the EU regions with most ties to the UK as well as selected UK regions, coordinators of cross-border projects, and representatives of academia. To assess possibilities for future cooperation, this study discusses the main drivers and challenges to cooperation imposed by Brexit as well as the key factors for maintaining or restoring further cooperation between EU and UK LRAs (Section 4). It also presents relevant examples of functioning cooperation frameworks and successful bottom-up initiatives that can be used by LRAs to leverage future cooperation opportunities. The last section of the study provides brief conclusions and recommendations.

**Authors:** Jan Hagemeyer, Machteld Bergstra, Kateryna Karunska, Katarzyna Sidło

The report was prepared for the European Union and the Committee of the Regions.



[Read the Report](#)

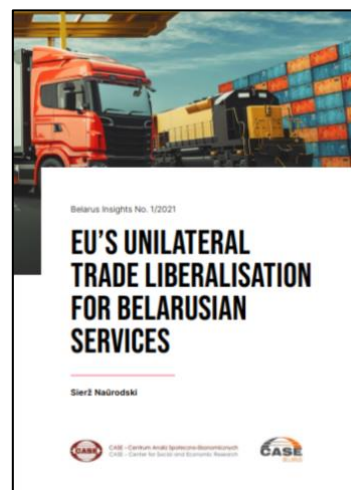
## EU's Unilateral Trade Liberalisation for Belarusian Services

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This policy paper aims at offering a complementary solution to the European Union (EU) EUR 24 million assistance package to support good faith small and medium enterprises in Belarus by suggesting the introduction of unilateral trade liberalisation measures for the country's services sector for 12 months, with prolongation conditional on the political and economic situation in Belarus. In consideration of the identified drawbacks of direct monetary assistance

to Belarus, the author builds this paper on the EU's experience in the Western Balkans to suggest potential political and economic rationales for the EU to unilaterally liberalise trade in services with Belarus. The paper identifies construction, transport, maintenance and repair, and ICT services as sectors with the highest untapped export potential for Belarusian services in the EU. The author did not find any legal limitations or negative implications under the legal frameworks of the EU, the Eurasian Economic Union, or the World Trade Organization.

The work has been created under the Polish Development Cooperation Programme, financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland in 2021 as part of the "Support for Democracy" programme. You may use the work freely, provided to you keep the above-mentioned information, including the information on the license in use and the rights holders.



**Authors:** Sierż Naurodski



[Read the Paper](#)

## **Economic impact of the EU Eastern enlargement on New Member States revisited: The role of economic institutions**

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The paper analyses the economic implications of the accession of New Member States (NMS) to the European Union (EU) in 2004 and 2007. The estimation effects of integration with the EU were carried out as a comparative case study using the synthetic control method (SCM) proposed by Abadie and Gardeazabal. Compared to previous studies analysing the effects of accession to the EU (Campos, Coricelli and Moretti), we check for the importance of the quality of economic institutions for the matching process of the analysed economies with their comparators. The results of the econometric analysis show a positive impact on the country performance 6 years and 12 years after accession to the EU. The gains from accession are large but not universal. For 5 of the 10 analysed countries the difference in levels of per capita gross domestic product (GDP) against the counterfactual is at least 30%.

**Authors:** Jan Hagemeyer, Jan J. Michałek, Pavel Svatko

The article was published in the Central European Economic Journal.



[Read the Paper](#)

## A Euro-Mediterranean Green Deal? Towards a Green Economy in the Southern Mediterranean

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The transition to a green economy requires nothing short of a major, structural transformation of economic models, domestic and global. The scale and pace of the change needed and the high level of uncertainty require bold commitments, cooperation, innovation and experimentation across sectors, stakeholders and countries – a fierce challenge for the globe, well beyond the shores of the Mediterranean. Each chapter in this study includes domain-specific and country-specific findings and proposes recommendations on how to accelerate the green economy in the particular context. Due to the social, economic and political heterogeneity in the region, it is obvious that a “one size fits all” solution is not suitable. Nonetheless, common findings and recommendations do emerge across the case studies.



**Authors:** Julia Choucair Vizoso Coordinator, Mohamed Behnassi, Zied Boussem, Georgeta Vidican Auktor, Karolina Zubel.

## Investments and their determinants – Poland economic growth in the long term

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CASE has published a report showing the importance of investments for Poland's economic growth from the early 1990s to the present day. During this period Poland made a development leap, significantly reducing the economic distance to the countries of Western Europe. This was mainly due to an increase in the capital stock and production efficiency, which are directly related to investments.

**Authors:** Jan Hagemeyer, Grzegorz Poniatoski, Mehmet Burak Turgut, Agnieszka Pechcińska



[Read the report](#)

## **CASE Communications**



In 2021 CASE took many significant actions in the field of communication and dissemination of CASE activities. These included *inter-alia* the celebrations of CASE’s 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary (a conference and a MY CASE book), mBank-CASE seminars, and several project-related publications and events. Our efforts resulted in significant interest of media in CASE activity. This activity is also reflected in the growing number of users of our social media.

## Events

In 2021 CASE organized the following events:

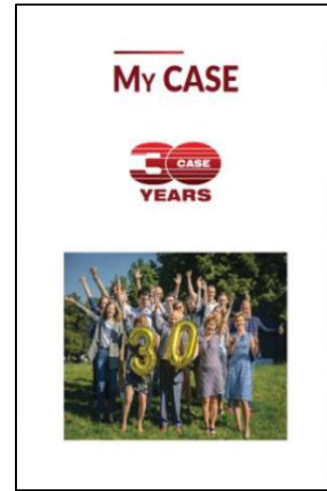
DATE	TITLE
23-24.09	CASE 30 <sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE: “LOOKING BACK TO LOOK FORWARD: THE FUTURE OF THE EU ECONOMY”
18.03	THE 168TH MBANK – CASE SEMINAR: CAN THE PROBLEMS IN THE BANKING SECTOR SLOW THE POLISH ECONOMY’S CONVERGENCE PROCESS?
15.04	THE 169TH MBANK-CASE SEMINAR: REFORM PRIORITIES FOR THE HEALTH SERVICE: WHAT CHANGES WILL THE COVID-19 CRISIS BRING?
24.04	THE 170TH MBANK-CASE SEMINAR: THE POLISH DEAL: THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROPOSED NEW TAX SYSTEM
18.11	THE 171ST MBANK-CASE SEMINAR: TAX CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF THE GROWING DIGITAL ECONOMY
17.06	LESSONS FROM THE ECONOMIC TRANSITION
26-27.10	CASE TAX WORKSHOP: TAXES AND THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL
14.12	PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT: “INVESTMENT AND ITS DETERMINANTS AND THE LONG-RUN ECONOMIC GROWTH”
19.02, 25.02	BELARUSIANS IN SEARCH OF NEW OPPORTUNITIES (2 EVENTS)
25.05-10.06	THE 5 <sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONFERENCE
26.05, 02.06, 09.06	INTEGRATED HOME RENOVATION PROGRAMS PUTTING THE RENOVATION WAVE INTO ACTION



## Publications

MY CASE is a very important publication published by CASE in 2021. The book is a collection of texts authored by 82 individuals who have been involved with CASE throughout its 30 year history or for shorter periods of time, but for whom CASE has played an important role in their personal development. They are CASE founders, former and current CASE economists and researchers, CASE experts, CASE staff, as well as Management Board members and Supervisory Council members.

"MY CASE" was distributed in hard copy form to over 100 recipients and electronically to over 4300 recipients.



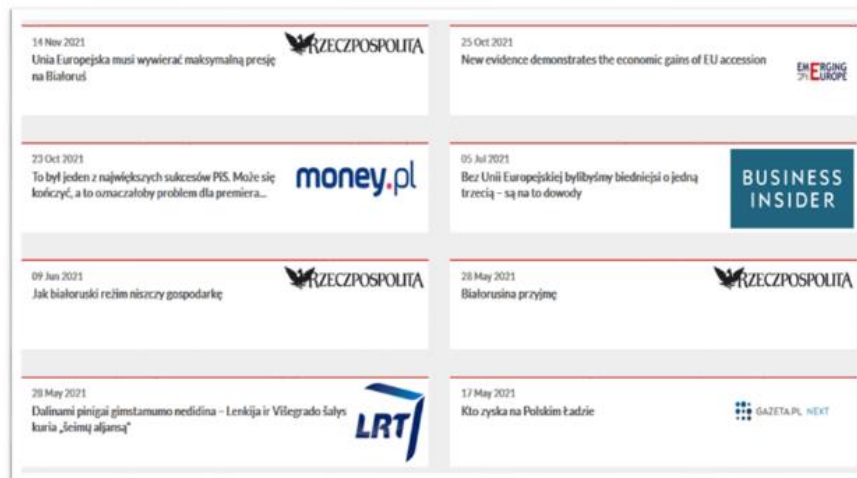
[Read MY CASE book](#)

Other publications of 2021:

PUBLICATION	
<b>CASE REPORTS</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>WORKING PAPERS</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>EXTERNAL PUBLICATIONS</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>MBANK-CASE SEMINAR PROCEEDINGS</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>ShowCASE</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>MY CASE</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>6</b>

## Media Relations

At least 20 media publications appeared in 2021. These involved media coverage of CASE activities as well as CASE experts' comments to current economic and social issues. CASE was present in such media as: PAP, Rzeczpospolita, Dziennik Gazeta Prawna, Business Insider, Gazeta.pl, RMF FM, TOK FM, etc. CASE experts were often quoted by the media or published longer opinion pieces. In 2021 these appearances included those by: Agnieszka Kulesa, Jan Hagemeyer, Grzegorz Poniatowski, Adam Śmietanka, Stanisława Golinowska, and Mehmet Burak Turgut. Examples of CASE-related media appearances are shown below.



## CASE ranked No. 1

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CASE – Center for Social and Economic Research is ranked No.1 in the world in the category Think Tanks with Annual Operating Budgets of Less than USD 5 Million, according to the University of Pennsylvania Global Go To Think Tank Index Report for 2020. CASE also has the honor of being a Center of Excellence in Central and Eastern Europe, and for the second year in a row the second-ranked think tank with the most innovative policy ideas/proposals.

“2020 has been a year full of challenges. CASE, as all think tanks around the world, was faced with fast-moving and unexpected variables. Thanks to the efforts of the entire team, we were able to take advantage of the opportunities brought about by the crisis. The issues covered by our analysis became even more pressing and more accessible. In 2021, CASE activities will focus intensively on the recovery plan for Europe after the pandemic. We aim to contribute to this plan with our out-of-the-box thinking, quantitative skills, and detail-oriented approach” says Dr. Izabela Marcinkowska, President of CASE.

For 2020, CASE also had an impressive showing as a Top Domestic Economic Policy Think Tank (10th place), as a Top Non-U.S. Think Tank Worldwide (33rd position) and as a Top International Economics Think Tank (20th place).

The think tank ranking was determined by a nomination process involving approximately 3,974 journalists, public and private donors, policymakers, and functional and regional area specialists from around the world, who then assessed 11,175 think tanks from all over the world. The ranking has been conducted since 2006. The 2020 issue comprised over 50 various categories such as Top Think Tank in the World, Top Domestic Economic Policy Think Tank, Top Social Policy Think Tank, and Best Advocacy Campaign.

More information about the Global Go To Think Tank Index Report is available at <http://gotothinktank.com/>

## Website statistics

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- On average 250 website entrances per day.
- Almost 70 000 users out of which 11% returning visitors.
- Over 261 000 views on the website.

## Social media

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SOCIAL MEDIA	2021
<b>TWITTER</b>	<b>1417</b>
<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<b>3544</b>
<b>LINKEDIN</b>	<b>1330</b>

## **Financing of CASE Activities**

## Sources of financing

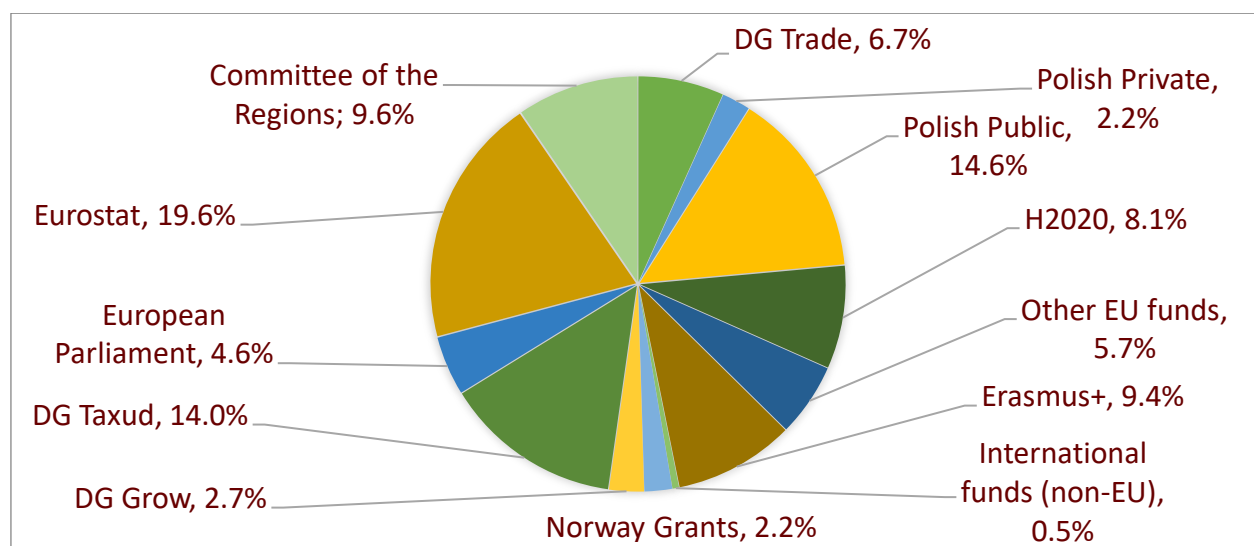
Breakdown of total revenue	PLN	EUR
<b>1. Revenue from statutory activity</b>	6,176,672.17	1,342,929.98
<b>1.1. Project-based funding</b>	6,176,672.17	1,342,929.98
<b>1.2. Institutional support</b>	0.00	0.00
<b>2. Other operating revenue</b>	793.65	172.56
<b>3. Financial revenue</b>	94,903.82	20,633.96

*Exchange rates based on NBP rates 1 EUR = 4.5994 PLN (31<sup>st</sup> December 2021)*

CASE financing 2021	PLN	EUR
<b>1. Net revenue from statutory activities</b>	1,416,681.42	308,014.40
<b>2. Financial and other operating revenues</b>	95,697.47	20,806.51
<b>3. General and administrative expenses</b>	1,141,500.98	248,184.76
<b>4. Financial and other operational expenses</b>	591.72	128.65
<b>5. Net result</b>	370,286.19	80,507.50

*Exchange rates based on NBP rates 1 EUR = 4.5994 PLN (31<sup>st</sup> December 2021)*

As in previous years, CASE's statutory activity in 2021 was solely based on project activities (both non-profit and for-profit). Funds were obtained from the following sources (as a percentage of total project revenues for 2021):



In 2021, the European Union continued to provide the greatest portion of CASE's revenue in the form of projects undertaken for various DG's of the European Commission, European Parliament, Eurostat, Committee of the Regions, Horizon2020 grants and others. Its total share represented 80.5% of project funding. Funding coming from the Polish public sector amounted to 14.6 % and the Polish private sector provided 2.2% of CASE's revenue. The remaining funds were the provided by non-EU institutions (e.g., Norway Grants)

Changes in the value of the endowment in 2021	PLN	EUR
<b>1. Stocks at the beginning of 2021</b>	3,304,142.39	718,385.53
<b>2. Interest and profits from the endowment in 2021</b>	80,063.05	17,407.28

Exchange rates based on NBP rates 1 EUR = 4.5994 PLN (31<sup>st</sup> December 2021)