

INTEGRATION OF BALKAN, THE ALBANIAN CASE

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Abstract. *Albania is of course one of the most unique cases in Eastern Europe not only for its size and location, but also for his legacy in economic development and many other features as well. Without denying the similarities with other former communist countries, Albania has pursued his way of economic transformation to a market economy. The economic transformation previously followed by the stabilization program that was implemented from 1992 show the real possibility of this country to abandon its long isolation and to create a new democratic society and a new market economy. Possibility of sustainable growth, after solving some problems of post-emergency.*

Albania is seriously involved in this historical transformation and has a real chance to enter Europe, to which it belongs. The problem that arises is the cost and benefits for the integration process of being full membership of the European Union. This research aims to present the current situation and the strong influence of the past, giving a frame of progress steps. The advantages and disadvantages of Albania, the similarities and specificities of the model, as well as political, institutional constraints and the mentality. Therefore aims to analyze the path of Albania into European structures in recent years, and examines the progress made by the process of Stabilization Association, European Programme aid and the continue of reforming the country to get closer to the Copenhagen criteria.

The progress of Albania is affected by the EU, and then Albania has changed attitude towards policymaking. The Balkan region and Albania are part of the European map, but it depends on finding solutions that work within the country to push the negotiations and to consolidate a future membership in the European family. The process of integration of Albania into the European Union is a matter of will, which is not only Albania as a single country, but for the entire of all Balkan countries. The European perspective may make a miracle in the Balkans and thus transform Balkan societies. Albania is divided also in two important role, in hard politic (USA) and in soft politic (EU), that makes the life in themselves complicated. From December 2010, Albania realize the first goal from European Union, a free movement in schengen space that will open in letter a “hope window” for Albanian citizenship.

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