## ROMANIA'S PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION IN 2019: PRIORITIES AND DRIVERS

Mirela MĂRCUŢ\*

Abstract. This article seeks to explore possible priorities and drivers Romania may use during its tenure at the Council in 2019. First, it presents the legal framework offered by the Lisbon Treaty and a short discussion on the permanent presidency versus the rotating presidency. Second, it examines previous presidencies to pinpoint possible drivers in the formation of priorities of the rotating presidency. Finally, it provides a brief analysis on possible priorities and drivers of the Romanian presidency.

**Keywords**: Romania, rotating presidency, Council of the European Union, national preferences

\_

<sup>\*</sup> University of Oradea, 1st Universității St., Oradea, E-mail: mir3lam@gmail.com