

## REPORT

### ON THE WORKSHOP “LIBERAL MESSAGES IN EUROPE”

TIMISOARA, MAY 19, 2018

The first workshop took place on 19<sup>th</sup> of May at the Check in Hotel in Timisoara. The training team composed of **Ciprian Negoită – moderator**, **Tudor Tim Ionescu – event organizer** and **Raimar Wagner – team coordinator** arrived at the venue one day before, May 18, 2018, in order to meet for fine-tuning of the agenda and coordination of facilitation.

The team agreed on the game-plan (see it in attach to this report) prior to the workshop, however **small adjustments** had to be made. Therefore all three members agreed on changing the **order of the questions asked**, in the light of various considerations such as mapping the core idea of the workshop, giving the participants the opportunity to introduce themselves and warmly recommend and engaged them in discussions and finally asking to identify the main challenges face by the European Union (EU) both in the past few years in the near future. Thus, as a result, the order of the questions was changed as follows:

***Q1:** What are the key challenges for the EU itself?*

***Q2:** What are the problems in Romania that can be solved with the help of the EU (for example, linking the rule of law to subsidies)?*

***Q3:** What should Romania's role in Europe be?*

**instead of**

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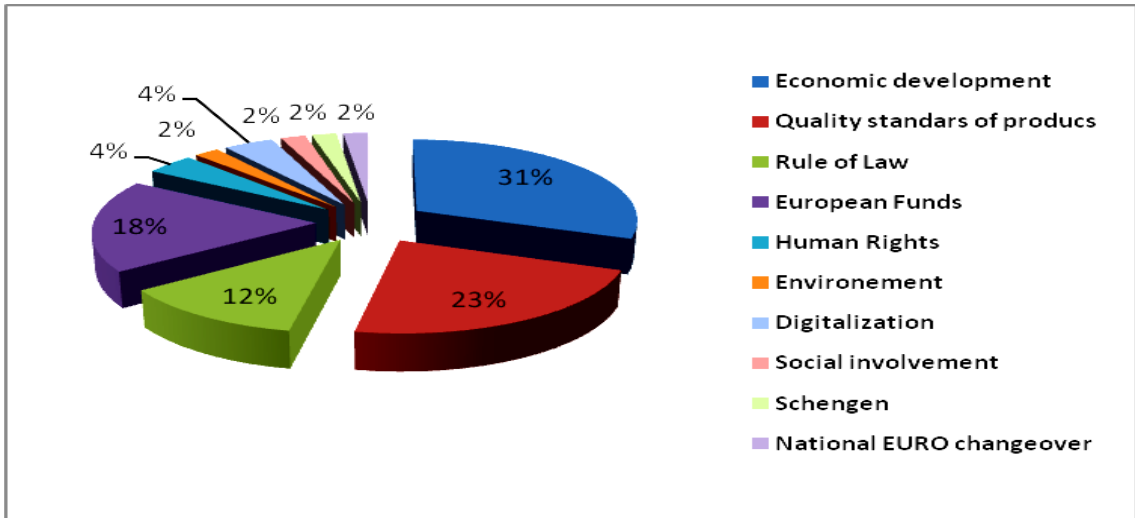
***Q2:** What are the key challenges for the EU itself?*

***Q3:** What should Romania's role in Europe be?*

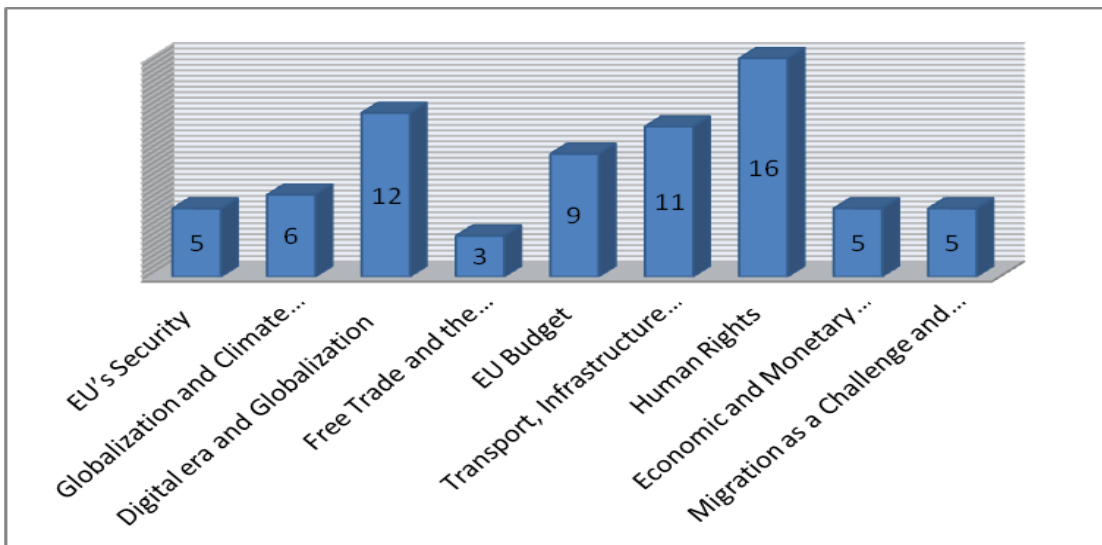
The workshop was attended by **17 active and determined participants from different social and professional backgrounds** (see the list of attendance attached: **students, sales agents, administrators, entrepreneurs, teachers, civil servants**). The diversity of participants and their different interpretations of the challenges faced by the EU and interventions contributed a lot both in identifying and explaining new dimensions of the liberal messages that could be used in the following European parliamentary elections.

The moderator continued with an ice-breaker that required the participants to write down on two different color meta-cards (blue and yellow) short ideas and considerations regarding the problems in Romania that can be solved with the help of the EU and the role of Romania inside the Union. The moderator then presented the results of this activity, and each participant contributed with comments on each of the topic written down by the other colleagues.

**The results were the following:**



After a half an hour coffee break, the moderator continued with a presentation (for more details please see the power point presentation) on the ALDE Party Manifesto. He presented the **9 topics** (EU's security and its relation with NATO, globalization and climate changes, digital era and globalization, free trade and the international commerce, EU budget, transport, infrastructure and mobility, human rights, economic and monetary policies and migration as a challenge and opportunity) that were thoroughly explained to the participants. Afterwards, all of the nine topics were then printed on meta-cards and were then pasted on the board as preparation for the voting process. At this point, after the presentation, all the participants started discussing and voting (six votes each) in the same time the top six issues out of the nine already presented, that they consider important and stood out for them. Once again, due to the active involvement of all the participants, **the results were extremely satisfying, as follows:**



Finally, the moderator asked the participants to divide themselves into three groups and continue the discussions on the six topics that were voted (World Café). Each group actively contributed in discussions.

Following this debate, the workshop was closed.

Ciprian Negoita, Institute for Liberal Studies

Raimar Wagner, FNF SOE, Romania