

Features on structural policies in regional development of the European Union and their main effects^{*}

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ABSTRACT

The study moves from the observation that, at EU level, has assisted in the last 15-20 years a process of general economic and social transformation. And in this context, the seasons of the program of structural policies have been evolving, despite the disputed assessments, and sometimes conflicting, the results achieved by the academics of the field (but also of public operators) between those who advocate policies intervention more or less innovative, and those who prefer to focus on traditional development policies, even if with some adjustments. Whatever model is chosen and applied, structural policies would (or should have) the objective of reducing socio-economic gaps between regions of the European Union, the enlargement processes occurring - in the transition from a Union of 15 countries have contributed to a 27 to stress, combined with the impact of global financial and economic crisis, manifested since 2007 and still in progress. The proposed analysis may contribute to the need to identify a non-trivial definition of the concept of evaluation of public policies in order to capitalize on the experience of community programs in general and political cohesion and Structural Funds in particular, in a transition period in which they tend to spread as the ordinary practices of government.

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