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WOBEC PROCESÓW GLOBALIZACJI

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22

THE INFLUENCE OF  
THE GLOBALIZATION PROCESSES  
ON CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN REGION



Reviewer: *Nelly Daszkiewicz*  
Gdańsk University of Technology

SCIENTIFIC BOARD

*Janusz Bliski*  
University of Łódź

*Adam Budnikowski*  
Warsaw School of Economics

*Danuta Marciniak-Neider*  
University of Gdańsk

*Ewa Oziewicz*  
University of Gdańsk

Edited by: *Karolina Klecha, Tomasz Michalowski*

Cover design: *Wojtek Traczyk*

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Zakład Poligrafii Fundacji Rozwoju Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego  
81-824 Sopot, ul. Armii Krajowej 119/121  
tel./fax +48 58 551 05 32, tel. +48 58 550 93 75  
Hofaf@poczta.gda.pl

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## INTRODUCTION

Institute of International Business at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Gdańsk has prepared serial number of their Working Papers. The 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of Working Papers contains the results of the research on transition processes in Central and Eastern European countries and on different aspects of globalisation process in the world economy.

This publication comprises 46 papers which are based on research work carried out by staff members and graduates of the Institute of International Business as well as researchers working in other Polish and foreign universities, co-operating with the Institute. The papers presents findings and opinions of researchers from Russian (Moscow State Institute of International Relations – MGIMO), Lithuania (Kaunas University of Technology, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University), Germany (Hochschule Bremen), Slovakia (University of Žilina) and, of course, Poland.

- The publication consists of five parts:
- Economic Development and the Problems of Transition Processes in Central and Eastern European Countries,
  - Challenges Facing the Central and Eastern European Region in the Framework of Integration Processes in Europe. Problems of the EU Co-operation,
  - Transnational Corporations in Central and Eastern Europe. Activities of Companies Located in the Region Toward Foreign Markets,
  - Financial Markets in Central and Eastern Europe,
  - Other Aspects of Globalization in the World Economy at the Beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

We hope that readers in Poland as well as in other countries will receive this book with interest and find the information useful.

We wish you pleasant reading.

datkowania, które związane są z transakcjami transgranicznymi przedsiębiorstw narodowych.

Powiększenie UE oraz procesy globalizacji nasiliły dyskusję na temat nie-onałości wspólnego rynku, konkurencyjności przedsiębiorstw z krajów EU, zcie konkurencji podatkowej między tymi krajami. W celu sprostania tym waniom Komisja Europejska zaproponowała wprowadzenie wspólnych zasad lania podstawy opodatkowania przedsiębiorstw działających na obszarze więcej niż ego kraju członkowskiego, bez ingerencji w wysokość stawek podatkowych, które stałyby w wyłączonej kompetencji krajów członkowskich. Przyjęcie takich zasad publikłoby różnice w stawkach podatkowych, przyczyniając się do lepszej alokacji talu, zbliżenia (obniżenia) stawek, wreszcie do poprawy międzynarodowej urencyjności firm i krajów UE.

KĘSTUTIS KRIŠČIŪNAS, ŽIVILĖ PAUŽAITĖ  
KAUNAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

EVOLUTION OF THE EU NORTHERN DIMENSION  
POLICY: THE RESULTS OF JEAN MONNET PROJECT  
“THE NETWORK ON THE ENLARGEMENT AND THE  
NORTHERN DIMENSION OF THE EU”

Introduction

The Northern Dimension has been described in official documents as a *policy* of the European Union. It is now seen as a policy in which the EU is involved, together with other states. It is perhaps more than that. It has provided an *interface* between the EU and candidate countries in the Baltic Sea Region and still provides a meeting place with Russia, as well as Iceland and Norway on a number of issues. It is a *framework* for policy, institutions and interactions. One of the interesting aspects of the Northern Dimension from a political science viewpoint is that it involves a number of actors – stakeholders – at various levels and of different political and economic weights. It involves all the institutions of the EU, as well as its member states. It has a special place for the four regional international institutions – the Nordic Council of Ministers, the CBSS, BEAC and the Arctic Council. Its financing has depended on a number of financial instruments and institutions<sup>1</sup>. It involves parliamentary bodies such as the

<sup>1</sup> The Northern Dimension is a common undertaking of all its parties: the European Union Member States, Iceland, Norway, Russia and the European Commission. Its success depends on the active participation of all actors involved, whether at the national, regional or local level, among the business community, or among civil society generally. The NDAP provides a framework for all stakeholders, setting out strategic objectives, priorities and concrete activities. These activities shall be carried forward in a cooperative spirit based on inclusive participation, subsidiarity and complementarity, with an effective division of labour and overall coordination and monitoring.

The Northern Dimension provides a common framework for the promotion of policy dialogue and concrete cooperation. Its added value lies in the synergy and coherence that it creates across

Nordic Council, the non-governmental organizations and transnational organizations such as those bringing together cities or businesses or indigenous peoples in the region. It tries to engage the full range of civil society. If ever one wanted an example of potential multi-level governance, here it is. Indeed one might describe it as the opportunity for multi-level policy infusion.<sup>2</sup>

Northern Dimension appears as political and financial instrument to strengthen the cooperation between the EU and candidate countries as well as Iceland and Norway and furthermore Russia. After the 2001 another one European Commission initiative oriented towards the European citizens is being opened to all over the world. The Jean Monnet Project "European Integration in University Studies" is a European Commission instrument, which specific aim is the enhancement of knowledge on European issues through teaching, through reflection and debate, and through the far reaching influence of the activities of the European Centres of Excellence and the Jean Monnet professors. The project involves all main European issues in social science disciplines in which community developments are an increasingly important part of the subject studied, i.e.: European Community Law, European Economic Integration, European Political Integration, History of the European Construction Process. The resemblance of these two instruments (Northern Dimension and Jean Monnet Project) influences the implementation of mutual activity. As a subsequence of this activity could be this example that the Regional and Transnational Research Group of ECSA National Associations and Jean Monnet Centres of Excellence in Northern Europe was acting as a Network on Enlargement and the Northern Dimension.

Taking in to account that the most important point about the Northern Dimension development and the next stage of it is the content of the new political declaration and

Dimension are funded through existing financing instruments relevant to the region, including notably the Tacis and Interreg programmes.

The regional organisations in the north have a particularly important role to play, which has been explicitly recognised in the 2nd DAP. The main regional organisations active in the Northern Dimension are:

- a. The Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS),
- b. The Barents Euro Arctic Council (BEAC),
- c. The Arctic Council (AC),
- d. The Nordic Council of Ministers.

The international financial institutions (IFIs), as well as the private sector, also have an important role to play in the running of the Northern Dimension, including notably:

- a. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD),
- b. The European Investment bank (EIB),
- c. The Nordic Investment Bank (NIB),
- d. The Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO),
- e. The Nordic Project Fund (NOPEF).

Euroregions in the Northern Dimension area also play an important role in enhancing the flow of information between stakeholders in the different regions.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Northern Dimension Overview. Administrative framework and financing instruments of the Northern Dimension. Available at: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/external\\_relations/north\\_dim/](http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/north_dim/).

<sup>2</sup> Clive Archer, Position paper, Opening remarks, Northern Dimension Conference, Manchester 12-13 December 2005

policy framework documents on the ND are to be determined through negotiations between all the parties involved "The Network on enlargement and the Northern Dimension of the EU" by the Jean Monnet Project and European Commission was established in 2003. Representatives were involved from Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom. The Research Group was concentrated on research on the development of the Northern Dimension of the European Union as the EU takes in further member states in Northern Europe.

**Scientific problem:** following the dynamic processes of European Integration the Northern Dimension has to conform to the changing situation as well. And the demand appears - to analyse the main guidelines of Northern Dimension policy framework towards its development.

**Goal of the research** – to analyse main tendencies of the development of the Northern Dimension, taking into account the results of Jean Monnet Project: "The Network on enlargement and the Northern Dimension of the EU".

**Research objectives:**

- to analyse the concept of the Northern Dimension,
- to study the working mechanisms of Northern Dimension,
- to analyse the evolution of the activities of the Northern Dimension,
- to analyse main tendencies of the development of the Northern Dimension, taking into account the results of Jean Monnet Project: "The Network on enlargement and the Northern Dimension of the EU".

**Research methods:**

- comparative analysis of scientific literature, documents and reports,
- case study analysis - as a method for empirical research - analyzing the results of Monnet Project "The Network on enlargement and the Northern Dimension of the EU".

**Content of the Northern Dimension concept**

Northern Dimension - initiated by Finland and European Commission together - was implemented as an effective instrument which addresses the specific challenges and opportunities arising in some regions and aims to strengthen dialogue and cooperation between the EU and its member states, the northern countries associated with the EU under the BEA (Norway and Iceland) and the Russian Federation. Parallel to the dynamics of the Europe integration processes and the world changes, the Northern Dimension passed several phases of evolution which main steps can be followed by the interpretation of the Northern Dimension concept.

Despite its recent origins the concept of the Northern Dimension has received many different interpretations. In accordance with Hiski Haukkala<sup>3</sup> it is possible to define few versions of Northern Dimension concept indicated in particular speeches and documents:

- during the accession negotiation the Finnish government stressed the fact that the future Nordic members would introduce a new arctic northern dimension into the European Union. This would create new demands on both the common agricultural and regional policies of the EU. The existence of the "new Northern Dimension of the European Union" was later acknowledged by the other member states when new agricultural and regional policies tailored for the Nordic countries were introduced. However, with reference to Hiski Haukkala<sup>4</sup>, this first version of the Northern Dimension should not be interpreted too narrowly, as the speech of the then foreign minister Paavo Rantanen back in February 1995 shows. Rantanen stressed that the new Northern Dimension of the EU should also take into consideration the special interest of Finland in the sphere of security policy<sup>5</sup>,

- the second version of the ND stems from the concept of the "northern north". This refers solely to the extremely northern and arctic areas of Europe, which are sometimes referred to as "the European North"<sup>6</sup>. In this framework the Northern Dimension is seen both as a place of vast resources and as a source of potential security threats and environmental problems<sup>7</sup>,

- the third approach is that the concept of ND refers to the different overlapping EU policies that are relevant to the Northern areas as a whole and to the member states in particular. In this respect, the ND is seen as "an umbrella" for different policies, financial instruments and even separate organizations and initiatives that are not an integral part of the EU structure,

- the fourth way of looking at the ND is that of perceiving the region as a future economic area and a region undergoing a process of regionalization and as a future member of the "Europe of Regions"<sup>8</sup>,

- the fifth interpretation is based on the concept of Realpolitik. The ND can be perceived as an instrument which Finnish government is trying to use in order to promote its vital national interests in its neighbouring areas, especially Russia.

All in all, what makes the concepts of The Northern Dimension so hard to grasp is that all of these interpretations have been and continue to be relevant. The tangle of different interpretations made the development of the Northern Dimension more

<sup>3</sup> Haukkala Hiski, *Dynamic aspects of the Northern Dimension*, Working papers, No. 4, published by Jean Monnet Unit, University of Turku, Finland, 1999; pp. 9-20.

<sup>4</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>5</sup> Rantanen, Paavo, *Siomen EU – poliittikan suunnaviivi*, A speech made in the Finnish parliament, Eduskunta, I Helsinki, 14 February 1995.

<sup>6</sup> Nokkala, Arto, *The European North – Challenges and Opportunities*, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Helsinki 1997.

<sup>7</sup> Heininen, Lassi, Olli-Pekka Jalonen and Jyrki Kakonen, *Expanding the Northern Dimension*, Research Report 61, Tampere Peace Research Institute, Tampere 1995.

difficult, therefore in the First Action Plan for the Northern Dimension 2000-2003 the concept of the Northern Dimension was defined as such: *The Northern Dimension concept covers the following geographical area, from Iceland on the west across to North-West Russia, from the Norwegian, Barents and Kara Seas in the North to the Southern coast of the Baltic Sea has the backing of the EU and the non-EU Northern Dimension partner countries Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and the Russian Federation. It aims to provide added value through reinforced coordination and complementary in EU and Member States' programmes and enhanced collaboration between the countries in Northern Europe*<sup>9</sup>. This concept was supplemented and specified in the document of "The Second Northern Dimension Action Plan, 2004-2006". There is defined that *the Northern Dimension concept covers a broad and diverse geographic area, stretching from the Arctic and sub-Arctic to the southern shores of the Baltic, and from North-West Russia in the East to Iceland and Greenland in the west. Its added value lies in the synergy and coherence that it creates across the activities implemented by all partners*<sup>10</sup>. And the most important fact of the Northern Dimension concept interpretation is that in the document "Guidelines for the development of a political declaration and policy framework document for the Northern Dimension Policy from 2007" the concept of the Northern Dimension was modified and renewed by word *Policy*. The introduction of this document defines that: *"Established in 1999, The Northern Dimension (ND) Policy aimed at providing a common framework for the promotion of dialogue and concrete cooperation, strengthening stability, wellbeing and sustainable development in Northern Europe (...) ND focus increasingly in North West Russia, the largest territory covered by the ND policy, with its specific challenges affecting also the other ND parties. The ND policy is now becoming a joint project of its parties and should ensure that no dividing lines are re-established in the North of Europe (...)"*<sup>11</sup>

### Evolution of Northern Dimension Policy

Recent years have seen far-reaching changes in the geopolitical map of northern Europe. The Baltic States regained their independence in 1991. Finland and Sweden joined the EU in 1995, and Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland in 2004. These events

<sup>9</sup> *Action Plan for the Northern Dimension with external and cross-border policies of the European Union 2000-2003*, 9401/00, 14 June 2000, available at: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/external\\_relations/north\\_dim/ndap/06\\_00\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/north_dim/ndap/06_00_en.pdf). General information

and regular updates on the Northern Dimension are available at: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/external\\_relations/north\\_dim/index.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/north_dim/index.htm).

<sup>10</sup> Action Plan for the Northern Dimension, 2004-2006, available at: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/external\\_relations/north\\_dim/ndap/par2.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/north_dim/ndap/par2.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> Guidelines for the development of a political declaration and a policy framework document for the

greatly increased the Northern and Baltic "presence" of the EU, and substantially lengthened the common border shared by the EU and the Russian Federation. It was imperative to address constructively the new challenges and opportunities which these changes have created.

The Northern Dimension as an important topic for EU policy was first recognised at the Luxembourg European Council in December 1997. In the years which followed, the concept became more concrete. The Vienna European Council in December 1998 adopted a Commission Communication on a '*Northern Dimension for the policies of the Union*'. Six months later, in Cologne, the European Council adopted *Guidelines for the implementation of the Northern Dimension*. In November 1999, the Finnish EU Presidency held a Ministerial Conference on the Northern Dimension, where an *Inventory of current activities under the Northern Dimension* was adopted. The Helsinki European Council in December 1999 invited the Commission to prepare a Northern Dimension Action Plan, and the Feira European Council in June 2000 subsequently adopted this first '*Action Plan for the Northern Dimension in the external and cross-border policies of the European Union, 2000-2003*'.

The Action Plan was the first official document of EU covering the main guidelines of Northern Dimension activity. It is a reference document consisting of a horizontal and an operational part - for actions planned or implemented in the Northern Dimension during 2000-2003. In the operational part objectives and perspectives are set out in the following sectors where expected added value is greatest:

- energy,
- transport,
- telecommunication/information society,
- environment and natural resources,
- nuclear safety,
- public health,
- trade, business cooperation and investment promotion,
- human resources development and research,
- justice and home affairs,
- regional and cross-border cooperation.

What is essential is that these objectives are to be promoted within the framework of existing contractual relations, financial instruments and regional organisations. The first mentioned include Europe Agreements, Partnership and Co-operation Agreements (PCAs) and the Common Strategy of the European Union on Russia. Tacis, Phare, Interreg and joint financing with international financial institutions represent existing financial instruments, and the Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS), the Barents Euro-Arctic Council (BEAC) as well as the Arctic Council are the key organisations representing existing regional fora.

The Northern Dimension was also one the priorities of Swedish Presidency of the EU. In April 2001 the Swedish EU Presidency and the European Commission organised the 2nd Ministerial Conference on the Northern Dimension in Luxembourg. In June 2001, the Gothenburg European Council endorsed a *Final Report on Northern Dimension*.

Action Plan, also outlined ideas and proposals for the continuation of the Northern Dimension initiative.

A ministerial meeting in Illulisaat, Greenland in August 2002 discussed possible guidelines for a Second Northern Dimension Action Plan, which was adopted at a ministerial meeting in Luxembourg in October 2002. Following this, the Commission proposed the 2nd NDAP in June of 2003, and this was adopted at the European Council in Brussels in October 2003.

The new Northern Dimension Action Plan for years 2004 - 2006 was adopted in the EU Summit held on 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> June in Thessalonica, Greece. The Danish Presidency, which took place in the second half of 2002, organised on October 21<sup>st</sup> 2002 a Ministerial Conference on the Northern Dimension. The EU Member States, along with Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and an observer representative of the Russian Federation, participated in the Conference.

It was the second valid step of Northern Dimension evolution. The Conference adopted 'The Guidelines for a new Action Plan for the Northern Dimension' covering the period 2004-2006 and drafted by the Danish Presidency in close co-operation with the European Commission. The draft was developed by the European Commission before its' adaptation in June and entering into force on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2004. Within the context of the EU's wider external and cross-border policies the new Northern Dimension Action Plan will support the upcoming EU enlargement process and contribute to establish closer links between the EU and Russia.

The Action Plan 2004 - 2006 pay particular attention to priority sectors such as:

- economy, business, infrastructure,
- human resources, education, scientific research, public health,
- cross-border cooperation, regional development,
- justice and home affairs: fight against crime, civil protection,
- environment, nuclear safety, natural resources,
- Kaliningrad and Arctic region.

With each of these sectors mentioned the Action Plan sets out strategic priorities as specific objectives and indicates the priority actions to be pursued in achieving these objectives. The full participation of all stakeholders - partner countries, regional bodies, local and regional authorities and civic society - is emphasised in the implementation and regular monitoring of the Action Plan. The progress of the Plan will be followed, like during the Action Plan 2000 - 2003, by annual progress reports. Furthermore, an annual high-level meeting of Senior Officials has been proposed to evaluate the implementation of the Action Plan, achieved progress and to identify any areas that might still acquire supplement measures. These meetings proposed should bring together representatives from the EU Institutions, the EU Member States, Partner Countries, Northern Dimension regional bodies and the international financial institutions. Also the participation of representatives of regional and local authorities, the business community and of civic society should be encouraged.

Reflecting to joint efforts, the Second Action Plan emphasises complementarity,



interaction will be crucial to the achievement of common objectives and to success of the Northern Dimension in future years.

As foreseen under the 2<sup>nd</sup> NDAP, progress in implementing the Action Plan will be reviewed by meetings of Senior Officials and of Ministers held in alternate years. The first such Senior Official Meeting was held in Brussels in October 2004, and the Ministerial Meeting was held in the autumn of 2005.

Annual reports on NDAP implementation are produced by the European Commission. In addition, the Commission has since summer of 2004 hosted on its website a comprehensive Northern Dimension Information System presenting in an easily accessible format information on a wide range of Northern Dimension activities being carried forward by all Northern Dimension partners.

On November 21<sup>st</sup> 2005, the Northern Dimension ministerial meeting held in Brussels approved by unanimity "Guidelines for the development of a political declaration and policy framework document for the Northern Dimension Policy from 2007". These Guidelines are the last step of the Northern Dimension evolution. It is the agreed basis to draft in 2006 new basic Northern Dimension documents that will open a new phase of this policy. For example, the parties agreed that the Northern Dimension is a shared policy and that it will be the regional expression in the North of Europe of the EU/Russia Common Spaces although keeping its own specificities, i.e. full membership of indigenous peoples, etc. Joint Press Release on the IV Northern Dimension Ministerial Meeting: it is the political declaration and the policy framework document which will become a stable basis for the Northern Dimension as from 2007.

### New trends of future development of the Northern Dimension Policy

As it was mentioned above, the emphasis of the fourth of November was brought by the fourth initiative and was one of the main focuses during the Finnish EU Presidency in second half of 1999. Denmark held the Presidency in second half of 2002 and contributed also to these issues. During the Greek EU Presidency (first half of 2003) and the Italian Presidency (second half of 2003) the focus is avoidably in the Mediterranean area instead of North. The following EU Presidency States are Ireland, Netherlands, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom and Austria. Finland will hold the Presidency again in second half of 2006, followed by German Presidency in first half of 2007. It will be seen, in what level the Western European EU Member States pay attention to the concept of the Northern Dimension.

The EU enlargement remarkably affects on the Northern Dimension area. Most of all, this historical event means various opportunities and challenges for the area. The positive impetus of the enlargement should benefit the whole Northern Dimension area. It is important to stimulate trade and investments, to create productive employment and to promote social and cultural exchange, but at the same time to respect the environment

and sustainable development. Strengthening the interaction between the EU and Russia at all levels in the Northern Dimension context is essential and should help to build closer ties between Russia and Europe.

The Northern Dimension will move into "a new phase" in the future as it will have an important contribution to make in carrying forward the EU's new neighbourhood policy, building on shared interests and a common agenda between the enlarged Union and its neighbours. This Northern Dimension's role in the Commission's Communication on "Wider Europe - Neighbourhood: A New Framework for Relations with Eastern and Southern Neighbours" is highlighted. According to the Action Plan 2004 - 2006 the Commission have to continue on providing the support for Northern Dimension activities through existing programmes and have to continue on working to enhance the coherence and inter-operability of the different Community instruments available for this purpose. The financing and co-ordination approach used in the Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership NDEP is mentioned to be a useful model for other important Northern Dimension sectors.

The Action Plans key purpose is to provide a clear operational framework for all stakeholders, setting out strategic objectives, priorities and concrete activities. These need to be carried forward in a co-operative spirit based on inclusive participation, subsidiarity and complementarity and with an effective division of labour and overall co-ordination and monitoring. The success of the Northern Dimension initiative in the future depends on the wide and active participation of all actors involved - at the national, regional and local level, among the business community and civic society.

### The results of Jean Monnet Project "The Network on enlargement and the Northern Dimension of the EU" in the framework of the Northern Dimension

Northern Dimension Policy as an political and financial instrument of the European Commission has a big correlation with another one initiative of European Commission - it's Jean Monnet Project. The Jean Monnet Project "European Integration in University Studies" is a European Commission project, - Directorate General for Education and Culture - undertaken at the request of the universities, which aim is to facilitate the introduction of European integration studies<sup>12</sup> in universities. Project is orientated towards the European citizen. Its specific aim is the enhancement of knowledge on

<sup>12</sup> The term *European integration studies* is taken to mean the study of the *construction* of the *European Community* which led to the European Union and the institutional, legal, political, economic and social developments related to this process, i.e. "the study of the phenomenon of the integration process initiated in Western Europe after the second World War, in particular by the Robert Schuman Declaration of May 9<sup>th</sup> 1950 and the treaties establishing the European Communities, the Treaty of Paris 1951 and the Treaty of Rome of March 7<sup>th</sup> 1957".

European issues through teaching, through reflection and debate, and through the far reaching influence of the activities of the European Centres of Excellence and the Jean Monnet professors. The project targets those social science disciplines in which community developments are an increasingly important part of the subject studied, i.e.:

- European Community Law,
- European Economic Integration,
- European Political Integration,
- History of the European Construction Process.

Project is launched in the member states of the European Union in 1990 and was extended to all candidate countries applying for EU membership and to universities anywhere in the world in 2001.

Both instruments are oriented to the strengthening of dialogue and cooperation between the EU and its member states as well as other countries related to it by addressing the specific challenges and opportunities arising in the processes of integration and globalisation, what covers a wide spectrum of common issues.

Consequently and not incidentally the group of partners initiated by Professor Clive Archer through the Manchester Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence successfully applied for funding from the European Commission to establish a Regional and Transitional Research Group of ECSA National Associations and Jean Monnet Centres of Excellence in Northern Europe that was acting as a Network on Enlargement and the Northern Dimension.

A proposal on behalf of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, Manchester, was accepted in 2003 by the Jean Monnet Project, European Commission, for a Network on Enlargement and the Northern Dimension of the EU (Agreement No. 2003-2337/001-001). The programme started in January 2004 and was completed at the end of December 2005 under the directorship of Professor Clive Archer.

The main goal of the Research Group was concentrated on research on the development of the Northern Dimension of the European Union as the EU takes in further member states in Northern Europe. Representatives were involved from Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The objectives of the action were:

- to establish a regional research group on the value and prospects of the Northern Dimension (ND) after EU Enlargement,
- to facilitate for young researchers joint research work on the Northern Dimension post-enlargement,
- to contribute to the debate on regional integration in the Northern region of Europe,
- to increase Baltic states, Polish and Russian academic involvement in the regional research group.

In the process of the objects implementation the results were achieved:

- 1) The Network involved a number of joint activities were proposed from January 2004 to December 2005. These included:

- 2 Research seminars,
- 2 interface seminars between researchers and practitioners

a web-site was also to be created as part of the University of Manchester's Centre of Excellence Web-site, emphasis was to be placed on young researchers attending the meetings on presenting their findings.

2) The Network particularly has been successful in bringing together a group of young researchers in European Studies, International Relations, Political Science, Sociology, Economics, Geography and History. Fifty researchers (as well as the members of the Management and Advisory Boards) have so far contributed directly to the Networks' activities, and most of these were young researchers. These come from Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom. Most of these were undertaking postgraduate research and will be completing doctoral studies.

3) The threefold network for younger scholars involved in studies related to the Northern Dimension was provided:

- the first network was between scholars from different countries within Europe and between different disciplines,
- the second network was between the younger scholars and the more experienced researchers represented on the Management Board and Advisory Board. This allowed the younger participants to benefit from the experience of their more senior colleagues, but the latter also learnt from the work undertaken by the junior researchers,

- finally, the network brought together the younger researchers with practitioners. This proved immensely useful for the researchers, but also seemed to be of value to a number of the practitioners.

4) Members of the Network and participants in its activities have contributed to the wider debate about the success and future of the Northern Dimension of the European Union in four ways:

- the first was the participation in the Nordic Council April meeting. This allowed members of the Network and the young researchers to meet parliamentarians, academics, civil servants, and members of civil society who are engaged in the implementation of the Northern Dimension and to contribute to the discussions in the sessions on such issues as 'A Knowledge-Based Region', 'Cooperation on Environmental Projects',

- secondly, there have been specific 'Interface' meetings with practitioners organised by the Network. The most important of these was a 'Round Table' at the end of the Nordic Council meeting. At this four Finnish civil servants responded to questions from researchers. This proved to be a very productive exchange of ideas. The presence of Ambassador Blomberg and Aap Neljas from the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Tallinn meeting also proved to be useful in injecting ideas into the official discussion about the Northern Dimension of the EU. The invitation to have a joint meeting with members of the office of the Nordic

Kingdom foreign ministers, the Council of the Baltic Sea States, the European Commission and the European Parliament,

- thirdly, members of the Network attended other meetings of direct relevance to the future of the Northern Dimension, at which practitioners were presented. Particularly important conference was 'The future of the Northern Dimension - Successful Partnerships, Co-operation and Business Opportunities' in Lappeenranta in October 2005, jointly sponsored by the Lappeenranta University of Technology and the Unit for the Northern Dimension of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland. The Foreign Ministers of Sweden and Finland and a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and a Deputy Director of the General Directorate External Relations at the European Commission made substantive contributions there,
  - fourthly, the Manchester conference was timed to take place after the Northern Dimension Ministerial Meeting in the margins of the General Affairs and External Relations Council of 21 November in Brussels that had discussed the future of the Northern Dimension, and the European Parliament debate in September 2005 which led to the adoption of a joint resolution on the future of the ND on 16 November 2005. Both of these looked forward to a further input into the renewed Northern Dimension and one of the aims of the Manchester conference was to gather together practitioners and researchers to discuss how this might be done.
- 5) The goal: to involve Baltic states, Polish and Russian academics in the debate about the Northern Dimension, thereby paying particular attention to the role of the Northern Dimension in an enlarged EU has been successfully undertaken. In particular:
- scholars from all three Baltic states have participated both in the management of the network and in its academic content,
  - the meetings in Tallinn and Riga confirmed the Baltic states' interest in the subject, furthermore, the meeting at St Petersburg State University was jointly organised with the School of International Relations there and the Head of that School,
  - there was Polish and Russian input to the papers given at the meetings of researchers and at the Manchester conference. Given the importance attached by the November 2005 Council of Ministers to links with Russia in the future Northern Dimension.

Members of the Network have also contributed to other related academic discussions, especially by attending conferences and by publication. Furthermore a number of the contributions by Network members are to be published in 2006 in a collection of key articles on the Northern Dimension.

Network is expected to continue in both 'virtual' and real form as a means of continuing cooperation on Northern Dimension-related topics and in order to continue to make an input into the development of the Northern Dimension, especially in the run-

## CONCLUSIONS

1. Under the influence of globalisation, European integration processes and arising challenges of it, the Northern Dimension had several phases of evolution. As the consequence of this process, the concept of the Northern Dimension modified as well.
2. Officially by European Union the concept of the Northern Dimension was defined in First Action Plan 2000-2003 and extended in Second Action Plan 2004 - 2006. Last document "Guidelines for the development of a political declaration and policy framework document for the Northern Dimension Policy from 2007" renewed the concept of the Northern Dimension by word "Policy".
3. The Northern Dimension uses the same existing EU financial instruments relevant to the region, including notably the Tacis and Interreg programmes.
4. Under the analysis, the main steps of the Northern Dimension evolution are:
  - the first initiative of Northern Dimension rose from Finland in 1990,
  - the Northern Dimension as an important topic for EU policy was first recognised at the Luxembourg European Council in December 1997,
  - the main documents indicating the guidelines of Northern Dimensions evolution are "Action Plan for the Northern Dimension in the external and cross-border policies of the European Union, 2000-2003", Northern Dimension Action Plan 2004 - 2006; "Guidelines for the development of a political declaration and policy framework document for the Northern Dimension Policy from 2007".
5. The success of the Northern Dimension initiative in the future depends on the wide and active participation of all actors involved - at the national, regional and local level, among the business community and civic society.
6. The Northern Dimension Policy and the Jean Monnet project: there are two European Commission initiatives and instruments correlating in strengthening the cooperation between the EU member states and other countries such as Russia, Iceland and Norway, and addressing the specific challenges and opportunities arising in the processes of integration and globalisation, what covers a wide spectrum of common issues.
7. As the results of Jean Monnet Project "The Network on enlargement and the Northern Dimension of the EU" in the framework of the Northern Dimension could be identified:
  - the establishment of a regional research group on the value and prospects of the Northern Dimension (ND) after EU Enlargement which was working as a network,
  - the bringing together a range of young researchers in European Studies, International Relations, Political Science, Sociology, Economics, Geography and History,
  - the organization of the threefold network for younger scholars involved in studies related to the Northern Dimension,
  - the contribution the wider debate about the process and future of the ND.

Council, specific 'Interface' meetings with practitioners organised by the Network; the attendance of members of the Network at other meetings of direct relevance to the future of the Northern Dimension, at which practitioners were presented; the organization of Manchester conference which gather together practitioners and researchers to discuss,

- involving Baltic states, Polish and Russian academics in the debate about the Northern Dimension, thereby paying particular attention to the role of the Northern Dimension in an enlarged EU has been successfully undertaken. Network is expected to continue in both 'virtual' and real form as a means of continuing cooperation on Northern Dimension-related topics and in order to continue to make an input into the development of the Northern Dimension, especially in the run-up to the EU Finnish Presidency in the second half of 2006.

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Ewolucja polityki UE w ramach Wymiaru Północnego: wyniki projektu Jeana Monnet'a „Rozszerzenie a Wymiar Północny UE”

Za dynamiczne procesy integracji europejskiej odpowiadają również północne kraje Unii Europejskiej. Artykuł podejmuje analizę głównych tendencji zachodzących w polityce UE w ramach Wymiaru Północnego.

Tekst przedstawia koncepcję tej polityki, jej mechanizmy oraz ewolucję działań dotyczących Wymiaru Północnego. Dodatkowo artykuł prezentuje wyniki projektu Jeana Monnet'a nt. „Rozszerzenia a Wymiaru Północnego UE”.