

Democratic Resilience in the Republic of Moldova



- ***Ludmila ROȘCA***, *Habilitated Doctor in Philosophy, Principal Scientific Researcher, Institute of Legal and Political Research, Moldova State University*

Bibliography:

- Beniuc, Roșca, Afanas – “*Uniunea Europeană – Uniunea Euroasiatică: studiu comparat*”(Ghid analitic), 2015
- *Strategia globală a UE*: <https://www.eeas.europa.eu>
- Concluziile Consiliului UE – *Redresarea și reziliența Parteneriatului Estic după 2020*, 2021
- Vagner & Anholt – *Resiliens as the EU Global Strategy's new leitmotif: pragmatic, problematic or promising? In Contemporary Security Policy*
- Goudenhoofdt G. *Reziliența instituțiilor politice și administrative în procesul integrării europene*, in Conferința Internațională Jean Monnet: „Mecanisme și modele de adoptare a deciziilor la nivel local/regional/central”. Coordonator – Ludmila ROȘCA, Chișinău, 2024, p. 32- 41, ISBN 978-5-85748-039-7. , 2024

Historical Models of Regional Integration

- a) **The rapprochement of states without challenging their sovereignty;**
- b) **Forced unification through territorial conquest**, whereby a dominant power imposes its will even in the absence of consensus. World history offers numerous examples of forced unification projects achieved through the conquest of territories and the imposition of a foreign sovereign's authority. The collapse of empires often marked the end—sometimes for extended periods—of such integration attempts.

The Context of the Republic of Moldova

After the dissolution of the USSR: the choice between the European Union and the Customs Union.

With the direct involvement of the political class, society became divided into two opposing camps: pro-European vs. pro-Moscow.

Even after three decades, Moldovan society continues to face the challenge of positioning itself between these two orientations.

- **Effects:** numerous vulnerabilities have emerged in the development of the Republic of Moldova, significantly hindering its progress in the European integration process.

The Role of Education in Fostering Informed Decision-Making

🎓 For citizens to make responsible choices, it is essential that socio-cultural institutions provide appropriate education, developing individuals' cognitive capacities—including critical thinking, which is crucial for selecting values and accurate information in the context of widespread disinformation and the massive proliferation of falsehoods.

The Role of Education in Fostering Informed Decision-Making

🎓 The biased interpretation of events and socio-political processes complicates the daily lives of citizens of the Republic of Moldova, regardless of the country in which they reside or work. In order to enable citizens to make an informed choice, we conducted a comparative study of the two models: the European Union and the Customs Union.

The Fundamental Values of the European Union

- Strengthening democracy and the rule of law
- Protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities
- Promoting gender equality
- Fostering societies that encourage inclusion
- Ensuring full respect for international law principles and norms

Projects for the Establishment of the Customs Union

- **N. Nazarbaev:**

➡ *The Customs Union is a union of states operating on the principles of equality, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, and non-interference in the internal affairs of each member state.*

- **V. Putin:**

➡ *The political goal of integration is for Russia to acquire the capacity to represent the interests of the Customs Union member states in international forums such as the United Nations (UN), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the G20.*

Differences Between the Two Projects

Nazarbaev

It leverages and promotes the experience of EU member states

Putin

It continues the experience of subordinating the member states of the Customs Union to the interests of the Russian Federation

- Regrettably, the Putin project has been implemented.

Conclusions:

🔍 Democratic resilience entails:

- Informed choices
- Strengthened institutions
- Active civic participation

The EU provides a viable framework
centered on democratic values

Strategic recommendation:

Investment in Civic
Education and Media Literacy



Strengthening
Institutions



Political Culture
Rooted in European
Values



Thank you for your attention!

✉ Contact: ludmilarosca.com@gmail.com