TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY

Ana-Maria AMBROSA*

Abstract

The contemporary administrative phenomenon goes through a series of structural transformations due not only to its traditional juridical and ideological determinations, but also to the technicalization of economy and public services. The "society of knowledge" came to represent a major challenge for the European authorities which, by means of strategic projection (The Lisbon Agenda, The 2020 Agenda), generated the reorganization of the whole societal system according to the digitalization and e-governing coordinates.

Key words

Administration; knowledge society, e-administration, e-governing

* University reader PhDs., Faculty of Law, University of „Petre Andrei" from Iasy

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

1. The contemporary administration – amidst law, ideology and technology

The modern and contemporary history of civilizations overlaps, to the greatest extent, with the course of incessant refinement of administrative structures, with the development of the state mechanisms in the societal adjustments and with the reevaluation of the authority relations between state and the civil society, between the centre and the margins, etc. Anyhow, it is unavoidable to disdain of the other major dimensions which historic progression of societies involve – the scientific acquisitions, the economy, the capital accretion, the arts, the moral, political and devotional values, the education, the well-being, the demographic and eco-social processes – all of them tossing off into a global intricate social system; yet, the interest for the administrative side of large human communities may be explained, in our times, by the fact that its performances (e.g. "the quality of the governing act"; "the administrative capacity") effects the opportunities and efface the dysfunctions of the other subsystems. That is to say that the administrative system, by dint of its regulatory functions, generates societal coherence propelling (or, otherwise, triggering) its development[1].

The way in which the administration worked, during ages, to preserve the society systemic equilibrium grounded on a complex of moral, juridical and political rules spiced randomly with religious, scientist and technic ingredients. For instance, the relationship between the administrators of society and common people was structured, first of all, on dominantly ethic and religious lines (while Greek and Roman Antiquity and in Middle Ages), then prevailingly on the juridical directions of modern and contemporary constitutionalism, inspired in its turn from the contractual rationalism; in the last two centuries the ideological circumstances became extremely important – be it implied or overtly explicit – because their constraints and requisitions acted, on the one hand, like a "corselet" or a "Procust's bed" for the society (a position justified by the necessity of efficiency, uniformization and standardization of the administrative

[1] The perspective given by the societal systems theory delineates two main human horizons of complexity and, therewith, width: the *intra-societal lot* (that might be understood as national, state communities) and the *extra-societal lot* (that might be understood holistically as great bulks of human civilizations). Inside of the two mentioned lots more subsystems and specialized domains disbranch: the bio-society, the eco-society, the economy, the culture, and the politics. All those are intimately correlated on structural and functional levels, but nevertheless the first violin goes to the politics and administration. Such theoretical outlook might be found in several books like David Easton's, *The Political System. An Inquiry into the State of Political Science* (New York, Knopf, 1953), Jean-William Lapierre's, *L'analyse de systèmes. L'application aux sciences sociales* (Syros/Alternatives, Paris, 1992), Jean-Claude Lugan's, *La systémique sociale* (Presses Universitaires de France, Paris, 1993), Anton Carpinschi's & Cristian Bocancea's, *Ştiinţa politicului. Tratat* (vol. I, Editura Universităţii "Al. I. Cuza", Iaşi, 1998).

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY
in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

agency), and on the other, like a prop for the autonomous actions of individuals or local communities. Both the modern and contemporary public administration share the double juridical and ideological determination, protracted from the displacement of state business from religion and, consequently, from an increasing process of laicization in all areas of society.

The law and ideologies still preserve their irrefragable right to design the administrative systems; sometimes, a mightier growth of regulation and, depending on the context, ideological constraints make themselves more unassailable. However, taking into consideration the factors which determine the contemporary administrative phenomenon, it is relevant to notice a still more crucial element upsurging from the growing importance of technologies which operate with the informational net comprising the personal data systems, the fiscal data systems, the employment data systems or the health insurance data systems; lacking this technical aid, the picture of contemporary administration would be more "primitive" due to its loose grip on the society, but surely more permissive from the perspective of individual liberties. Without the huge standardized nets interconnected in order to identify each and every topic and issue or even to keep a keen eye on the individuals, the world would have less the appearance of an Orwellian animal farm or of a society controlled by the Big Brother,[1], would face lesser cases when the state invades the private space and would vibrate more carefully to the generalized alarms boosted by the viral menaces or the terrorist dangers.

The present technologies display a variety of theoretical, epistemological and ethical approaches which reflect the human new worries stirred by a growing alienation side effected during the scientific and technical progress. The mentioned approaches dawdle between the menacing prophesies about the self destruction of mankind and the evolutionist and optimistic perspective of an unlimited progress sustained by the same technologies. Our analysis regarding the administration – technology relationship puts voluntarily aside the extreme points of view, assuming the idea that, as in each parcel of human activity, there are both benefits and costs, risks and "securizations" that come from the continuous technologization of public administration. Moreover, we are inclined

[1] The "Big Brother" phrase became famous once with the success of George Orwell's novel *1984*, a book which might be labeled as a "political fiction/thriller" written during hard war times, in 1948, an published a year after. The action of the novel is set in a dystopic future, when the totalitarian government of a state called Oceania, availed by technical means (huge screens, surveillance cameras, helicopters, etc.), holds the drives of each and every aspect of social life (from thought sphere to family life, love and sex lives), molded at root by an education meant to turn all citizens in collaborators of the so-called "Police of Thought". In Oceania they chose to eliminate any trace of pre-totalitarian history, to erase any bit of individual autonomy from collective memory and to systematically foster the hate against imaginary enemies; thought is influenced by a new language – *Newspeak* –, that upholds the consciously borne duality of double thinking (essentially, a sort of Manicheist judgment transforming the absurd in a historic necessity).

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY
in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

to assert the moderate optimist position concerning the actual contribution of informational technologies to the issuance of new and more competitive administrative structures, fitted to inrush an sustainable development, under the provisions that the civil society is able, in its turn, to push back the virtual excesses of technological rationalism in public administration. Starting from this point of analysis, we will run thorough a multidisciplinary approach of technological props of administration that implies politic, ethic and juridical perspectives. In the following essay we endeavor to examine the EU concerns and objectives regarding the technological development, taking as a case study the bills from *The Lisbon Agenda* and *The 2020 Strategy*, on the one side, and *The 2010 Digital Agenda* and *The 2010 E-Government Action Plan*, on the other side.

2. The european perspective about the knowledge society. Several administrative consequences

The pregnant interest allowed by the authorities to the science and technology is not a reality nurtured exclusively by the contemporary world; along all the history and civilization track there are landmarks about the overt government attention to the control of knowledge sources (be it religious, philosophical or scientific) and to the monopolization of technologies which make themselves into resorts of social power. The political control of knowledge attained the dimension of a visible phenomenon, as it became a strategic stake of modern times (times of Enlightenment[1] and then of industrialism[2]) in order to consolidate, under the benefits of the so called "informational society" or "knowledge society"[3] (the terms are sometimes

[1] The 18th century Enlightenment has as a core idea the need to rise the common man from the obscurantism and intellectual ineptitude, so as, by the autonomous disposal of reason, to became apt for freedom and happiness. The ardent with of the enlightened philosophers generated colossal cultural engineering, capitalized once with the publication of encyclopedias; on the political parcel, a claiming and interrogative spirit came into being and its development made way for the revolutions against *L' Ancien Regime*.

[2] The French philosopher Saint-Simon *(The Reorganization of Society or the Necessity and Means to Conjoin the Peoples of Europe in a Single Political Body)* used to assert, at the dawn of the 19th century, that every age wields a spiritual foundation which sustains the economic and political order. For instance, the feudal medieval society was attached to the Christian beliefs. When the modernity sprang and the enlightened rationalism attacked religion as universal system of interpretation and violently put it to trial, it took the leadership position and became the awaited order – an industrialist order –, which had as ideal platform the positive knowledge and science. The economic and politic-administrative ensuing of the new industrial system should have been the transfer of authority from the laic and ecclesiastic nobility to science people, engineers, craftsmen, industrial employers or even self employed men.

[3] The concept of *informational society* is used in correlation with the concept of "knowledge society". Bearing in mind this chronological order, the three types of society are considered as stages of information age. Most studies dealing with information age define the informational society as a society where creation, distribution, usage, integration and manipulation of

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY
in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

interchangeable, although they maintain specific connotations), the leap to post industrialism in our times. In Marin Dinu's words, "without rigor, in its commonest sense, the human society is a knowledge society; yet a society that knows the mechanisms to valorize the spending resources, that is those pertaining, by definition, to nature. Generally speaking, the human society has always been a knowledge society, yet chasing new attainments, meant to drain out Mother Nature. The true knowledge society – as an expression of global society – tries to put together the need of human nature, growing bigger and bigger, with Mother Nature's needs to regenerate, by proposing patterns of development consumership of non-spending resources, and, on the top of it, of resourceful human brain, that represents an inexhaustible resource for knowledge, invention, management capacity, associative creativity". In conclusion, we might say that the human society has not been made but was actually born as a knowledge society; yet, the "hard" meaning of the concept strengthens along with a particular contemporary way of using the science so as to provide both a high life standard for the human being and an sustainable regeneration of nature.

The technological vectors of the knowledge society have been found amongst the Internet (with high broadband accessibility not only for institutions, but also for each citizen, irrespective of the location), the e-book (which can successfully replace the traditional printings), the artificial intelligence (which takes over a great number of routine human actions and improves the economic processes), and *nano electronics* (the future dominant bolster of informational technologies). Starting from here, not only the knowledge and production praxis will undergo a reconfiguration, but also the sheer social, politic, juridical and administrative relationships, etc. People will have to switch swiftly towards a new form of "literacy", to outdo their controversial reactions regarding advanced techniques, while still standing close

information represent an essential economic, political and cultural activity. The economy of knowledge represents its economic side, which defines well-being as a result of economic exploitation of understanding. The attendants of this type of society are sometimes called *the digital citizens*. Its specific features reside in the centrality detained by the technology of information in the production, economy, and society as a whole. The informational society is considered the bequeathed inheritor of industrial society. In this concern, it is esteemed as a step forward in the evolution of human race, as it assures an unprecedented dissemination of knowledge through new means and methods such as Internet, e-books, e-teaching and e-learning. In Mihai Drăgănescu's steady opinion, "the society of knowledge's target is the extension and thoroughness of scientific ascertaining of truth about existence, it is the only way to ensure the ecological development of an sustainable society and it will be a new cultural phase (rooted into the knowledge culture which involves all forms of knowledge, artistic and literary knowledge implied). To conclude with, the knowledge society anneals the foundation of a future society based on consciousness, truth, morality, creativity and spirit" (*Cultura Şi societatea cunoaşterii (The Culture of the Knowledge Society)*, http://www.racai.ro/~dragam/CULTURA&SC.pdf).

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

to their affective sphere and to those features that make them "human" in the deepest sense of the word. Since these are the terms of our debate, in a short period of time our memory will be deleted by those long hours spent in front of the cash points in the administrative or bank offices, we will completely forget about the hopeless moments when we were desperately seeking for a rare or famous book or for a sign from the political world enclosed behind locked doors. The knowledge society is already a reality which beguiles us by its speed to respond all our various needs, by its highlight of administrative transparency, although it may nurture major inconvenient such as: the depersonalization of human being, the fracturing of direct communication relationships, the evasion into virtual spaces, the unbridled dissemination of harmful information for public education and morality, the contraction of private life sphere and the invasion of intimacy, etc.

Scaling the benefits and the risks engendered by the knowledge society, we can reasonably draw the conclusion that the former bear such a heavy load that one cannot drop them out just in the account of the fact that the informational technologies come to be sometimes used for inadequately purposes. Nevertheless, the global process that builds, brick by brick, the knowledge society cannot be stopped. The only thing to do is going with the mainstream, shuffling the inconvenient and maximizing the benefits, especially in the context of a deep world crisis that accelerated the re-installment of power poles and the reconsideration of market strategies.

Early two decades ago, the EU has assumed the need to reorganize its own market, educational system and social security, as it turned out that Europe has to catch with the USA quick and speedy development; from the same period date the responsible evaluation of Asiatic serious concurrence on the world scene. Still, a strategic document conceived in order to explain the crystal clear orientation towards a knowledge society stood on line up to the Lisbon European Council in March 2000. The simply stated objectives of the Lisbon Agenda flowed from ascertaining the fact that the contemporary world has to face unprecedented challenges that cannot be dealt with the old adaptation reactions. Those came to be known as "globalization" and "the economy of knowledge". As a result, it was consented that until 2010 the EU should take lead as the most powerful and dynamic knowledge-based economy, able to generate an sustainable economic increase, to create new and better jobs and a real social cohesion. In order to target this objective, the strategy framed the intensification of investments in areas such as education, research, job application, and environment. It has been also established that until 2010 the general rate of employment will raise to 70%, whereas the women employment rate will tend to 60%. In fact, the Lisbon European Council launched a strong signal for the community economic reformation in a moment when the European single market did not count for its actual dimensions but it strived to become the leader of the world economy.

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY
in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

The Stockholm European Council, in March 2001, came with a series of intermediary targets in view to achieve those which stood on the Lisbon Agenda[1]. In employment rate concern, it was agreed that until January 2005 it would climb up to 67%, whereas the women employment rate would attain 57%. Equally, in order to encourage the active ageing, a 50% employment rate was taken as a target for the retiring population (between 55 and 64 years).

In the following period, March 2005, the spring European Council gathered in Brussels ran a thorough analysis regarding the proper implementation of the objectives provided in the Lisbon Agenda. The conclusions on mid term evaluation had shown several delays in the target achievements, especially in employment rate concerns. Proposing a new approach (*Working together for growth and jobs. A new start for the Lisbon Strategy*, February 2nd 2005), the European Commission decided to focus on concrete strategies, inspired by the Relaunched Lisbon Strategy. By this writ, it is reasserted a new commitment to back up the sustainable development and modernize the European social model, a system based on economic dynamism, social cohesion and environmental responsibility. In the area of employment politics the European Council enacted, in the same year, a document called *Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs* (2005-08), by which the members must elaborate on their own *National Reform Programs*. The integrated guidelines are the same with the checking lists for national commitments and references meant to evaluate the progress for the following years and guidelines. They assign future objectives for the EU members and the reference set for the national evaluation.

Unfortunately, the impetus which steamed the launch of the Lisbon strategy was cut short in the crisis context, as in 2008 European authorities decreed the necessity to revise… the revision! The European Union had to admit that the objectives foregrounding the strategy were a bit too bold; the solution represented the deep focus on a smaller and plainer number of objectives, and at the same time more realistic. That way appeared *A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth*[2]. Its objectives for 2020 are meant to be hit

[1] Stockholm European Council (23-24.03.2001), *Presidency Conclusions*, http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/00100-r1.%20ann-r1.en1.html

[2] In the text of this bill there is a reevaluation of the conditions for economic growth and of the targets considered for this decade: "Europe faces a moment of transformation. The crisis has wiped out years of economic and social progress and exposed structural weaknesses in Europe's economy. In the meantime, the world is moving fast and long-term challenges – globalization, pressure on resources, ageing – intensify. The EU must now take charge of its future. Europe can succeed if it acts collectively, as a Union. We need a strategy to help us come out stronger from the crisis and turn the EU into a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy delivering high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion. Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe's social market economy for the 21st century.

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

upon in seven emblematic initiatives, out of which three are intimately connected with the knowledge society:

a) "Innovation union" is to improve framework conditions and access to finance for research and innovation so as to ensure that innovative ideas can be turned into products and services that create growth and jobs;

b) "Youth on the move" is to enhance the performance of education systems and to facilitate the entry of young people to the labour market;

c) "A digital agenda for Europe" means to speed up the roll-out of high-speed internet and reap the benefits of a digital single market for households and firms.

But for the completion of our analysis hinting at the impact of informational technologies on public administration must deepen into the politic perspective that generated a dashing initiative such as *A digital agenda for Europe*[1]. The document underlines in its introduction that EU must also have a single general objective, that is "to deliver sustainable economic and social benefits from a digital single market based on fast and ultra fast internet and interoperable applications. The crisis has wiped out years of economic and social progress and exposed structural weaknesses in Europe's economy. Europe's primary goal today must be to get Europe back on track. To achieve a sustainable future, it must already look beyond the short term. Faced with demographic ageing and global competition we have three options: work harder, work longer or work smarter. We will probably have to do all three, but the third option is the only way to guarantee increasing standards of life for Europeans. To achieve this, the Digital Agenda makes proposals for actions that need to be taken urgently to get Europe on track for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Its proposals will set the scene for the longer-term

Europe 2020 puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities:
- Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation.
- Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy.
- Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion." (The European Commission, Communication from the Commission. Europe 2020, *A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth*, Brussels, 03.03.2010, p. 5).

The priorities delineated by the commission should turn into a series of objectives such as: 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed; 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D.; The "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right); the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree; 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty.

[1] *The European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, Council, Social and Economic Committee, and Regional Committee*: *A Digital Agenda for Europe* (*O Agendă digitală pentru Europa*, Bruxelles, 19.5.2010), COM(2010)245 final, http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:0245:FIN:RO:HTML.

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY
in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

transformations that the increasingly digital economy and society will bring about".

That means the digitalization became an unstoppable reality. It substantially upholds the economic growth and the global competition but it also has a set of drawbacks resumed in the *Digital Agenda* likewise: a) fragmented digital markets (at the national level), which provide commercial and cultural content and services based on regulatory barriers, contrasting with the integrationist principles of the single market b) lack of interoperability; c) Rising cybercrime and risk of low trust in networks (Europeans are still afraid of various forms of cybercrime – from child abuse or identity theft and cyber-attacks – correlated with the risk of breaking the elemental human rights such as the protection of private personal data or of private life; c) Lack of investment in networks; d) Insufficient research and innovation efforts; e) Lack of digital literacy and skills that leads to the exclusion of many citizens from the digital society and economy and the limitation of the large multiplier effect of ICT take-up to productivity growth; f) Missed opportunities in addressing societal challenges such as: climatic changes and other pressures on natural environment, the population ageing and the rising health costs, the development of more effective public services and the integration of people with disabilities, digitising Europe's cultural heritage and making it available to this and future generations, etc.

For each one of the afore mentioned problems the 2010 Digital Agenda forwards a series of solutions, some of them dwelling on technic details. Respectful of the public administration and e-governing issues, the document stipulates briefly the following guidelines:

a) *e-governing* (the e-Government services) is to offer a cost-effective route to better service for every citizen and business and participatory open and transparent government. eGovernment services can reduce costs and save time for public administrations, citizens and businesses. They can also help mitigate the risks of climate change, natural and man-made hazards by including the sharing of environmental data and environment-related information. Today, despite a high level of availability of eGovernment services in Europe, differences still exist amongst Member States and the take-up of eGovernment services by citizens is low. In 2009, only 38% of EU citizens used the internet for accessing eGovernment services, compared to 72% of businesses. General internet take up will be lifted if the usage and quality and accessibility of public online services rises. European governments are committed to making user-centric, personalised, multi-platform eGovernment services a widespread reality by 2015.

It is provisioned that the national particularities will dissipate from e-administration services (effectively, the EU hints at the creation of cross border services such as: e-Procurement (available for the public exclusively through online means), i-identification and e-authentication, e-Environment,

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

interconnectivity through advanced sensor nets, solutions for European public administration fully interoperability, etc.).

b) electronic integration of health services: The deployment of eHealth technologies in Europe can improve the quality of care, reduce medical costs and foster independent living, including in remote places. An essential condition for success is that these technologies incorporate the right of individuals to have their personal health information safely stored within a healthcare system accessible online. To exploit the full potential of new eHealth services, the EU needs to remove legal and organisational barriers, particularly those to pan-European interoperability, and strengthen cooperation among Member States. The eHealth Lead Market Initiative will promote standardisation, interoperability testing and certification of electronic health records and equipment. The Agenda also drafts services for online medical care, Ambient Assisted Living, distance medical care, nursing people with chronical diseases or disabilities, the prevention of fall and the autonomy of aged people.

In order to achieve the objectives framed in the Digital Agenda, The European Commission set itself to take a series of juridical actions, out of which we emphasize the most significant for the e-governing and public administration areas: framing a directive on the management of collective rights to initiate a pan-European system for the issuance of licenses on rights administration (online), till 2010; the revision of the Directive on e-signature in order to enhance the cross border recognition and the interoperability of secured systems of e-authentication (2011); a European and international framework for cyberspace jurisdiction (2013); gathering and bringing forward a set of proposals so as to, until 2015, assure full readiness for public websites (inclusively websites supplying with the services for citizens, until 2011); bringing forward the competences and digital literacy as a top priority of the *European Social Fund Regulation (2014-2020)*, until 2013; delivering a minimal set of functionalities able to promote interoperability of European smart networks (until 2010); the revision of the Directive on public access to environment information; suggesting a recommendation that should define a common minimal data set on patients so as to assure the interoperability of medical registrars that might be accessed online within all state members (until 2012); the drafting of a European Parliament decision that will ask the stat members to assure the mutual recognition of e-identification and e-authentication within the whole EU space (until 2012).

One of the bearings examined in the present paper points at the e-governing, *The Government Action Plan: Accelerating e-Government in Europe for the Benefit of All*, issued by the European Commission in April 25th 2006. This plan framed five main priorities:

a) No citizen left behind: advancing inclusion through e-Government so that by 2010 all citizens should benefit from trusted, innovative services and

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY
in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

easy access for (That is all the citizens should beneficiate, until 2010, from trustworthy, innovative services[1]);

b) Until 2010, all public services users should benefit from making efficiency and effectiveness a reality – that is significantly contributing to high user satisfaction, transparency and accountability, a lighter administrative burden and efficiency gains;

c) Implementing high-impact key services for citizens and businesses - by 2010, 100% of public procurement will be available electronically, with 50% actual usage, with agreement on cooperation on further high-impact online citizen services;

d) Putting key enablers in place - enabling citizens and businesses to benefit, by 2010, from convenient, secure and interoperable authenticated access across Europe to public services;

e) Strengthening participation and democratic decision-making - demonstrating, by 2010, tools for effective public debate and participation in democratic decision-making ("e-democracy").

The objectives of the E-governing Plan are accomplished, to a certain degree, even in those European countries having a poorer digital infrastructure or a lower level of digital literacy and technical culture (and, implicitly, democratic). However, the e-governing measures deepened the social gaps (at least for the time being) because a part of the population (especially the aged people) see the digitalization of administration not as an opportunity but as an unsealed barrier. The exclusion feeling gets even more pregnant by the juridical inconsequences which allow the online providers to bevave aggressively and non transparent with the innocent consumers. It must also be taken into consideration that side of collective mental prone to collocate the digitalization with the e-porn, violence or decadent consumerism invasion.

Beyond the pro-s and con-s, that segment of European politics meant for societal and economic stimulation of knowledge society represents the only chance to deflate the offset between poor and rich regions, the only solution to improve and reform the European economic system and also a more general set of values in a post crisis period. This type of politics set an ample process of

[1] The pursuit of "human" and democratic features besides the growing development of informational systems is not a late acquisition of our times; it has been standing in the centre of countless scientific and inter-governmental reunions for about a decade now. For instance, in the *Tartu Declaration* (Estonia, 1997), it was underlined that "the informational age addresses to people and by no means has a purely technologic character". The Global Informatics Society was initiated during the summit of member states leaders from Naples (1994), then followed the Conference for the Informational Society (Brussels, 1995), then the Forum of European, Center and South Easter Countries on Informational Society (Prague, 1996) which aroused lots of subsequent discussions about the implementation of a competitive informational infrastructure at the global level, taking into consideration the democratization of this knowledge area.

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY
in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

specific drafting and billing on foot[1], in areas such as e-document, e-signature, data confidentiality, the legal running of data bases, e-commerce law, cyber-law or informational society law, information system security law, but also the information system criminality, information system fraud, software piracy, the informational sabotage, the informational espionage, etc.

[1] *Ioana Vasiu, Lucian Vasiu, Probleme juridice ale societatii informationale* (Juridical Problems of the Informational Society), http://www.racai.ro/INFOSOC-Project/IoanaVasiu_st_e06_new.pdf

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY
in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010

References:

Societatea cunoasterii (The Knowledge Society)- Knowledge Fusion Platform, http://www.kfp.ro/

Stockholm European Council (23-24.03.2001), Presidency Conclusions, http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/00100-r1.%20ann-r1.en1.html

The European Community Commission. Communication to the Spring European Council. Working together for growth and jobs. A new start for the Lisbon Strategy, Brussels, 02.02.2005.

The European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, Council, Social and Economic Committee, and Regional Committee: A Digital Agenda for Europe (O Agendă digitală pentru Europa, Bruxelles, 19.5.2010), COM(2010)245 final, http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:0245:FIN:RO:HTML.

Ioana Vasiu, Lucian Vasiu, Probleme juridice ale societatii informationale (Juridical Problems of the Informational Society), http://www.racai.ro/INFOSOC-Project/IoanaVasiu_st_e06_new.pdf

AMBROSA, A., (2010) TECHNOLOGIC DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITHIN EU COMMUNITY in Jurnalul de Studii Juridice, Anul V, Nr. 3-4/2010