



## THE LAND OF PARADOXES

In Moldova nothing is for granted. The rules exist just to prove the exceptions. The promises are made just to be broken. The definitions are being formulated just to be disputed. The coalitions are being created just to be disintegrated. Nothing can be settled.

Our Government – in order to continue the sequence of the paradoxes – is neither communist, nor political, technocratic or reformatory. It is hard to believe, if not even impossible, that none of the designated Ministers haven't read the government program, maybe just the Prime Minister that was supposed to read it in the Parliament.

None of the Ministers is the author or a known promoter of any public policies and actual reforms. We have a temporary, intermediary government, just suitable to ensure a "decent" living for the mafia clans. The corruption and criminality will definitely represent its strongest performances.

And just to definite the picture, the moral collapse of the political elites occurred after the 2005 voting and was the cherry on the cake!

What remains is the nongovernmental sector, that if it remains...

I wrote the lines above 5 years ago (Mihai Roşcovan, *Transition Journal*, page 153), but it remained valid also for nowadays. It is well known that the Moldavian autumn is a pretty hot season. The topic on the election of the president prevails in written and electronical mass media. Traditionally, the declarations of the parties leaders, the debates of the political analysts, the affirmations of the constitutionalists, the articles of the editorialists, bloggers or of the journalists are omnipresent and continue to pollute surrounding minds with all kind of weird and shocking ideas, though original sometimes, but unattainable.

And since we've been talking about ideas, for about 20 years of independence the political elite hasn't been too generous in launching a national idea. From my point of view, during this period Moldavian politicians have launched two relevant ideas: *the moldovenism* and *the integrationism*.

The moldovenist ideology has been promoted during the transitional period at state level, and recently has been formulated by the communist leader Vladimir Voronin in his speech at the festivity consecrated to the national independence anniversary.

The integrationist ideology, which was launched along with the separation from soviet union, was permanently debated by the state and non-state structures, and as well by external structures, especially by the Russian ones. According to this ideology, the future of our society is within the European family, where we can only achieve by working together and with the support of the Romanian state. This ideology has been initially formulated in early '90, at high rank forums, national and international conferences, and also in the political programs, as the materials for the Conference "Economical Integration between the Republic of Moldova and Romania"

organized by AESM in 1993. Recently this ideology was revealed in a daring article wrote by Val Butnaru – “We have “a country”. What shall we do with it? “, published in *Jurnal de Chisinau* on 26th of August 2011. We can add here that this path is supported from aside by USA, EU, including Romania, especially during the 2nd mandate of Traian Basescu.

Due to the fact that political elites are inconsequential, lying, unfair and unethical, none of these ideologies hasn't achieved to dominate in the Moldavian society. The population begs for money from the state, and the state – from the international financial institutions. This nightmare picture seems to multiply every year. Just the poverty depends on us for real. This is why we got to the point of exporting beggars.

What else can we do to change this image of beggars? The answer cannot be formulated even by the actual high rank leaders. But the sad part is that nobody questions this issue as being based on the vicious state management. The evolution leads itself to disaster. The reality is fatally parallel to the interests of the political class.

Returning to the president's election issues, for which the political elite hasn't been able to come with a solution, we have consulted the relevant experience of similar countries. For example, Estonia, having the same parliamentary system as we do, has applied a simple solution: if during two round of elections, the parliament doesn't manage to come to an agreement, then the president is being elected by direct, secret, singular scrutiny based vote of the mayors.

Indeed, unlike the parliamentarians which are elected on party lists, the mayors are being elected by direct and secret vote, therefore having more legitimacy in expressing the population's will. They are closer to people, know better their needs and are the first ones to come to support them. The modifications that are to be applied to the Constitution for the regulation of this process are minor, and the costs for organizing such a procedure are minimal.

Is it possible for this solution to disrupt the series of paradoxes in Republic of Moldova?

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