## NARROWING THE GAP IN THE EUROPEAN UNION: FROM UTOPIA TO PRAGMATISM

## Ioana-Sorina MIHUŢ<sup>a\*</sup>, Mihaela LUṬAŞ<sup>b</sup>, Sorin-Augustin CÂLEA<sup>c</sup>

a), b), c) Babeș-Bolyai University, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

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Abstract: The debate regarding the challenges the European Union is facing nowadays is a major topic of interest in the context of reshaping the borders of this community. The massive waves of "Eurosceptic" behaviours along with trade wars and migration flows are top priorities for the current institutional framework. Despite the overall objective of the European Union, namely assuring the sustainable convergence and economic development of all its Member States, the achievement of it was highly questioned by the recent political conflicts. The duty to respond in an efficient manner to the economic, but more importantly to the political risks, lies in the hands of the European institutions and into their ability to conduct what we generally refer to as a "good governance process". The main purpose of this article is to analyse whether the political stability and the democracy component, influence the economic growth trends and at the same time generates transformations in terms of migration waves.

**Key words:** European Union; political stability; economic growth; control of corruption

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<sup>\*</sup> Corresponding author. *E-mail address:* ioana.mihut@econ.ubbcluj.ro.

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