

## STATISTICS OF THE WORK AND "THE NEW WAY OF THINKING"<sup>1</sup>

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### Abstract

*Based on the Recommendations of the 18th ICLS Working Group on the Measurement of Volunteer Work (ILO, 2008a) was adopted in 2013 a new ILO resolution at the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians. The "Resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization" redefine the statistical concept of work and its measurement methodologies. There is reformed the active population structure measurement providing a new "statistical measurement of participation of all persons in all forms of work and in all sectors of the economy; of labour underutilization; and of interactions between different forms of work". These new statistical instruments provides a wider and more precisely perspective regarding the concepts, definitions and guidelines for forms of work labour force status and the labour underutilization. In this essay, we consider important to put in discussion the importance of re-evaluation of the basic concepts of work and some implication for official statistics and public administration systems future developments in Romania.*

**Keywords:** work measurement, active population, unpaid trainee work, volunteer work, official statistics

**JEL Classification:** J20 – General, J21 – Labour and Employment, Size, and Structure

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## **1. Introduction - New context for work**

Globalization and technical progress / technology represent both driving forces that challenge the firms, institutions, governments and societies to find the right course of action. Ashford (2005, p1) considers that is:

“..timely to explore options and opportunities for co-optimizing economic development (competitiveness), environmental quality, and labor/employment concerns, all of which have implications for the organization of work”.

Globalization is concerned with both spatial and temporal changes (Oke, 2009, p.309). The Oke's (2009, p.314-322) understating of globalization from sociological point of view considers two main discourses: the temporal change to modernity (Giddens 1990, Harvey 1990, and Robertson 1992) and spatial change referenced to state (Albrow 1997, Sassen 2008, Scholte 2005).

Snowdon et. al. (2006) in a dialogue with Michael Porter present its vision regarding competition as a unifying theme: strategy, competition and competitiveness, industrial economics, innovation, the economic development of nations, regions and cities, corporate philanthropy and environmental. Starting from work on nations (Porter, 1990, 1995) there is differentiated the work of regions and work of cities.

Moretti et.al. (2013, p. 339) points that:

“Every time a local economy generates a new job by attracting a new business in the traded sector (in other markets than local ones, national and global), additional jobs are created in the local service sector”.

Jiang (2014) demonstrates that Geospatial Analysis requires a different way of thinking: the problem of spatial heterogeneity. While the Gaussian mean not reflect the fact that “there are far more small things than large ones”. Paretian thinking and lognormal distributions could characterize local variance of spatial dependence but also could be used as scaling law for better understanding of geographic forms and processes. While the globalization and the technical progress are both explained and dependent by space than “geospatial analysis should seek to simulate geographic events and phenomena from the bottom up rather than correlations as guided by Gaussian thinking”. (Jiang, 2014)

The Forum's Executive Opinion Survey (EOS) realized in 2016 concluded that the risk for doing business in 140 economies is highly inhomogeneous but :

„Unemployment or underemployment is perceived as the global risk of highest concern for doing business in 41 countries, and is among the top five global risks in 92 countries”, from the total of 140 countries! (WEF, p.73) In this report:

”a global risk is an uncertain event or condition that, if it occurs, can cause significant negative impact for several countries or industries within the next 10 years” (WEF 2016, p.11).

This risk is an economic risk type that reflects the structural unemployment increasing since the 2007 crises, caused mainly by the huge :

”technological disruptions and the move towards automation are accelerating change in the nature of work. Currently it is estimated that by the year 2020 nearly half of all current

occupations could be affected by advances in robotics and machine learning. (WEF, 2016, p.78)

On this background the Governments and business will radically reshape systems and relations in education and labour market in view to sustain a human capital development able to "unleashing creativity, enhancing growth and generating employment". (WEF, 2016, p.78)

## **2. Basic concepts – ILO perspectives**

*ILO's answers to support the work concepts evolution accordingly to the new background and affirm the need to update all the international standards regarding labour statistics*

ILO considers the need to update all the international standards regarding labour statistics, focused mainly on „economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment concepts". This process initiated at the 13th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) in 1982 and supported by the Decisions made at the 39th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission was relaunched in 2013 at the 18th ICLS (ICLS/19/2013/1, p.2) when was adopted the „Resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization" (ICLS-Resolution-I, 2013). The main revisions concern the following areas:

“a comprehensive, yet flexible, general framework for work statistics that distinguishes between employment and other forms of work, including production of goods for own final use, provision of services for own final use, and volunteer work”, (ICLS/19/2013/1, p.4).

### **2.1. Employment status ILO's discussions**

ILO launched the debate regarding “the most appropriate framework for The International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93)”, (ILO, 2013a). Among the recent results, ILO defined in 2013 an update and broaden the international standards of the work type's concepts. The five mutually exclusive forms of work own-use production work, employment work, unpaid trainee work, volunteer and other work are distinguished on the basis of the intended destination of the production (for own final use; or for use by others, i.e. other economic units) and the nature of the transaction (i.e. monetary or non-monetary transactions, and transfers). (ICLS-Resolution-I, 2013, p.3)

### **2.2. Unemployment ILO's concept discussions**

To facilitate comparisons of unemployment rates over time and across countries, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) which have to be met simultaneously the criteria: "without work", "currently available for work" and "seeking work" for a reference time frame and following a specific procedure. (XIIIth ICLS, 1982)

Sorrentino (2000, p.16) points out the limits of international comparability regarding unemployment focused on developed countries, concluding that “further study is needed to see if adjustments are feasible”. Haussman (2007, p.16) points out that for developing

countries these limits are explained by the “seeking work” particularities for workers in informal sector enterprises, in rural areas and in agriculture and also for developed countries in major urban areas or particular categories of workers the active steps to seek work are not necessary often (there is no jobs offer or in the second case the people think there is no jobs offer for their skills).

In view of this in 1982 the ILO Thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians 1982 (ILO XIIIth ICLS) introduced amplifications with regard to the original ILO definition of unemployment by allowing for the partial or full relaxation of the active job search requirement in situations:

“where the conventional means of seeking work are of limited scope, where labour absorption is, at the time, inadequate, or where the labour force is largely self-employed...” (ILO, 1983, p. xi).

Strobl et al. (2002) demonstrates that:

„developing countries should, as has already been recognised by the ILO, be careful in strictly applying the standard ILO definition of unemployment to calculate unemployment rates.”

Authors conclude that:

„persons who are not searching for a job, but want and are willing to work, are likely to be of substantial numbers and may, in some cases, not be that different in behaviour from the standard unemployed. Excluding these may then result in substantially underestimating the true degree of labour market slack in a developing country.” (Strobl et.al, 2002, p.13)

Dayton-Johnson et.al. (2009, p.149) points out that:

“migration is a symptom of imbalances in sending countries, such as high rates of unemployment and underemployment among low-skilled workers, low wages for skilled workers, and unmet demand for education and acquisition of skills”.

In a global market the international migration and employment in developing countries requests a “better understanding of the links and impacts between mobility, jobs and development” (Dayton-Johnson et.al., 2009, p.149). On this background, the “seeking work” exceeds the national space and is working on a global scale, in other state. In such a background “the seeking work” is conditioned on many factors, very complex and insufficient studied at the moment.

**We mention that Romania is exposed at risk to risk of limited unemployment rate ILO’s sense comparability (is a developing country, with important rural population, having important imbalances on the labour market reflected by huge levels of migration / mobility for work).** Romania is a developing country included in the Emerging and Developing Europe group (Schwab, 2016, p. 304) with **over 3.031 mil Romanian citizen**<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Romanian citizens (number) abroad according to Eurostat indication “Population on 1 January by five year age group, sex and citizenship [migr\_pop1ctz]” in 2015: Belgium 66,089, Bulgaria 493; Czech Republic 7,253; Denmark 18,828; Germany (until 1990 former territory of the FRG) 345,753; Estonia 52; Ireland 16,928; Spain 708,389; Italy 1,131,839; Latvia 57; Lithuania 278; Hungary 28,641; Netherlands 11,941; Austria 71,338; Portugal 31,505; Slovenia 388; Slovakia 5,252; Finland 2,233; Sweden 13,022; United Kingdom 178,292; Iceland 316; Liechtenstein 12; Norway 12,010; Switzerland 11,308; Turkey 1,962 and USA (2000 Census, Wikipedia, Romanian at first ancestry) 367,310 persons.

**abroad in 2015** (counted especially by Eurostat in 26 countries), representing a share over 15.3% from total resident population. In this case the "seeking work" is "monstrous" and opens new questions: Which is the level of integration on host labour market country for the Romanians citizens' mobile for work? This geographic mobility process is reversible and until which period? Etc....this questions exceeds the concerning of this paper but needs to be analysed in the future.

### **3. Evaluations of underemployment made by Eurostat through supplementary indicators of unemployment**

In reference with the ILO's unemployment definition<sup>3</sup>, Eurostat start to measure tree supplementary indicators of unemployment, providing data since 2003 *Underemployed part-time workers* (involuntarily working part-time), *Jobless persons seeking a job but not immediately available for work* (students in their last year of studies) and *Jobless persons available for work but not seeking it* (amongst others discouraged job seekers, that is, persons who would want to find a job, but have given up looking for one)<sup>4</sup>.

De La Fuentes (2011, p.7) emphasis that "the supplementary indicators fill much of the gap between ILO unemployment and self-reported unemployment". The author remarks that the unemployment indicator reflects "a range of aspects" that are both economic (e.g. labour underutilisation, business cycle) and social (e.g. joblessness, risk of poverty and social exclusion, etc.) but is not able to "catch" the "increasingly fragmented and diversified labour market and strongly varying degrees of attachment to it" (De La Fuentes, 2011, p.1).

The national underemployment evaluation for Romania in 2015 using the supplementary indicators for unemployment framework is presented in Figure 1, 2 and 3.

The **Romanian Labour market enlarged picture** is presented in Figure 1. In 2015 were 15.225 mil persons aged 15-74 years old from which 60.2% were active persons and 39.8% inactive persons. The employed persons represents over 8.5 million persons and unemployed (ILO methodology) 0.623 million persons, representing a share of 56.1% and 4.1% from total persons aged 15-74 years old. Employed persons by programme type are structured as 51.3% full time workers and 4.8% part-time workers (in report to persons aged 15-74 years old). Eurostat (lfsi\_sup\_a) reports that 268 thousand persons were underemployment part-time worker and 357 thousands person available to work but not seeking, counting **around 625 thousand person's underemployed**.

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<sup>3</sup> Eurostat Statistics in Focus — 57/2011: Unemployment covers persons aged 15-74 (16-74 in Italy, Spain, UK and Iceland) who: - were without work during the reference week; - were available to start work within the next two weeks; - and had either been actively seeking work in the past four weeks or had already found a job to start within the next three months.

<sup>4</sup> Source:[http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Underemployment\\_and\\_potential\\_additional\\_labour\\_force\\_statistics](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Underemployment_and_potential_additional_labour_force_statistics)

**Figure 1: Romania – Labour Market picture in 2015**

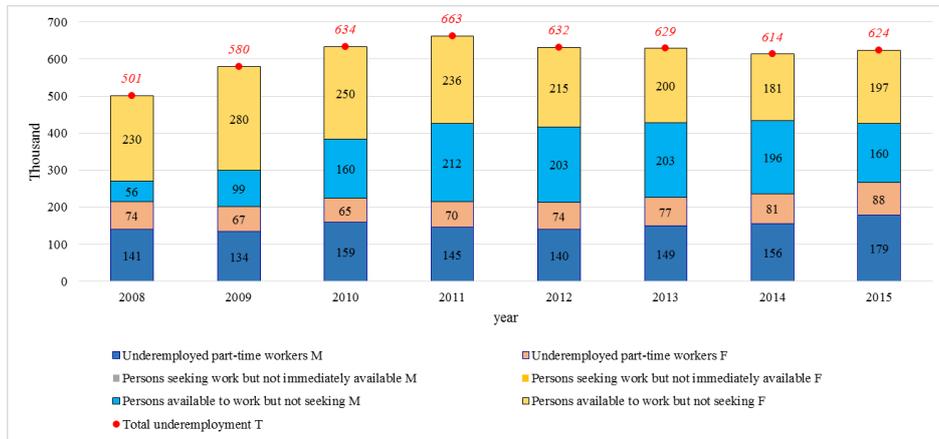
(Thousand persons) / (%)

<b>Romania</b>				
<b>Persons aged 15-74</b>				
15225.7				
<b>Active persons</b>			<b>Inactive persons</b>	
9159.3			6066.4	
60.2			39.8	
<b>Employed persons</b>		<b>Unemployed persons</b>		
8535.4		623.9		
56.1		4.1		
<b>Full time workers</b>	<b>Part time workers</b>		<i>Persons seeking work but not immediately available</i>	<i>Persons available to work but not seeking</i>
7810.4	725			
51.3	4.8			
<i>Underemployment part time-workers</i>				
268				357
1.76		0.00		2.34
		625		
		4.10		

Data Sources: Eurostat - Population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status (1 000); Part-time employment and temporary contracts - annual data [lfsi\_pt\_a] (for age from 15 to 64 years); Supplementary indicators to unemployment - annual data, Code: lfsi\_sup\_a

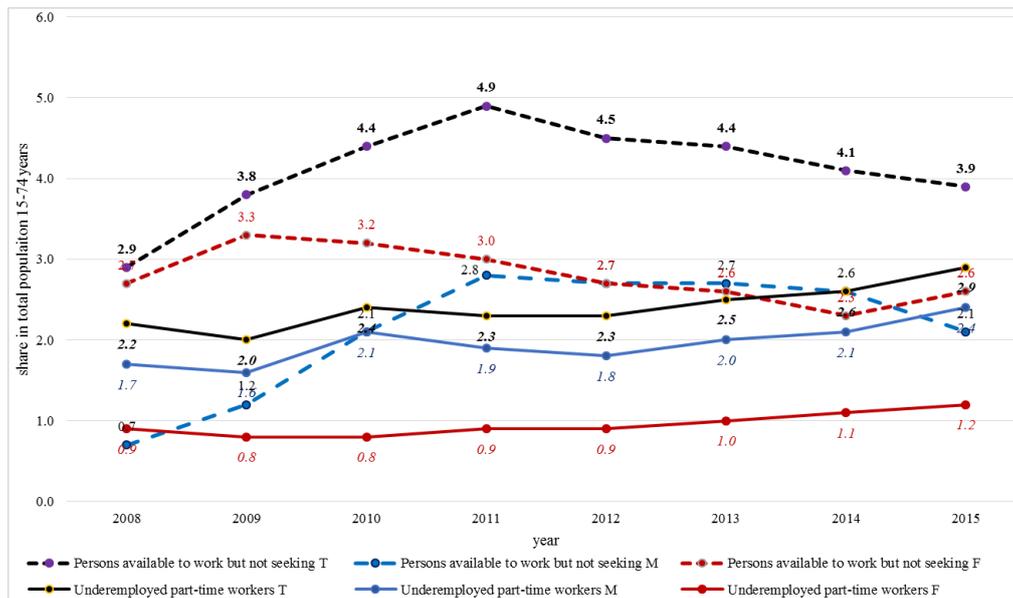
During 2008-2015 period this indicator is maintaining over 600 thousand (after 2010). (Figure 2) The behaviour is differentiated by gender. Persons available to work but not seeking Males increased from 56 thousand in 2008 to 160 thousand in 2015 (almost 3 times) but Persons available to work but not seeking Women decreased 230 thousand in 2008 to 197 thousand in 2015. In 2015 were available 357 thousand persons to work but not seeking compared to 267 thousand underemployed part-time workers. The ratio 1/3 for women underemployed part-time was conserved during 2008-2015 period, both characteristics registering an increasing tendency. The women underemployed part-time were 74 thousand in 2008 and increased to 88 thousand in 2015, while men underemployed part-time were 141 thousand in 2008 and increased to 179 thousand in 2016.

**Figure 2: Romania - Supplementary indicators to unemployment by types and gender – annual data during 2008-2015**



Source: Figure made by author with data from Eurostat: Supplementary indicators to unemployment - annual data [lfsi\_sup\_a]

**Figure 3: Romania - Supplementary indicators to unemployment. Percentage of total population aged 15-74 years during 2008-2015 period**



Source: Figure made by author with data from Eurostat: Supplementary indicators to unemployment - annual data [lfsi\_sup\_a]

In Figure 3 is presented the percentage of total population aged 15-74 years during 2008-2015 periods. All characteristics of the **indicator underemployed part-time workers** (total, masculine and feminine) presents the tendency of increasing its share. Women increased its share from 0.8% in 2009 to 1.2% in 2015, men increased its share from 1.1 in 2008 to 2.4%

in 2015 and the total from 0.7% in 2008 to 2.9% in 2015. All characteristics of the **indicator persons available to work but not seeking** (total, masculine and feminine) presents the tendency of increasing its share from 2008 level to 2011 and then to decrease to the level from 2015. Women increased its share from 2.7% in 2008 to 3.3% in 2009 and then decreased to 2.6% in 2015, men increased its share from 0.9% in 2008 to 2.8% in 2011 and then decreasing to 2.4 in 2015 and the total from 2.9% in 2008 to 4.9% in 2011, finally decreasing to 3.9 in 2015.

The road to present a complete Romanian labour market picture in an open economy is still in working. The quality of human resources utilisation, in the context of aging population, in full transition to labour force offer deficit threat to increase the imbalances on labour market at dangerous levels. As a scenario, almost 20% from the Romanian resident population is exposed to unemployment and underemployment if applying the actual unemployment ILO's definition (625 thousand person's underemployed – given by the Eurostat's supplementary indicators for unemployment plus the 3.031 mil Romanian citizens abroad in 2015 mobile / migrant for work).

#### **4. Global (UN), regional (European Commission) and national official statistics systems challenges**

##### **4.1. United Nations**

**United Nations (2008)** indicates that “that globalization poses a range of challenges for national statistical offices” and implicitly push new pressures on **administrative data systems**, general issues available for Romania too:

- the globalisation is the main factor that demand a new construction **of macro-economic indicators** (including *the national accounts and balance of payments*) and **indicators for processes are fundamentally micro level phenomena** (*the measurement of globalization itself, including its effects on national economies, employment, local firms, economic growth and overall welfare*) (UN 2008, p.57).

- ”the **employment of methods and expertise to estimate the new phenomena (revision of classifications and selected statistical standards, implementation of the new methods for collecting information including modelling)**” (UN 2008,p.63) This line is exposed under the Principle 9 – Use of International Standards (UN 2015, p.80).

- ”national statistical authorities have to implement pro-active policy in order to meet users' requirements in all fields and in particular for **emerging social and economic phenomena**”. (UN 2008 p.10)

- “the Romanian economy dependency / interdependency level” on investment, on the activities of multinational firms, on production, on diffusion of technology, on trade, on the labour market, on the level and living patterns of the population and on the environment” (UN 2008, p.11).

- to increases the official statistics capacity to reflect “the activities of multinational or of “virtual” enterprises”, to better communicate with the ”**the main users of statistics to**

**raise awareness of the role of statistics in decision-making and the challenges that statisticians face due to globalisation”** (UN2008);

- “diminishing of administrative burden with the use of administrative data sources” (UN 2008, p.16) Register-based statistics became vital during the accession to EU, and is such also currently. (UN 2008, p.15)

- is increasing the “demand for timely, high quality and relevant statistical information on the one hand and reduction of administrative burden on the other hand”;

- ”a major issue is **how to combine administrative data with available statistical information rather than increase the reporting burden with new data collection.** In this context, it is important that statisticians *understand the strategy and behaviour of economic agents and constantly interact with them.*” (UN 2008, p.54)

- Križman<sup>5</sup> points that ”Official statistics - as a tool for policy making and the objective basis for strategic governmental decisions in economy and the social sphere – **should measure the reality of our social, economic, cultural, political and institutional world.**” (UN 2008, p.11) Author identify as the most important fields of statistics with high challenges are: Economic performance (MNEs -multinationals); Labour market statistics (labour costs, labour force, entrepreneurship); the environment (global warming); Social conditions and the level of living (refugees, asylum-seekers, migration). (UN2008, p, 18)

Another important step forward is represented by the fact that the General Assembly of UN adopted, at the highest political level, on 29 January 2014 a resolution (A/RES/68/261) on “The Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (FPOS), where FPOS are a pillar of the **Global Statistical System.** (UN 2015, p.3)

#### ***4.2. European Commission***

**European Commission (2009) launch a process to reshape the Official statistics in this decade considering that “Official statistics** play a fundamental role in today's society. The availability of impartial and objective statistical information is **essential for all decision-makers.** Statistical information underpins transparency and openness of policy decisions, and official statistics therefore represent a public good providing a basis for the smooth functioning of society.” (EU COM, 2009, p.3) Also, next to the process to adapt to the new realities of international concepts / standards and measurement methodologies EU Commission states that “this way of producing statistics is, however, no longer fully adapted to the changing environment”. (EU COM, 2009, p.3) For global problems there are formulated global responses as it is:

**“The new Regulation on statistics introduces the European Statistical System (ESS) based on the Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European Statistics. The EES will build a new architecture of the statistic production in a integrate manner with the fully respect the subsidiarity principle”.** (EU COM, 2009, p.3)

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<sup>5</sup> Keynote speech by Irena Križman, Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia

As UN announced the administrative data will increase its contribution to decision flows the EES provide a new impacts for citizens and administrations:

“Citizens are not regularly asked to respond to a questionnaire from official statistics: an optimisation of statistics through **the integration and an increased use of administrative sources** is an important goal. It will be essential to ensure that statistical requirements (definitions, flow of data, data-access) are respected by the administrated sources.” Directive 95/46/EC of 24 October 1995 (OJ L 281) and Regulation (EC) N° 45/2001 of 18 December 2000 (OJ L 8).

More and more increases the demand for **official statics data as a service of public utility** that has to provide in real time impartial (UN 2015 p.13)<sup>6</sup> inputs about economic and social reality. Romanian National Institute of Statistics RNIS presents **official statistics** as

“one of the main components in the knowledge process, being also pointed out as one of the main pillars for a good governance of the society”<sup>7</sup>,

Eurostat adding more as an indicator of **good policies**<sup>8</sup>. We mention that according to Law 226/2009<sup>9</sup>, Art.14 RNIS is

“operating as a specialized body of Central Public Administration, with legal personality, subordinated to the Government in the coordination of General Government Secretariat”.

RNIS is the coordinator of National Statistical System (NSS). The NSS is having in compentence (Art.6/L226/2009) RNIS with its territorial direction and other subordinate institutions, **the central and local statistical offices of public administration** and other public statistical offices.

### **4.3. Public administration systems**

**Public administration systems**, in a globalised world the:

”HRD for policy capacity presupposes a holistic approach that will necessarily involve reforming internal management practices, institutional frameworks of relationships between the State and society, and the redefinition of the roles of schools and institutes of Public Administration” (UN, 2005).

The central **public administrations** is move away from the classical bureaucratic model, in the direction of the **existence of alternative models** rather than a shift towards one common administrative reform model or even the emergence of ‘varieties of New Public Management (Demmke, C. et.al., 2012 p. 100). This process is reflected in the public employment changing as regards the size, structure, composition and status.

**The national public services** is estimated by Demmke et.al (2012 p. 100) to:

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<sup>6</sup> According to the Principle: “Professional independence of statistical agencies, scientific competence of their staff and impartiality are the crucial preconditions of trust in official statistics.”

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.insse.ro/cms/en/content/official-statistics-romania>, Last update:May 29, 2014

<sup>8</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Statistics\\_in\\_development\\_cooperation\\_-\\_national\\_statistical\\_systems](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Statistics_in_development_cooperation_-_national_statistical_systems)

<sup>9</sup> [http://www.dreptonline.ro/legislatie/lege\\_organizare\\_functionare\\_statistica\\_oficiala\\_romania\\_226\\_2009.php](http://www.dreptonline.ro/legislatie/lege_organizare_functionare_statistica_oficiala_romania_226_2009.php)

“become more open, flexible, diverse, feminine, fragmented, decentralized and smaller. .... is likely to become much more pragmatic and at the same time dominated by **effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability considerations.**”

**The state has to maintain its role as employer**, preserving its role of guardian of :

“the fundamental values, administrative law principles and ensure a focus on effectiveness, efficiency and accountability. They must ensure equal treatment and fairness while ensuring the merit principle and the equality of chances. They must be attractive and competitive with respect to the private sector policies while managing tax payers’ money as prudently as possible.” (Demmke, C. et.al., 2012 p. 107)

## 5. Final remarks

Following the crises 2007 put on global level “the Unemployment or underemployment is perceived as the global risk of highest concern”.(WEF, 2016) In a global competition coupled with knowledge progress impact explains the change in **the nature of work** reflected by the structural unemployment manifestation as the main economic risk.

The re-evaluation of ILO’s basic concepts are caused by the fact that “Labour regulation is in crisis. Traditional regulatory frameworks can no longer ensure decent conditions of work on a global scale”. (McCann, D. et.al, 2014, p.1). McCann, D. et.al (2014) concludes that there is need of “**Creative Labour Regulation**” to solve the complex labour problems. Authors considers that the policy actors needs to develop a ”new way of thinking”. This new thinking is revealed by a holistic approach of policy actors, able:

“ to recognize the complexity of contemporary employment relationships, to seek to benefit from the potential interactions between different forms of regulation and to rethink the strategies and priorities of law enforcement, including the potential for innovative alliances between the range of public and private actors that are involved in upholding decent labour standards.” (McCann, D. et.al, 2014)

These recent ample and profound processes are reflected in ILO’s 2013 initiative to revision the statistic of work, employment and labour underutilization. It is **diversified the forms of work**, including five mutually exclusive types by destination of the production and by the nature of transaction. These **forms of work** types (own-use production work, employment work, unpaid trainee work, volunteer work and other work) covers the entire chain of **economic value creation** in condition of human resources skills development for a better quality of life. **Unemployment** criteria’s applying in regard to work search (with or without work) is in discussion since 1982 (ILO XIII th CLS). Now, in the context of the development level varied by location (urban, rural area) demands the partial or full relaxation of the active job search requirement. Following the logic of changing **the nature of work and the diversification of the forms of work** then also the relation to work, respectively **to have work, will change**. An intermediate step in brooding and nuancing unemployment concept, including underemployment is demonstrated by the “Supplementary indicators of unemployment” defined by EUROSTAT. EUROSTAT use the underemployment in reference to ILO definitions, but still failing to reflect the ”**increasingly fragmented and**

**diversified labour market and strongly varying degrees of attachment to it” (De La Fuentes, 2011, p.1). The need to redefine the person in relation to work, especially under the work seeking criteria, also with consequence of time frames and availability to work definitions is exemplified by the Romanian case. Romanian atypical example of an EU country member is a country with important imbalances on the labour market, reflected by huge levels of migration / mobility for work, points out that geographical mobility for work in the global open markets demands, has to be taken in consideration.**

In this context, **the re-evaluation of the ILO’s basic concepts of work** induces some general implications for **official statistics<sup>10</sup> and public administration systems** in Romania, including the public policies smart management.

The re-evaluation of the **ILO’s basic concepts and standards regarding the nature of work and the diversification of the forms of work and** regarding the relation to work (respectively to have work) is driven mainly by globalisation connected with knowledge progress. Some international institutions (next to ILO, UN, EU Commission, WEF, etc.) launched the process of building the **Global Statistical System**. On this context the main challenge of the **official statistics and public administration systems** from Romania is to be active partners in this process, serving all the Principles but mainly the Principle 1 of official Statistics – **Relevance, Impartiality and Equal Access** (UN 2015, p. 8) also for Romanian citizens.

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<sup>10</sup> “**official statistics** are those statistics which are elaborated and issued according to some statistical normative documents or national and/or European regulations, by specific fields, carried out by public authorities according to legal stipulations.” Is defined by Law no. 226/2009, <http://www.insse.ro/cms/en/content/official-statistics-romania>, Last update: May 29, 2014

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