

Romania's status as an active observer in the communitary institutions and its participation in the working groups of the Ministers' Council of the European Union

When the Treaty of Adhesion was signed, on the 25th of April, 2005, Romania became a state under the process of adhesion, obtaining the status of active observer at the level of all communitary institutions, for the presence of the Romanian representatives, at the level of the European institutions and their working groups, was necessary.

The status of active observer allows Romania to express its point of view, without having the right to vote, in the process of decision making at the communitary level, being able this way to influence these decisions and to promote its national interests.

The period till the concrete adhesion to the EU can be considered as a period of time given to establish, develop and improve its internal procedures. At the same time, it is important to consolidate the administrative capacity, to develop the technical infrastructure, and to manage correctly the 100 – 140 documents sent daily by the communitary institutions.

Romania's objectives, as an active observer, are the following ones: adjusting itself to the communitary work procedures (formal and informal) and to the specific institutional culture of the communitary institutions, placing the national interest in the European context, being aware of the main national interests, and establishing strategic partnerships with the states who have convergent interests.

The Ministry of Administration and Interior can be found, having specific competencies, in approximately 31 working groups where it holds responsibility and 35 working groups where it participates in, out of which we mention: SIS/SIRENE, SIS TECH, SIS II, Acquis Schengen and Schengen Evaluation, where MoAI representatives participate frequently.