

EUROPEAN COHESION POLICY AND PRESENT GLOBAL CRISIS

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Abstract

The paper deals with the idea that the present global crisis supports the division of the EU27 Member States into three categories: EU15, EU 10 and EU2. Using the official Eurostat database, the analysis is focused on the most important economic indicators: GDP per capita, unemployment rate, trade balance, private and public consumption, saving rate, gross fixed capital formation, inflation rate and public debt. All these indicators are analysed separately and discussed on regions and Member States in order to quantify the disparities. The main conclusion of the paper is that the European Cohesion Policy is far away from done. The paper uses pertinent tables and diagrams which support the economic analysis.

Keywords: cohesion policy, catching up process, regional disparities.

JEL Classification: R11, R13