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BOOK OF ABSTRACT

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SESSION 4- Law at the Intersection of Classical Values and Digital Innovation

The Legal Nature of Prediction Markets sunder Romanian law

Brezniceanu, Ioan Vladimir; Brădianu,Ștefan

University of Bucharest, Faculty of Law, Romania
v.brezniceanu@gmail.com; bradi@yahoo.com

Abstract

Prediction markets have been a rapidly emerging market in Romania, before important players in the field have been blacklisted by the National Office for Gambling (ONJN). The Office considers prediction markets to constitute gambling and therefore be subject to its regulations and licensing procedures. However, prediction market platforms might have sufficient structural differences to traditional gambling, so as not to be subject to the same regulations, such as the peer-to-peer betting system and the lack of complete dependency on luck in regards to the outcome. This article covers the complex legal nature of prediction markets under Romanian law, with consideration to comparative law practices.

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Tax Evasion in Romania: New approaches

Duță, Alia Gabriela

University of Craiova, Faculty of Law, Romania
alia_gabriela@yahoo.com

Abstract

Tax evasion has existed and will exist and moreover it will always be “creative and active” and will represent a current problem for any state. With the emergence of taxes also the phenomenon of “escape” from their paying emerged, since the taxes determine the individuals to adopt an avoidance behavior or, at the best, to mitigate them. This phenomenon occurs in all the countries, obviously to varying degrees, starting from the level of individuals, to the level of large companies, it being favored by the legislative hiatuses, sometimes it being even encouraged by legislation. Thus, in this approach, I will try to emphasize the causes of tax evasion and the consequences of this phenomenon on the society.

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Analysis of the regime of obligations and liability in light of Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Brezniceanu, Andra Maria

University of Craiova, Faculty of Law, Romania
andra_brezniceanu@yahoo.ro

Abstract

Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 (hereinafter referred to as the "Artificial Intelligence Regulation" or "RIA") establishes the first horizontal regulatory framework, with general and binding applicability throughout the European Union, dedicated to the regulation of artificial intelligence systems. This study analyses, from a European internal market law perspective, the complex architecture of the obligations and liability mechanisms established for providers of AI systems, with a focus on high-risk systems and general-purpose AI models. The procedural and technical obligations of providers, the risk management system, the transparency regime, human supervision requirements, post-market monitoring, serious incident reporting and, last but not least, the sanctioning regime are examined, specifying the maximum thresholds of the applicable administrative fines. The study highlights that the RIA adopts a risk-based approach, stratifying the obligations of operators according to the risk category in which the AI system falls, and that, despite its character as a regulation with direct effect, numerous provisions require careful articulation with sectoral Union law and national law.

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The Relationship between Law, Public Administration and Digital Innovation in the European Union

Toma, Ana-Maria

University of Craiova;Faculty of Law; Romania
m_annemarrie@yahoo.com

Abstract

The European Union is a very important example of the relation between traditional legal principless and modern societies which use tehnology for progress, The European Union continue to protect classical values such as justice, human rights, democracy and the rule of law, but digital transformation has become a major priority for European institutions by using digital technologies to improve public services in order to reduce bureaucracy and increase efficiency. I would like to emphasize the idea that European Union understands that technology must respect ethical and legal standards, artificial intelligence can create risk for privacy and individual freedoms.
In conclusion, the balance between law, public administration and digital innovation in the European Union is essential in order to create a secure, but efficient digital future for all European citizens.

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Digitalization and Its Role in Public Administration – Perspectives Between Administrative Efficiency and the Protection of Personal Data

Drăgan, Silviu Cătălin

University of Craiova, Faculty of Law, Romania

Abstract

The present study aims to analyze the process of digitalization in public administration and its impact on administrative efficiency and the protection of personal data.
In the context of the accelerated development of digital technologies, public institutions are undergoing a continuous process of modernization, aimed at improving the quality of public services, reducing bureaucracy, and increasing administrative transparency.
The paper highlights the main advantages of digitalization, such as the rapid accessibility of services, the optimization of administrative processes, and the improvement of the relationship between citizens and public authorities.
The study emphasizes the challenges generated by the processing and security of personal data in the digital environment, analyzing the need to respect the principles of confidentiality, information security, and the protection of citizens' fundamental rights.
The research findings demonstrate that the digitalization of public administration represents an essential factor in increasing administrative efficiency.

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Public Policies for Social Protection and Social Inclusion

Otovescu,Cristina

University of Craiova, Faculty of Law;Romania
cristinaotovescu@gmail.com

Abstract:

Social protection and social inclusion policies are essential instruments for reducing inequalities, combating poverty, and strengthening social cohesion in contemporary societies. In the context of economic uncertainty, demographic changes, and evolving labor markets, governments face increasing pressure to develop comprehensive and inclusive policy frameworks that ensure equal opportunities and social security for vulnerable populations. This paper examines the role of public policies in promoting social protection mechanisms, including income support, access to healthcare, education, and employment opportunities, while fostering the social inclusion of marginalized groups.

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Globalising Perspectives on legal translation

Badea,Simina

University of Craiova, Faculty of Law;Romania, Romania
siminabadea@yahoo.com

Abstract

Legal translation does not rely on a clear-cut and explicit theory, as it often starts from the identification of a text genre, a rather arduous procedure which involves aspects of convergence, overlapping, as well as divergence of texts and concepts. Legal discourse occupies a special place among specialised discourses due, to a large extent, to the private nature of the translation work, but also due to the non-universality of concepts, unlike scientific fields, for example. This is where the notions of faithfulness and equivalence come into play, which we will address, *inter alia*, in this article, in addition to an analysis of the characteristics of this type of specialised translation and of the elements related to the legal languages and cultures coming into contact in the translation process, a process that has brought dynamism to the relations between different legal traditions and systems, often contributing to genuine legal transplants.

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The rights and legal protection of public interest whistleblowers

Voican,Mădălina

University of Craiova ,Faculty of Law, Romania

madalina.voican@edu.ucv.ro

Abstract

Corruption in public institutions cannot be effectively combated without people who have the courage to report irregularities from within. The whistleblower is precisely such a person — an insider who dares to report illegal acts or conduct contrary to professional ethics, assuming the personal and professional risks that follow from this choice. This research examines how the Romanian legislative framework regulates the protection of public interest whistleblowers through Law no. 361/2022, which transposes EU Directive 2019/1937. The paper investigates the legal architecture of whistleblower protection, with emphasis on the four fundamental guarantees provided by law: (1) the prohibition of disciplinary sanctions; (2) the preservation of identity confidentiality; (3) the publicity of proceedings directed against the whistleblower; and (4) the employer's obligation to prove that any adverse measure taken against the whistleblower is unrelated to the report made.

Beyond the letter of the law, the research argues that the effectiveness of this normative framework is structurally limited by three converging factors: the persistence of a punitive organisational culture, the psychological legacy of the authoritarian regime, and the absence of independent institutional enforcement mechanisms. In Romania, this situation is further compounded by a collective mentality that still associates the reporting of irregularities with the denunciations made by informants of the communist-era secret police — the Securitate. Comparative data from the academic literature indicates that the majority of whistleblowers suffer severe professional and psychological consequences, regardless of existing legal protections.

The paper concludes that, for the institution of the whistleblower to become an effective instrument in combating corruption, legislation alone is insufficient. Measures capable of bringing about a genuine shift in public attitudes are required, including: sustained awareness campaigns to convey to citizens and public officials alike that reporting misconduct is an act of civic responsibility, not a breach of loyalty or an act of betrayal; free access to legal counsel; and the strengthening of mechanisms that ensure protection in practice, not merely on paper.

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Abbreviations and logos in public administration

Nicola, Elena-Veronica

University of Craiova,Faculty of Law, Romania
elenaveronicanicola@yahoo.com

Abstract

In the current context, more than in any other period, in the public administration in Romania, the linguistic procedures for abbreviating and logoing the names of central and local public institutions are increasingly used. The purpose of these operations is obvious, namely, to make communication at the official level more efficient, as well as the correct drafting of official documents and documents.

Whether we refer to authorities and institutions of public administration at the central level, or to those at the local and territorial level, we note that the widespread use of these modalities facilitates intra- and, above all, inter-institutional communication flow.

Also, official acts and documents, with a legal-administrative character, operate with specific abbreviations and logos, linguistically recognized and intensively promoted for the visibility and efficiency of efforts at the level of institutions, but also for improving the permanent relationship with citizens, whose problems must be solved quickly, efficiently and in compliance with the legal norms in force.

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The Ombudsman and the Digital State. The Right to Human Interaction as an Emerging Right

Pașolea, Emil-Mihai

University of Bucharest, Faculty of Law, Doctoral School of Law, Romania
pasolea_emil_mihai@yahoo.com

Abstract

This study examines the institution of the ombudsman in the context of the accelerating digitalisation of public administration and the expanding use of artificial intelligence systems in state decision-making processes. Starting from the axiological rationale of the institution, the article identifies an emerging right to human interaction, present in latent form in European legal instruments such as the GDPR and the AI Act, and proposes the Ombudsman as the appropriate constitutional mechanism for defending this right in the relationship between citizens and public administration. The analysis demonstrates that the Ombudsman's mandate, by its very nature, covers situations in which public administration acts through automated systems; however, the effectiveness of its intervention depends on the recognition of the right to human interaction as an autonomous fundamental right. The study identifies gaps in the domestic normative framework and sets out observations regarding the role the institution can play both in individual cases and in the normative construction that is needed.

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General Considerations regarding the closure of the 2025 budget

Băbălău, Anișoara

University of Craiova, Faculty of Law, Romania
anisoara.babalau@yahoo.com

Abstract
At national level, the budget is an annual statement of revenue to be generated and expenditure to be incurred, subsequently adopted by a budget law.
At European level, the budgetary system is governed by Articles 310 to 324 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, so that all revenue and expenditure of the Union must be estimated for each financial year and must be entered in the budget. This is supplemented by Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002.
The annual budget sets out all expenditure and revenue of the EU for a year. Annual budgets must remain within the expenditure limits (ceilings) set out in the EU's long-term budget, namely the multiannual financial framework (MFF). The EU usually sets its annual budget at a lower level to allow for unforeseen needs.
The main credit authorizing officers of public institutions fully financed from the state budget, the state social insurance budget and the budgets of special funds have submitted to the Ministry of Finance applications for the opening of budgetary credits and budgetary provisions regarding the distribution of credits from the budgets for 2025 by December 19, 2025 inclusive, at the latest by the end of 2025.
The applications for the opening of budgetary credits submitted by the main credit authorizing officers of public institutions fully financed from the state budget, the state social insurance budget and the budgets of special funds and registered at the level of the Ministry of Finance on December 19, 2025 were approved by the specialized departments within the Ministry of Finance on December 19, 2025 or, as the case may be, on December 22, 2025.
In conclusion, public institutions, regardless of the financing and subordination system, including activities attached to public institutions, financed entirely from their own revenues, carry out collection and payment operations through the territorial units of the state treasury in whose jurisdiction they are headquartered and where they have opened income and expenditure accounts.

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Consumer Protection in Distance Contracts: Legal Challenges and Modern Mechanisms for Contractual Balance

Calotă, Armand

University of Craiova, Faculty of Craiova, Romania
avocati_comercial@yahoo.com

Abstract
The rapid development of electronic commerce and the digitalization of contractual relationships have led to a significant expansion of legal mechanisms aimed at consumer protection. The article analyzes the main legal institutions applicable to distance contracts, focusing on the trader's information obligations, the right of withdrawal and the control of unfair terms. Both the relevant European regulations and their transposition into domestic law are examined, highlighting the practical difficulties generated by new digital business models and the use of online platforms. The study aims to identify the limits of the current regulatory framework and to propose interpretative and legislative adaptation directions intended to ensure a genuine balance between contractual freedom and the need to protect consumer's economic interests. In conclusion, the paper emphasizes the importance of strengthening transparency standards and effective judicial control mechanisms in the context of the transformations brought by the digital economy.

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The effects of competition law and public procurement legislation on credits contracted by contracting authorites

Dogaru, Dan Mihail

University of Craiova; Faculty of Law, Romania
dogarum@rdsmail.ro

Abstract

In most cases, in order to ensure operational continuity, contracting authorities proceed to secure credit loans from banking institutions, under contracts that inherently violate legal provisions of general interest. Such situations entail the unlawful award of contracts, an act that constitutes the offense of abuse of office, pursuant to Law No. 78/2000 on the prevention, detection and sanctioning of acts of corruption. On the other hand, potential anti-competitive agreements among banks fall under the scope of not only Competition Law No. 21/1996, but also Article 244 of the Criminal Code regarding the offense of aggravated fraud.

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The Preventive Protection of Fundamental Rights between Classical Constitutional Guarantees and Digital Challenges

Pirvu, Vlad Cristian

Doctoral School of the Faculty of Law, University of Craiova,Romania
pirvu.vlad17@gmail.com

Abstract

The contemporary evolution of constitutionalism reveals an increasing tension between the classical guarantees of fundamental rights protection and the new challenges generated by digital innovation, artificial intelligence, algorithmic governance, and administrative digitalization. While traditional systems of protection have been predominantly structured around repressive and remedial mechanisms, the accelerated expansion of digital technologies demonstrates the growing insufficiency of exclusively ex post forms of protection in ensuring the effective safeguarding of fundamental rights and freedoms.

This paper analyzes the transformation of the protection paradigm of fundamental rights from a reactive model toward a preventive and proactive one, emphasizing the necessity of developing procedural mechanisms capable of intervening before irreversible violations occur. The study examines the constitutional and European foundations of preventive protection, with particular attention to the interaction between national constitutional guarantees, the European Convention on Human Rights, and the legal order of the European Union.

The research further explores the impact of digitalization upon public administration and judicial protection, highlighting the risks generated by automated decision-making systems, digital surveillance practices, algorithmic profiling, and the extensive processing of personal data by public authorities. In this context, the article argues that the traditional guarantees of legality, proportionality, effective judicial review, and access to justice must be reinterpreted through the lens of technological transformation and digital governance.

Special attention is devoted to the procedural dimension of effectiveness in the protection of fundamental rights, especially regarding the capacity of constitutional and supranational jurisdictions to provide timely and genuinely effective remedies against potential rights violations generated in digital environments.

The central thesis of the article supports the necessity of consolidating a preventive mechanism for the protection of fundamental rights capable of reconciling classical constitutional values with the realities of digital society. Such a mechanism should strengthen the effectiveness of rights protection, enhance institutional accountability, and ensure that technological innovation remains compatible with the principles of the rule of law, human dignity, and democratic constitutionalism.

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Artificial intelligence in public administration, benefits, challenges and legal impact

Lungu, Vlad Andrei

University of Craiova; Faculty of law
lungu.vladandrei@yahoo.com

Abstract

The digital transformation of contemporary society directly influences the activity of public institutions, determining the emergence of new methods of organizing and providing administrative services. Artificial intelligence represents one of the most important technological innovations of the present, having the capacity to streamline administrative processes and improve the relationship between the state and the citizen.
The paper analyzes the impact of using artificial intelligence in public administration, highlighting both the advantages of this technology and the legal and ethical challenges generated by the use of automated systems.
Artificial intelligence can significantly contribute to the modernization of public administration and to improving the relationship between the state and the citizen.
In order for these technologies to be used responsibly, it is necessary to adopt clear legal regulations and respect the fundamental rights of citizens.

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Notation and registration in the land register of a property adjudged through forced execution

Păunică, Cristina

University of Craiova; Faculty of Law, Romania
cristinapaunica@gmail.com

Abstract

Real estate publicity in forced execution is essential for informing third parties, the opposability of the measures taken and the establishment of priority for payment. The registration of the documents ensures the protection of the creditor against other executions, blocks the fraudulent alienation of the property and guarantees the transparency of public auctions.
Advertising procedures play fundamental roles in the forced execution process:
• Opposability and Priority: Noting the start of the forced execution in the Land Registry makes the measure known to any interested person. This prevents the debtor from selling the property and ensures the creditor the priority rank in recovering the debt, compared to other creditors.
• Informing the Debtor and Third Parties: Once the summons is published, the debtor is officially notified, and the persons who hold real rights or encumbrances (for example, banks with mortgages) are summoned within the established deadlines. Thus, abuses are avoided and the right to defense is respected.
• Avoidance of Disputes: By noting disputes and enforcement deeds in public registers, any potential buyer in good faith is warned about the uncertain legal situation of the real estate.
• Completion of enforcement and tabulation: After the sale at auction, the auctioneer obtains an adjudication deed. Through the executor, this deed is transmitted to the OCPI for provisional registration or direct tabulation of the ownership right.
• Erasure of encumbrances: Once the new owner is tabulated, all previous encumbrances (mortgages or other pursuits) are erased from the land register, the auctioneer becoming a clean tabular owner.

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Digitization and Free Access to Information of Public Interest in Romania

Albu, Maria

"1 Decembrie 1918" University of Alba Iulia, Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, Romania
maria_ureche@yahoo.com

Abstract
Free access to information of public interest, in a democratic society, is vital for both public authorities and citizens. Thus, it allows citizens to have a correct image and to form a critical opinion regarding the society in which they live and the authorities that govern them. It also encourages the active participation of the population in problems and issues of public interest, helps to increase the efficiency of the administration, the legislature and the judiciary and to maintain their integrity by reducing the risk of corruption. In the context of the digitalization of public administration, free access to information of public interest has also undergone notable transformations, which allows it to further contribute to the legitimacy of public administration and to increasing trust in public institutions and authorities.
This paper aims to emphasize, in the current context of digitalization, the importance of this right provided for both by Law no. 544/2001 and by the Constitution of Romania, to contribute to raising awareness of the need to know the rights and legal levers that citizens can use in various situations.

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The political and economic relations of the Romanian Principalities with the Ottoman Porte

Danciu, Elena Tereza

University of Craiova, Faculty of Law, Romania
tereza.danciu@yahoo.com

Abstract

The Ottoman Empire's dream of expansion was to conquer the gates of Western Europe. On its way were the three Romanian Principalities, which for about six centuries fought for their fragile political independence.

Sovereigns at times, suzerains most of the time, they managed to avoid being transformed into Turkish pashaliks, unlike the neighboring countries. To the question: Why didn't the Turks conquer the Romanian Principalities, an answer is offered by Petre P. Panaitescu in his work Romanian Interpretations. It is an opinion that other historians agree with and that we will present and develop in this study.

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The role of artificial intelligence in public administration

Pleniceanu, Andrei Damian

University of Craiova, Faculty of Law, Romania
andreidamian03@yahoo.com

Abstract

The digital transformation of public administration represents a major direction of institutional modernization in contemporary society, with artificial intelligence (AI) playing an increasingly important role in this process. This paper examines the main ways in which AI is integrated into public administration, highlighting both the benefits of its use and the associated risks, limitations, and challenges.

From a conceptual perspective, artificial intelligence encompasses systems and technologies capable of performing tasks that typically require certain forms of human intelligence, such as learning, information analysis, natural language processing, and decision-making. Advances in machine learning, deep learning, natural language processing, and predictive analytics have significantly expanded the potential applications of AI, including within the public sector.

In public administration, artificial intelligence can contribute to the automation of repetitive processes, document management and classification, request processing, the analysis of large volumes of data, and the support of decision-making processes. The use of automation technologies, chatbots, and virtual assistants can reduce the time required to process requests and facilitate citizens' access to information and public services. Furthermore, intelligent data analysis can support fraud detection, the monitoring of public funds, and the evaluation of public policy effectiveness.

The implementation of AI offers significant advantages, including increased administrative efficiency, reduced costs and bureaucracy, improved decision-making, and greater transparency. However, the adoption of intelligent technologies also involves risks related to personal data protection, information security, algorithmic discrimination, the transparency of automated decisions, and excessive reliance on technology. Therefore, maintaining human oversight and establishing clear accountability mechanisms are essential.

The comparative analysis highlights Estonia as a relevant example of advanced digital administration, characterized by online public services and the interoperability of information systems. In Romania, the digitalization of public administration is still developing, requiring further investment in infrastructure, interoperability, and digital skills.

In conclusion, artificial intelligence can significantly contribute to the development of a more efficient, accessible, and transparent public administration. However, realizing this potential requires a balanced approach based on modern digital infrastructure, qualified personnel, appropriate regulations, and respect for citizens' fundamental rights.

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General aspects regarding tax evasion

Costea, Adina Viorica

University of Craiova; Faculty of Law, Romania

costeaadina2@gmail.com

Abstract

Tax evasion is one of the most complex contemporary economic and legal phenomena, having a significant impact on the state budget, on the economic balance and on citizens' trust in public authority. In the context of the development of the digital economy and the globalization of trade relations, the methods of evading the payment of tax obligations have become increasingly sophisticated, which requires the permanent adaptation of legislative and institutional mechanisms for prevention and control.

The paper analyzes the notion of tax evasion from a legal perspective, highlighting the difference between legal and illegal tax evasion, as well as the main ways in which taxpayers try to avoid paying taxes. The economic and social causes that favor the development of this phenomenon are also examined, such as excessive taxation, lack of tax education and insufficient control mechanisms.

At the same time, the study focuses on the regulations provided by Romanian legislation in the field of combating tax evasion, with reference to criminal liability and the role of competent institutions in identifying and sanctioning illicit acts. The research also presents the negative effects of tax evasion on economic development, fair competition and the financing of public services. The conclusions highlight the need to strengthen cooperation between tax authorities and judicial institutions, as well as the importance of digitalizing tax administration and increasing the degree of voluntary compliance of taxpayers, as essential tools in reducing the evasion phenomenon.

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The Principle of Proportionality regulated by article 17 of Emergency Ordinance no.66/2011 on the prevention, detection and sanctioning of irregularities arising in the obtaining and use of European Funds

Costăchioiu Sidonia

Dolj Bar Association
sidoniacostachioiu@yahoo.com

Abstract

By decision no. 190/2025, the High Court of Cassation and Justice clarified that the principle of proportionality obliges the state to limit the recovery of sums of money only to the direct and material damage caused. Thus, the ICCJ decided that the principle of proportionality requires that public authorities with control powers take measures or impose restrictions only if they effectively respond to objectives of general interest pursued by the community and do not disproportionately affect the legitimate rights and interests of the recipient. According to the ÎCCJ decision, the beneficiary of a sum of money, in the implementation of a program carried out by APIA, is not responsible for the intellectual creation presented by a third party, in the implementation of the accessed program. Thus, liability and fault cannot be held against the beneficiary of the funds.

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Gold-Indexed Sovereign CoCo Bonds as a public debt financing instrument

Georgescu, Răzvan-Gabriel

University of Craiova; Faculty of Law,Romania
razvangabrielgeorgescu@yahoo.ro

Abstract

Gold-Indexed Sovereign CoCo Bonds are hybrid public debt instruments with the following defining characteristics. At issuance, the state raises a sum of capital from investors, with each unit of face value corresponding to a gold equivalent established at the market price at the time of issuance. This initial indexation to the gold price constitutes the foundation of the guarantee and the instrument's key attraction.
The CoCo element of the instrument manifests through the optional nature of principal repayment. The state has no legal obligation to ever repay the borrowed nominal sum. It may do so at any time — at its sole discretion — should it wish to extinguish the interest payment obligation. Upon repayment, the amount returned to the investor is not the original nominal sum, but the equivalent in national currency or foreign currency of the gold equivalent assigned at issuance, calculated at the gold price prevailing at the time of repayment. This means the investor receives back the real value of gold, adjusted for inflation and market developments, plus all interest coupons received over the duration of the investment.
Between 2020 and 2024, the gold price rose from approximately $1,500 per troy ounce to over $2,400 per troy ounce — an appreciation of roughly 60%. Applying this dynamic to the hypothetical scenario, the repayment value of the initial 5 billion euros would have grown to approximately 8 billion euros. Nevertheless, comparing the total cash flows — interest paid plus principal repaid — with those of classical bonds, the Gold-Indexed CoCo Bond instrument remains advantageous: 8 billion + 0.075 billion in total interest = 8.075 billion, versus 5 billion in principal + 1.875 billion in interest = 6.875 billion. In this specific scenario of massive gold appreciation, the classical instrument would have been cheaper.

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