

JOSIF GJANI

Faculty of Economics, University of Tirana, Albania

EUROPEANIZATION AND EU DEMOCRATIC CONDITIONALITY PROCESS IN ALBANIA

Abstract:

Albania and the European Union (EU) signed the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA) in June 2006, which entered into force in April 2009. The main aim of the paper is to discuss on the EU democratic conditionality process in Albania and its relations to 'Europeanization' concept. Aside from Europeanization, the paper examines the opinions of several high EU representatives and local experts regarding the integration process and its political and economic conditionality. It tries to make an analysis also on the present progress and future challenges. European integration, through its democratic conditioning, is a new option for Albania, and it is impacting the internal local governance with new instruments, models and policies.

Keywords:

Europeanization, Albania, EU integration, IPA, European Commission

JEL Classification: A10, E60