

the document to the Union Commission for authorization. At the same time, the Competition Council, accompanied by the provider, will present the document in front of the Commission. After a Decision is issued by the Commission, the Competition Council will inform the provider of the measures taken. During the state aid period, the provider has the task of checking the conditions imposed by the Commission. Annually, the providers must send the Competition Council reports regarding the state aid. The role of the Competition Council in the monitoring process of state aiding is, based on reports received from suppliers, to draw up the *inventory of state aids, the annual state aid Report* in Romania, as well as other reports that result from Romania being a member state of the EU. Also, the Competition Council holds the *State Aid Registry. De minimis* aid schemes are drawn up by the providing authority (ministry, agency, city hall etc) in accordance with the provisions of *Commission Regulation no. 1998/2006 of 15 December 2006 concerning the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the Treaty to de minimis aid*. The providing authority sends the legal document by which the de minimis aid scheme is approved to the Competition Council.

In order to improve the collaboration between persons involved, the Competition Council has developed the Romanian State Aid Network (RSAN), comprising a team of experts made up of state aid specialists within the Competition Council and the institutions providing state aid. The program aims to offer permanent technical assistance to institutions charged with implementing state aid in order to economically develop the country while obeying community legislation and reducing the risk of affecting the competition and trade with the Member States. The program has been created on a multiyear basis, starting in the second half of 2008. The end of the program has been set for 31 December 2010, with the possibility of extending it. The RSAN has developed several projects, of which we mention: Project „Defining policies and practical proceedings within RSAN” (POL-RSAN) and Project „A new State aid advocacy in Romania” (AID ADVOCACY).

4 Conclusion

State aid is strongly connected to budget resources, with the allocation of budget expenditures, with the necessity to keep the fiscal balance or otherwise said, with the fiscal policy of the state. The fiscal policy could constitute an instrument to protect and encourage certain economic branches, fiscal

interference has targets like: stimulating investments in certain domains, increasing the quality of products, stimulating exports, protecting the environment. At the same time state aid strongly interferes with sectorial policies (agriculture, industry, commerce etc), with financial and social policies [10], and with legislative and institutional strategies.

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