

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CONNECTIONS IN THE POST-TRUTH ERA

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ABSTRACT: *Following the distancing of current policy from economic rigors and ethical demands aimed at redistribution of wealth, modern societies are parasitized by post-truth of actual facts. It distorts the shape and content of general interest data, for example political distortion of scientific evidence proving anthropogenic climate change. Under these circumstances, the question "to what extent economist's truth stating what you cannot measure you cannot manage is sustained?" becomes absolutely legitimate. Regarding sustainable development management, monitoring the degree of achievement of Sustainable Development Goals is no longer sufficient to track progress in this area. Therefore, experts propose to introduce as much as possible qualitative data which, combined with quantitative data, will enhance their relevance and make them harder to be diverted for political purposes. This paper follows this direction, trying to prove that protection of data's real meaning can be achieved by systemic analysis of all data originating from monitoring certain processes, which can be aggregated, with applicability in sustainable development. Thus, analyzing together data on sustainable development and those that indicates the state of human development emphasizes on one hand, the intrinsic link between these concepts and, on the other, maintain the sense of sustainability even in the post-truth era.*

Keywords: *sustainable development management, human development; post-truth, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); Human Development Index (HDI)*

Classification JEL: *Q01, Q56, Q 58, B41*

1. INTRODUCTION

Starting from the basic premise that, at least at the present time, the concept of sustainable development is the best driver-both theoretical and as comprehensive analysis of economic factors in an expanded and strengthened human horizon-the main objective of this paper is to test the resilience of sustainable development to post reality policy.

Even though the relevance of this concept no longer needs to be highlighted, the ability to connect sustainable development to other concepts requires some clarification. This ability requires, on one hand, conceptual resistance to pressure from representatives of simplifying politics and, on the other hand, the existence of methodological meanings enabling sustainable development to connect or/and assimilate other notions, in this case, that of human development.

Only after achieving these goals we can see to what extent analyzing the links between sustainable development and human development adds value in strengthening their dominant position among the many aspects of development. Then, by repeating the process of inter-relating the indicators measuring sustainable development or human development, we can see whether we can speak of consolidation or even aggregation. Also on this point, we can verify the validity of the premise from which we started, namely the degree of measuring human development is a contribution to improving the relevance capacity level measurement of sustainable development and therefore its relevance in conditions of multiple current crises. Therefore, due to possible exacerbation of some of these crises (resources, climate change, migration, regional security etc.), strengthening capacity of a holistic view, lucid and moderate - as sustainable development - is a useful approach. In addition, this work is not only a proposal to interpret as accurately as possible,

but also to change the current of opinion formed in society, not in a revolutionary way, of course, but pragmatic and realistic, so that it benefits from acceptance amongst the specialists.

With regard to sustainable development, the general tendency of manipulation, mainly through the media, characterized in the post-media truth by highlighting some alternative facts (of secondary relevance), manifests itself, for example, by trying to belittle the importance of increasing environmental resilience. Of course, the articles that examines aspects of this issue don't have the same scale with research and technological innovation, public-private partnerships and civic engagement.

However, there are favorable prerequisites for asserting global sustainable development and, implicitly, its resilience to the post-truth era assault, represented mainly by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Paris Agreement on Climate Change, initialed in 2015, respectively end of 2016. Unfortunately, these remarkable steps forward in establishing common targets globally are ignored by the media at best because they are unable to feed the sensational need and anchor in the daily present. On the other hand, the key debate about the ability of developed nations to ensure a stable global society and a healthy economic environment (also) for future generations do not occupy an important spot on oligarchic elite agenda (Norton A., 2017).

At the same time, speculating that people tend to choose their information according to their personal expectations and beliefs, the groups interested in post-truth prosperity have been trying to influence and alter other scientific fields, the best example in this respect being given by climate change (Najam, 2017). By discouraging policies related to this phenomenon, conservative interest groups are trying to block human development within the profit limits.

In conclusions to this study, we propose a method different than those devoted to strengthening the objectives of sustainable development, through integration of human development parameters which, in the end, can lead to a methodological aggregation.

For this result we outlined a specific framework, which is a logical route for the proposed model and, of course, the possibility of implementing this model. Therefore, division into chapters and subchapters of this material was made so that the definition by comparison of monitoring sustainable development or human development results (education quality public services, income, gender equality, social protection, etc.) can be overcome. The next level in our view, is the objective of strengthening sustainable development option, by assimilating the commonalities of the human development. This makes it possible to further open up research into sustainable development to other new connections with conceptual forms that are assimilable in order to protect the long-lasting common good, including *the alternative facts of the post-truth era*.

2. FALSE ALTERNATIVES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Regardless of the positions they take toward use in economics of notions like progress, development, growth, value, etc., economists are in consensus that an interruption of economic growth is not acceptable since it would actually lead to denial of sustainable development and emergence of an unwanted generalized forms of sustainable poverty (Melamed and Ladd, 2013).

However, without reaching conclusions under this law of entropy in the economic process, as evidenced by N. Georgescu Roegen, it should be kept in mind that sustainable development calls for a radical change in mentality and mode of production, by diversifying technology and introducing future generations interests in economic solutions - impossible to apply today in the framework of economic liberalism and capitalist economy.

With this apparent incompatibility sustainable development of capitalist interests had to give ground and accept some compromise political solution, taking into account that transition to radical solutions would require a level of civic culture unattainable in short term (and even medium term). Thus sustainable development recognizes the need for immediate action against the demographic

explosion, in the context of resource depletion and climate change, accepting, however, terms and conditions that are imposed by the market economy.

2.1. Sustainable Development versus Eco-development and Green Capitalism

Stated only three decades ago, by publishing *Our Common Future – Report from the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development (also known as the Brundtland Report)*, the concept of sustainable development is accused of failing to consolidate an unanimously accepted interpretation among experts. Thus, the paradigm of sustainable development has been questioned about its realism in terms of the ability of development policies around the world to conform to the requirements of a unitary development policy, at the same time oriented towards man and nature, because each society has its own way of preserving within its economic, social and environmental balance, according to tradition, culture, human and economic capacity etc. (Melamed and Ladd, 2013).

Once it has identified the means by which economic growth can be ensured under the conditions imposed by sustainable development and defined natural capital as a critical economic asset, sustainable development allowed itself to criticize environmental capitalism or green capitalism for its obsessive anchoring in the market mechanisms and miraculous solutions from advanced technology, ignoring the need for social and economic change.

Also, once it passed the critical stage, sustainable development could propose a new vision of the world based on trust and respect between nations, which are called to work together to affirm the reality that we live better even using less conventional resources. The set of common values that underpin the notion of sheds new light on the idea of wealth leads to recognition of flows of substance in neoliberal economic and political system and its embellish concepts. That is why the competition that eco-development and green capitalism have tried to make for sustainable development could not be a matter of substance because the theoretical principles from which the former is settled are based on an economic vision of development that does not use, in a first phase, its normative dimension to reduce inequalities (Urteaga, 2011).

If the economic component of sustainable development is its main strength, the socio-cultural component still remains its weak point, for reaching a global consciousness that assumes human relations with nature on other bases than anthropogenic domination is very difficult to manage (Petrescu, 2008).

2.2. Denial phase of economic sustainable development

In the new tradition of alternative facts established in the post-truth era, economic denial sustains pre-eminence of some major principles, on behalf of which it denies the actual reality, trying to distort economic science, keeping however the appearance of application of methods accepted by specialists in the field.

In this respect, overcoming empirical approaches in economics is no longer beneficial, when math is used to measure, for example, only the average values of an indicator without evaluating the economic side-effects that can significantly change results (Cahuc and Zylberberg, 2016).

The most common examples are the purchasing power evolution and public spending, where we can see they are handled through the circumvention of data presentation in absolute terms, obtaining thus a false image, due in part to the perspective through which compares the same data originating from different countries (Tiță, 2016).

2.3. Interdisciplinary Relevance of Sustainable Development

Interdisciplinary approaches open to experts from various fields the ability to conceptualize problems in ways as well different as difficult to harmonize, within the transdisciplinary research. In terms of the effort to put the concept of sustainable development in relation to other areas,

research is hampered by the multiplicity of cross-disciplinary relationships (Gable and others, 2015).

Unfortunately, when many scientific disciplines work together to accomplish a specific project, his unity is subject to alternative facts. Considering that the adjective sustainability can be attached with too much ease to almost any field, none of the various disciplines that enhance the interactivity of sustainable development can offer an unique and definitive perspective on the subject (Frone, Constantinescu, 2014).

For example, sustainable development had notable difficulties in uniting the environmental sciences, mainly due to different understanding of the concept of environment. Until the incorporation of environment in a uniform manner in sustainable development applications, it of was required, including, in legal terms, a clarification of environmental protection idea.

Another special case is that of concepts whose similarity is found in the implementation of their goals. Such a situation is represented by circular economy, where the efforts to promote it are interwoven with issues associated with sustainable development in economic terms. Both leave from the need for preservation of environmental assets in order to produce economic wealth (Gable and others, 2015).



Figure 1: Relationship between Sustainable Development and Green Growth

Source: Desai R., 2013.

In Figure 1 is shown the natural ratio between green growth and sustainable development, taking into account that, at one time, green growth was presented as an alternative to sustainable development. It can be seen that green growth cannot be superposed on sustainable development. Obviously, while sustainable development is constantly looking for the optimum balance between economic growth, environmental protection and social equity, ecological (green) growth is not affected in any way by social problems, having regard only to ensure that economic growth does not affect too much the environment.

Another challenge for sustainable development on interdisciplinary grounds came from green economy, conceived as a set of social, economic and environmental relations clearly representing the concern to maintain a clean environment. Thus, in a green economy, environment becomes a factor of economic growth and human welfare. In addition, since poorer countries are most dependent on natural resources for securing survival, thus less able to focus on the health of the environment, green economy, in turn, promotes equitable growth. Far from being replaced during transition to green economy, sustainable development appears in this respect, as an actual destination. However, this does not include in its objectives improving human welfare and social equity (Desai, 2013).

3. SUSTAINABLE FEATURES OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

From holistic perspective, human development represents humanization of sustainable development by switching from global issues to individuals, which highlights perception level (and, implicitly, of satisfaction) and participation in creating personal and social well-being.

Another fundamental feature of human development is the contribution to economic and social development, oriented to improvement of individual potential, based on continuous participation in education and culture. Just like sustainable development, human development is both a process and a result which falls within a very broad framework and aims at extending the personal rights and freedoms in accordance with improvement of social structures, which must be ensured and guaranteed. Therefore, the particular models of development should be adapted to enable a sustainable human development-as a universal way of recognition of the primacy of this concept in front of all others, whether we are talking about the market, Governments and institutions requirements, or even the majority of contemporary society (Bunea, 2007).

Human development corresponds to increased need for citizens to participate actively in the political life of their societies, in support of a fair and moral guidance, seeking balance between respecting individual freedom and collective security. Based on these considerations, sustainable human development is considering not just a development that generates economic growth, but a redistribution of wealth in an equitable manner, respect for the environment and list but not last promoting sustainable solidarity (Moșteanu and others, 2014).

From a general point of view, development represents a step forward for the purpose of positive and irreversible accumulations in order to replace structures which no longer correspond to the present realities. In terms of economic development, it is a continuous process of replacing economic structures which occurs from within, by replacing the old elements with new ones. On human plan, development takes into account the social and mental shifts that we find at community level. The continuous growth of exchange quality leads to transformations that alter the expectations and behavior of individuals, depending on their ability of accumulation of new knowledge and skills. Thus, the human development process exceeds in complexity the economic development, going far beyond the performance of the latter. Therefore, human development, including communities progress, includes economic development includes, which, in turn, includes growth.

This growth, based on monetary issues, reflects also the vision of economic growth - quantification of macroeconomic indicators (GDP per capita or per economy), is complemented by the vision of human development, which provides a much wider perspective on life and work, taking account of the need to resolve problems of real humans (Scutaru, 2013).



Figure 2: The Relationship between Human Development and Income Growth

Source: Gutierrez L. T., 2010.

In terms of economic growth, it can be seen that human development and income growth do not always coincide. In Fig. 2 is drawn a hypothetical relationship between income growth and human development, presented on a scale from zero to ten, where 0 represents the situation of extreme poverty and 10 an opulence. The concave shape of the curve suggests that sustainable human development does not aim at any cost to increase revenues, being a construction for the future.

Even for those who do not recognize that human development represents the core of sustainable development, drawing a hypothetical relationship (which would follow the pattern of Fig. 2) between economic growth and human development would have the same result as the graphic shown above. This is because the factors that describe human development - as education, living conditions and incomes - are not enough for people to reach a level of psychological and spiritual maturity needed for going up in the hierarchy of needs pyramid (Gutierrez, 2010).

On the other hand, the current global context is not under the best possible circumstances for sustainable human development, because human features binding it - self-determination, social responsibility and willingness of civic involvement - are undermined by propaganda of alternative facts, initiated from the need to maintain social tension in order to control access to resources and their redistribution.

This aspect also highlights that sustainable human development is a micro-universe, which restores on miniature level the complexity of sustainable development and its complex connections, representing at the same time the glue necessary to achieve unity between the pillars of the latter, and between individuals who understand and cooperate in favor of sustainable development.

4. DEVELOPMENT CONNECTIONS UNDER THE AEGIS OF SUSTAINABILITY

Although we are dealing with two paradigms (apparently) different, whose integration has not been fully realized, sustainable development and human development complement each other, meeting at most important point, namely acceptance worldwide and thus, transposing them into national and international policies. Also, in both concepts - the sustainable human development and the sustainable development - the emphasis is on sustainability, which connects them.

This indicates possibilities for human development to become more sustainable and for sustainable development to become "more human". Without neglecting economic development for basic human needs (food, shelter, water, fuel, health care, education, etc.), both human development and sustainable development recognize that the wealth of a nation and its citizens cannot be described only by statistical indicators, however complex it may be, without reference to spirituality (Melamed and Ladd, 2013).

Even if there is an effort to accredit the idea of sustainable development failure (from a post-truth perspective) and the need to restrict it, at best, to a (more) ecological economy, the general direction towards durability post-2015 must continue. Although it is no longer possible to return the international environmental policies to their original radicalism (from the 1970s), without urgent changes, in particular, regarding the replacement of fossil fuels, the reorientation of economic growth in neoliberal capitalism and its harmonization with a fairer distribution of social welfare, sustainable development cannot cope with false or partial responses coming from green embellishment of the economy.

Because sustainable human development means essentially extension of people background liberties of contemporary generation, fairly, to future generations, it assimilates naturally 2030 Agenda objectives. Thus, the sustainable human development arises a process that eventually leads to responsible holistic management of humans in relationship with the environment, while promoting this vision, beneficial to mankind (Naik and Bagalkoti, 2015). It follows that sustainability allows both sustainable development and human development to become two sides of the same universal ethics that claims life in a high quality standard (Jahan, 2015).

Of course, reaching the necessary consensus, not only for acceptance but also for internalizing human sustainable development throughout society, goes through orientation of citizens' attitude and behavior towards a culture of solidarity and efficient management of all related processes (Nițu and Nițu, 2009).

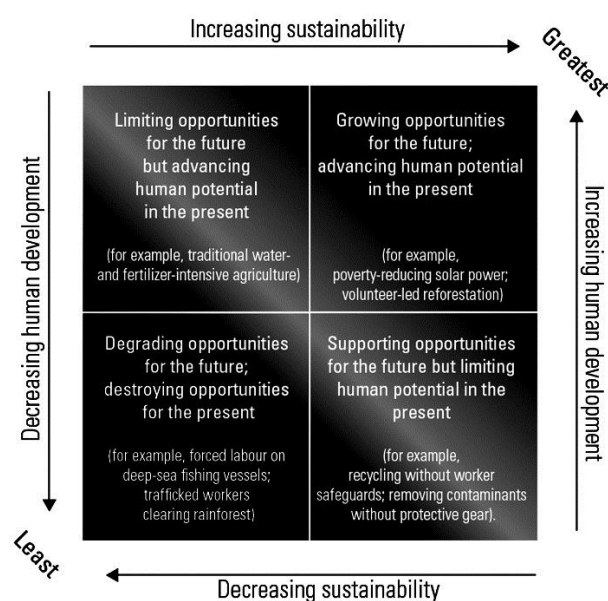


Figure 3: The matrix of sustainable work

Source: UNDP, 2017.

Figure 3 presents a particular case of integrating human development into sustainable development, represented by decent work performed under the auspices of sustainability. Sustainable work promotes human development while preserving the respect for the environment and also ensuring jobs for future generations. As can be seen from the matrix shown in this figure, an increase in job opportunities for the future, coupled with increasing the current potential, means both transformations, for example through technological adaptations, retraining staff and creating new jobs, but also disappearance of some sectors of pollution-generating activity, such as mining industry, which currently employs around 7 million people worldwide (UNDP, 2017).

If we analyze the connections between sustainable development and human development in the current context, we must take into account, on one hand, that it is dominated by the post-truth pessimism and, on the other hand, the economists optimism, who trust in the new technologies expansion, whose ingenuity is due to constant accumulation of creative knowledge.

Thus, the place of economic forecasts becomes a perfect ground for speculation rather than for lucid interpretations of historical statistical data analysis results. At present, expanding the alternative truths on the possibility to apply sustainable development in practice is reflected, above all, in global economic forecasts. For example, those drafted for 2017 are particularly difficult to calibrate, given both the high level of uncertainty about economic policy, especially of US, and the high risks stemming not only from fragile economies (Greece and Italy) but also from Brexit.

We also need to keep in mind that promoters of alternative truths question the unique outlook offered by global sustainable economic development on the grounds that the international economic cycle cannot be geared towards sustainable development in all countries around the world. And, as long as achieving the highest rate of economic growth is the main objective of a country's macroeconomic policy and wage growth is arbitrary (Romania is among them), without analyzing to what extent they contribute to the general prosperity of the community and to improve its living standards, sustainable development is threatened. Among these threats should be considered, firstly, accelerated economic growth, leading to depletion of natural resources and, consequently, worsening environmental pollution problems. Therefore, the phenomenon of growth,

described as a quantitative phenomenon in terms of output growth, GDP, national income etc., must be calibrated through qualitative aspects represented by economic structure and satisfaction regarding the living standard (Gable and others, 2015).

5. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION

Despite the fact that the results of the Rio + 20 or Earth Summit 2012 could not identify those responsible for implementing the most effective means of fighting against historical and structural poverty, hunger and other kinds of flagrant inequities, there are currently solutions for sustainability for each type of society.

Although increasingly manipulated for political purposes, quantitative statistical data, and especially GDP, have ceased to be considered taboo by economists. The need to weight these data through qualitative data has made macroeconomic indicators and the expansion of production capacities and GDP to be increasingly linked to the qualitative aspects of development, especially when considering the multiple sides thereof, in which are found, of course, growth and economic progress.

5.1. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

SDG contained in 2030 Agenda comprises three elements: eradication of poverty in a sustainable framework; covers all countries and all their citizens and benefits from the monitoring of progress to be reported at national, regional and global level (Jahan, 2015). These have become essential tools for trying to keep (at the last moment) humanity on a sustainable path. The content of these indicators combines both the qualitative measurement of global priorities that require global acceptance and participation as well as the quantitative measurement that continues the Millennium Development Goal.

SDG's post-2015 strength is the inclusion of actions for national and international officials both in developed and developing countries. Thus, they are a solid foundation for sustainable development, including human development from a social perspective - the ultimate goal of all development efforts (IRF, 2016). The SDG approach is centered on stopping the degradation of the environment in conditions that ensure all the basic needs of all people and even increase their welfare (Naik și Bagalkoti, 2015).

The UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development adopted at the end of 2015 (and related SDGs) is, through its targets and indicators, the most important instrument for monitoring and controlling the coherence of actions on the integration of the three basic pillars of sustainable development, in the social realities of the 21st century. The measures to be taken, both in developing countries and in developed countries, must take into account the particularities present in both categories of states, but it is important that they converge towards the common goal and common targets. Measuring their degree of achievement is only possible by tracking common indicators (slightly differentiated, depending on the quantitative and qualitative assessment system) that benefit from the consistency needed to create a sufficiently robust system for assessing the complexity of sustainable development expressed (according to Eurostat) by the following indicators: sustainable consumption and production; social inclusion; demographic changes; public health; climate change and energy; sustainable transport; natural resources; global partnership; good governance etc. (Zaman, 2015).

SDG's objectives cannot be reduced to the eradication of poverty and hunger, although the concern for global economic growth remains at the center. Thus, by linking sustainable development to quality of life, equity, inclusiveness, and social well-being, is directed the way to progress toward all and not toward himself, as is the case of monetary economics (Kothari A., 2016).

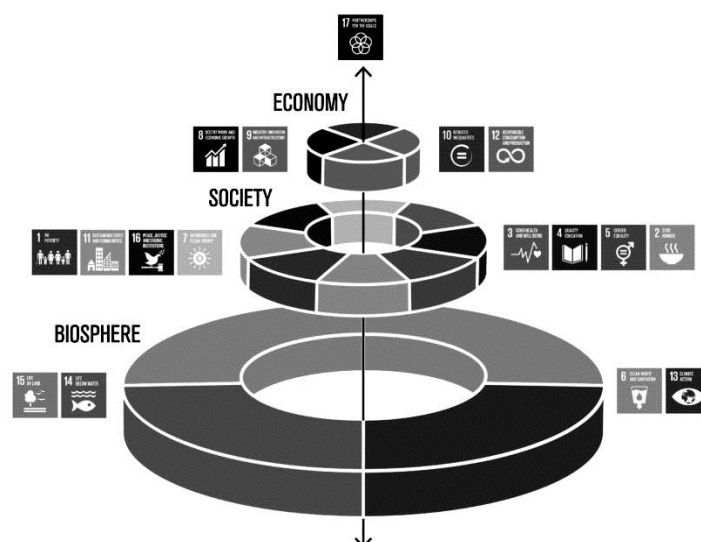


Figure 4: Breakdown of Sustainable Development Goals

Source: IRF, 2016.

In Figure 4 there is shown a grouping of the 17 SDG targets based on the interrelationship between the pillars of sustainable development. We can therefore see the importance of all these goals in meeting the Agenda 2030 goals, but also in dynamizing all the necessary actions. Thus, it results the reversibility of the process by which, for example, an ecological approach to productive system imparts to society certain characteristics that ultimately will allow to achieve the objectives of a global sustainable economy. At the same time, the achievement of sustainable development objectives would transform the status of human development and, as a consequence, equitable inter- and intra-generational distribution would naturally include its aims and objectives (IRF, 2016).

But post-truth era compels us to remain vigilant in the possibility of flagrant manipulation of data and the use of facts to mislead public opinion by speculating the emotional and political burden of society major issues. Of course, being one of the most important problems faced by humanity, the fulfillment of the SDG cannot be done without pursuing the set of indicators that gather data from everywhere provided by the national authorities. As far as they are properly interpreted, they provide the real outlook for sustainable global development.

Even though Agenda 2030, which sets SDG apart, is a political document (in March 2016, the UN Statistical Commission agreed on 230 indicators used to monitor the progress of 169 targets used to measure SDG), monitoring is done by comparing numerical results and their correlation with qualitative data, by new statistical combinations. Although the baseline remains mainly quantitative, SDG indicators have the ability to increase relevance through the input of qualitative data in measuring outcomes despite the recognition of political (and / or mentality) constraints faced by several countries in producing data (Marion, 2017).

6. HUMAN DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION

In order to appreciate the qualitative achievements obtained in economic development plan, a composite indicator was developed, called "Human Development Index" (HDI), calculated and published annually through the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). It is calculated on the basis of representative quality of life dimensions such as life expectancy at birth, literacy rate, schooling, adjusted income level, population access to health services, population average calories, access to press and television etc., reflecting more accurately if economic declared growth reflects a trend of sustainable human development. HDI can be complemented by the so-called Gap Gender Index (GGI), which is a composite indicator published in the Global Gender Gap Report, a report on the extent of gender disparities related to gender differences in four key areas: health, education,

economy and politics. In the 2016 Report, comprising 144 countries, Romania ranks 76, with the lowest average in terms of women's representation in political life (WEF, 2017).

We must keep in mind that reports of international human development organizations include classifications according to the following criteria: average per capita income (GNP per capita); main aggregates of the world; regional classification and human development index (HDI). We believe that the latter is most eloquent due to the fact that the hierarchy established between countries by HDI value is much more conclusive than the one established after other criteria (Petru and Pirtea, 2005).

In turn, the UNDP Report looks at human development by examining progress in health, education and income since 1970, as measured by HDI, for 135 countries which have comparable data available. Within this, Romania ranks 50th.

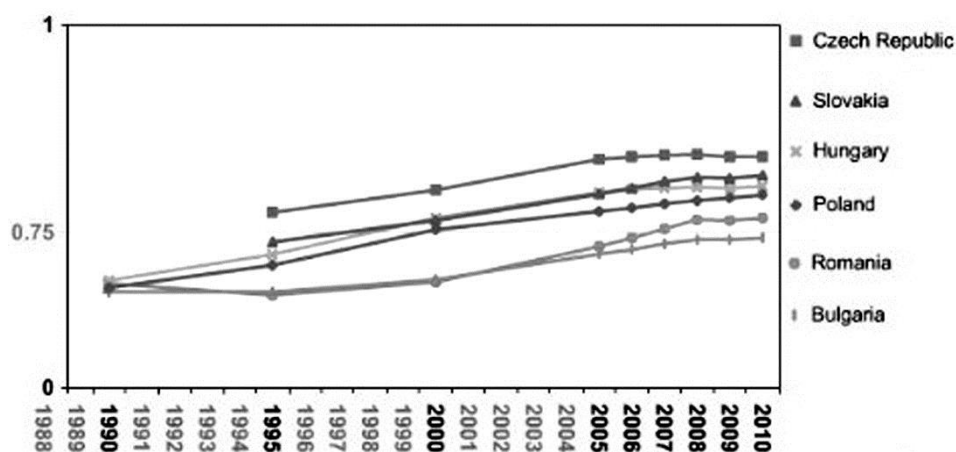


Figure 5: Evolution of HDI in the Former Communist Countries

Source: UNDP, 2017.

Figure 5 shows the 20-year comparison between the HDI of five countries that left in 1990 from the same point of economic development, dictated by their membership in political structure imposed by former USSR. For example, Romania (the line marked with circles in chart), in 2010 was only able to exceed Bulgaria (58th overall). The top 10 countries in terms of HDI for 2010 were led by Norway. Regarding Romania, the UNDP study shows, in terms of material welfare, a 44% increase in gross national income, from \$ 8,929 per year in 1990 to \$ 12,884 in 2010, and found that Romanians live on average 4 more years than in 1990, up to 73.2 years old. As far as education is concerned, in 1990 the expectations for school years were 12.5 years, while the actual study years were only 9.

The evolution of HDI over the past 20 years has increased by 12% or an annual increase of 0.5%, from 0.688 in 1990 to 0.767 in 2010. The study also notes that in Romania 10% of MPs (members of parliament) are women and 84% of adult women graduated from high school or college compared to 91% of men. Women's participation in the labor market is 555, compared with 715 for men.

7. AGGREGATION OF SUSTAINABILITY PROSPECTS

Although they were initially draw top-down, having as starting point the need to find methodology appropriate for overall interpretation (not just economic) of limitation of current generation wellbeing, so that it does not compromise the one of future generations, indicators measuring sustainable development on societal level currently complies with requirement for bottom-up approach by allowing analysis of each indicator composing the overview of society placement towards sustainable development.

For example, Romania's position in international statistics that monitors sustainable development and human development is modest, obviously, below our human and economic

potential. Poor valorization of this potential is due to the inefficiency of the Romanian political system and the faulty government (Petru and Pirtea, 2005).

Human development focuses, as obviously, on countries' capacity to create conditions for improving the lives of their citizens, the automatism that states *growth necessarily leads to increased welfare for all citizens*. In addition to income, from the perspective of human development, it is at least equally important to ensure the continuity of development process to support productive and creative values of society (UNDP, 2017).

Figure 6 analyzes the link between human development perspective and Agenda 2030 objectives. It is noticed the overlapping of sustainable development with human development, both having the principle of sustainability in their central core. Also, both are rooted in universalism and freedom for every human development and both share the same fundamental area of concern for fairness and human dignity.

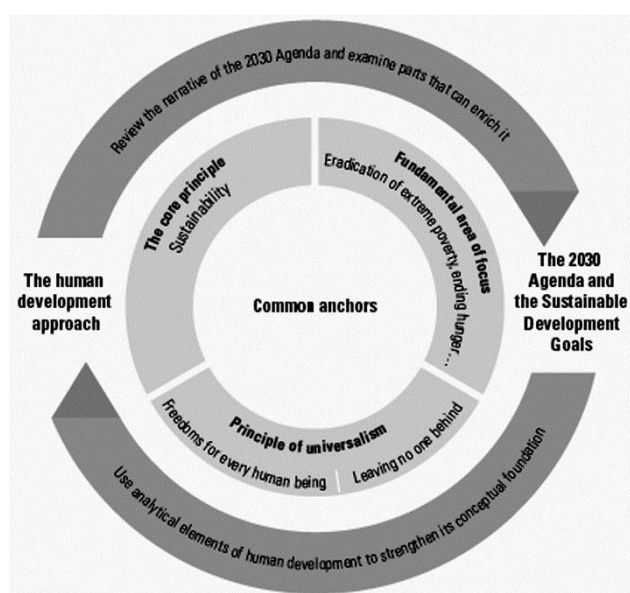


Figure 6: Links between Dimensions of Human Development and SDG approach

Source: UNDP, 2017.

Links between these two concepts are mutually reinforcing both on pillars of sustainable development as well as on the idea that SDG conception is based on elemental analysis of human development, while sustainable development is enriched by qualitative elements contained in evaluation of human development. Secondly, SDG indicators can be used with human development indicators in order to refer progress in both directions. Similarly, in terms of human development, SDG can be supplemented with several new indicators which convey even better individuals interest for sustainable development. Thirdly, Human Development Report can be an important tool to support Agenda 2030 and the SDG contained in it, and the latter, in turn, can be a good platform for increasing the visibility of sustainability through human development.

Ten years after Romania joined the EU, in full Brexit and beginning of European Union's "gearbox" reconfiguration, it became obvious that achievement of sustainable development goals cannot be done without a change of mentality - both individuals and communities - in the sense of being able to use resources rationally and efficiently, thus understanding that prosperity also passes through the achievement of social cohesion (despite the obstacles present in the post-truth era). These aspects guide the management of sustainable development towards finding and implementing a new type of organizational development and managerial culture (Constantinescu, 2013).

All this can compete with the solution found politically as an antidote against post-truth, representing continuous democracy, in which the participation of all citizens is encouraged by

facilitating general deliberation on important issues present in society. The requirement for such a form is embodied by expanding the area of intervention of citizens over the electoral cycle, which allows for effective political activity of the people, through continuous control of leaders actions (Rousseau, 2017).

At economic level, establishing stable connections between fundamental concepts of development is a way to strengthen their defense against alternative facts. In this case, we tried to achieve this by establishing the emphasis on sustainability, both for human development and for sustainable development.

8. CONCLUSIONS

Assessment of connection between sustainable development and human development may represent not just a methodological model, but also one of solidarity, expressed in the unity of researchers when occurs the need to denounce deception at economic level, especially when it threatens the foundations of sustainability (Sauvéa and colab., 2015).

Post-truth era has already become a reality of our contemporary culture, dominated by conflicts likely to radicalize and threatening the very foundation of our values by developing alternative approaches (Keyes, 2004).

Thus, standards for this type of civilization has descended to the level of deception and lack of honesty, with the same ease with which they move in a video game from one level to another, without having finished the previous one.

In the field of sustainable development, acceptance of insincerity can have serious repercussions, if the incompatibility between economic liberalism and sustainable development is not removed in due time.

Considering the fact that the weak point of sustainable development remains social and cultural component, because achievement of objectives in this plan requires a global and individual consciousness, this study pointed to the mechanism of transition from human development to sustainable human development through global sustainable development approach.

Thus, highlighting the connections between sustainable human development and sustainable development (inside and outside its core) has the gift to keep these fundamental forms of development on the path required for sustainability. Therefore, human development, mainly through its aspects concerning unity and solidarity across borders, becomes an element of strengthening sustainable development relevance.

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