

## **The future of an extended European Union A strategic perspective on Romania's integration**

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**Abstract:** By negotiating and signing the Treaty of Accession to the European Union (2005), the Romanian officials committed the country to adhere to political principles and economic norms which are decided by a socially and culturally heterogeneous group of 27 countries, mostly advanced democracies. The change looks radical, as the future shape of processes affecting the daily life of Romanians is programmatically transferred to an arcane decision-making process carried out inside and outside Romania.

This paper outlines a strategic perspective on how Romania is expected to evolve in the process of European integration over the next decade. In this context, the integration process implemented by Romania is analysed and evaluated with respect to new trends in the development of the EU, and conclusions are advanced on the potential for Romania's accession to have effects on the EU's structures and processes.