

IS THE EU MEMBERSHIP A THREAT FOR THE ALBANIAN NATIONAL IDENTITY?

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Abstract

Participation in an international organization, especially in a union such as the European Union, requires some adjustments and transformations so it can be acceptable by this union itself. Albania is required to satisfy certain conditions and standards in order to be accepted legally with full rights in the European family. The question that this paper raises is whether this adjustment recognized as meeting the standards could pose a threat to our identity or not? The issue will be presented in a theoretical and conceptual framework addressing what kind of changes affect our identity and if there is any change that not only affects it, but instead can strengthen it more and bring it on the highlight. The motto of the European Union itself "United in diversity" gives us a prior message to the issue under consideration. It makes us understand that participation in a supranational union such as the EU does not affect the identity of the nation which is joining. But as every coexistence, on which things to function, subjects are needed to alter, more or less or even, themselves. At the end of this paper, after analysis and submission of the arguments, we can conclude that membership in this organization violates some elements of identity, but not identity as such and therefore the benefit received is many times greater than the losses suffered.

Key words: *identity, alienation, membership, culture, standard.*

