

INNOVATION POLICY AND PERFORMANCES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

INOVAȚIA ÎN SPAȚIUL UNIUNII EUROPENE. POLITICI ȘI PERFORMANȚE

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Abstract:

The process of European integration is not based only on a customs union or a single currency, but also on the circulation of knowledge among individual member countries, since the economic growth and welfare in “the old continent” is strictly associated to its capability to generate and diffuse new technologies. It is therefore not surprising that there is a major policy concern at European level on the ways to promote scientific and technological activities and to foster innovation in the business sector. In this context, the paper investigates the current innovation performances and policies in the European Union with a view to raise awareness on the signals of a worsening of the European position in comparison to Japan and the USA and to suggest future policy directions targeting an increasing efficiency of innovation strategies.

Key words: *innovation policy, Knowledge Economy, European Union*