

HIGH TECH VERSUS TRADITIONAL INDUSTRIES. THE ROLE OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION INDUSTRY

INDUSTRIILE HIGH-TECH VERSUS INDUSTRIILE TRADIȚIONALE. ROLUL CUNOAȘTERII ÎN DEZVOLTAREA INDUSTRIILOR DIN UNIUNEA EUROPEANĂ

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Abstract:

A well-known topic in the debate on innovation – and, for that matter, the Knowledge Society in general – is that the societal production process altogether becomes more and more knowledge intensive in the globally leading economies and that the relevance of knowledge intensive industries for these economies increases. This statement goes more often hand in hands with an understanding of high-tech sectors as being knowledge intensive and traditional sectors (low and medium tech) as being not or less knowledge intensive. Against this background, the paper focuses on the nature of knowledge and examines its different roles and forms in both the high tech and low and medium tech industries, in an attempt to point out to the complexity and multitude of innovation sources, which are frequently and simplistically reduced to R&D expenditures.

Key words: *knowledge, R&D, high tech and traditional industries*