

EMPIRICAL STUDY REGARDING PRIVATE AND VOLUNTARY PENSIONS FUNDS FROM ROMANIA

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Abstract: *This paper continues our scientific and practical research in the pension field. The analysis of information collected, along with specialist opinions represent our optimistic research methodology used. The analysis of the time evolution of the rate of return specified for private and voluntary pension funds, investment structure, the economic dependency ratio, the number of employees compared to that of pensioners represents research strategies used (comparative and longitudinal). The hypotheses regarding relationship of conditioning between specific variables, private and voluntary pensions, are determined causative (to explain the reasons and effects of the studied phenomenon), due to the desire to understand the current reform measures in this area, established by the involved stakeholders. Qualitative treatment of the phenomenon studied allowed us to obtain the relevant conclusions and proposals, required by practical viability and sustainability of the pension system in Romania. Current measures of reforming the pension system in general, public pensions in particular, do not have a concrete date for implementation, do not reveal the consequences for the contribution already paid and used by the National House of Pensions, do not offer the details of transition to be achieved step by step from the old system to the new, do not provide a guarantee of future payment of pensions because the money is not actually in the account of future retired persons. The replacement of the current public pension scheme, funded by creating a reserve fund pensions, is an idea proposed by Mr Valentin M.Ionescu, former advisor to former president CSSPP Mircea Oancea. This is a valid solution with which we agree. In addition, our proposals regarding modifications in REVISAL, in Statement 112 and in date of taxes payment are made to help the employers in Romania. The lack of useful information for policy makers or existence of different information from one ministry to another generates the scientific limits of our approach and alter the real perception of this actual and controversial phenomenon.*

Keywords: *private pensions, investment, employment/employee, reform*

JEL classification: *J32, O16, J21, P41*

1. Introduction

Performance indicators in the private pension system refer to their specific rates of return. In fact, the minimum rate of return and the guarantee are security features of the private pension system in Romania. To strengthen the security of this system, specific legislative changes were made. Thus, legislation regarding private pensions (Pillar II) was improved (e.g.: the capital adequacy for minimum solvency requirements). Instead, for voluntary pensions (Pillar III) has been established, with certainty, the origin of the assets needed to cover technical provisions. The pension system is influenced by a number of factors,

which determine positive or negative changes on its sustainability in general, on its profitability in particular. One of the factors non-studied so far refers to causal relationships between specific variables for private and voluntary pensions.

2. Literature review

Negative correlation between the size of a private pension fund and its performance represent useful information to the participants of this system (Robu and Sandu, 2007). This information helps always the taxpayer to have control over the amount paid for retirement, according to profitability of pension funds (Ghințuială, 2011). To guide participants to private pension funds, some experts in the field (Popa and Cristea, 2007) considers necessary to publish information on investments made in large companies. Making these investments is correlated with economic dependency ratio of the elderly population (Lazarus and Prince, 2007). A reduction in the rate of economic dependence creates a real boost of contributions to private pensions (Gavriletea and Moga, 2010). Participants' movements from one pension fund to another demonstrates the financial performance of private pension system (Milos, 2012). To measure the performance of private pension funds, different indicators are used from country to country, depending on specific determinants (Musala and Pasquini, 2012; Bohle et al, 2010). Lack of profitability of private pension funds explains the absorption of some by other stable funds (Seulean and Mos, 2010).

3. Hypotheses and data sources

Taking into account the statistical data published on the website www.csspp.ro, opinions of specialists in the field and participants interests to private and voluntary pensions, we think it is necessary to conduct this study, so proposed and tested hypotheses are:

H1: There is a causal relationship between rates of return on private and voluntary pension funds - investment structure - the amount of contributions?

H2: There is a causal relationship between economic dependency ratio - the number of employees - number of participants (retired) - the amount of contributions?

H3: Current proposals to reform the Romanian pension system are relevant and applicable?

4. Rates of return on private and voluntary pension funds – investment structure – the amount of contributions

Specific rates of return on private pension funds and voluntary represent an important factor in their classification in some degree of risk and the weighted average annualized rate of return of these is analyzed by the system makers in close correlation with annualized rate of inflation. Evolution rates of return on private and voluntary pension funds which allow their classification in some degree of risk, compared with inflation of the period 2010-2011 is presented in the tables below (Table 1 and Table 2).

Table 1: Rates of return on private pension funds (Pillar II)

| No. | Private pension fund Pillar II | Annualized rate of return 2010 | Annualized rate of return 2011 | Degree of risk 2010 și 2011 | The weighted average rate of return on private pension funds, annualized 2010 | The weighted average rate of return on private pension funds, annualized 2011 | Annualized inflation 2010 | Annualized inflation 2011 |
|-----|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | FPAP Aripi | 15,1962 % | 8,7713 % | Ridicat | 15,0991 % | 8,5636 % | 6,34 % | 3,14 % |
| 2. | FPAP Alico | 14,9881 % | 8,8422 % | Mediu | | | | |
| 3. | FPAP AZT Viitorul tău | 15,1536 % | 9,1896 % | | | | | |
| 4. | FPAP BCR | 14,4079 % | 9,3243 % | | | | | |
| 5. | FPAP BRD | 12,6533 % | 7,9405 % | | | | | |
| 6. | FPAP Eureka | 13,7575 % | 8,7950 % | | | | | |
| 7. | FPAP ING | 16,0363 % | 8,1481 % | | | | | |
| 8. | FPAP Pensia Viva | 13,0094 % | 8,3839 % | | | | | |
| 9. | FPAP Vital | 11,0561 % | 6,8113 % | | | | | |

Source: www.csspp.ro , own processing**Table 2: Rates of return on voluntary pension funds (Pillar III)**

| No. | Voluntary pension fund Pillar III | Annualized rate of return 2010 | Annualized rate of return 2011 | Degree of risk 2010 | Degree of risk 2011 | The weighted average rate of return on private pension funds, annualized 2010 | The weighted average rate of return on private pension funds, annualized 2011 | Annualized inflation 2010 | Annualized inflation 2011 |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | FPF AZT Vivace | 14,8046 % | 5,3708 % | Ridicat | Ridicat | 15,1971 % | 4,8512 % | 6,34 % | 3,14 % |
| 2. | FPF ING Activ | 15,4130 % | 4,5574 % | | | | | | |
| 3. | FPF AZT Moderato | 15,2257 % | 8,1444 % | Mediu | Mediu | 14,6470 % | 6,5651 % | | |
| 4. | FPF BCR Plus | 0,0000 % | 5,3638 % | | | | | | |
| 5. | FPF BCR Medio | 0,0000 % | 4,3272 % | | | | | | |
| 6. | FPF Concordia Moderat | 14,1512 % | 7,0635 % | | | | | | |
| 7. | FPF Eureka Confort | 0,0000 % | 8,5503 % | | | | | | |
| 8. | FPF ING Optim | 14,8363 % | 6,3163 % | | | | | | |
| 9. | FPF Pensia mea | 10,7647 % | 7,0574 % | | | | | | |
| 10. | FPF Raiffeisen Acumulare | 16,5638 % | 7,4464 % | | | | | | |
| 11. | FPF Stabil | 0,0000 % | 5,6123 % | | | | | | |
| 12. | FPF BCR Prudent | 8,0343 % | 0,0000 % | Scăzut | - | 8,0312 | 0,0000 | | |
| 13. | FPF OTP Strateg | 7,4738 % | 0,0000 % | | | | | | |

Source: www.csspp.ro , own processing

Analyzing data from tables above (Table 1 and Table 2) the conclusions are:

- the majority of funds from Pillar II are quoted with medium risk level, except one fund (called "Aripi") administered by Generali company and ranked high risk;
- annualized rate of return on private and voluntary pension funds declined significantly in 2011 compared to 2010, due to absorption by other funds, exchange rate fluctuations and deepening financial crisis, with direct repercussions on unemployment;
- in the category of private pension funds (Pillar II) is a single fund ranked on high-risk, and the rest with the average degree of risk;
- in category of voluntary pension funds (Pillar III), two funds are high risk, two low-risk (later absorbed) and the rest with medium risk;
- the framing in a degree of risk depends on the structure of contributions to pension funds;
- the customers election affected by the reputation of fund managers, by the active campaign to promote funds in Romanian market, market maturity, fees or risk level represents important factors in the participants decision to pay the contributions;
- risks arising from the need of sustainability of pension systems are mainly those related to management (influenced by developments in pension fund management), portfolio investment (interest generated by the decisions of reinvestment), evolution of gains, type and duration of their careers;
- descendant evolution of rates of return generally depends on the economic cycle, the investment policies of managers (structure investment portfolios);
- reduction of the rates of return is was annihilated from measures implemented in 2011 (e.g. gradual increase of complete contribution period to obtain pension for age limit or minimum contribution period to obtain a public pension, increasing pension point according to the inflation rate and the real growth of the gross average wage, the introduction of unitary public pension system).

The increase of the rates of return for private and voluntary pension funds demonstrates the correct investment of funds, due to the growth of contributions values, proving direct relationship between the variables mentioned, for which we consider that *our first hypothesis (H1) is verified*.

5. Economic dependency ratio - the number of employees - number of participants (retired) - the amount of contributions

Because contributions to pension funds are invested by the administrators, under the law, a crucial role in assessing the profitability by a participant returns to the fund structure and economic dependency ratios. In this sense, the following tables (Table 3 and Table 4) present the evolution of investment structure for Pillar II and Pillar III.

Table 3: Evolution and structure of investments from contributions to Pillar II

| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|---|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Bank deposits | 111.800.000 | 116.800.000 | 311.050.000 | 775.330.000 |
| Government bonds (securities) | 493.000.000 | 1.543.500.000 | 2.876.020.000 | 4.261.550.000 |
| Municipal bonds | 19.400.000 | 30.500.000 | 55.140.000 | 64.470.000 |
| Corporate bonds | 175.800.000 | 315.700.000 | 476.770.000 | 457.650.000 |
| Supranational bonds (Bonds of foreign non-governmental organizations) | 28.700.000 | 91.100.000 | 73.720.000 | 81.100.000 |
| Shares | 14.500.000 | 222.900.000 | 529.560.000 | 688.070.000 |
| Equity Securities UCITS | 3.900.000 | 21.700.000 | 22.660.000 | 82.930.000 |
| Hedging instruments | 0 | 0 | 1.270.000 | -750.000 |
| Amounts in course of settlement | | 43.200.000 | -11.880.000 | 5.600.000 |
| Commodities | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.730.000 |

Source: www.csspp.ro , own processing

Table 4: Evolution and structure of investments from contributions to Pillar III

| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|---------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Bank deposits | 10.850.000 | 12.450.000 | 27.860.000 | 38.990.000 |
| Government bonds (securities) | 48.050.000 | 140.840.000 | 216.370.000 | 287.130.000 |
| Municipal bonds | 8.800.000 | 7.010.000 | 5.440.000 | 7.460.000 |
| Corporate bonds | 15.060.000 | 14.090.000 | 21.620.000 | 31.590.000 |
| Supranational bonds | 0 | 3.060.000 | 9.650.000 | 12.510.000 |
| Shares | 3.710.000 | 25.770.000 | 46.340.000 | 54.600.000 |
| Equity Securities UCITS | 770.000 | 1.100.000 | 1.860.000 | 5.310.000 |
| Hedging instruments | 0 | 0 | 40.000 | -160.000 |
| Amounts in course of settlement | 0 | 80.000 | -580.000 | -940.000 |

Source: www.csspp.ro , own processing

UCITS - Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities

Analyzing data from tables above (Table 3 and Table 4), the conclusions are:

- the high share in the structure of investment portfolios is held by investments in fixed income instruments (securities), assessed as having a higher degree of safety, followed by equities and bank deposits;
- the investment structures for Pillar II and III are specific to conservative investors, on long-term, cautious, which aim to optimizing the revenues of participants on their withdrawal from activity, to comply with prudential regulations;
- appearance of a new investment category - "commodities" (goods and precious metals funds) to Pillar II (in 2011) and "hedging instruments" to Pillar III (in 2010).

Regardless of law, return of pension funds is directly influenced by the evolution of participants in the three pillars and involution of employees number. Due to low fertility, external migration of the active population from Romania, the high mortality rate and increasing unemployment, economic dependency ratio records alarming involutions, presented in the table below (Table 5)

Table 5: Evolution of economic dependency ratios, number of employees, number of participants to Pillar II and III, share of participants to Pillar II and/or III to medium number of employees

| No | Period | Economic dependency rate | Medium number of employees (persons) | Number of participants to Pillar II (persons) | Share of participants to Pillar II to medium number of employees | Number of participants to Pillar III (persons) | Share of participants to Pillar III to medium number of employees | Annual average number of pensioners (located in payment - persons) |
|----|--------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| 1. | 2008 | 0,89 | 5.046.000 | 4.031.421 | 0,80 | 150.745 | 0,03 | 5.685.000 |
| 2. | 2009 | 0,84 | 4.774.000 | 4.260.175 | 0,89 | 187.172 | 0,04 | 5.676.000 |
| 3. | 2010 | 0,77 | 4.376.000 | 4.817.886 | 1,10 | 221.600 | 0,05 | 5.664.000 |
| 4. | 2011 | 0,74 | 4.162.000 | 5.111.289 | 1,23 | 260.379 | 0,06 | 5.589.000 |

Source: www.csspp.ro and www.insse.ro/cms/files/publicatii/Romania_in_cifre2011.pdf, own processing

Analyzing data from table above (Table 5), we make the following conclusions:

- reducing the annual average number of employees and pensioners, due to the high mortality among the elderly;

- annual and continuous decrease in the economic dependency rate, due to reducing the working population on labour market, discouraged to look for a job and / or declared as left abroad to work or seeking work;
- increasing the number of participants to Pillar II and Pillar III and the share of participants in Pillar II and Pillar III to the average number of employees;
- increasing the number of participants Pillar II and Pillar III under the conditions of reducing average annual number of pensioners located in payment.

The contributions to Pillar II depends on the contributions to public pension (Pillar I). If in 2008 and 2009 contribution to pillar II was only 2% from the contribution social security, in 2010 the rate increased to 2.5%, in 2011 the percentage was 3%, while in 2012 the percentage reach to 3.5%. This increase of the contributions percentage to Pillar II should provide corresponding increase of receipts, but the evolution of these contributions varied from year to year, as shown in the table below (Table 6). At the time of collection and interpretation of information needed for analysis were not published on the official web-site www.csspp.ro figures for December 2012, so that evolution of contributions to Pillar II 2009-2012 does not include the last month of each calendar year. Taking into account the amounts of contributions to Pillar II and the number of participants, we establish the necessary data regarding the contribution in general and average contribution/participant in particular. The results are presented in the tables below (Table 6 and Table 7).

Table 6: Evolution of contributions to private pension (Pillar II)

| Year 2009 | Amounts (mil.lei) | Year 2010 | Amounts (mil.lei) | Year 2011 | Amounts (mil.lei) | Year 2012 | Amounts (mil.lei) |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| January | 109,93 | January | 105,20 | January | 134,00 | January | 176,94 |
| February | 122,71 | February | 112,00 | February | 144,88 | February | 191,04 |
| March | 109,05 | March | 135,00 | March | 154,80 | March | 200,91 |
| April | 111,31 | April | 134,30 | April | 157,92 | April | 202,48 |
| May | 113,00 | May | 143,00 | May | 166,82 | May | 213,78 |
| June | 113,00 | June | 138,00 | June | 168,02 | June | 213,95 |
| July | 108,00 | July | 136,00 | July | 169,90 | July | 213,57 |
| August | 109,30 | August | 135,60 | August | 183,60 | August | 220,64 |
| September | 109,00 | September | 131,80 | September | 174,45 | September | 216,10 |
| October | 106,00 | October | 130,30 | October | 306,52 | October | 214,71 |
| November | 107,00 | November | 130,40 | November | 174,12 | November | 219,77 |
| Monthly average | 110,75 | Monthly average | 130,15 | Monthly average | 175,91 | Monthly average | 190,35 |

Source: www.csspp.ro

Table 7: Evolution of average contributions/participant to private pension (Pillar II)

| Average contributions/participant with contributions each month in 2009 | Values (lei) | Average contributions/participant with contributions each month in 2010 | Values (lei) | Average contributions/participant with contributions each month in 2011 | Values (lei) | Average contributions/participant with contributions each month in 2012 | Values (lei) |
|---|--------------|---|--------------|---|--------------|---|--------------|
| In january 2009 | 26,81 | In january 2010 | 31,12 | In january 2011 | 40,20 | In january 2012 | 31,91 |
| In febraury 2009 | 29,39 | In febraury 2010 | 33,40 | In febraury 2011 | 27,63 | In febraury 2012 | 34,26 |
| In march 2009 | 25,72 | In march 2010 | 40,30 | In march 2011 | 29,36 | In march 2012 | 35,85 |
| In april 2009 | 26,00 | In april 2010 | 39,70 | In april 2011 | 29,83 | In april 2012 | 35,93 |
| In may 2009 | 26,00 | In may 2010 | 42,20 | In may 2011 | 31,42 | In may 2012 | 37,84 |

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| In june 2009 | 28,00 | In june 2010 | 40,50 | In june 2011 | 31,55 | In june 2012 | 37,78 |
| In july 2009 | 25,00 | In july 2010 | 40,30 | In july 2011 | 31,80 | In july 2012 | 60,51 |
| In august 2009 | 25,00 | In august 2010 | 40,20 | In august 2011 | 34,13 | In august 2012 | 38,76 |
| In september 2009 | 32,00 | In september 2010 | 39,50 | In september 2011 | 32,28 | In september 2012 | 61,42 |
| In october 2009 | 31,38 | In october 2010 | 39,20 | In october 2011 | 31,99 | In october 2012 | 60,93 |
| In november 2009 | 31,49 | In november 2010 | 39,30 | In november 2011 | 31,79 | In november 2012 | 61,07 |
| Monthly average | 27,89 | Monthly average | 38,70 | Monthly average | 32,00 | Monthly average | 45,11 |

Source: www.csspp.ro, own processing

Analyzing data from tables above (Table 6 and Table 7), the conclusions are:

- lowest values of contributions to Pillar II was in November 2009, January 2010, January 2011 and January 2012, while the highest values were in February 2009, May 2010, October 2011 and November 2012, due to the rise in household income in the period;
- monthly average contributions from year to year (in the period January-November 2009-2012) increased due to the rise in percentage according to legal regulations in the field;
- favorable trend of contributions to Pillar II is much slower than the payments of Pillar II, which will put serious doubts on the existence of cash liquidities required for immediate payment;
- lowest values of average contributions / participant to Pillar II were in July and august 2009, January 2010, February 2011 and January 2012, while the highest values were in September 2009, May 2010, January 2011 and September 2012 due to the increasing of expenses population in vacations;
- average monthly contributions / participant increased during January-November 2010 in compared to January-November 2009 period, due to increasing of contribution percentage by the legal regulations in the field;
- average monthly contributions/ participant decreased during January-November 2011 in compared to January-November 2010, due to the increasing of participants number for which contributions were not transferred to Pillar II, from month to month, in periods analyzed;
- average monthly contributions / participant increased during January-November 2012 in compared to January - November 2011, due to the increasing of contribution percentage according to legal regulations in the field.

Even though, from a legal perspective, in the analyzed period (2009-2012) took place an increasing in the percentage of contributions to Pillar II, have not been achieved expected revenues, due to the existence and enlarging the number of participants with empty accounts. More specifically it is about people who have opted to certain funds from Pillar II, but these options have not materialized into actual contributions paid. Although, from one year to another (2009-2012), the number of participants in Pillar II recorded substantial growths, this did not materialize in the amounts of money for investments. It can be seen from the evolution of participants, for wich, no contributions were transferred from the beginning of collection period. The informations are presented in the table below (Table 8).

Table 8: The evolution of participants in general and of those for which, no contributions were transferred, from the beginning of collection into accounts of private pension funds (Pillar II)

| Participants to Pillar II from Registry 2009 | No persons (thousands) | Participants to Pillar II for which no contributions were transferred, from the beginning of collection in the system(2009) | No persons | Participants to Pillar II from Registry 2009 | No persons (thousands) | Participants to Pillar II for which no contributions were transferred, from the beginning of collection in the system(2010) | No persons (thousands) | Participants to Pillar II from Registry 2011 | No persons (thousands) | Participants to Pillar II for which no contributions were transferred, from the beginning of collection in the system(2011) | No persons (thousands) | Participants to Pillar II from Registry 2012 | No persons (thousands) | Participants to Pillar II for which no contributions were transferred, from the beginning of collection in the system(2012) | No persons (thousands) |
|--|------------------------|---|------------|--|------------------------|---|------------------------|--|------------------------|---|------------------------|--|------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 31.01.2009 | 4.580,79 | 31.01.2009 | 1.178.148 | 31.01.2010 | 4.936,52 | 31.01.2010 | 338,11 | 31.01.2011 | 5.211,18 | 31.01.2011 | 281,17 | 31.01.2012 | 5.544,44 | 31.01.2012 | 236,85 |
| 28.02.2009 | 4.642,00 | 28.02.2009 | 1.192.355 | 28.02.2010 | 4.971,80 | 28.02.2010 | 331,54 | 28.02.2011 | 5.243,92 | 28.02.2011 | 279,07 | 28.02.2012 | 5.575,91 | 28.02.2012 | 234,75 |
| 31.03.2009 | 4.693,93 | 31.03.2009 | 1.288.859 | 31.03.2010 | 5.004,23 | 31.03.2010 | 325,33 | 31.03.2011 | 5.272,09 | 31.03.2011 | 275,73 | 31.03.2012 | 5.603,40 | 31.03.2012 | 232,98 |
| 30.04.2009 | 4.731,54 | 30.04.2009 | 1.291.815 | 30.04.2010 | 5.026,72 | 30.04.2010 | 319,93 | 30.04.2011 | 5.294,31 | 30.04.2011 | 272,39 | 30.04.2012 | 5.635,83 | 30.04.2012 | 237,89 |
| 31.05.2009 | 4.752,94 | 31.05.2009 | 1.339.074 | 31.05.2010 | 5.041,24 | 31.05.2010 | 314,41 | 31.05.2011 | 5.308,59 | 31.05.2011 | 268,12 | 31.05.2012 | 5.649,41 | 31.05.2012 | 235,62 |
| 30.06.2009 | 4.775,55 | 30.06.2009 | 1.369.287 | 30.06.2010 | 5.055,10 | 30.06.2010 | 309,34 | 30.06.2011 | 5.324,82 | 30.06.2011 | 264,45 | 30.06.2012 | 5.662,52 | 30.06.2012 | 233,58 |
| 31.07.2009 | 4.797,79 | 31.07.2009 | 1.406.396 | 31.07.2010 | 5.072,01 | 31.07.2010 | 305,11 | 31.07.2011 | 5.342,63 | 31.07.2011 | 257,73 | 31.07.2012 | 5.674,81 | 31.07.2012 | 231,12 |
| 31.08.2009 | 4.819,20 | 31.08.2009 | 1.407.268 | 31.08.2010 | 5.091,83 | 31.08.2010 | 300,71 | 31.08.2011 | 5.379,02 | 31.08.2011 | 251,46 | 31.08.2012 | 5.691,92 | 31.08.2012 | 228,85 |
| 30.09.2009 | 4.838,97 | 30.09.2009 | 1.437.876 | 30.09.2010 | 5.110,52 | 30.09.2010 | 296,74 | 30.09.2011 | 5.403,42 | 30.09.2011 | 248,13 | 30.09.2012 | 5.708,61 | 30.09.2012 | 226,65 |
| 31.10.2009 | 4.859,94 | 31.10.2009 | 1.491.970 | 31.10.2010 | 5.130,34 | 31.10.2010 | 293,72 | 31.10.2011 | 5.442,48 | 31.10.2011 | 245,50 | 31.10.2012 | 5.706,91 | 31.10.2012 | 200,56 |
| 30.11.2009 | 4.885,08 | 30.11.2009 | 1.486.375 | 30.11.2010 | 5.157,41 | 30.11.2010 | 288,89 | 30.11.2011 | 5.476,48 | 30.11.2011 | 242,35 | 30.11.2012 | 5.737,07 | 30.11.2012 | 199,31 |
| Monthly average 2009 | 4761,61 | Monthly average 2009 | 1.353.584 | Monthly average 2010 | 5.054,34 | Monthly average 2010 | 311,26 | Monthly average 2011 | 5.336,27 | Monthly average 2011 | 262,37 | Monthly average 2012 | 5.653,71 | Monthly average 2012 | 227,11 |
| Share 2009 (%) | 28,42 | | | Share 2010 (%) | 6,16 | | | Share 2011 (%) | 4,92 | | | Share 2012 (%) | 4,02 | | |

Source: www.csspp.ro, own processing

Analyzing data from table above (Table 8), we make the following conclusions:

- lowest values of the participants in Pillar II were in January 2009, January 2010, January 2011 and January 2012, while the highest values were in November 2009, November 2010, November 2011 and November 2012 ;
- lowest values of the participants for whom, no contributions were transferred from the beginning of collection in the Pillar II, were in January 2009, November 2010, January 2011 and November 2012, while the values were higher in October 2009, January 2010, January 2011 and April 2012;
- monthly average number of participants is increasing in the period, while, the average monthly participants without contributions in the same analyzed period is decreasing, due to the same unfavorable trend in the proportion of people without contributions in the total participants to Pillar II.

The reduced number of employees in comparison with the increased number of pensioners, due to the high level of economic dependency ratio of the elderly, demonstrated causal relationship between these variables, which is why we consider that *the second hypothesis (H2) is verified.*

6. Measures to reform the pension system in general, especially the public one

The development of private pensions depends on the financial sustainability of the public pension system. To achieve this goal, the current Minister of Labour, Ms Mariana Câmpeanu want to change the regulatory framework for the establishment of the Swedish pension model. In this model exist personal accounts of each pensioners. Pension systems with defined nominal contribution pension or notional defined contributions (NDC), customize each employee's contribution to public social insurance through personal account opened by the Treasury. In this account appear recorded all the contributions paid monthly during the active period. The owner can examine the evolution of potential transfers. However, those contributions will be invested in order to achieve profitable returns, but will be used to pay pensions to current retirees. Hence, what is recorded are actually future financial rights, earned on the account of contributions paid. Unlike private pensions, where personal contributions are doubled by investment returns, in state pension such as NDC, existing contributions are doubled by annual interest rate imposed by the government and by pension point. Considering the need to shift from a redistributive pension system at a accumulation system, and the specialists arguments (see website www.finantistii.ro), we put the following questions:

- *What is concrete date of implementation of the new pension system?*
- *What will happen to the contributions already paid?*
- *How will make the transition from the old system PAYG to the new one NDC?*
- *If that money are not into the actual account, how will be paid from bank account, the values to the pensioners who have deposited their monthly contributions?*

7. Conclusions, limits and perspectives

To find relevant answers to the questions above, we consider that, when determining the pension value, we must take into account the time value of money. This idea (shared by us) has been exposed by Mr. Valentin M.Ionescu, former advisor to former president CSSPP Mircea Oancea (see website www.contributors.ro/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/studiu-pensii-Institutul-Ordoliberal.pdf). In fact, it is proposed to replace the current public pension scheme funded by creating a reserve fund pensions. The current proposals for pension reform, made by the policy makers, we consider that are not relevant and

applicable (the reasons are explained in the paper), which is why we appreciate that *last hypothesis (H3) is not fulfilled*. In order to pursue the collection of social security contributions and empowering decision makers among employers, we make the following proposals:

- introduction in REVISAL database all data on persons employed under civil contracts and other types of contracts, which involving the payment of social security contributions;
- including at the end of the "Declaration of payment of fiscal debts within the unique account" (Statement 112) the summary of the situation regarding payment documents for employers and employees;
- establish monthly or quarterly for tax payments (depending on turnover) no later than the 20th of the following month or quarter ended.

Scientific limits of this work (lack of comprehensive information on private pension funds and voluntary) and practical (implementation or non-implementation of the proposed measures by those involved in the process) requires us to deepen this subject of constant actuality.

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