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## WHAT DO ENTREPRENEURS EXPECT FROM ROMANIA'S EU ACCESSION? RESULTS FROM AN EXPERT INTERVIEW SURVEY

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**ABSTRACT.** The present paper discusses the results of an expert interview survey. Romanian entrepreneurs in small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) were interviewed about their expectations of the effects of EU accession on Romania's economy as well as on their enterprises. Following general characteristics and their expectations entrepreneurs can be regrouped into four clusters. Firstly, we compare the results of our interviews with an existing opinion research study (IRSOP 2004). Then, we resume the expectations of the entrepreneurs on Romania's readiness for accession, on implications on the general economy as well as on SME. In general, SME entrepreneurs perceive EU accession very positively but expect negative effects on their business such as the increase of wage costs and other input prices. Smaller business units fear the EU accession more than bigger enterprises. Furthermore, all expectations are highly influenced by uncertainty about the true effects.

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