



UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES "KING MIHAI I" FROM
TIMISOARA
"YOUNG PEOPLE AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH
IN APPLIED LIFE SCIENCES"



"Young people and multidisciplinary
research in applied life sciences"

21-22 November 2024

PERSONS EMPLOYED IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY SECTORS FROM EUROPEAN UNION

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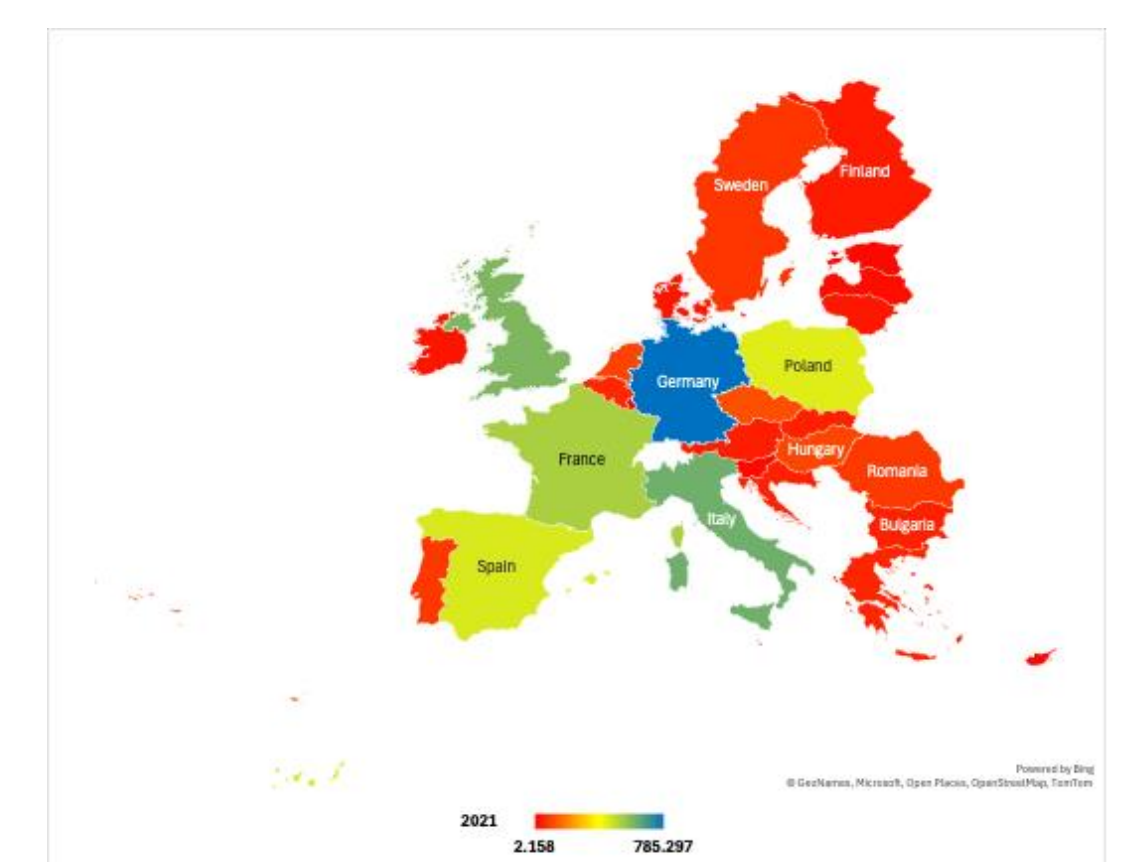
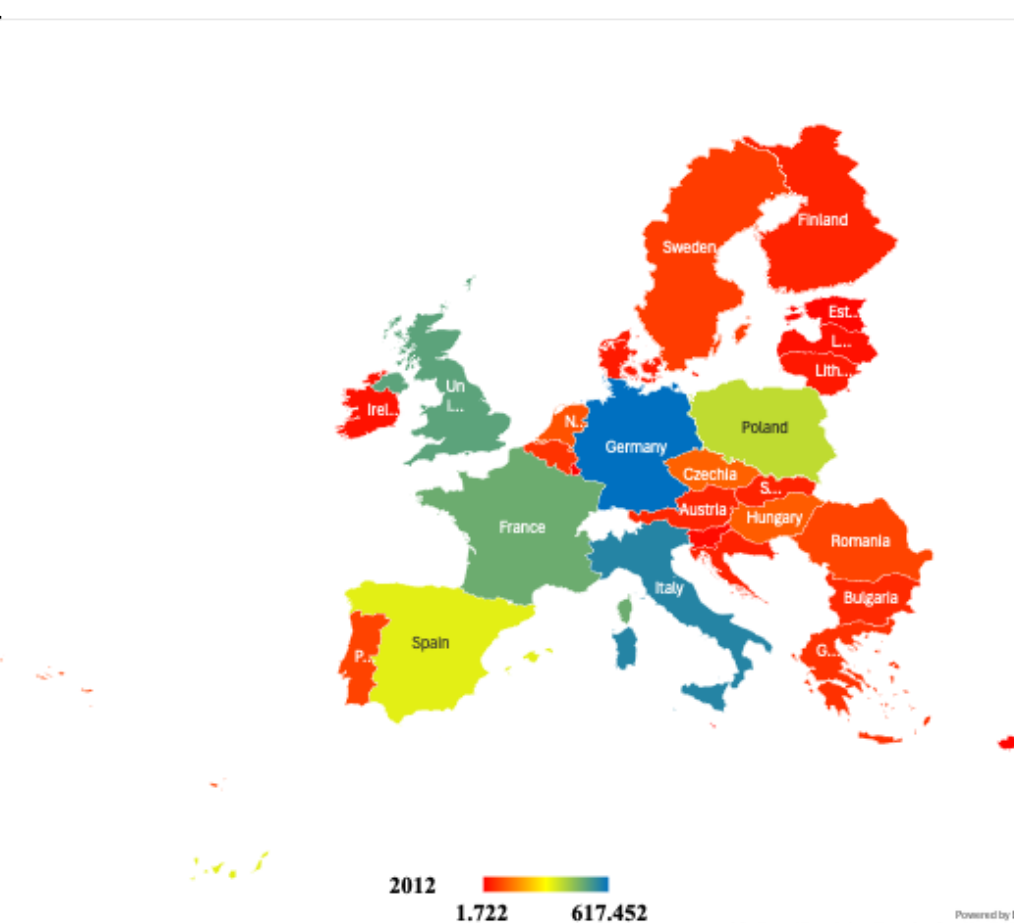
Abstract: This study analyzes employment in circular economy sectors within the European Union, highlighting trends, challenges, and opportunities. Data shows steady growth in employment in large economies like Germany and France, with notable contributions from smaller states like the Czech Republic and Estonia. In Romania, while growth is slower, there is significant potential for development. The study concludes that the circular economy plays a crucial role in creating sustainable jobs and emphasizes the need for workforce education and investment in green infrastructure to support this transition.

Introduction: The transition from a linear to a circular economy has become a key strategy for achieving sustainability in modern economies. People employed in circular economy sectors play a crucial role in this transformation. From waste management and recycling to sustainable design and extending product life, these jobs help reduce resource consumption and environmental impact. Circular economy jobs span multiple industries, including construction, manufacturing and renewable energy, and encompass a wide range of roles such as repair technicians, recycling specialists and sustainability consultants.

Next, for each individual year, we will explore in detail the number of employees in each country, highlighting both the annual variations and the share of each country in the total employees. This presentation will also highlight Romania's contribution in the general European context, offering a complete vision of the relevant economic developments.

Material and method The analysis is based on secondary data from Eurostat and national statistical agencies, focusing on sectors that contribute to the circular economy. These include recycling, repair, reuse and waste management activities.

Results and discussions: In order to analyze the evolution of the number of employees in the circular economy sectors in several European countries, we have prepared a synthesis of the data over a period of 10 years. The study includes countries such as Germany, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia and Romania, providing a detailed insight into each country's contribution within this sector.



Conclusions: The circular economy is an increasingly important pillar of sustainable economic development in the European Union, promoting resource efficiency and reducing negative environmental impacts. Available data highlights that large economies, such as Germany and France, play a key role in this transition, generating a significant number of jobs in the circular economy sector. However, the contributions of smaller Member States are not negligible, as they have recorded notable increases in the number of employees in the sector. In the case of Romania, the data suggest a gradual increase in the number of employees in the circular economy sector.