In this paper we will analyze to what extent Romanians are aware of the need to develop the research and innovation domains to promote progress in the coming years. The study is based on Romanians' answers to questions from a questionnaire attached to a Eurobarometer. Please note that the Eurobarometer used was completed in May 2021 and includes the opinions of 1050 adults from Romania. Basically, will be estimated the trends of Romanians' perceptions regarding the following aspects: SciSoc, NewTech, Areas, Explain. We specify below some details regarding the four mentioned fields of our study. So, SciSoc defines the variable attached to the answers to the question: Do you think that the overall influence of science and technology on society is: "very positive", "fairly positive", "fairly negative", "very negative"? The NewTech variable sets on a four-value scale the intensity of perception for the positive effect of new technologies on life orientation over the next 20 years. The following components of new technologies are considered: Solar energy, Wind energy, Information and communication technology, Brain and cognitive enhancement, Vaccines and combating infectious diseases, Biotechnology and genetic engineering, Space exploration, Nanotechnology, Nuclear energy for energy production, Artificial Intelligence. The answer to the question "Who is the best qualified to explain the impact of scientific and technological developments on society?" is characterized by the variable Explain. There are 15 possible answers: Scientists working at a university or government-funded research organisation; Scientists working in an industrial or privately funded research organisation; Journalists; Politicians; Consumer organisations; Environmental protection associations; Industry and private companies; People active on online social networks and bloggers; Religious leaders or representatives; Romanian government; The military; General practitioners and specialist doctors; Writers and intellectuals; Family and friends; The European Union. Romanians' opinions may differ substantially in relation to the individual IC characteristics of the interviewees. In the present work we will focus only on the type of residence of the respondent to the questionnaire (rural area or village, small or middle sized town, large town). The defined TREND indicator is compatible with the stochastic ordering relationship between categorical ordinal variables of this study. The application of homogeneity statistical tests revealed perceptible differences of opinions between people belonging to different types of communities. Finally we mention that the initial Eurobarometer sample was weighted for processing taking into account the real proportions of the various socio-demographic categories in Romania, at the level of 2021.

**Keywords:** research and innovation, Romania, sample, questionnaire, perception, trend, statistical test, categorical ordinal variable

**JEL classification:** C4, C5, C8, O3, Q5

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