



## FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS IN WESTERN ROMANIA: ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL TRANSFORMATION IN TIMIȘ COUNTY

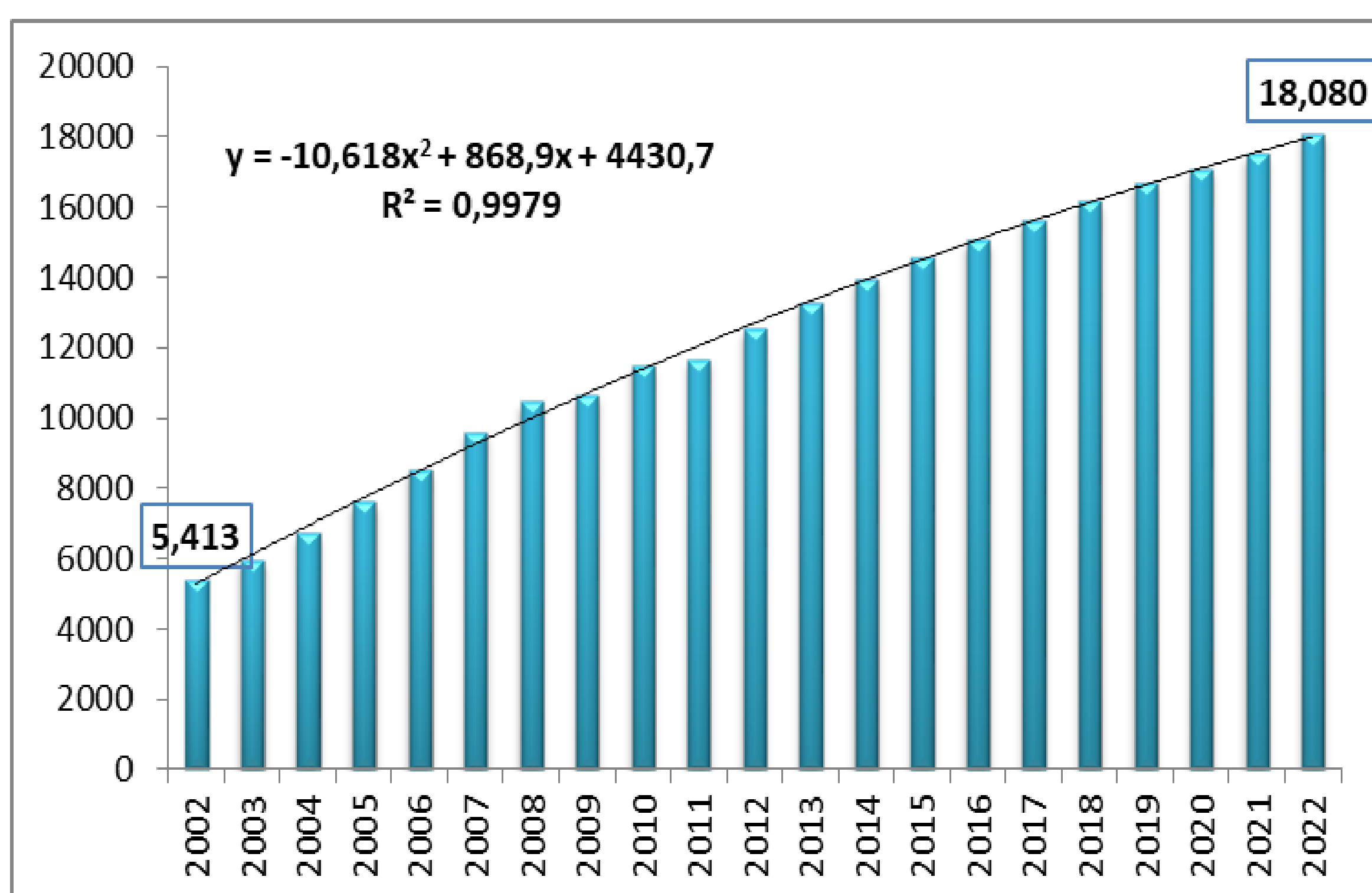
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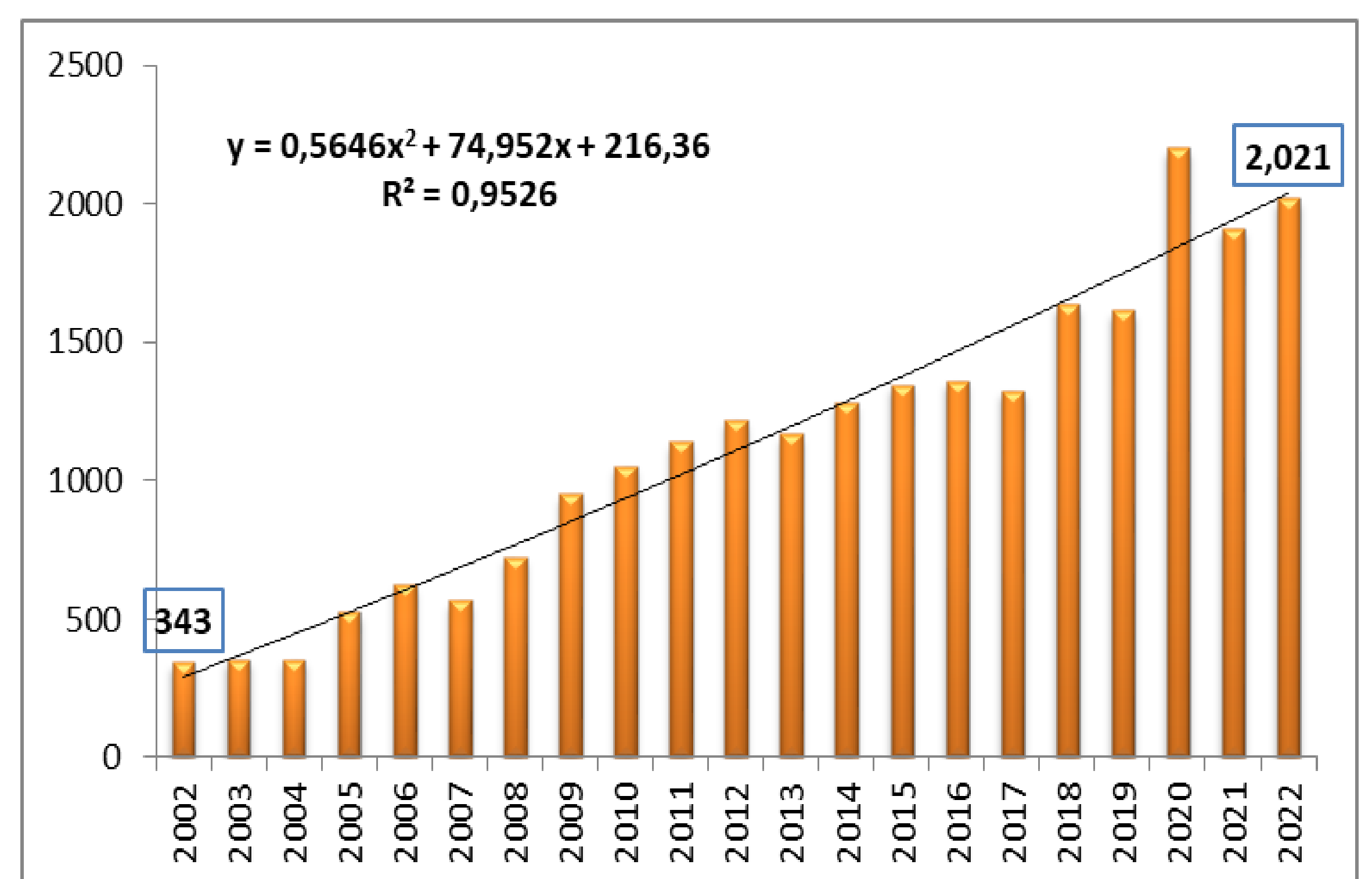
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**Abstract:** This paper explores the evolution and impact of foreign direct investments (FDIs) in Timiș County, a key component of the Western region of Romania. The objective of the study is to assess the contribution of FDIs to the sustainable economic development of the area. The research is grounded in the analysis of dynamic statistical indicators. Findings highlight a favourable investment climate in Timiș County, which ranks second nationally in terms of the number of foreign-capital companies (18,080) and third in total FDI inflows (5.2 billion euros) as of 2022. Timiș County represents an investment pole in the region, but also at the country level, having the largest influx of investments among the regional cities of the country, the highest entrepreneurial rate in the Western Region and a startup system in full development. The gross added value created at the county level shows a significantly higher growth rate compared to the aggregated levels of the region and country, of course, with the syncope during the global economic crisis (2008-2010) and the COVID-19 crisis. Overall, the analysis confirms a direct and significant impact of foreign direct investments on the economic and social development of the county.



**Fig 1. The situation of the number of companies with foreign capital in Timiș county, 2002-2022, balance on 31th Dec.**



**Fig. 2. The volume of foreign capital subscribed in Timiș county in 2002-2022, balance on Dec. 31th (Euro mill.)**

**The value of foreign direct investments (FDI), balance as of 31th Dec. 2022**

	Timiș	West	Romania	% TM from the West	% TM from RO
FDI (million €)	5,240	7,643	107,944	68.55	48.54

**Fig. 3 GVA evolution in Timiș county, basic prices, Euro millions, 2000-2021**

