

**NATIONAL FEDERATION FOR PRIVATE
EDUCATION IN ROMANIA**

***Romanian Private Education System:
Strategic Vision 2020***

ECNAIS Seminar

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Strategic Vision 2020 for Romanian Private Education System¹

INTRODUCTION

We are all living in a globalised world, a world of Knowledge Revolution, accelerated change, New Economy and IT&C, in which human resources equipped with new skills represent the greatest treasure of humanity.

All these things are serious challenges for the people working in education, where re-thinking and reformulation of their activity should be made on new principles and values in a global networking system. In the next 5 years, the private education will experience a dramatic increase of its number of pupils and students, of their performance and success on the labour market.

The objective of a paramount importance in the years to come of the Romanian education private system, on a medium- and long-run, is the awareness of the younger generations for a sound education, for a long-life learning attitude and for the development of volunteering aiming to become good citizens and successful entrepreneurs and employees on a global and competitive market.

¹ This document was presented by our representative Mr. Marian Covlea at the ECNAIS Seminar in Sofia (Bulgaria) on November 20, 2015.

THE PURPOSES OF THE ROMANIAN PRIVATE EDUCATION SYSTEM

The private education system has appeared in Romania as a necessity after 1989 and it has proven to be a competent and loyal partner for the state-owned education sector.

In Romania there are 77 accredited private high-schools and 115 accredited private post-secondary schools, representing about 50% of this kind of schools.

The private education in Romania promotes the highest social values, ideals, principles and objectives. It aims to develop and turn into its own advantages:

- Competence, quality, prestige;
- Professional ethics and deontology;
- Loyal competition and fair-play;
- Liberty of action, democracy, flexibility, adaptability & specific treatment for every pupil and student;
- Free option & opportunism;
- Self-sustainability and intellectual, managerial, functional and financial autonomy;
- Permanent development of social soft power through education;
- Creativity, innovation and high-tech methods and instruments;
- Strategic vision, long life learning, social responsibility and public-private partnership;
- Success of private education system through its graduates' performance measured mainly by their direct accession on the European Union labour market;

Romanian private post-secondary schools provide 95% of the nurses for the Romanian medical care system. Their competence is highly appreciated in Romania and all over Europe, where they are easily employed.

As a proof of high performance of our private education system, we mention the National Training Programme for Medical & Social Assistants, issued by The National Mutual Association Romania-France „Louis Pasteur” in Dej in 2002², approved by the Romanian Government (published in the Official Bulletin of Romania on September 16, 2002), as well as an Project financed by EU, on increase of education quality level using XXI-st century instruments, prepared in 2003 by the same NGO. This Association (ANMRF Louis Pasteur) was awarded in 1998 a Trophy of Excellence for their good co-operation with similar French organisations.

ANMRFLP Dej has currently a E-Health Project in progress, called: DIGITAL RESOURCES FOR A MODERN EDUCATION, RELATED TO THE NEEDS OF LABOUR MARKET AND KNOWLEDGE-BASED SOCIETY ~ POSDRU /154/1.1/G/142087 (funded by the EU).

ELEMENTS OF A 2020 STRATEGY FOR THE ROMANIAN PRIVATE EDUCATION SYSTEM

We imagine a 7-step strategy for the progress of our private education sector.

Firstly, we believe that a special law for the private education in Romania is needed. This law could support the private education to differentiate,

² ANMRFLP Dej is an NGO including „Louis Pasteur” Post-Secondary School.

to develop, to strengthen its autonomy, to multiply its financing sources and to increase its level of quality and global performance.

Another major objective of our Federation is the growth of our cohesion in common action, as a part of the Romanian and EU education system.

Thirdly, in this period of global and instantaneous communications, there is a concrete possibility of on-line and distant learning, using teleconferences and personal devices, a nation-wide educational TV station, sharing the knowledge and networking the people, from any part of the country to any part of the world.

This will lead to a dramatic decrease of costs and school fees, reduce the gap between the elites and masses and promote virtual schools instead of classic (brick-and-mortar) ones.

Fourthly, we intend to open our perspectives to all our neighbouring countries (Hungary, Republic of Moldova, Bulgaria, Ukraine and Serbia), for a large co-operation in educational programmes in Romanian, international languages and their national languages, because all these countries have very many things in common, coming from their geography as well as from their old and recent history.

Then, we shall support and promote the kind of teacher and professor required by these dramatic changes: the transdisciplinary integrator professor, able to teach and co-ordinate transdisciplinary classes, projects and debates.

We also strongly wish to increase the awareness, accountability and responsibility level of the young generation, for their deeper involvement in volunteering and education & training activities aiming to increase their success

rates of employment on the labour market, which has become more and more competitive.

Last, but by no means least, we want to make a special mention on higher education. It has to do with all the objectives hereinabove. In Romania there are 105 accredited universities (2015), of which about 50% are private.

We intend to support the development of the higher education in Romania using 5 main ways:

- Promoting the improvement of specific legislation.
- Increasing the competence level of professors and the quality level of teaching methods, syllabi and manuals.
- Development of co-operation relations with public authorities, business environment, NGOs and mass-media, aiming to increase the employment success rate of the graduates on the labour market.
- Encouraging the foundation and development of corporate universities, as the perfect method to match and harmonise knowledge and skills, theory, research and practice, ideals and reality for an easier accession on the labour market of the graduates coming from the private education system.
- Development of foreign co-operation relations with European and international institutions, with other universities and research institutes.

CONCLUSIONS

We strongly believe that in a near future European tigers will be born in private education, and some of them will be Romanian.

IT&C, global networking and decreasing of school fees will lead to a total opening and radical democratization of education, eliminating the barriers between elites and masses, reducing unemployment and increasing prosperity, social value added and progress.

We take this opportunity to make a vibrant appeal to all participants in this Seminar to unite our efforts in full solidarity aiming to increase dramatically the awareness, involvement, responsibility and accountability of the young people in our countries and in the whole EU, using the competence of the teachers, the energy of the managers and the vision of the leaders, because this is the only foundation for a strong, quick and sound change to the better, thus contributing to a stronger EU and a better world.

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