

San Marino

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Minister of Education



Born in 1952, Mrs. Rossi graduated from the University of Bologna in Literature, Philosophy and Pedagogy. She has also specialized in family psychotherapy and psychoanalysis. She has published articles in the field of Pedagogy and a novel about women. She has been Director of the Service of Child of San Marino. She has a long record of social and political involvement. In particular, she has plead for the rights of women. From 1990 to 1993, she was President of the Socialist Party. Since 1997 she has participated in the Political Socialist Movement for Reform. Mrs. Rossi served

as Minister of Public Instruction, Culture and Justice (1992-1993), and as Minister of the Territory, Environment, Agriculture and Production (1993-1997). In 2000, she was appointed State Secretary of Public Instruction, High Education, Social Affairs and Institutes of Culture and Information.

The school and the integration of diversity

In drafting a reform of the system of education and training services in the Republic of San Marino, particular attention is paid to the integration of diversities.

The presence of specialised people, that play a significant role from a psychological and pedagogical point of view and that are trained to cope with individuals with special needs and having different abilities, will enable the whole education and training services system to effectively deal with the issue of recognising diversity. The whole school system is called upon to start supportive relations in order to promote, on the one hand, appropriate professional skills, and foster, on the other, interaction between schools a special services on the territory. In seeking to recognise the value of diversity, it is necessary to fully exploit and develop the special skills of the disabled and consequently disseminate as much as possible the successful initiatives of integration and cultural socialisation promoted and encouraged by the whole school system of San Marino. **Integration calls for quality: if school is to be accessible to all and recognise the value of diversity, then it must be of a high standard. "Easy" schools are of no use, neither for the disabled. Integration becomes difficult when standards deteriorate: it is therefore necessary that all do their best to unfold their potential.**

A school system aimed at fostering integration, providing tailored courses and recognising the value of diversity must pay special attention to compulsory education for minors in difficult situations up to the age - of 18. In this respect, the creation of appropriate didactic and logistic conditions may enable all pupils and students to fully benefit from training opportunities, as well as allow the arrangement of tailored or customised courses and the supply of support modules and services.

It is therefore important to promote and coordinate targeted initiatives and projects that prevent minors from leaving school, as this would further increase their risk of social exclusion, while creating job opportunities in cooperation with institutions, social services and specialised education entities existing in the social environment. *✍*