



Republic of Moldova

Dr. Savga, Larisa
Minister of Education and Youth



Born on 13th March 1962 in Ciobruciu, Slobozia, Moldova, Larisa Savga is the Minister of Education and Youth of the Republic of Moldova since March, 2008. In 1983 she graduated from the State University of Moldova with a Bachelor's degree in Economics. Subsequently, in 1987 and 1999 she obtained her PhD at the Plekhanov's Academy of Economic Studies, Russian Federation, and at the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova. In 1986-1992 she was a researcher at the Unity Institute of Scientific Research in the field of population demand and commercial trends. Dr. Larisa Savga has the scientific title of university professor. At the Cooperative Commercial University of Moldova she occupied the position of vice-rector. In 2004-2007, she was elected for the position of Prime-Vice-President of the Executive Bureau at the Central Union of the Consumer Cooperatives of the Republic of Moldova, and at the same time – university professor at the Cooperative Commercial University of Moldova. Over the years of her scientific activity, Dr. Larisa Savga has published more than 50 works on higher education, quality management in education, economy, and commerce. Her scientific activity is focused on the field of quality assurance in education.

Inclusive Education: the Way towards a "School for All"

"Education policy should aim at assuring high quality of education and safeguarding everyone's fundamental right to education, irrespective of their place of residence, gender, language, or socioeconomic standing".

We envisage this key purpose of education as a moving power for the educational policies development with a direct impact on public policy.

In Moldova, we feel an urgent need to secure equal opportunities for all children, to give socially vulnerable children and children with special educational needs access to mainstream classes and be equally challenged. In this context, access to quality education for all, be it inclusive or general education, is envisaged by policymakers as a national priority.

Over the last years, a good progress was made in the Republic of Moldova. A wide legislative and normative base was developed and is being implemented to promote reforms in inclusive education. The "Education for All" Strategy and Plan on Community Acts aimed at supporting children in need, for 2007-2009 are developed to implement the national policy on inclusive education.

On the national level, to make inclusive education a reality, reforms are implemented in the following directions:

- Establishing a sufficient number of general and special schools;
- Inclusion in education of the national minorities;
- Implementation of social policies on supporting children from socially vulnerable families and children with special needs;
- Elaboration of a flexible and personalized curriculum for children with special educational needs;
- Adoption of international and institutional practices in social inclusion;
- Development of initial and in-service vocational training of sufficient number of human resources in inclusive education;

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- Establishing a platform for scientific research in the field of inclusive education;
- Promoting necessity of inclusion in education and changing public opinion about its role in modern society;
- Creating conditions for equitable and equal access to education for all children.

Moldova welcomes international collaboration on inclusive education development. Efforts of the Moldovan Government made in inclusive education are supported by a number of international organization and donors, and there are being implemented numerous projects on (1) developing early childhood education and quality education in rural areas, (2) strengthening human resources in the educational system, (3) ensuring social protection, health protection, and justice, (4) developing inclusive services for children and families at risk.

Efforts put resulted in high indexes of involvement into school life, decrease in the number of pupils left behind to repeat the year of studies, rise of the quality in education. Considerable progress was also made in establishing a competitive and efficient education that helps Moldova integrate into the European educational area.

Best wishes for a successful, the 48th ICE session, results of which will certainly build important milestones for the future promotion of inclusive education.