



## Romania

Anton Anton  
Minister of education, research and youth



*The new Romanian minister, Anton Anton, is the former president of the Romanian National Authority for Scientific Research. His skills and abilities in the management field recommended him for this position. In his mandate, Romanian Ministry of Education is willing to continue the pro-active measures for ensuring access and securing participation to education of vulnerable groups by developing social support programmes for students belonging to poor families. Additionally, performance based tailored support is offered to students who continue post compulsory education. For diminishing early school leavers phenomena, Romania pays a special attention to rural education and to vulnerable groups by promoting "second chance education programmes" which include Technical and Vocational Education in view of strengthening job opportunities. Technical and Vocational education study programmes are settled on prior co-decision between governmental and social partners organizations related to the competences to be achieved.*

### **Inclusive Education, chances for everyone**

In Romania the main objectives of the inclusion policies in education are based on equality, which is a major outcome of public policies. When referring to education, the following are priorities: providing equal and universal access to qualitative education starting at the level of compulsory academic years, aiding children who come from disadvantageous social environments to continue studying, as well as reinstating the ones who have left school prematurely.

This social inclusive policy aims at vulnerable educational groups in rural regions and disadvantaged areas, such as those of Romany ethnicity and children with special educational needs (institutionalized children, immigrants, etc.).

As part of the national policies of stimulating educational participation, an emphasis is being placed on the methods of direct intervention on the causes and effects of the scholastic abandon phenomena. One example is developing the early education concept, and creating a background for implementing the campaign at a national level.

Moreover, continuing the National Campaign "A Second Chance", an encouragement policy for school dropouts is also of great importance.

This campaign is directed to children/youths that have interrupted their studies and are now being offered the opportunity to continue them, not only at a primary school level, but also at the secondary school level, while continuing their personalized professional training

Stimulating the participation of children and young people belonging to the Romany ethnicity is done by carrying on the positive actions directed towards them such as encouraging the study of the Romany language, as well as the study of the history and traditions of the Romany minority. This is achieved by implementing rules that the educational mediator would use in schools to further promote the desegregation plans in education.

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Stimulating the participation in education of these Children with Special Educational Needs is all about elaborating a new curriculum, a flexible and personalized one, which is bound to allow maximal development of each child's potential, one that would suit their individual needs.

The development of such educational services is therefore realizable in practice by early identification and intervention, support, evaluation and specific intervention services, as well as psychopedagogical counselling.