

**Press Release****October 8, 2009, Bucharest****200 Key Players from Higher Education, the Business Environment and the Civil Society  
Discuss the Role of the Romanian University in the Knowledge and Creativity Society**

**Over 200 Romanian higher education experts, players or stakeholders discuss the role of the Romanian university in the knowledge society, at the conference *Challenges for Romanian Higher Education*, which will take place Thursday, October 8, 2009, at 09:00 a.m., in Bucharest, at the Academy of Economic Studies, the Aula Magna.**

The conference is organized under the *Quality and Leadership for Romanian Higher Education* project, by the Executive Agency for Higher Education and Research Funding (UEFISCSU), the National Council for University Research (CNCSIS) and the National Council for Higher Education Funding (CNFIS).

Under the *Quality and Leadership for Romanian Higher Education* project, UEFISCSU, CNCSIS and CNFIS are conducting the largest structured consultation exercise on the development of a national higher education system in Europe. Between 2009-2011, 10,000 Romanian higher education experts, players and stakeholders will be consulted. Thus, *Challenges for Romanian Higher Education* is the first big event in a series of debates to be organized under the umbrella of this project.

The over 200 participants in the event will discuss, both in plenary and parallel sessions, the diagnostic analysis reports for higher education prepared between July and September 2009 by the five panels of experts on the following topics:

1. **Universities and the development of human capital** – panel chaired by Prof. Ioan Gh. Rosca, Rector of the Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest, Vicepresident of the National Council of Rectors.

This panel analyzed aspects related to the adaptation of higher education to the labor market, the role of the university in the permanent training and certifying of professional skills, the role of the university in developing life skills, creativity and entrepreneurial thinking, the interdisciplinarity and flexibility of the human capital.

2. **University and knowledge** – panel chaired by Prof. Anton Anton, Pro-Rector of the Technical University of Civil Engineering, Bucharest.

This panel analyzed the relation between the teaching role of universities and their role as knowledge producers, research universities, excellence in university research – particularities of core research, engineering research,



EUROPEAN UNION

MINISTRY OF LABOUR, FAMILY AND  
SOCIAL PROTECTION  
MASOPHRDEUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND  
SOP HRD  
2007 - 2013STRUCTURAL FUNDS  
2007 - 2013MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION  
IOSOPHRDEXECUTIVE AGENCY  
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION  
AND RESEARCH FUNDING



humanities and social research, the structuring of knowledge within universities to achieve cognitive transmission and reproduction, the Bologna university cycles.

3. **University and business environment** – panel chaired by Prof. Radu Munteanu, Rector of the Technical University, Cluj Napoca, Vicepresident of the National Council of Rectors.

Universities as poles of regional competitiveness and innovation, the public-private partnership for innovation, intellectual property rights in the context of the cooperation between the universities and the business environment, innovation infrastructures developed by universities – these were the sub-topics analyzed by this panel.

4. **University and social values** – panel chaired by Prof. Andrei Marga, Rector of the Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj Napoca.

This panel analyzed aspects related to the role of the university in promoting cultures and social values, the accessibility of education and social cohesion, the role of the university in regional and local development, the university as a promoter of the information society, the 'reflectivity' of the university as a learning organization and critical authority in the society.

5. **Universities in the context of Europeanization and globalization** – panel chaired by Senior Lecturer Remus Pricopie, Dean of the College of Communication and Public Relations at the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA), Bucharest.

The panel analyzed the following sub-topics: the internationalization, regionalization and globalization of education, the positioning on the international education market, the positioning on the international knowledge market, European integration and national brand.

The reports and the amendments suggested by each panel during the five parallel debates will constitute the basis of the "Understanding the Romanian Higher Education System" report to be prepared by Panel 6 chaired by Prof. Adrian Miroiu as well as of the success scenarios to be built.

## Background Information

The **Quality and Leadership for Romanian Higher Education project** is one of the five strategic higher education projects conducted by **CNCSIS**, **CNFIS** and **UEFISCSU** and funded through the European Social Fund, the Sectoral Operational Program Human Resources Development.

The mission of UEFISCSU is to manage the financial resources necessary to support the development of higher education and university research. In order to do that, the organization is seeking to attract new sources of financing and to focus its activity on a high-performance management of funds for higher education and research in universities.



EUROPEAN UNION

MINISTRY OF LABOUR, FAMILY AND  
SOCIAL PROTECTION  
MASOPHRDEUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND  
SOP HRD  
2007 - 2013STRUCTURAL FUNDS  
2007 - 2013MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION  
IOSOPHRDEXECUTIVE AGENCY  
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION  
AND RESEARCH FUNDING



The general goal of the **Quality and Leadership for Romanian Higher Education project** is to develop, with the help of all relevant partners, a vision and a strategy for the Romanian higher education (in 2025), which would constitute the basis of medium- and long-term policies and actions, thus contributing to the improvement of strategic, financial, human resources and learning resources management in universities, to the promotion of innovation, cooperation and partnerships among universities, the business environment and research centers in order to develop a Romanian knowledge society.

**For further information, visit our website [www.edu2025.ro](http://www.edu2025.ro) or contact:**

**Adriana Tran, PR Manager**

The Executive Agency for Higher Education and Research Funding (UEFISCSU)

Phone: 0724182525

Email: [presa.proiecte@uefiscsu.ro](mailto:presa.proiecte@uefiscsu.ro)



EUROPEAN UNION

MINISTRY OF LABOUR, FAMILY AND  
SOCIAL PROTECTION  
MASOPHRDEUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND  
SOP HRD  
2007 - 2013STRUCTURAL FUNDS  
2007 - 2013MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION  
IOSOPHRDEXECUTIVE AGENCY  
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION  
AND RESEARCH FUNDING