

**Press Release**

October 9, 2009, Bucharest

**System Diagnosis:****The First Stage in Building Long-Term Success Scenarios for Romanian Higher Education**

**This weekend, at the *Challenges for Romanian Higher Education* conference, university professors, representatives of the Romanian Academy, rectors and deans from the biggest Romanian universities, representatives of the business environment and of the civil society discussed the role and the place of universities in Romanian society.**

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

Over 200 participants discussed, both in plenary and parallel sessions, the higher education system diagnostic analysis reports prepared between July and September 2009 by five panels of experts on the following topics:

1. **Universities and the development of human capital**
2. **University and knowledge**
3. **University and business environment**
4. **University and social values**
5. **Universities in the context of Europeanization and globalization**

A non-exhaustive list of the participants: **Ion Haiduc**, President of the Romanian Academy; Prof. **Ioan Dumitrache**, President of CNCSIS; Prof. **Lazar Vlasceanu**, Vicepresident of CNCSIS; Prof. **Ion Gh. Rosca**, Rector of the Academy of Economic Studies (ASE), Bucharest and Vicepresident of the National Council of Rectors; Prof. **Andrei Marga**, Rector of Babes-Bolyai University (UBB), Cluj Napoca; Prof. **Serban Agachi**, President of UBB; Prof. **Adrian Miroiu**, President of the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA), Bucharest; Prof. **Dumitru Miron**, Pro-Rector of ASE; Prof. **Gheorghe Popa**, Pro-Rector of the Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iasi; Prof. **Anton Anton**, Pro-Rector of the Technical University of Civil Engineering, Bucharest; Senior Lecturer **Remus Pricopie**, Dean of the College of Communication and Public Relations at SNSPA, Bucharest; Prof. **Cezar Birzea**, Head of the Institute for Educational Sciences; Maria Grapini, President of the Light Industry Employers' Federation; Silvia Ciuca, Head of the National Institute for Labor and Social Protection Research; Cristian Parvan, General Secretary of the Businesspeople Association.



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“To create and implement effective public policies, a nation-wide consultation with the higher education players is needed. And it is the mission of the *Quality and Leadership* project to achieve such consultation, involving over 100,000 players in the higher education system”, declared **Prof. Adrian Curaj, the manager of the project.**

Each of the five panels presented its Romanian higher education diagnostic analysis report for the topic it chose to study in a plenary session and then discussed it with the visiting participants during a workshop and received comments and recommendations for its completion. **The ideas and suggestions arising from the conference will be included in the final documents on the status of Romanian higher education in the five fields of interest and will make up the basis of success scenarios to be built during the next stages of the *Quality and Leadership for Romanian Higher Education* project.** At the end of January 2010, the scenarios will be subject to a public debate in the form of five consecutive conferences, with almost 250 participants, all of them key higher education stakeholders.

**The final diagnostic analysis reports for Romanian higher education** will be available on the project website: [www.edu2025.ro](http://www.edu2025.ro), as of the latter half of November 2009.

## 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 ([www.forhe.ro](http://www.forhe.ro)).

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.

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.



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