

National report: First cooperation cycle of the EU Youth Strategy 2010-2012

ROMANIA

SECTION 1: GENERAL YOUTH POLICY

1. Does your country have a 'youth law' or legislation that specifically refers to youth issues, or laws containing a section addressing the needs and/or rights of young people?	Yes
2. Please provide references for the law (title, adoption date, validity, etc) in your national language as well as in English	Legea Tinerilor (Youth Law) nr. 350/21.06.2006 in force.
3. Is the document available in other languages, in full or abbreviated version?	No
If YES, please provide a web-link or a copy of the law in available languages together with this national report.	
4. Does your country have a National Youth Strategy and/or Action Plan, or a cross-sectoral strategy specifically referring to youth issues?	No (skip the next question)
If YES, please provide references (title, adoption date, validity, etc) to this strategy or action plan	
5. Is the document available in other languages, in full or abbreviated version?	No
If YES, please provide a web-link or a copy of the document in available languages together with this national report.	
6. Please indicate how the EU Youth Strategy, adopted in November 2009, has influenced youth priorities in your country at the NATIONAL level?	A: It has reinforced existing priorities

<p>Please specify your answer.</p>	<p>One of the objectives of the Lisbon strategy is to promote solidarity between young people and society by emphasizing issues such as social inclusion, environmental issues volunteering. 2011 was the European Year of Volunteering, and actions were made in Romania dedicated to volunteering, there was established a national working group that has dedicated its activity to the volunteer-work law change, to increase the state's role in fostering volunteering, to protect the volunteer rights, and defining the sketch of a system of skills recognition. On the other hand, encouraging improved access and full participation of all young people in society, including areas such as sport and health, has resulted in a focus on amending the physical education and sports law providing space for measures to boost grassroots sport among other.</p>
<p>7. Please indicate how the EU Youth Strategy has influenced youth priorities in your country at the LOCAL and/or REGIONAL level?</p>	<p>A: It has reinforced existing priorities</p>
<p>Please specify your answer.</p>	<p>The strategy itself has influenced many of the central and local authorities, becoming more opened towards the youth sector and its importance.</p>
<p>8. Does the government of your country support and promote cross-disciplinary research relating to young people and their living conditions in line with the Council resolution on active inclusion, having regard to the socio-economic environment and the opportunities and obstacles this poses for the social inclusion and employability of young people?</p>	<p>YES, the Government has supported and promoted such cross-disciplinary research since before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>

<p>Please specify your answer.</p>	<p>National Research Institute for Labour and Social Protection (INCSMPS) is the Government body that carries out surveys and research with theoretical-applicative character in fields of national interest regarding the human resources management, social development and social protection in Romania, operating in the coordination of the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection. In this respect, ongoing Programs of the Institute related to young people are: “Determining factors of the insertion into the labour market of graduate university students”; “The correlation of educational offer with labour market demand in Romanian TIC field - Horizon 2015”; “Discrimination, discourage and disadvantage on the labour market”; “I want to work!” (Linking life long learning and labour market - POSDRU/55/1.1/S/37932); “Linking the vocational and technical education offer with labour market requirements” (POSDRU/22/2.1/G/40427)</p>
<p>9. Is there an institutionalised and regular cooperation between the Ministry responsible for Youth and the youth research community in your country?</p>	<p>YES, such cooperation has existed since before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Additional comments.</p>	
<p>10. Does your Government have an inter-ministerial working group on youth or any other institutionalised mechanism for ensuring a cross-sectoral approach to youth policy?</p>	<p>YES, such an institutional mechanism has existed since before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Additional comments.</p>	
<p>11. Has your Government carried out specific initiatives targeting young people or the field of youth policy utilising EU funding opportunities through the European Social Fund, the European Regional Development Fund and/or the Rural Development Fund, or any other relevant EU funds or programmes such as PROGRESS[1]? [1] Please note that the question does not refer to EU programmes such as the Lifelong learning or Youth in Action programmes.</p>	<p>YES, we have carried out youth initiatives or projects utilising the general EU funding opportunities mentioned above in the past, before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, but they are now finalised.</p>

Additional comments.	At this time, Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection carries out projects using the EU funding opportunities, targeting young people, such as: “An inclusive labour market in the rural area”; “Synthesis - a partnership for social inclusion”; “Equilibrium - a new approach of the family life together with the professional life”
12. Does the Government of your country have a strategy to acknowledge, raise awareness of, and reinforce the role of youth work in society, in line with the Council Resolution on Youth Work (2010)?	NO, we do not have such a strategy in place, but the Government is planning to set up such a strategy in the coming year.
Additional comments.	
13. What are the main measures implemented by your Government in order to improve the recognition and support the development of governmental and non-governmental youth work?	The group regarding the youth activity specialist and youth counsellor was introduced in the National Occupational Classification
14. What are the main challenges and/or obstacles that your Government has been confronted with during the first three years of the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy?	There are difficulties in trying to convince other central and local bodies to put “youth” as a high priority on their agenda.
15. Which measures and/or actions have your Government carried out in order to communicate the EU Youth Strategy to relevant stakeholders?	The Consultative Council for the Youth Problems formed by the representatives of the national youth organizations operates along The National Authority for Sport and Youth. Here there are discussed youth legislative aspects and youth policies- harmonized with the European strategies in this field. There has also been promoted through on-line means both at local and central levels.
16. Has your Government carried out any actions to measure the impact or success of the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy at the national level?	Not so far.
17. According to the principles of the EU Youth Strategy and in line with previous practice, Member States are asked to involve young people and their organisations in responding to this National Report. Please outline the various ways how young people have been consulted.	Online consultations with youth NGOs nationwide and within the Consultative Council for the Youth Problems.

**SECTION 2a: PRESIDENCY PRIORITIES On youth employment & entrepreneurship**

<p>18. To take the specific situation of young people into account when devising flexicurity strategies?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>In the field of flexibility of contract agreements: in order to improve job insertion for young persons, a large part of the amendments to the Labour Code which came into force on May 1st, 2011 reduces the previously strict requirements in term of fixed term employment contract. In the field of comprehensive life-long learning strategies, the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection has not taken concrete measures or carried out any specific policy initiatives. In the field of active policies: for youth aged 16 to 25 years, personalised social accompanying measures are provided by NEA specialised staff under the form of vocational counselling, labour mediation and job insertion; for students applying for subsidized loans from the unemployment insurance fund, provided their age at application is below 30, they are attending day courses and they are following a form of tertiary education for the first time ever (irrespective if public or private but accredited in accordance with the standards of relevant RO law) are granted credits and business consultancy; also, for graduates and for young persons leaving the institutional care system job fairs are organised; subsidy offered to employers hiring young graduates for 12 months (18 months for disabled graduates) and exemption from the payment of the unemployment fund contribution for 12 months have proved to be an efficient measure to help the young unemployed find a job. In the field of social security systems, unemployment.</p>
<p>19. To promote cross-border professional and vocational opportunities for young people?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Government Ordinance no. 129/2000, regarding the vocational training of adults sets that adults have a right to enjoy social protection of vocational training "with no discrimination on account of age, gender, race, ethnic origin, political or religious affiliation". The same ordinance expressly provides: the obligation of all employers to take" appropriate measures in order to put in place the requisite conditions for their employees to enjoy access to vocational training "and the right of" job seekers to attend the free vocational training programmes provided by the National Agency for Employment / NEA (Agenția Națională de Ocupare a Forței de Muncă, ANOFM) or by other, duly licensed, providers of vocational training services. " The VET (Vocational Education and Training) principles were also included as priorities within other documents of education, continuous training and employment policy: The national development plan 2007-2013 (PND), The National Reform Programme (PNR) and The operational sectorial programme for human resources development (POS DRU). VET specific objectives can be explicitly found in strategic sectorial documents, like: The national employment strategy 2004-2010 (MMSSF, 2004), Short and medium term strategy for lifelong vocational training 2005-2010 (MMSSF, ANOFM, MEC, CNFPA with the support of Sectorial Committees, 2005), Strategic directions of the Minister of Education and Research for 2006-2008 (2005), Development strategy for the pre-university</p>
<p>20. To develop career guidance and counselling services?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>In order to ensure a sustainable insertion on the labour market, the Romanian authorities continue the implementation of counselling measures for jobseekers (including young people), through ANOFM Employment Programme. In this respect, ANOFM implements starting with 2002 the programme - From school, to professional life, towards career, which addressed the future graduates of pre-university education, through information and counselling sessions. Also, in order to prepare teenagers and young people for life, within the Child Protection Directorates' structure, specific services 32 were developed. At present, at the national level, there are 50 specific services, and some projects regarding the development of these services are carried out. The 50 services mentioned above are addressed to the teenagers and young people from the State Child Protection Service, and operate in 22 counties. These are Counselling Services, specially designed to develop the teenagers' necessary skills for an independent life.</p>
<p>21.To promote quality internships and apprenticeships to facilitate the entry to, and progress within, the labour market?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>According to the Romanian Labour Code (Art. 210), "The organization, performance and supervision of the apprenticeship activity shall be regulated by a special law". In this respect, Law no. 106 of 15 June 2011 amending Law no. 279/2005 on the apprenticeship at the work place was adopted. In order to stimulate the vocational training for in work apprenticeship and the access to the labour market for young people aged between 16 and 25 years, the employers who employ persons in the base of an in work apprenticeship contract, according to this legislative act, receive a monthly subsidy of 300 RON gross pay from employment agencies, during the period of the apprenticeship development, for each person. Through this law, The Government has improved the legal framework for apprenticeship at workplace, in line with national education law, so that when the nine classes are graduated, one can choose his direction for education, a vocational one or employment by using the apprenticeship law provisions.</p>
<p>22. To promote sharing of responsibilities between partners in order to facilitate reconciliation between professional and private life for both young women and young men?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection implements, starting with 2010, a project using the EU funding opportunities, named “Equilibrium - a new approach of the family life together with the professional life”</p>
<p>23. To promote entrepreneurship in the field of sustainable development?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>For example: including the entrepreneurship in school curricula; Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs; providing benefits for young entrepreneurs</p>
<p>Additional comments on employment &amp; entrepreneurship</p>	

### SECTION 2b: PRESIDENCY PRIORITIES On youth participation

<p>24. to develop mechanisms for dialogue with youth and youth participation on national youth policies?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The Consultative Council for the Youth Problems formed by the representatives of the national youth organizations operates along The National Authority for Sport and Youth. Here there are discussed youth legislative aspects and youth policies- harmonized with the European strategies in this field and the supervision of the enforcement of public youth policies.</p>
<p>25. to encourage use of already existing, or development of, guidelines on youth participation, information and consultation in order to ensure the quality of these activities?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	

<p>26. to support politically and financially youth organisations, as well as local and national youth councils and promote recognition of their important role in democracy?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>27. to promote the participation of more and a greater diversity of young people in representative democracy, in youth organisations and other civil-society organisations?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>28. to make effective use of information and communication technologies to broaden and deepen participation of young people?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>29. to support various forms of learning to participate from early age through formal education and non-formal learning?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

30. to further develop opportunities for debate between public institutions and young people? YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

Additional comments on participation (for example references, web-links, project examples).

### SECTION 3: ON VOLUNTEERING and the implementation of the Recommendation on the mobility of young volunteers

31. To create more opportunities for mobility of young volunteers? YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

32. To raise awareness about opportunities for mobility of young volunteers? YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

<p>33. To assure quality through the development of self-assessment tools?</p>	<p>NO, but we plan to take concrete measures in this field in 2012.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>34. To promote cross-border mobility of youth workers and young people in youth organisations?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>35. To give particular attention in this context to young people with fewer opportunities?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>36. To promote the recognition of skills acquired through voluntary activities through instruments such as Europass, Youthpass and Member State instruments?</p>	<p>NO, but we plan to take concrete measures in this field in 2012.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>37. To promote intergenerational solidarity through voluntary activities?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>In Romania, Law no. 195/2001 on voluntary work, with modifications and completions was adopted. Taking into consideration that year 2012 is the European year on Active Ageing and Intergenerational Solidarity, some measures of voluntary work will be implemented.</p>
<p>Additional comments on volunteering (for example references, web-links, project examples).</p>	

#### SECTION 4: On the implementation of the additional fields of action of the EU Youth Strategy

<p>38. To support the development of youth work and other non-formal learning opportunities as a way of addressing early school leaving?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>As an alternative to the traditional educational system, MoERSY has developed the Second Chance program for primary and lower secondary education in order to address illiteracy or the consequences of early school leaving and to give a chance to all children to compulsory education accomplishment. Regarding primary education, the program has focused on young people who did not finish primary education and were at least 4 years older than the normal age for this level of education. The overall objectives have been: to support a flexible model of school re-integration for primary education, for persons who dropped out of school before finishing this level of education, to deliver a curriculum adapted to the needs of the youngsters participating in the project and to the national standards for compulsory education, to train human resources in the project: school managers, project coordinators from each school, teachers, school mediators. The Second Chance program for primary education has been approved by an order issued by the minister of education and now is being applied all over the country, being a part of the educational offer of the system. It is financed from the state and local budgets, as part of compulsory education. In what concerns lower secondary education, the Second Chance has aimed to support a flexible model of school re-integration.</p>
<p>39. To strengthen the use of the range of tools established at EU level for the transparency and validation of skills and the recognition of qualifications?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Since 2005, by Governmental Decision no. 1357/2005, was established the National Agency for Qualifications in Higher Education and Partnership with the Economic and Social Environment - ACPART - currently acting as National Qualifications Authority. Therefore, ACPART was designated as national authority for establishing and regularly updating the national framework for higher education qualifications, having as main mission to elaborate, implement, and update the national framework for higher education qualifications concerning the development, recognition and certification of qualifications based on the knowledge, abilities, and competences acquired by beneficiaries of the higher education system. Since January 2011, the main tool developed by ACPART for ensuring the transparency and validation of skills and the recognition of HE qualifications - the National Register for Qualifications in HE - is operational and can be found at <a href="http://www.rncis.ro">www.rncis.ro</a> .</p>
<p>40. To promote learning mobility of all young people?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>41. To make the broader public aware of the value of non-formal learning?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	

Additional comments on education & training (for example references, web-links, project examples).

trong points of the Second Chance Program for Secondary Education :

- the standard duration of the Second Chance Program for Secondary Education, for a person who did not attend secondary education at all, is 4 years, covering 6 years of mainstream lower secondary education, as provided for in the law;
- the duration is shorter, for students who have already graduated some years in mainstream secondary education and can be shortened, for persons who are able to graduate the program more quickly;
- there are specific provisions for the situations allowing for shortening the duration of the program or, on the contrary, for situations where extra support is needed;
- a flexible organization of the courses, adapted to the students specific situations, mainly through evening courses;
- the possibility to start the program either in October or in February;
- less numerous groups than in the mainstream education (8 to 15 students, as compared to 25-30 students);
- the possibility to evaluate and recognize competencies acquired in formal, informal and non formal contexts, at the beginning or during the participation in the program;
- a modular design of the curriculum and the evaluation and the recognition of competencies acquired at the end of each module, which ensures more flexibility, allowing students to get out and to get in the program, according to their needs;
- student centered approach, with a strong component of counseling and orientation and of individual support for different subjects;
- a curriculum designed in order to provide both theoretical, general courses, in order for the young people to complete basic education, and vocational training, in order for them to reach the EQF level 2 qualification (apprentice school);
- specific support educational materials for students and teachers have been designed and approved by the ministry and are available on the website of the ministry;
- at the end of the program, youngsters receive a certificate that gives them the same rights as any other person having completed compulsory education, including the right to participate in the final examination of basic education; having succeed in this exam, allows them to continue their studies in high school. If they also complete the vocational training, they receive a certificate assessing their apprentice qualification;
- students receive credits, which allow the recognition of their competencies after graduation: 30 credits for general education and 30 credits for vocational training

Another alternative offered by MoERSY to the young generation to fulfill their education towards their further social and professional integration is provided by the Life Long Learning Community Centers.

<b>B. HEALTH &amp; WELL-BEING</b>	
42. To follow up the Council Resolution on the health and well-being of young people and encourage youth fitness and physical activity by applying the EU Physical Activity Guidelines?	YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.
Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.	
43. To encourage healthy lifestyles for young people via physical education, education on nutrition, physical activity and collaboration between schools, youth workers, health professionals and sporting organisations?	YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.
Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.	
44. To increase knowledge and awareness of youth workers and youth leaders of health issues?	NO, but we plan to take concrete measures in this field in 2012.
Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.	
45. To encourage peer-to-peer health education?	YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

46. To facilitate access to existing health facilities by making them more youth friendly?

YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

Additional comments on health & well-being (for example references, web-links, project examples).

### C. SOCIAL INCLUSION

47. To realise the full potential of youth work and youth centres as means of inclusion?

YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

There is a strategy dedicated for the youth centers, which is annually adjusted by the National Authority for Sport and Youth. These centres offer information, documentation, counselling services and non-formal education.

48. To adopt a cross-sectoral approach when working to improve community cohesion and solidarity and reduce the social exclusion of young people, addressing the inter linkages between e.g. young peoples education and employment and their social inclusion?

YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The active social inclusion is a principle promoted by Law no.116/March 15, 2002 on preventing and combating of the social marginalization, which provides solidarity contracts for young people in difficult situations, concluded with the county agencies for employment. The Law on Social Assistance, no. 292/December 20, 2011, published in the Official Gazette of Romania, no. 905/December 20, 2011 refers also to the active inclusion. Before January 2010, an important action, which contributed to the employment of the graduates, was organizing the job fairs for graduates and for young persons leaving the institutional care system, at national level, through the efforts of the Agency. Also, in order to improve the employment of the graduates benefits for employment (job subsidies) were offered. Youth unemployment is a key aspect of social disadvantage among young people. In this respect, one of the NEA programs, called Employment program for people socially excluded, includes in the category of people socially excluded or at risk of exclusion: the young people from orphanages; the youths with dependent children; the young people who served custodial sentences. The objectives are: increasing the employment of disadvantaged people; promoting social inclusion and social security, protection of young people facing the risk of professional exclusion; preparing young people at risk of social exclusion, for an active life in the community in formal and non-formal education systems;</p>
<p>49. To support the development of intercultural awareness and competences for all young people and combat prejudice?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>50. To address the issues of homelessness, housing and financial exclusion with a particular focus on young people?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The Law no.116 of March 15, 2002 on preventing and combating of the social marginalization provides measures for facilitating the access to a house for the youth under 35 years old, which cannot buy a house by their own means.</p>
<p>51. To promote access to quality services e.g. transport, e-inclusion, health, social services?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>52. To promote specific support for young families?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>For the newly weds, according to the Law no. 396/2006, published in the Official Gazette of Romania no. 892/ November 2, 2006, a lump sum of 200 Euros was granted starting with January 2007. The benefit was stopped in July 2010, as to the Law no 118/ June 30, 2010 on necessary measures to re-establish the budgetary balance, published in the Official Gazette of Romania no. 441/ June 30, 2010. In order to protect the families with babies, there were adopted the Government Ordinance no 148/November 3, 2005 on family support for the rearing of the child, with subsequent modifications and completions, and the Government Ordinance nr.111/December 8, 2010 on the leave and monthly children rearing benefit, with subsequent modifications and completions, which set up specific measures on this issue. The Laws were published in the Official Gazette of Romania no. 1008/November 14, 2005, respectively in the Official Gazette of Romania no. 830/December 10, 2010. The Law no. 116/March 15, 2002 on preventing and combating of the social marginalization reinforces the priority to housing measures for the young families with children. The National Housing Agency (formed through the Law no. 152/1998) has initiated the National Program for the construction of houses for the Youth. The above mentioned program has been initiated in 2001 and is still active, targeting the youth that cannot afford a house in the market conditions.</p>

<p>53. To engage young people and youth organisations in the planning, delivery and evaluation of European Year of Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion in 2010?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
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Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

Additional comments on social inclusion (for example references, web-links, project examples).

#### D. CREATIVITY & CULTURE

<p>54. To support the development of creativity among young people by following up the Council conclusions on promoting a Creative Generation: developing the creativity and innovative capacity of children and young people through cultural expression and wider access to culture?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
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Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

<p>55. To make new technologies readily available to empower young people's creativity and capacity for innovation, and attract interest in culture, the arts and science?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
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Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

56. To provide access to environments where young people can develop their creativity and interests and spend a meaningful leisure time?

YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

57. To promote specialised training in culture, new media and intercultural competences for youth workers?

YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

Additional comments on culture & creativity (for example references, web-links, project examples).

## E. YOUTH & THE WORLD

58. To raise the awareness of young people about global issues such as sustainable development and human rights?

YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

The National Authority for Sport and Youth has initiated different programs supporting the contact between the young people and the current global issues. This support is defined by encouraging the youth NGOs to develop projects in this sense and to provide financial aid for those projects. In the same time the National Authority for Sport and Youth is one of the main organizers of the program UN Youth Delegate.

<p>59. To provide opportunities for young people to exchange views with policy-makers on global issues (e.g. via participation in international meetings, virtual platforms/fora etc.)?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The National Authority for Sport and Youth has encouraged the participation of young people in different international events, organized by governmental or non-governmental entities. We supported many conference participations, and in the same time the dissemination of the information from those international events.</p>
<p>60. To encourage young people to participate in green volunteering and "green" patterns of consumption and production (e.g. recycling, energy conservation, hybrid vehicles, etc.)?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>61. To promote entrepreneurship, employment, education and volunteering opportunities with countries or regions outside of Europe?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The National Authority for Sport and Youth has encouraged and even organized meetings regarding entrepreneurship, and in cooperation with the Youth in Action National Agency we supported the development of the EVS program.</p>
<p>62. To encourage young people to participate in development cooperation activities either in their country of residence or abroad?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

Additional comments on youth & the world (for example references, web-links, project examples).

### SECTION 5: EVALUATION OF THE STRUCTURED DIALOGUE

63. Has your government carried out any specific measures or is it planning to do so based on the conclusions from the European Youth Week, which presents a number of recommendations on how the structured dialogue can be improved at the national and the European levels?

YES, the government has implemented specific measures responding to recommendations from the European Youth Week in May 2011.

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

64. Has your Government supported the establishment of a National Working Group?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer. If yes, how has this been supported? If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here

The Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports as part of the government offers the legislative and material framework for the activity of the Romanian National Working Group.

65. Does the National Youth Council play a leading role in the National Working Group?	No
<p>If your answer is NO please elaborate and indicate who plays a leading role. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
66. Does the competent national ministry play an active role in the National Working Group?	Yes
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
67. Given the cross-sectoral character of the EU Youth Strategy, have other national ministries played an active role in the National Working Group?	No
<p>If your answer is YES please elaborate and indicate who plays an active role. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
68. Does your Government provide financial or other support for the National Working Group?	Yes
<p>If your answer is YES please elaborate (maximum 300 words) If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	

<p>69. Is the competent national ministry aware of the process of consultations, and subsequent results, undertaken by the National Working Group in response to guiding questions issued by the European Steering Committee for the structured dialogue with youth?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>As coordinators of the entire process, NASY is fully connected to every step of these consultations.</p>
<p>70. Has your Government taken any initiatives to follow up the points that were raised as priority areas in the conclusions of the structured dialogue on youth employment, as outlined in the Council Resolution on the structured dialogue?</p>	<p>No, but we intend to take relevant initiatives/measures in 2012</p>
<p>Please elaborate If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>We have to admit that consultations have been developed with some organization difficulties. We have been focused more on delivering a good report on time. As things and cooperation have improved we think to better promote the future conclusions. However, Government has its own plan and initiatives to fight against youth unemployment.</p>
<p>71. Would your Government support a structured dialogue with young people and youth organisations in other fields than those covered by the overall thematic priorities, and individual Presidency priorities, agreed at European level?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer</p>	<p>We do not own such details about further initiatives.</p>
<p>72. Does your Government consider the National Working Group already established in your country to be sufficiently inclusive in its composition to ensure a participatory process open to all young people?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>If your answer is NO please elaborate</p>	

<p>73. What are the methods of consultation with young people that have been applied within the structured dialogue in your country?</p>	<p>Questionnaires, E-questionnaires, workshops, conferences, round tables.</p>
<p>If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	
<p>74. Do youth researchers and those engaged in youth work play a role in carrying out the structured dialogue in your country?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>If your answer is YES please elaborate If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The National Working Group collaborates with the Institute for Educational Science. At the same time, members of the NWG are youth workers.</p>
<p>75. Would your Government support efforts to enhance the visibility and transparency of structured dialogue at national level?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer.</p>	<p>The structured dialogue has been promoted through the official site of the National Authority for Sports and Youth, discussion groups, within various programmes and projects initiated by our institution. Local authorities have also been informed and asked to promote the structured dialogue.</p>
<p>76. Based on the experiences gained since 2010, does your Government feel that the format and working methods employed at EU Youth Conferences contribute to a successful conduct of structured dialogue?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer.</p>	<p>So far, it seems the most reasonable way of conducting the process.</p>
<p>77. Based on the experiences gained from the first two cycles of the structured dialogue, does your Government have particular recommendations for the further development of the structured dialogue?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

Please explain the reasons for your answer.

Romania salutes the initiatives of starting a new phase of the structure dialogue as early as possible. However, the alert way of passing from a consultation to another offers little time for follow-up, reactions and profound analyze after each session. On the other hand, structured dialogue should be as inclusive as possible. It is relatively complicated to set tools and methods adapted to each category of youth. Moreover, we encounter real problems keeping an alert pace in these consultations. Each organization has a calendar of actions and coordination between the members of the working group is done with difficulties. We recommend these issues should be further debated. Why do not dedicate a session of the structured dialogue to the organization of it?

## SECTION 6: ON EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE

Presentation of good practice # 1

After the first round of consultations of the present cycle a web material was posted on youtube by Dunăre. EDU, member in the NWG.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZwvwxC2Dpk&feature=player\\_embedded](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZwvwxC2Dpk&feature=player_embedded) It is a starting point to present our results and promote them public as friendly as possible.

Presentation of good practice # 2

Another initiative which we hope to be foster is that about promoting structure dialogue to the Romanian students and young professionals who study and work abroad. A short presentation about the structured dialogue was made to about 150 Romanian students studying and working abroad in November 2011, with the occasion of the GRASP annual conference (a member of the National Working Group).

Presentation of good practice # 3

Regional/local consultations have been organized. Really encouraging is the fact that representatives of local/regional public institutions, youth workers, academic professors and researchers in youth field have also been actively involved in debates. The methods used during the debates were different, nevertheless in all situations we have used non-formal methods such as: world café, open space, small working groups and plenary discussions

If you wish to add more good practices, please attach them as separate word documents (maximum 1000 words)

For the 2nd round of National Consultations of the Structured Dialogue (Period: Trio Presidency Poland-Denmark-Cyprus) the Romanian Students' Union organized in three round tables in Bucharest, Iasi and Cluj-Napoca, discussing the involvement of young people in institutional democracy and also the issue of lowering the voting age to 16. The participants, 70 for each of these round tables were representatives of the Parliament, politicians, and young leaders of political parties, professors, NGOs and students of all kind. The theme was approached from different perspectives bearing in mind the diversity of the participants. The majority of the politicians agreed that they support the idea of a lowering the voting age to 16. Being conscious of the low participation of young people in the elections, the idea proposed by the European Commission seems to be a good one. In the same time, they strongly suggest that such an initiative in Romania must be preceded by raising the awareness of young people through serious info-campaigns on participation in political life, the legislative process and so on. The representatives of the Academia showed interest in the issue and presented mostly the theoretical aspects of lowering the voting age. The two aspects that must be considered are the political interests in the issues and the status of Romanian society and whether we are prepared or not for such a public policy. There were underlined the consequences of adopting this public policy too early in Romania, and the danger that can be caused. The young leaders of the political parties supported the idea of a stronger and better relationship between youth and institutions through dialogue, involvement and most of all a proper legislative environment. In the same time, most of the discussions showed that not even young people think it's a good idea for Romania to implement this public policy on short or medium-term. The students and the NGO representatives found the subject really interesting. In Romania there were not so many initiatives on the subject. All supported the idea that Romanian youth need to get closer to the institutions, to the government, local authorities, and civil society and that is too early to even debate such a proposal in Romania. In the same time the students there were several proposal in order to succeed to put this on the subject on the public agenda: - Debates and conferences organized at the local level with high school students - Simulation and debate on the legislative process (E.g Youth Parliament, Youth Government etc.) - Campaign for informing and explaining the importance of voting - The adoption of a proper Youth Law - Encourage local youth projects where local authorities and young people work together - Increasing the number of civic participation hours in high-schools