



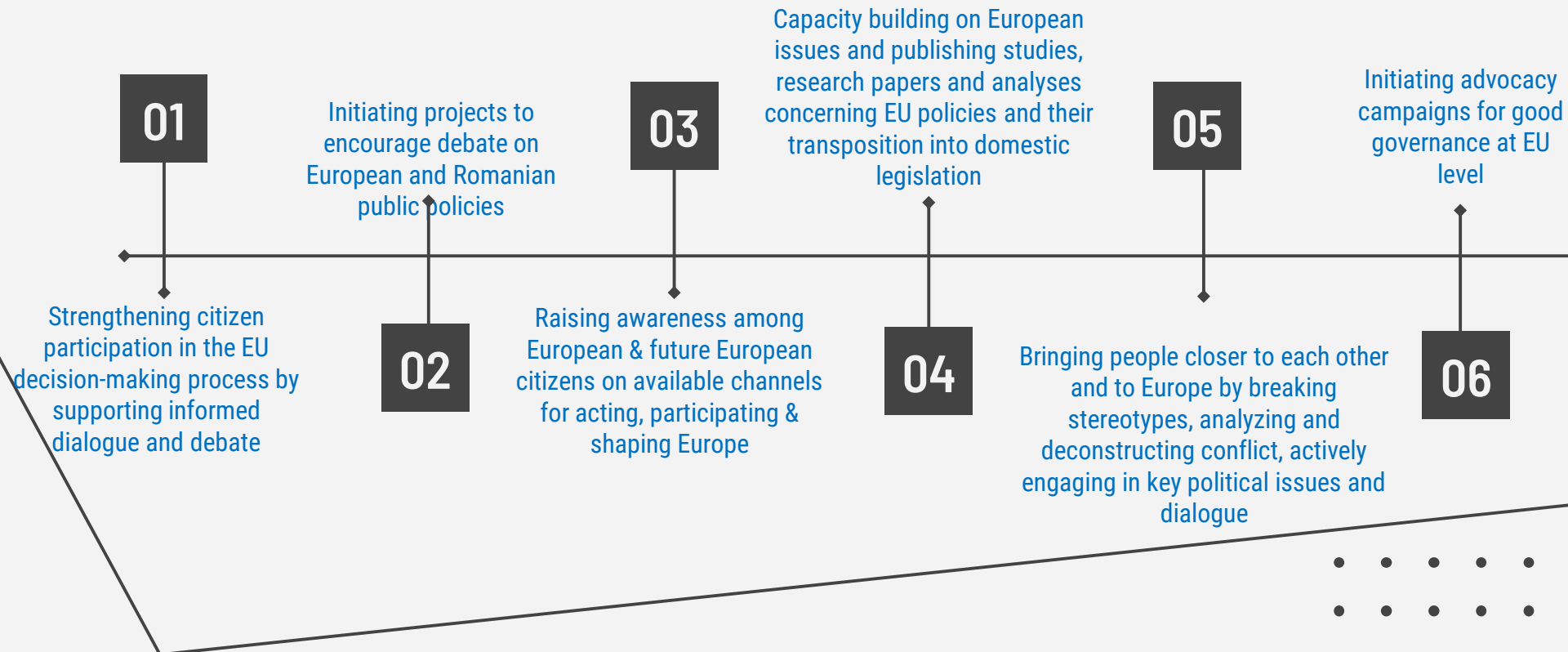
CRPE ANNUAL REPORT 2019



Who we are

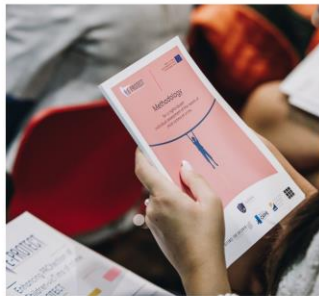
- One of the oldest Romanian think tanks specialized in European affairs
- Over 10 years' experience in national, regional and European projects, particularly public policies
- Main areas of expertise: justice and anti-corruption, social policies and rural development, European affairs and Eastern Partnership, youth, security and energy
- Over 60 national and international projects, more than 100 national and European events organized, bringing together citizens, representatives of the civil society and decision-makers focused on public policy topics of interest for the EU and Romania
- The first Romanian think tank to open a branch in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

Mission and vision



CRPE in 2019:

- 10 team members
- 15 affiliated experts
- 10 policy papers, editorials and position papers
- 10 national, regional and EU funded projects
- 20 debates, workshops, roundtables, study visits, training courses and national events
- Up to 1000 youngsters, students, academics, experts, analysts, NGO representatives, local stakeholders, representatives of public authorities and decision-makers involved
- 10 online debate competitions, online courses, quizzes and storytelling competitions
- More than 10 financing sources



PROJECTS



AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

1. Romania and European Affairs
2. Justice, Anti-corruption and Good Governance
3. Social Policies, Anti-poverty and Anti-discrimination
4. Agriculture and Rural Development
5. Youth and Civic Activism
6. Education and Entrepreneurship
7. Social Justice and Human Rights
8. Republic of Moldova and Eastern Partnership





Whistleblower protection and open data are unanimously recognized as key measures to deter and detect corruption in public procurement. Open data and citizen engagement are a way to contribute to enhancing a culture of accountability and transparency. Whistleblower protection is crucial to encourage the reporting of misconducts, fraud or corruption. Although the EU, OECD, the Council of Europe and NGOs at local and global level have recognized whistleblower protection and open data as key tools to address corruption and malpractices, there has been no assessment of the impact of these measures adopted by Member States or by EU Agencies.

This project addresses the need for assessing the impact of whistleblower legislation and open data policy on public procurement in seven Member States (Austria, Estonia, France, Ireland, Italy, Romania, and Slovenia) in order to develop an ICT tool for the public administrations (from local authorities to public companies) to self-evaluate their policies.



Target group: Public administration in partner countries (which could apply the ICT tool to self-evaluate their policies) and citizens (who will benefit in the long run from a more accountable public administration and will be contributing to this accountability, through an increased awareness of open data and transparency in public administration).

Whistleblowing Open Data Impact. An Implementation and Impact Assessment



Implementation period:

January 2019 - March 2021



Partners:

University of Turin (Italy)

Amapola – Progetti (Italy)

University of Angers (France)

Vienna Centre For Societal Security – Vicesse (Austria)

University of Maribor (Slovenia)



Funder:

European Commission

DG Migration & Home Affairs



Justice, Anti-
corruption and Good
Governance





The project focuses on two acts concerning judicial cooperation in criminal matters in the EU:

- Framework Decision 2008/947/JHA on the application of the principle of mutual recognition to judgments and probation decisions with a view to the supervision of probation measures and alternative sanctions
- Framework Decision 2009/829/JHA on the application, between Member States of the European Union, of the principle of mutual recognition to decisions on supervision measures as an alternative to provisional detention.

The aim is to strengthen national authorities and practitioners' knowledge and awareness on the FDs in Romania, Italy and Spain, while improving cooperation and building trust, with a potential spillover effect to other Member States.



Target group: National authorities and practitioners in the field of justice in Spain, Italy and Romania.



http://www.eurehabilitation.unito.it/trust_action

Trust and Social Rehabilitation in Action



Implementation period:

October 2018 – October 2020



Partners:

University of Turin (Italy)
Amapola Progetti (Italy)
Italian Ministry of Justice (Italy)
University A Coruna (Spain)



Funder:

European Commission
DG Justice



Justice, Anti-corruption
and Good Governance

RePerS: Mutual Trust and Social Rehabilitation into Practice



The project aimed to promote mutual trust and to contribute to the effective application of the:

- Framework Decision 2008/909 on the application of the principle of mutual recognition to judgments in criminal matters imposing custodial sentences or measures involving deprivation of liberty for the purpose of their enforcement in the EU

The project aimed to discuss the current bottlenecks in implementing the FD, build mutual trust between national authorities and identify a model of cooperation between the states involved (Romania, Italy and Spain) and set up a system of collection of quantitative and qualitative information on the transfers.



Target group: national judicial and administrative authorities from Romania, Italy and Spain.



Implementation period:

December 2017 – December 2019



Partners:

University of Turin (Italy)
Amapola Progetti (Italy)
Italian Ministry of Justice (Italy)
University A Coruna (Spain)
LiderJust (Romania)



Funder:

European Commission
DG Justice



Justice, Anti-corruption
and Good Governance



http://www.eurehabilitation.unito.it/repers_project



The project addressed the issue of the integration on the labor market of Roma youth by means of the national and EU funded Youth Guarantee schemes in three countries: Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary.

Main activities:

- Data collection and analysis requested from the regional and national Public Employment Services (PES) in all partner countries
- Designing of country studies based on preliminary research aimed at identifying institutional barriers and drivers, as well as good practices in each country, which could be further replicated and also mapping local stakeholders and national projects and programs for young NEETs
- Designing of a comparative study addressing best practice cases among EU Member States, focused on the integration of young NEETs from vulnerable groups in the framework of the Youth Guarantee
- Local, regional and national meetings with relevant stakeholders.



Target group: young NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training) from vulnerable groups from Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary; local and national PES representatives; local stakeholders, experts and relevant NGO representatives in the field of Roma youth issues.

Mind the gap! Facilitating access to and take up of Youth Guarantee measures by Roma youth in Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania



Implementation period:

September 2017 – October 2019



Partners:

Center for the Study of Democracy (CSD)

Budapest Institute (BI)

World Without Borders (WWB)

Roma Entrepreneurship Development Initiative (REDI)



Funder:

Open Society Institute



Social Policies,
Anti-poverty and
Anti-discrimination





The project addresses the topic of high schools as community learning hubs with an active role in the development of small and medium farms and agricultural businesses, providing services for both youngsters and adults.

CRPE focuses on documentation and advocacy activities to ensure further premises for the sustainability of the program and for addressing the goal on a larger scale.

In addition, the project aims to stimulate and support stakeholders (both public and private) to be involved in the development of rural areas, particularly in the field of agriculture (in the 12 high schools included in the program and beyond them), by prioritizing agricultural education and establishing data-driven, coherent national strategies and programs in this respect.



Target group: 12 high schools with agricultural profile in Romania with an active role as community learning hubs for the development of small and medium sized farms and agricultural businesses; in addition to public and private stakeholders that can provide a continuation and implementation of the program.



<https://educatieagricola.ro/>

Research and advocacy for positioning agriculture high-schools as hubs for small and medium farmers



Implementation period:

October 2015 – November 2020



Partners:

Civitas Foundation

World Vision Romania

Junior Achievement Romania

Foundation Center Entrepreneurship and Executive Development in Romania (CEED)



Funder:

Romanian-American Foundation



Agriculture and Rural Development



The project was aimed at assessing the impact of small farmers' association in terms of gaining market access, developing economically and contributing to the preservation and flourishing of traditional rural livelihood in Romania.

CRPE was in charge of researching the implementation of the RAF pilot program, which included the creation of four agricultural associative structures, in each geographic area in Romania:

- Legume de Vidra
- Lunca Someșului Mic
- Miere de Câmpie
- Târgu Frumos

Moreover, the project was designed to contribute to tackling small farmers' limited access to capital and also to solutions for expansion, to increase their changes of development.



Target group: small farmers in Romania who are members of agricultural cooperatives.

Monitoring of policy implementation and impact assessment of the “Rural development through entrepreneurship and association” program



Implementation period:
October 2016 – January 2019



Funder:
Romanian-American Foundation



Agriculture and Rural
Development





The project addressed the topic of civic mobilization and street protest as new forms of democratic participation, seeking to translate grassroots level messages and link them to EU public policies, favoring a bottom-up approach, closer to EU citizens.

Main results:

- An E-debate competition concerning the most important topics of debate at EU level in the framework of the EU elections, street protests and movements within the EU;
- 16 video stories the future of the EU with young participants in the street protests in Romania, Greece, Bulgaria and Germany;
- 6 town hall meetings in all partner countries that brought together more than 500 participants who debated the most recent trends and various forms of civic mobilization and their impact on the future of Europe;
- 4 position papers on the specific framework and evolution of civic mobilization in Romania, Bulgaria, Greece and Germany; in addition to 1 comparative report which provides recommendations for improving citizens' engagement and role in the future of the EU.



Target group: young participants in the street protests; in addition to policy experts and local authorities from Romania, Greece, Bulgaria, and Germany.



<http://futureofeurope.europeanheroes.eu/>

Future of Europe: Bringing more union into the European Union



Implementation period:

September 2018 – February 2020



Partners:

Institute for European Politics (Germany)
National University of Political and Administrative Studies (Romania)
Risk Monitor (Bulgaria)
Inter Alia (Greece)



Funder:

European Commission
Europe for Citizens Program
Strand 2: Democratic engagement
and civic participation



Youth and Civic
Activism



The project aimed to raise awareness and disseminate know-how among the youth on the importance of the EU 2019 elections and to empower youth and youth workers with the required tools to gain momentum and influence through interactive and user-friendly methods.

Main results:

- A quiz and an interactive E-debate competition that allowed user-friendly interaction with more than 500 youngsters and youth workers, promoting critical thinking and argumentative speeches
- 6 days training course in Brussels organized with youth from Romania and Greece, with the winners of the e-debate competition
- A guideline on lessons learnt on how to empower youth and inform them of the importance of EU elections and on how to combat online disinformation campaigns.



Target group: Youth, students, youth workers from Romania and Greece, with an interest in EU affairs/ EU elections.

A new narrative for Europe – a more engaging one



Implementation period:

September 2018 – October 2019



Partners:

National University of Political and Administrative Studies (Romania)
Inter Alia (Greece)



Funder:

European Commission
Erasmus+ Programme, Key Action 2:
Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices



Youth and Civic
Activism



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The project aimed at providing technical assistance to the European Commission Representation in Romania for the organization of national conferences, round tables and meetings, for the purpose of communicating and stimulating debates concerning the EU priorities, as well as giving rise to reactions and proposals in relation to European policies.

The project encouraged free discussions on European subjects of interest, generated by the current developments at political and institutional level, as well as those related to the economic, social and cultural dimension of the European phenomenon. Several long-term platforms for public debate have been produced, concentrated on Romania's role in the European Union.

These meetings helped create the necessary framework for a specialized analysis of the most important matters of the European context and for defining a Romanian view on the future European political and institutional architecture.

Main results: over 80 events organized, ensuring the thematic foundation and the related follow-up activities.

'AICI EUROPA' Contract



Implementation period:
January 2015 – May 2019



Funder:
European Commission Representation in
Romania



Romania and
European Affairs



Youth Social Entrepreneurship Hub



The project is designed to strengthen social entrepreneurship skills of the youth and youth workers by developing innovative learning materials and involving them in learning activities via the “Virtual learning social enterprise platform” method.

The goal of this method is to teach business skills to the youth by simulating the processes and activities that occur in a real company and its relationships with other companies and institutions.



Target group: 60 young people, aged 15-22 years old, who want to develop their entrepreneurial skills and to understand social entrepreneurship and its benefits in their personal and professional development.



Implementation period:

February 2019 – September 2020



Partners:

Center for Not-for-Profit Law (Romania)

Diesis Network (Belgium)

Consorzio Nazionale Meuccio Ruini per la formazione, i servizi al lavoro E l'innovazione tecnologica – Società Cooperativa (Italy)



Funder:

European Commission



Erasmus+ Programme, Key Action 2:

Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices



Education and
Entrepreneurship






The project aimed to develop the foundations of an international youth network (the E-UNITE network) that promoted community-led initiatives in the fields of tolerance, inclusivity and diversity.

The main output of the project – the E-UNITE Hub – allowed for the convergence of young minds and exchange of ideas, as well as support for such initiatives.

The Hub is a baseline for exchange of know-how and good practices of youth workers, which are interested in working on those community-led initiatives or alternatively – youth workers, who wish to develop youth networks of their own.



Target group: youth and youth workers from the partner countries.

E-UNITE: European Youth Network for Diversity and Tolerance



Implementation period:

March 2018 - June 2019

Partners:



Law and Internet Foundation (Bulgaria)

University of Nicosia (Cyprus)

Institute for Economic, Political, and Social studies (Kosovo)

Celje Youth Center (Slovenia)

HIGGS (Greece)



Funder:

European Commission

Erasmus+ Programme, Key Action 2:

Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices



Social Justice and
Human Rights





The project responds to the need for training and expertise on the transposition in the national legislation of EU Directive 2016/343 on the strengthening of certain aspects of the presumption of innocence and of the right to be present at the trial in criminal proceedings.

The project provided training to legal practitioners, prosecutors and judges and developed a comprehensive comparative analysis for all partner countries' legislation in respect to the right to be present of suspected or accused persons in criminal proceedings.



Target group: Legal practitioners, prosecutors, judges who can contribute to the enhancement of the right to be present within their activity, practice and network.

Enhancing the Right to be Present (PRESENT)



Implementation period:

January 2018 – December 2019



Partners:

Law and Internet Foundation (Bulgaria)
Vienna Centre for Societal Security (Austria)
Portugalense Institute for Legal Research (Portugal)
University of Cyprus
Comenius University (Slovakia)



Funder:

European Commission
DG Justice



Social Justice and
Human Rights



<http://www.presentproject.eu>



The project aimed to develop, deploy and maintain a transnational online platform in English, Bulgarian, German, Italian, Romanian and Czech in order to provide comparative legal and practical advice to the variety of professionals working with children-victims of crime on reinforcing the application of Directive 2012/29/EU and Directive 2004/80/EC.

In addition, the consortium elaborated a methodology aimed at individualized needs assessment of the child victims of crime and established a pan European network of multidisciplinary professionals working with child victims of crime.



Target group: lawyers, judges, prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, psychologist, social workers, etc. from all partner countries active in the field of child protection.

E-PROTECT: Enhancing the protection of children



Implementation period:

January 2018 – September 2019



Partners:

Law and Internet Foundation (Bulgaria)
Vienna Centre for Societal Security (Austria)
Defence for Children International (Italy)
Italian Ministry of Justice (Italy)
South-East European Research Centre (Greece)



Funder:

European Commission
DG Justice



Social Justice and
Human Rights



Leadership Program for Moldovan Young Legal Professionals



The project aimed to design a network of young experts in the field of justice with the potential to bring a solid change in the judiciary system of the Republic of Moldova, as well as in society, by building needed leadership skills through five training sessions.



Target group: 20 young experts and practitioners in the field of justice from the Republic of Moldova



Implementation period:

November 2018 - November 2019



Partner:

INK Association



Funder:

Embassy of the Netherlands

REPORT.MD - CORRESPONDENT EUROPA – Facts not Fake



The project tackled the matters of cybersecurity, fake news, political disinformation, and media propaganda, as well as ways for journalists to identify and eradicate these issues through a dedicated training seminar and a tailored study-visit in Romania. In addition, the project sought to raise awareness among the Moldovan public, in particular among young people, of the economic and social benefits (as well as prospects) that the country's democratic development and cooperation with the Western world and the European Union have brought via a dedicated storytelling campaign composed of 15 multimedia stories and 5 cross-border case studies. Subsequent to the project, a specialized report and training guide on propaganda patterns in the Republic of Moldova was developed.



Target group: 15 journalists from the Republic of Moldova



Implementation period:

January 2019 - September 2019



Partners:

Report.md Platform
EURACTIV Romania



Funder:

National Endowment for Democracy



Republic of Moldova
and European
Neighborhood Policy

EVENTS



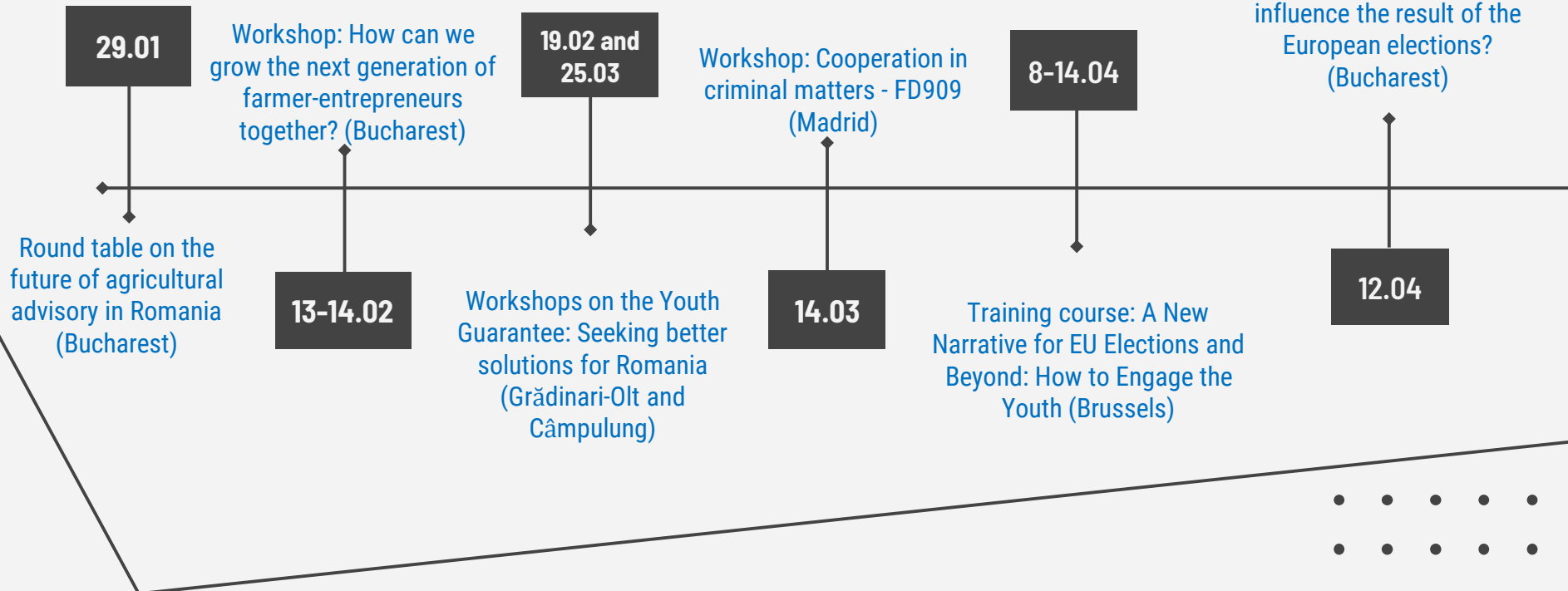
Participants:

- Youth and youth workers
- Young civic activists
- Students
- Academia
- NGO representatives
- Entrepreneurs
- Experts and analysts
- Community leaders
- Local, regional and national stakeholders
- Public authorities



Main topics:

- Socio-economic inclusion of vulnerable groups
- The next generation of farmers
- Vocational education and training
- Judicial cooperation in criminal matters
- Education and entrepreneurship
- Civic engagement and street protests
- Child protection policies
- The next generation of political leaders





Study visit: Agricultural education in France – best practices and lessons learnt for Romania (France)

22.05

European Academy for Young Political Leaders

08.07

Conference: Strengthening the protection of children - victims of crime (Bucharest)

05.10

19.04

Debate on the Youth Guarantee: Socio-economic integration of young NEETs from disadvantaged groups (Bucharest)

06-07.06 and 19-20.10

Mutual Learning Activity on Judicial Cooperation in criminal matters (Rome)

24.09

Conference: Streets protests and civic mobilization – Current challenges to social resilience – views from the civil society (Bucharest)





PUBLICATIONS

CRPE follows the main debates at European level and launches analyses and public policy proposals by setting them on the national public agenda.

CRPE's policy papers are mainly focused on the following topics:

- Justice, Internal Affairs and Anti-Corruption
- Economic Governance and European Funds
- Romania and EU Affairs
- Common Agricultural Policy
- Social Policies and Anti-Poverty
- Education and Health
- Energy and Environment
- The Republic of Moldova and Neighborhood Policy

Agricultural Advisory in Romania. Evolution and Public Policy Recommendations



The study aims to analyze the agricultural advisory system in Romania, starting from the most important legislative changes in its evolution after 1989 to its current organizational structure.

In addition, the study carries out a brief analysis of the models developed by other states in the field of agricultural advisory.

The analysis shows that, in Romania, the (re)construction of a functional and performing agricultural advisory system is an urgent matter, not only from the perspective of the farmers' needs for development, but also given Romania's access to future agricultural funds post-2020.

Access of young vulnerable NEETs to Youth Guarantee measures in Romania. Current status and way forward



The report analyzes the implementation of Youth Guarantee program in Romania, its main objectives, target groups, national projects for young NEETs, and, above all, the extent to which the program managed to facilitate and to support the integration on the labour market of young people at risk of social marginalization – in particular Roma youth.

In addition, the study includes a series of public policy recommendations, targeting both the architecture and implementation of the future Youth Guarantee in Romania post-2020, as well as how the program could support the inclusion of young people from vulnerable groups into the labour market.

The Youth Guarantee. Best practices in supporting young NEETs from vulnerable groups among EU countries



The research shows how the Member States have successfully implemented a variety of measures and programs focused on young NEETs as part of the Youth Guarantee.

Based on best practice cases identified among EU Member States, the study proposes a set of recommendations that aim to help improve the future implementation of the Youth Guarantee program, with a focus on vulnerable groups in countries such as Romania, where this target group still faces increasing cultural, societal and institutional barriers.

OUR TEAM

Board of Directors



BIANCA TOMA – PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

- Over 15 years' experience as a journalist and 10 years' experience in the NGO sector
- Coordinator of projects related to good governance, justice, anti-corruption and EU Affairs



RUXANDRA POPESCU – PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

- Over 6 years' experience in the NGO sector
- Coordinator of projects in the field of education, active citizenship and human rights



ALEXANDRA TODERITA – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Over 12 years' experience in the NGO sector
- Coordinator of projects in the field of rural development, social inclusion of vulnerable groups and Vocational Education and Training





OUR TEAM

Permanent Staff



Alexandru Damian
Researcher

- Over 6 years' experience in NGOs
- Coordinator of projects in the field of EU affairs and Eastern Partnership, good governance and EU funds.



Catalina Meirosu
Researcher

- Over 3 years' experience in research and event organization
- Involved in regional and European projects in the field of social policies, youth, education and civic engagement



Adina Lica
Researcher

- Over 3 years' experience in NGOs sector
- Extensive knowledge in the field of Europeanization, the European Governance and social policies



Andrada Cilibiu
Researcher

- Over 3 years' experience in NGOs sector
- Involved in projects regarding gender studies, education in disadvantaged environments and minorities studies



Bianca Petre
Researcher

- Over 2 years' experience in NGOs sector
- Involved in projects concerning youth, education, EU economic integration and also Cohesion Policy and macro-regional strategies of the EU



Oana Ganea
Sociologist

- Over 15 years' experience in market and social research
- Involved in quantitative and qualitative research in social and rural policies



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