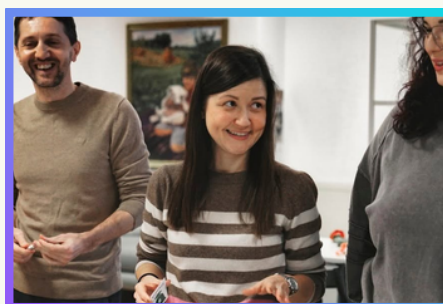


2025

ANNUAL REPORT



ROMANIAN CENTER
FOR EUROPEAN POLICIES

CRPE

DEBATING EUROPE, PROVIDING EXPERTISE

OVERVIEW

Introduction

Who we are

Our projects, events and publications

- Agriculture and rural development
- Education
- Youth participation
- Safeguarding democracy
- CRPE and the Republic of Moldova
- Sustainable development
- Digital policies

Our achievements

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INTRODUCTION

2025 was a challenging year for Romanian democracy. It began in the aftermath of the annulment of the presidential elections in December 2024 and was marked by an intense electoral campaign that culminated, in May 2025, in the election of a pro-European, centrist president. The electoral process exposed deep divisions within Romanian society, including among the diaspora, with significant support in Western Europe for a candidate whose political discourse repeatedly challenged the European Union and Romania's support for the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

Questions surrounding the elections remained unresolved throughout the year. Public authorities failed to provide sufficient explanations about the circumstances that led to the annulment of the 2024 presidential elections, as well as about the rapid rise of a pro-Russian candidate who reported no campaign spending yet secured the first position in the first round. Major promised reforms, in the areas of the judiciary, anti-corruption or civic control over the secret services, were delayed.

On the first day of 2025, Romania completed its accession to the Schengen Area with the lifting of land border controls, creating new opportunities for mobility, trade, and economic development. As expected, Russia's war against Ukraine remained the most significant security threat in the region, with several incidents involving Russian drones entering or crashing on Romanian territory.

In the Republic of Moldova, 2025 parliamentary elections resulted in a clear victory for the pro-European governing party, a development we welcomed as an important reaffirmation of the country's European path.

INTRODUCTION

For CRPE, 2025 was a year of growth, new partnerships and an expanding portfolio of projects, most of them supported through European funding. We continued to work across our core areas of expertise: civic engagement, good governance, agriculture and rural development, education and European affairs. Among the year's highlights were the successful advocacy campaigns to protect the identity of Romania's agricultural high schools and safeguard their teaching farms; organizing the first joint Romania – Republic of Moldova agricultural education convention; the development of our first educational game, Ecoville; collaboration with dozens of schools, youth organisations or civic groups monitoring green policies or implementing small-scale projects at local level; the publication of our fourth annual assessment of participatory budgeting; and the first independent assessment of Romania's National Action Plan for the Digital Decade.

We also expanded our work in the Republic of Moldova and across the Eastern Partnership. We supported dozens of small local civil society organisations in strengthening their capacities and continued our cooperation with partners in Georgia and Armenia.

CRPE remained committed to advancing the Europeanisation of Romania, supporting democratic values and promoting reform at a time when far-right and extremist narratives are gaining ground.

This report offers an overview of our work in 2025, bringing together our main activities, publications and achievements, alongside a summary of our financial resources and an introduction to the team behind them.

Thank you for following our work and for supporting our mission!

WHO WE ARE

The Romanian Center for European Policies (CRPE) is one of the main Romanian think tanks specialised in European affairs. Since 2009, we have been conducting research in the field of European and national public policies, implementing advocacy campaigns, organising public debates, training programmes and civic engagement campaigns for citizens.

Our main areas of expertise are democracy and good governance, youth involvement and active citizenship, agriculture and rural development, education, international affairs (especially the Republic of Moldova and the Eastern Partnership). CRPE was the first Romanian think tank to open a branch in the Republic of Moldova in 2012.

We want to live in a democratic country, in a rule-of-law state that is fully anchored in Europe. We believe in evidence-based public policies designed to serve the needs of all citizens. We design our projects bearing in mind the small changes we can make. We bring real life – documented in figures and stories – to the decision makers' table, in consultations on European and national laws, policies and programmes.



250+ young people engaged in climate change dialogue in six communities

300+ teachers collaborated with us

50+ schools and youth organisations received the EcoVille boardgame

1000+ young people tested EcoVille

500+ farmers we identified as interested in hosting students for internships and dual education

1st independent analysis of Romania's Digital Decade 2030 Roadmap

24% average increase in organisational capacity among the Moldovan CSOs we supported

500+ young people engaged in civic education, media literacy and inclusion through 75 teaching modules.

19 youth-led action plans implemented to address local challenges.

1st educational boardgame developed by CRPE

4th annual monitoring report on participatory budgeting

400+ people told us how they feel about digital policies

OUR PROJECTS, EVENTS AND PUBLICATIONS

what we did together in 2025



AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Creștem prin Educație Agricolă

We grow through agricultural education

Growing through Agricultural Education is CRPE's flagship programme dedicated to strengthening Romania's agricultural vocational education system. Together with our partners (World Vision Romania, Civitas Foundation and Junior Achievement Romania) we work with all 59 agricultural VET high schools in the country to help them become stronger, more attractive and better connected to the needs of modern agriculture.

Now in its fourth phase (2024-2026), the programme focuses on preparing agricultural schools for the transition to dual education, improving work-based learning opportunities, strengthening partnerships with farmers and agribusinesses, and supporting teachers in delivering modern, relevant agricultural education.



February 2025: Annual Agricultural High Schools Convention

CRPE organized the annual Agricultural High Schools Convention, bringing together over 100 participants from 42 Romanian agricultural high schools, schools from the Republic of Moldova, ministries, universities and farmers' organizations.

Helping schools plan for the future

Throughout the year, we piloted a new strategic planning methodology with nine agricultural high schools across five counties and organized four multi-stakeholders roundtables in Vrancea, Iași, Constanța and Călărași counties. Schools explored regional agricultural trends, labour market needs and partnership opportunities, laying the groundwork for stronger local education ecosystems.

Supporting teachers

Keeping teachers connected to innovation remained a priority. During the year, CRPE organized two national Agri 4.0 webinars:

January – Precision Agriculture: examples from Romanian farming, exploring precision farming technologies and sustainable agricultural practices.

November – Soil Health: biofertilisers and integrative approaches, attended by a record 84 agricultural teachers, researchers and practitioners.



PUBLICATIONS



Researching the potential for expanding on-the-job learning in agricultural TVET – the perspective of economic agents

One of the year's biggest milestones was completing the first nationwide mapping of potential practicum partners for agricultural schools. Working together with the Ministry of Agriculture and the 41 County Agricultural Offices, we identified more than 500 farmers interested in hosting students for internships and dual education. The research became the foundation for a national communication campaign that will be launched in early 2026.

CoopNet 3.0

Timeline: May 2023 – December 2025

CoopNet 3.0 is the latest phase of a long-term programme that CRPE has been developing since 2012 to strengthen agricultural cooperatives in Romania. Implemented together with the Civitas Foundation and CMSC, with the support of the Romanian-American Foundation, the programme helps cooperatives become stronger businesses while promoting a more supportive policy and financing environment.

In 2025, CRPE focused on generating evidence and bringing together the actors that shape the future of the cooperative sector—from policymakers and public authorities to financial institutions, retailers and farmers' organizations. Our work centered on one key question: what does Romania need to help agricultural cooperatives grow and compete?

Throughout the year, CRPE completed one of the most comprehensive analyses of the Romanian cooperative sector, examining the financial, legislative and institutional barriers that continue to limit the development of agricultural cooperatives. The research translated the experiences of cooperatives into policy recommendations for national and European decision-makers.



October 2025: Online agricultural cooperatives report launch event

CRPE organized the national launch event for its latest research on agricultural cooperatives. The event brought together representatives of public authorities, farmers' organizations, financial institutions and the retail sector to discuss practical solutions for improving access to finance, strengthening producer organizations and creating a more enabling environment for agricultural cooperation

PUBLICATIONS



Public Policies for the Consolidation of Agricultural Cooperatives in Romania: Needs and Financing

Building on both quantitative and qualitative research, this policy paper analyses the structural barriers limiting the development of agricultural cooperatives and proposes concrete policy measures to strengthen the sector. The recommendations focus on improving access to finance, supporting producer organizations, encouraging investment and creating a more enabling institutional framework for agricultural cooperation.

Needs of Agricultural Cooperatives in Romania: Access to Finance and Markets

Published in September 2025, this quantitative study explored the challenges faced by agricultural cooperatives, with a particular focus on access to finance, investment needs and market integration. Based on a nationwide survey, the report shows that many cooperatives continue to struggle with access to bank financing, specialized financial instruments and stable market opportunities, despite their growing role in the Romanian agri-food sector.



EDUCATION

Advocacy services in the field of education: career guidance and dual vocational education and training (VET)

Timeline: 2023 - 2025

Between 2023 and 2025, CRPE implemented an advocacy project with the support of HEKS/EPER Romania, aimed at improving career guidance services and making vocational education and training (VET) more accessible and relevant for young people, particularly those from vulnerable backgrounds.

Working closely with local partners in Alba, Covasna, Mureş and Sibiu, the project combined research, policy advocacy and stakeholder dialogue to promote better career counselling, stronger links between education and the labour market, and policies that help prevent early school leaving.

Throughout the project, CRPE developed policy recommendations, facilitated consultations with national and local authorities, organised public debates and supported evidence-based discussions on how Romania can build a more inclusive and effective vocational education system.



May 2025: Debate in the Chamber of Deputies on the CRPE report on school dropouts

In May 2025, CRPE organized a policy debate at the Romanian Chamber of Deputies, launching its latest analysis on early school leaving in vocational education. The event brought together policymakers, education experts and practitioners to discuss concrete measures for keeping vulnerable young people engaged in education and training.



November 2025: Focus groups on vocational and technical education

Also, in May and November 2025 CRPE facilitated a series of 6 working groups with teachers, school counsellors, VET providers, dual education business partners and other stakeholders from Alba, Sibiu and Covasna counties in order to identify practical solutions for improving vocational education and career guidance policies in Romania.

PUBLICATIONS



Career guidance in vocational and technical education: Good practices at European level

A comparative review of successful European career guidance systems, highlighting practical models that can help Romanian schools provide students with better career counseling and smoother transitions from education to the labour market.

Local Governance of Vocational Education: Bringing Stakeholders Around the Same Table

This report explores how local authorities, schools, employers and other stakeholders can work together to shape vocational education offers that better reflect local labour market needs. Drawing on Romanian case studies and European examples, it provides practical recommendations for strengthening local governance and collaboration in VET.

Reducing early school leaving in TVET: European solutions and good practices

A policy paper reviewing successful European approaches to preventing early school leaving in vocational education and identifying measures that could improve student retention and educational outcomes in Romania.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION

EmpowerYouth: Increasing youth engagement in public decision-making

Timeline: November 2024 - October 2026

Throughout 2025, EmpowerYouth focused on equipping youth organisations in Romania with practical tools to engage young people in civic participation by using environmental and climate issues as an entry point. We developed a learning kit for non-formal education on civic participation, local governance, and climate action, as well as Ecoville, an educational board game that challenges young people to make decisions as members of a local community. The game was piloted with more than 100 young people in Bucharest, Focşani and Râmnicu Vâlcea and distributed to over 50 schools and youth organisations across the country.

To strengthen transnational cooperation, we hosted a study visit in Bucharest for youth workers and project partners from the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, and Georgia. We also continued a series of virtual learning sessions, connecting participants from all partner countries to exchange experiences on public participation, civic activism, community organising, and climate action. These activities laid the foundation for the next phase of the project, supporting teams of young civic monitors in implementing local initiatives throughout 2026.



April 2025: Workshop on Youth Civic Engagement and Environmental Protection

Brought together 15 youth organisations from across Romania to exchange good practices and introduce the EmpowerYouth learning resources, including the Ecoville board game and civic education toolkit.

July 2025: Empower youth study visit - Learning and Action for Civic Engagement and Climate Impact

Hosted a five-day study visit in Bucharest, bringing together 26 youth workers and civic activists from Romania, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, and Georgia to exchange practical approaches to youth participation, climate action, and collaboration with public authorities.

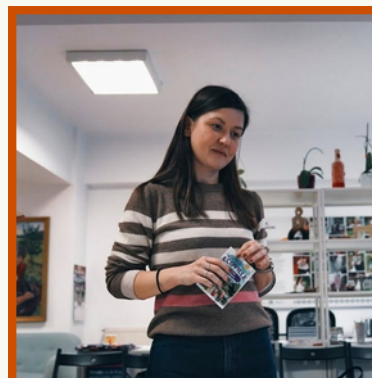


October 2025: Virtual Learning Session - Engaging in Climate and Environment Activism

Explored practical approaches to youth-led climate action with sustainability expert Ana-Maria Pălăduș (REPER21), showcasing community initiatives and local actions that participants can replicate in their own organisations.

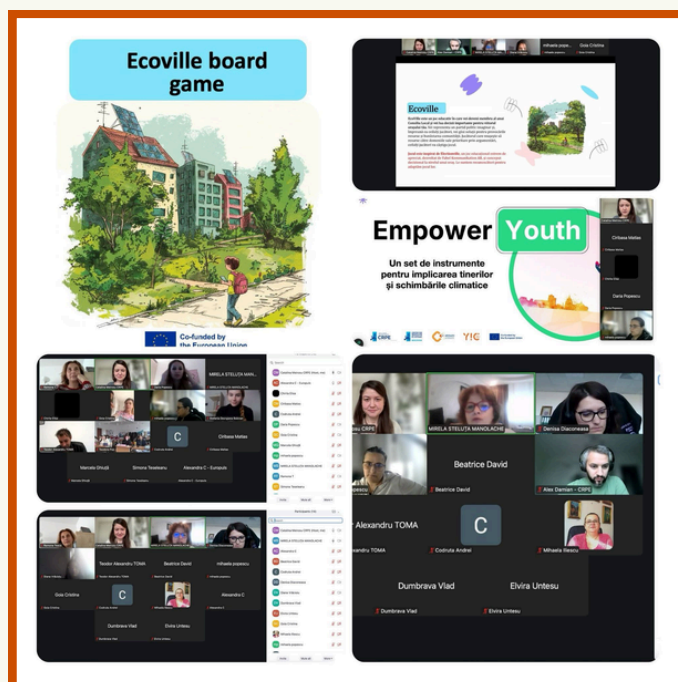
October-November 2025: EcoVille Testing Workshops

Piloted the Ecoville educational board game in Focșani, Roșiori de Vede and Râmnicu Vâlcea, engaging over 50 young people and youth workers in interactive simulations of local decision-making and environmental governance.



October-November 2025: Online Workshops on Youth Civic Engagement and Climate Action

Two online workshops introducing the EmpowerYouth learning kit and engaging young people and youth organisations in discussions on civic participation, local decision-making, and climate action.



December 2025: 2nd Virtual Learning Session - Public Participation, Fostering Civic Activism and Organising Communities

Featured practitioners from Declic and Rădăuțiul Civic, who shared practical lessons on digital campaigning, grassroots organising, volunteer mobilisation, and building long-term civic engagement.

Ecoville educational game

Launched EcoVille, an educational board game that helps young people understand local decision-making, participatory budgeting, and sustainable governance through interactive negotiation and role-play. The game is available free of charge and was distributed to over 50 schools and youth organisations across Romania in 2025.



EUTEAM: Youth learning and virtual exchanges

Timeline: February 2024 - February 2027

In Romania, through the EUTEAM project, we worked in 2025 with more than 25 schools and teachers and over 500 young people across three learning modules focused on civic activism, media literacy and anti-discrimination. Each participant went through all three modules, combining knowledge and practical skills to better understand the issues affecting their communities and how they can take action.

Building on this experience, the youths developed action plans addressing real challenges in their schools and local communities, with the aim of putting these ideas into practice. In 2026, we will continue this work by recognising the most impactful youth initiatives through the Civic Activism Prizes, celebrating young people who have turned learning into action.



January 2025 workshop: Improving access to EU funds for youths

CRPE organized a dedicated event as part of the EUTEAM project, focusing on enhancing access to EU-funded youth programs. The session, titled Supporting cooperation by improving access to EU youth funding programs, brought together over 25 participants, including teachers, youth workers, and representatives from youth organizations, all eager to better understand the funding opportunities available for their institutions and beneficiaries.

December 2024 - June 2025 workshops: Empowering youth through civic education, media literacy, and inclusion

We worked with over 500 young people through a training program that helped them better understand their role in society. The program focused on three key areas: civic education, media literacy, and inclusion



PUBLICATIONS



19 youth-led action plans tackling local issues: civic action, environmental activism or community safety.

The students developed action plans to implement small-scale local projects addressing issues and needs they identified themselves, together with their coordinating teachers and with a little support from us.



What do youths know and learn about the EU? Insights from the EUTEAM survey

We conducted the Voices of Youth survey to evaluate the impact of EUTEAM's educational activities and understand youth engagement with civic participation, media literacy, and diversity.

SAFEGUARDING DEMOCRACY

GRACE: Guaranteeing Rights and Charter Enforcement

Period of implementation: September 2025 – August 2027

As part of the GRACE project, CRPE will work to strengthen awareness and use of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights in Romania, where knowledge of the Charter and its practical relevance remains limited. The project will assess the needs of key stakeholders and identify the main gaps preventing the Charter from being better integrated into public decision-making and civic work.

Based on this assessment, CRPE will develop four training programmes in 2026, two for public authorities and two for NGOs, focused on strengthening their capacity to use the Charter in their work. The project will also include an advocacy campaign aimed at raising awareness of the Charter and promoting its practical application in Romania.



WAKE UP: Building a safer space for whistleblowers

Period of implementation: 2025-2027

WAKE UP aims to create an enabling environment for whistleblowers in the public sector by raising awareness of the new national regulations implementing the EU Whistleblower Protection Directive, providing training for those who handle whistleblower reports inside public administrations, strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs) to advise and support whistleblowers and promoting a positive culture of whistleblowing through awareness campaigns, university seminars, and accessible online resources.



September: Consortium and kick-off meeting in Bucharest

We got together with our partners from all over Europe to discuss the next steps and actions for the project.



Disinfo 4 Black Sea

Timeline: May 2024– February 2025

At the beginning of the Israel-Hamas war, disinformation surged across the Black Sea region, amplified on and by social media, and fueled by coordinated influence campaigns from Russia, China, and Iran, in order to deepen existing divisions within democratic societies. With societal resilience at a low point in countries like Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova, Georgia, and Ukraine, our project launched a rapid-response investigation into the narratives, networks, and public impact of this disinformation.

Over nine months, we combined research methods, content monitoring and social media listening platforms, data-science, fact-checking and investigative journalistic practices to expose disinformation networks and measure their public impact. The result: five national analyses, seven comparative reports, and over 100,000 online views.

PUBLICATIONS



Propaganda wars: the role of disinformation in the Israel-Hamas conflict and its Romanian reach looks at how the Israel-Hamas conflict has been used as a tool for disinformation in the local digital ecosystem, amplifying polarisation, conspiracy theories and pro-Kremlin propaganda in Romania and the Black Sea region.

CRPE AND THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

FARMKEEN: Strengthening Agricultural Education in Republic of Moldova

Period of implementation: December 2023 – November 2026

FARMKEEN is a cross-border project led by CRPE supporting the modernisation of agricultural vocational education in the Republic of Moldova through student-centred learning, stronger links with the agricultural sector and the integration of sustainable farming practices into teaching. The project brings together partners from Romania, Moldova and the Netherlands to help agricultural schools better prepare students for the realities of modern agriculture.

Within the project, CRPE contributes its expertise in agricultural education policy, work-based learning and stakeholder engagement, facilitating the transfer of Romanian and European good practices to the Moldovan context. Throughout 2025, our work focused on strengthening cooperation between agricultural schools, universities and public institutions from both countries.



Romania-Republic of Moldova Agricultural Education: Public Policies and Good Practices Education Event

In February 2025, FARMKEEN partners co-organised the Romania-Republic of Moldova Agricultural Education: Public Policies and Good Practices event, bringing together agricultural schools, universities, ministries, farmers and education experts from both countries. The event created new opportunities for institutional partnerships, exchange of experience and future collaboration on curriculum development, teacher training and work-based learning.

Striving to thrive: capacity building programs for CSOs in Moldova

Timeline: September 2024 – September 2025

We worked with more than 30 small CSOs in Moldova through a capacity-building programme combining individual evaluations and tailored action plans, mentoring and support on areas such as financial management, advocacy, community activism, legal compliance and organisational development.

The initiative focused especially on organisations working in smaller towns and rural areas, helping them strengthen their sustainability and better respond to the needs of their communities. The best-performing organisations received additional financial support for essential technology upgrades.

At the end of the program, the analysis of the participating organisations shows an average increase of 24% in scores, with the biggest improvements in administration and procurement procedures and human resources management.



March 2025: Supporting small and medium size NGOs in the Republic of Moldova.

Over 50 participants. 32 small and medium-sized organisations. 9 hours of debates

PUBLICATIONS



NGO Organisational Capacity Assessment Moldova



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Empowering Communities for the Green Transition: **Romania - Norway Knowledge Exchange for Clean Energy & Building Renovation**

Timeline: September 2024 - March 2025

The project supports Romania's green transition through cooperation with Norway and building local capacity in three key areas: energy efficiency and building renovation, clean energy use (especially geothermal), and municipal waste management. The project helps Romanian public authorities and communities adopt more sustainable practices, reduce emissions, and make better use of underutilised resources, while promoting policy improvements and cross-sector collaboration.



**January 2025: Zinergy Eco Camp - Urban Transformation and
Energy Efficiency: Best Public-Private Practices in Romania**

Our Eco Camp brought together public authorities, experts, businesses, architects, and financial institutions to exchange best practices and practical solutions for improving energy efficiency in buildings and cities. The event focused on successful public-private partnerships, innovative financing, and the implementation of sustainable urban transformation projects in Romania.



PUBLICATIONS



Energy Efficiency – Guide for local administrations and beneficiaries of public buildings to nZEB standards

CRPE published a practical guide to help local authorities and public beneficiaries plan, implement, and manage energy-efficient buildings that meet nZEB (nearly Zero Energy Building) standards.



Youth for green Romania: Empowering young voices for sustainable cities

Implementation period: May 2025 – October 2026

In 2025, Youth for Green Romania focused on building the foundations for meaningful youth participation in local climate governance. We developed a methodology and training framework to help young people monitor local green policies, understand EU and local climate objectives, and engage more effectively with public authorities. The methodology was refined through consultations with youth organisations and civil society representatives before being finalised and introduced through a national online event.

Building on this work, we organised six local dialogues in Râmnicu Vâlcea, Slatina, Buzău, Reșița, Timișoara, and Bucharest, bringing together more than 250 young people, local authorities, and civil society representatives to discuss urban environmental challenges and opportunities for civic participation. These activities laid the foundation for the next phase of the project, supporting teams of young climate monitors who will assess local environmental policies and engage in dialogue with decision-makers throughout 2026.



July 2025: Webinar – How Can Young People Respond to the Climate Emergency?

Launched the project with a national webinar bringing together climate experts, public officials, and young people to discuss climate resilience, youth participation, and the role of local authorities in addressing the climate crisis.

August 2025: Webinar – From Ambitions to Reality: What a Green City Means and How We Monitor Its Progress

Brought together urban planning, environmental, and public policy experts to explore how cities can monitor environmental progress and involve young people in shaping more sustainable and climate-resilient communities.

August–November 2025: Local Dialogues on Green Transition and Sustainable Cities

Organised six local events in Râmnicu Vâlcea, Slatina, Buzău, Reșița, Timișoara, and Bucharest, bringing together over 250 young people, local authorities, and civil society representatives to discuss urban environmental challenges, strengthen dialogue on green policies, and encourage youth participation in shaping more sustainable communities.



DIGITAL POLICIES

EmpowerDIGI - Digital awareness for all: Empowering inclusive participation

Timeline: 15 May - 15 Nov 2025

CRPE launched the first independent analysis of Romania's Digital Decade 2030 Roadmap, finding that it falls significantly short of the EU's ambitions for digital transformation. The assessment shows that the roadmap remains largely a compliance exercise, lacking the ambition, coordination and forward-looking approach needed to drive meaningful change. Alongside the analysis, CRPE published the first comprehensive database of measures included in the roadmap, mapping their alignment with EU digital goals, implementation status and compliance with Digital Decade targets.

We also mapped good practices in digital inclusion, bringing together initiatives developed by public authorities, civil society and private actors. The collection looks at practical ways to improve digital skills and access for groups that face particular barriers, from young people in rural areas to older people and other digitally excluded communities.

Evaluation results 				
				
Pillar	National objectives vs. EU 2030 targets	Measures: Implementation	Measures: Assessment & Strength vs. 2030 objectives	Openness, Inclusiveness and Transparency
 Digital Skills	Lower ambitions	Initial-to-middle stages	Medium alignment	Low
 Digital Transformation of Businesses	Lower ambitions	Initial-to-middle stages	Low-to-medium alignment	Low
 Digitalization of Public Services	Partially lacking targets and objectives	Initial-to-middle stages	Low-to-medium alignment	Low
 Secure and Sustainable Digital Infrastructure	Partially lacking targets and objectives	Medium-to-advanced stages	Low alignment	Low

  Not funded by the European Union



October 2025: Digital Decade 2030 report launch event

CRPE hosted an online debate focused on Romania's progress toward the EU's Digital Decade 2030 objectives. The event brought together decision-makers, experts, civil society, academics, and industry representatives to discuss Romania's digital ambitions, the gaps identified in national planning, and the urgent need to clarify the country's direction in digital policy.

November 2025: Bridging the digital divide. Examples of good practice for inclusive digitalisation

CRPE organized an online event focused on how public authorities and the private sector can collaborate to reduce the digital divide in Romania. The event brought together representatives from public institutions, civil society, and the business sector to discuss current challenges related to digital inclusion and the potential of existing initiatives.

PUBLICATIONS



Romania's Digital Decade 2030 Roadmap: Building coherence, collaboration, and accountability

CRPE provided the first comprehensive compilation of all measures included in Romania's Digital Decade 2030 Roadmap. The dataset mapped each measure's alignment with EU digital goals, its implementation status, and level of compliance with the Digital Decade targets.

Bridging the digital divide. Examples of good practice for inclusive digitalisation

This report maps good practices in digital inclusion from both public institutions and private initiatives. The report aims to encourage stronger cooperation between authorities, businesses, and civil society organisations.

IDEU – Digitalisation and Inclusion in the EU

Timeline: June 2024 – March 2026

IDEU is part of CRPE's wider approach to promoting awareness of digital policies and the Digital Decade 2030, from monitoring national strategies and their implementation to listening directly to citizens about the challenges they face and what needs to change to ensure that digital policies are truly inclusive.

During this process, we aimed to gather citizens' opinions and recommendations on the EU's digital transformation policy and its ambition to "leave no one behind." Using a crowdsourcing platform, we invited participants to highlight the key digitalisation issues affecting them in their daily lives and work on potential solutions. To capture these perspectives, CRPE carried out a two-step national crowdsourcing campaign between May and November 2025, gathering input from over 400 people across Romania. Participants highlighted a wide range of issues, including limited digital inclusion policies, slow or difficult-to-access digital public services, unequal access to technology in schools, too few teachers trained in digital skills, limited learning opportunities for older adults, challenges for small businesses in adopting new digital tools, and the need to significantly increase women's opportunities and participation in ICT professions.



February 2025 Digital technologies and the quality of public services & policies

The event brought together public authorities, experts, and civil society to explore how digital technologies can improve public services, strengthen civic participation, and make digitalisation more inclusive in Romania



PUBLICATIONS



Crowdsourcing campaign: Voices on Digitalisation

CRPE carried out the Romanian chapter of the wider Inclusive Digitalisation in the European Union (IDEU): Shape the Digital Transformation in Europe crowdsourcing campaign, part of a process running across six EU Member States. CRPE carried out a two-step national crowdsourcing campaign between May and November 2025, gathering input from over 400 people across Romania. Participants highlighted a wide range of issues, including limited digital inclusion, slow or difficult-to-access digital public services, unequal access to technology in schools, too few teachers trained in digital skills, limited learning opportunities for older adults and people left behind, challenges for small businesses in adopting new digital tools, and the need to significantly increase women's opportunities and participation in ICT professions.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS



Participatory Budgeting in Romania: A new decline in 2024

CRPE published its annual monitoring report on participatory budgeting in Romania, highlighting the continued decline of these programmes and identifying the main challenges that limit citizens' involvement in local decision-making



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



Our own educational boardgame: Ecoville

EcoVille is an educational game where you take on the role of a local council member and make key decisions for the sustainable future of your city. Representing an imaginary political party, you will collaborate with other players to find solutions to challenges related to the environment, resource management, and community well-being.

The game was created by CRPE and it is inspired by Electionville, a multi-award-winning educational tool developed by Fabel Kommunikation AB to explore democratic decision-making. We are grateful to them for allowing us to adapt their game.

Over 100 board games were distributed across Romania and the region, including Moldova, Georgia, and Armenia, sparking hundreds of sessions everywhere from schools and youth organizations to open-air festivals. As of now, the game has been translated into English, Armenian, Georgian, Romanian and German.



Protecting the identity of Romania's agricultural high schools

In the summer of 2025, CRPE played a key advocacy role during the national reorganisation of Romania's school network. Proposed changes risked diluting the identity of many agricultural high schools by merging them into larger educational institutions. Through evidence-based policy positions, direct dialogue with decision-makers and sustained public advocacy, CRPE contributed to ensuring that agricultural high schools retained their legal identity and educational profile throughout the reorganisation process.

Safeguarding agricultural schools' teaching farms

In autumn 2025, CRPE successfully advocated against legislative proposal L236/2025, which would have allowed the transfer of agricultural and forestry high schools' didactic farmland to local public authorities.

CRPE submitted a detailed memorandum to the Senate's Education and Agriculture Committees, arguing that these farms are essential learning infrastructure where students acquire practical skills in crop production, mechanisation, soil management, precision agriculture and climate-smart farming. We emphasized the fact that transferring ownership without clear safeguards for educational use would jeopardize work-based learning and undermine the long-term capacity of agricultural schools to provide quality practical training.

Building the foundations for youth climate monitoring

As part of the Youth for Green Romania project, CRPE developed a methodology and training framework to support young people in monitoring local climate policies and engaging with public authorities. The methodology provides practical guidance on analysing environmental indicators, understanding local green policies, and translating evidence into civic advocacy. Throughout 2026, it will be used by youth monitoring teams in six Romanian cities to monitor local progress towards a greener and more sustainable future.

Turning civic learning into action

In 2025, as part of the EUTEAM project, we worked with more than 500 youths and 25 teachers, running three learning modules on civic education, media literacy and inclusion. Through 75 online workshops, young people explored the issues that matter to them, strengthened their civic skills and learned how they can get involved in their communities. They then put this into practice by developing 19 action plans focused on real local challenges. In 2026, we'll reward the best ideas through the Civic Activism Prizes.

But one of the best things to come out of the project was the network we built with the schools and organisations we worked with. We received some nice feedback from participants, and almost all of the schools told us they would like to work with us again. For us, this is a really important result: we now have a group of partners who know our work, trust us and are ready to keep working with us on new projects and activities for youths.

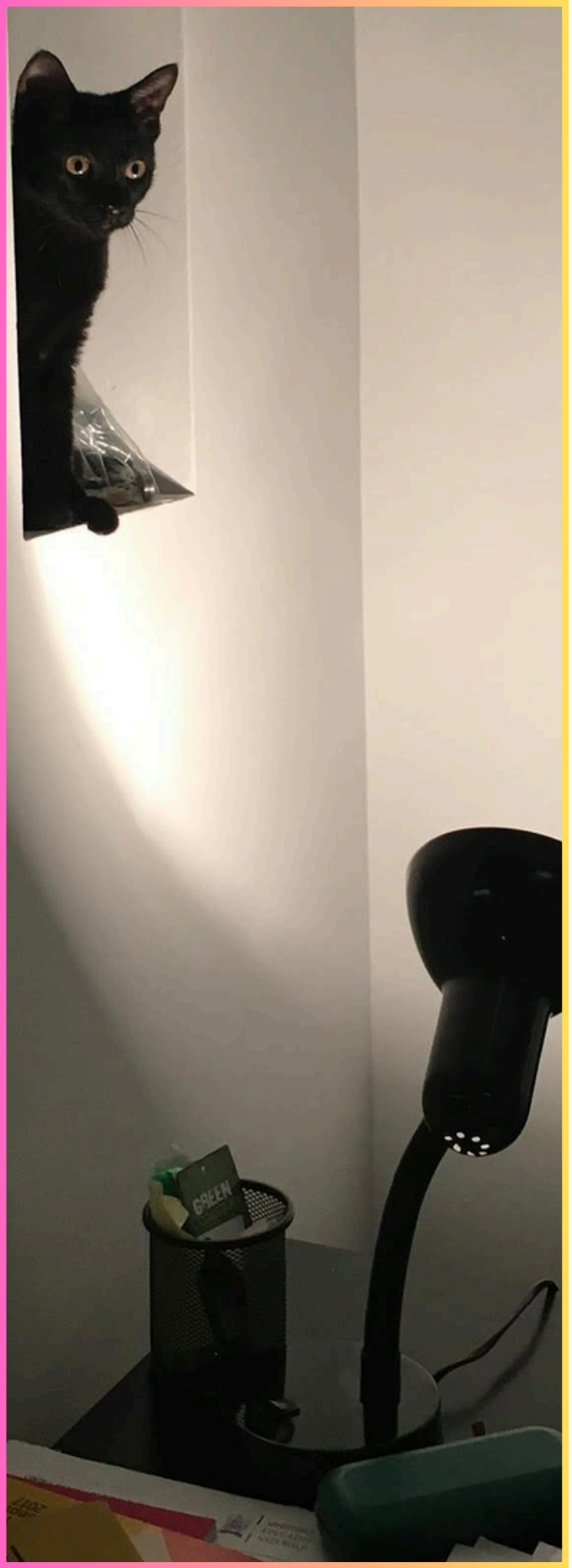
2025 CAUGHT ON CAMERA





Să luăm pulsul
politicilor publice
cu impact pe:
formare prof. manual
programa inv. dual
etc.





BUDGET OVERVIEW

CRPE ROMANIA

Total revenues	2.836.561 RON
Economical Revenues	115.961 RON
Grant revenues	2.579.077 RON
Financial revenues	40.653 RON
Total expenditure	2.744.497 RON

CRPE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Total revenues	1.034.238 MDL
Total expenditure	1.034.238 MDL

TEAM DETAILS

BOARD

- Alexandra POPA
- Alexandru DAMIAN
- Ruxandra POPESCU

CRPE ROMANIA TEAM

- Bianca TOMA
- Cătălina MEIROSU
- Maria BALEA
- Oana GANEA
- Cristina CIUCU
- Dănuț LACUREZEANU
- Maria SUCIU
- Doriana GHEORGHE

CRPE MOLDOVA TEAM

- Alina RAETCHI
- Diana BUTNARU
- Olesea GARBUZ
- Natalia CUCURUZAC

INTERNS

- Bîrzu Ștefan
- Dragoș Gheica
- Laura Soroceanu

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CONTACT US

office@crpe.ro

<https://www.facebook.com/crperomania>

instagram: @crpe_romania

SEE YOU IN 2026!

