

Position of the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth

presented by

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Division for Bilateral Cooperation and Relations with
International Organizations for Research
Ministry of Education, Research and Youth - research activity
ROMANIA

On behalf of the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth, the research activity, I have the pleasure to greet all of you and to wish you a warm welcome to the Euroscience Workshop on European Research Area, Regional Scientific Cooperation in Southeast Europe, Pathways for Stabilizing the RTD Potential. Thank you to the New Europe College for hosting so important European event.

Euroscience represents a scientific support in our activity. The Romanian Section is young but its members, young or not, have shown their capability and willingness to bring the scientific spirit into the heart of the Romanian society. May be there are great words but we know that we can rely on them in our efforts in developing the RTD system.

Science and technology in Europe is facing similar difficulties: return the scientists in their countries of origin, new career pathways, human potential, institution building, etc... At the regional level, Southeast Europe, there are stronger aspects as: infrastructure, lack of well trained policy makers, information multipliers and research administrators, etc...

There are instruments in our hand to be utilizing in order to better manage our RTD potential. Communication is so important. At multilateral level, opportunities are provided by European and international initiatives and by the European

Community and should be exploited to a greater extent. At regional level, assistance programs as well as programs for the promotion of regional collaboration exist. At bilateral level, there are agreements and joint RTD programs. So we just have to talk to each other and find together the better way to be integrated into the European Research Area.

It is now high time to give to our researchers the best reasons to come back to our countries and stay! And I hasten to say that "coming back" should be primarily "in spirit" and not necessarily in a physical form! Europe is an open space!

Speaking about our region - we have been together for such a long time, we shared practically the same lives, the same fate and, why not, the same hopes. May be the times has come to turn this into a net advantage for all of us.

I would like to stop on other aspect, concerning the relationship between scientists and politicians. And here, both of them have still a lot to do. It is certainly not fair on behalf of the later to disregard even a minute problem of scientific research; it is quite ineffective for the former to give up looking for the right words and the right topics to attract their attention.

Science, has said the Romanian conductor Cristian Mandeal in his words closing, before yesterday the 16th International Enescu Music Festival, along with the whole of culture is one big chance for Romania to get truly European. Let's add one more dimension and make it contribute to the real progress of the country. For, science can indeed do it in all our countries. And we all deserve a better future. If not for us, at least for the generations to come.

I am convinced this Workshop will play a positive role in the general trend of the European relationships. By European please understand the geographical meaning. I wish to all of us further successes and good luck.

Thank you.