



#### **Voices for Democracy and Justice:**

- non-governmental, apolitical and non-profit association, founded on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015;
- think tank for the entire Romanian system of justice;
- watch- dog actions by alerting the decision makers and public opinion;
- advocacy actions for improving the Romanian legislation.

#### **ABOUT US**

#### **OUR TARGET**

#### **VeDem Just**

- the association promotes freedom, democracy, the rule of law, good governance;
- the association upholds and defends the fundamental human rights.

#### **MAIN FOCUS**



#### WHAT AND HOW WE DO IT:

- We always have public reactions;
- We conduct studies and researches;
- We promote different strategies and policies;
- We implement projects;
- · We alert the decision makers;
- We alert the population;
- We draft the legislative proposals.

#### **ABOUT OUR VALUES:**

**Society:** Democracy, Attitude, Civic spirit;

**Nation:** Duty, Loiality, Honour; **Individuals:** Liberty, Dignity, Ethics; **Law-system:** Safety, Law, Justice;

**Public institutions:** Responsability, Transparency, Integrity.

#### **LEGAL EDUCATION**

Study subject in pre-university education

# MAIN OBJECTIVE



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ELEVUL SI LEGEA

GHID PRACTIC DE EDUCAȚIE JURIDICĂ

Judecator Cristi Danilet

## Brand In Marie

#### **IMPACT:**

- The knowledge of the fundamental legislation;
- Improving the attitude towards society and authorities;
- Preventing and reducing juvenile delinquency.



facebook.com/eduiuris instagram.com/educatiejuridica



## EDUIURIS, WHAT FOR?

Today, in Romania, there are more than 10.000 laws in force. Starting with the age of 14, everyone should be a law-abiding citizen. Ignorance of the law is not an excuse. No one can invoke the ignorance of the law as an excuse. The number of minors involved both in civil and criminal cases has steadily increased: domestic violence is worrying, bullying and cyberbullying are widespread in schools, drug use is increasing exponentially, school dropout and sexual abuse are raising every day.

Nowadays, the essential legislation of Romania is not being studied in elementary school or high schools.

## **ABOUT** THE

Voices has as members and associates young judges, lawyers, legal advisers, law students, police officers, and teachers. It also has students appointed as ambassadors of legal education within the LEGAL ACADEMY camps. They PROGRAMME contact students online and offline to inform them about what they are allowed and what they are not allowed to do from the legal perspective.

This is how EDUIURIS was born, a programme with several components in which we have as partners The Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Education. Through this programme, students acquire basic knowledge about how to relate properly in a society where the Law rules. In this manner, children and young people will know what their responsibilities are, the ways to protect their rights and the consequences of laws violations. Their respect for the law and the authorities will increase. They will become responsible adults.

The beneficiaries learn that, as long as they comply with the law, they are protected. But this is not enough: they must ensure that others comply with the law, too.



EDUIURIS in social media: we have a website, FB, we are present on Instagram and Twitter. Daily, we have more than 20,000 followers.

**EDUACTIONS** The legal education addresses to young people in primary schools and high schools, to children in care institutions, to young people in detention centres, to anyone interested.

> FORMAL LEGAL EDUCATION: we train teachers, support them in the course, provide the syllabus, we offer legal education manuals to teens free of charge.

> NON-FORMAL LEGAL EDUCATION: we train students and legal practitioners to teach non-formal legal education, we voluntarily teach legal education in schools, we test their knowledge through online tests and competitions between schools, we organise summer camps where students are ready to become Ambassadors, their major mission being to promote the program and disseminate the achieved information in the school they are currently attending.



## **EDUIURIS**

We have instructors accredited by the Ministry of Labor to train trainers;

- **INSTRUCTION**. We wrote a guide dedicated to legal education trainers;
  - Over 1000 lawyers, magistrates, legal advisers, mediators, and law students have been trained by us, free of charge, to teach legal education voluntarily and informally to children and young people. On request, we hold courses in different Counties;
  - We have signed protocols with several County School Inspectorates and we have the support of the school principals for our trainers to teach legal education;
  - Since 2019 we have expanded this program in the Republic of Moldova.



METHODS: The trainers are taught to abandon the technical, legal language. In the classes of non-formal legal education, the trainer acts as a more experienced friend, the discussion is interactive and real age-appropriate examples are used, explanatory and motivational videos are seen.

#### EDUIURIS LESSONS

- We held lessons in Bucharest and the following counties: Bucureşti, Alba, Bacău, Bihor, Botoşani, Braşov, Buzău, Caraş-Severin, Călăraşi, Cluj, Constanţa, Dolj, Galaţi, Giurgiu, Ialomiţa, Iaşi, Prahova, Satu Mare, Sălaj, Sibiu, Suceava, Timiş, Vaslui school units from rural and urban areas:
- **Participants:** students, teachers, children in the care institutions (Bucureşti, Sibiu, Braşov, Cluj-Napoca), delinquent children from special detention centres (Buzias Education Centre);
- **Visits to the law courts:** we accompany the students to meetings with judges in the courtrooms;
- **Mock trials:** We organised process simulations in Bucharest, Suceava, Vatra-Dornei, Bascov, Cluj-Napoca, Turda, which were recorded and posted on the internet, having children as actors.
- Legal education laboratory: In 2019 we launched the first laboratory dedicated to legal education at the Marin Preda High School in Bucharest. It is a classroom specially arranged having resources about rights and responsibilities, the legal education guides, a library with thematic books and judicial robes to be used within the simulated mock trials.

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#### OWN RESOURCES

5.000 printed brochures for children ("Where there is a law, there is no bargaining") and 10.500 guides for teenagers ("The pupil and the law") made by us, containing elementary information of legal education and distributed free of charge to the children we met.

VIDEO LESSONS: on our website www. educatiejuridica.ro.

## EDUIURIS CONTEST

We organise different contests to test the knowledge of the high school students in the legal education field:

- 2016 Bucharest we involved in the "Citizens of Tomorrow" competition students from 8 top high schools. The jury was composed of: the Minister of Justice, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Naţional Anticorruption Unit Chief Prosecutor, and one VeDem Just member. Partner: Danube Youth Alliance.
- 2017 2020 Constanta: "Know the law" contest for the students in 6 high schools. The members of the jury were local magistrates and a Vedem Just member. Partner: Spiru Haret University.
- 2020 Cluj Napoca: "I ♥ Rule of Law" contest organised by the Dimitrie Cantemir Law School in partnership with the student's association and Vedem Just Voices for Democracy and Justice.



#### **LEGAL ACADEMY**



### Representatives of students from different Counties take part in legal education activities in summer camps which are organised every year.

Vedem Just offers the accommodation and the meals for the participants who also receive, free of charge, the legal education guide published by the association. They become familiar with concepts related to the legal field (state organisation, democracy, the organisation of justice, age - specific rights and responsibilities, cybersecurity), they also decide the arrangement of the legal education club at their school and they carry out mock trials.

#### More details: https://educatiejuridica.ro/legal-academy





#### **LEGAL EDUCATION TEACHER**

**Vedem Just Association in partnership with Ratiu Centre for Democracy organises every summer, in Turda, the Legal Education Teacher camp.** The association covers all costs for accommodation and meals. When selecting the participants we take into consideration the following criteria:

(1) teachers who will teach legal education next year; (2) teachers without legal studies who teach discipline in the social - human field; (3) teachers without legal education studies who teach discipline in the field; (4) teachers with legal studies.

The teachers receive the free legal education guides and also the necessary summaries to teach this discipline. They are trained by Cristi Danilet, judge at Cluj County Court, author of the guide "The student and the law", regarding the elements of law necessary to be transmitted to the students.

More details: https://educatiejuridica.ro/profu-de-juridica

#### LEGAL EDUCATION OPTIONAL SUBJECT

#### How should this discipline be implemented??

Formally as an optional subject within the CSD - curriculum at the school's decision.

It can be a self-contained discipline named "Legal Education" or "Elements of law" or a module together with another subject within a mixed discipline such as Legal and Economical Education or Legal and Financial Education.

#### What is CSD?

According to art. 65 of Law no. 1/2012 regarding the national education, the disciplines are compulsory (those in the common trunk) and optional (those at the school's decision). National disciplines are those offered at national/regional/local level or those offered only at a specific school.

#### Is there a school program for legal education?

The school syllabus is approved by the School's Board, after consulting the Teacher's Council, the Student Advisory Council and the Parent's associative structure. Vedem Just Association delivers a proposal for themes to be studied în legal education classes that can be downloaded at www.educatiejuridica.ro

#### To which grades can this optional be implemented?

The legal knowledge aims children who are around 14 because at this age in Romania starts the criminal liability. As a result, this discipline can be studied in the gymnasium, at the latest starting with the 7.th grade, but necessarily at the high school level.

#### Who can request the optional legal education discipline?

Vedem Just Association believes that positive pressure from students and parents is essential. Therefore, if the request to introduce this discipline is made to the school management, given that there are programs, textbooks and training courses for teachers, it is highly likely that a teacher will accept this challenge and then the school leadership will approve the new discipline.

#### https://educatiejuridica.ro/edjuroptional

## OUR RESULTS:

- We have a national network of non-ormal legal education instructors;
- We edited the only guide for legal education in the country (pdf, issuu and printed form): it includes 15 lessons and it is distributed for free for all the students.;
- Over 15.000 students were the beneficiaries of these lessons;
- We trained the first generation of teachers who teach this discipline in schools in a formally .way

## Due to our efforts, in 2019-2020, legal education is being taught as an optional discipline in the following educational units:



- -"Marin Preda" Bucharest High School;
- "Mihai Eminescu" National College from lasi;
- "Carmen Sylva" National Pedagogical College from Timișoara;
- Secondary School No 10 from Bacău;
- National College "Spiru Haret" from Tecuci;
- "Pavel Dan" High School from Câmpia Turzii, Cluj county;
- -"A.I.Cuza" High School from Corabia, Olt county;
- -"Mihai Eminescu" Secondary School from Dej, Cluj county;
- -"Andrei Mureşanu" Hugh School from Brasov;
- "Petru Maior" High School from Reghin, Mureş county;
- Aiud Technical College from Alba;
- -"Ion Buteanu" Secondary school from Buceş, Hunedoara county;
- "Mihai Viteazu" College from Turda, Cluj county;
- Dragoş Vodă College from , Câmpulung Moldovenesc,
   Suceava county;
- "Carol I" Technical College Valea Doftanei village, Prahova county.

## OUR TARGET:



- To introduce legal education as a discipline to be studied in all schools;;
- Succeeding to teach non-formal legal education to students in all Romania's counties;
- To print our guide for 1.000.000 adolescents;
- To open a legal education laboratory in each town in Romania;
- To establish a non-formal legal education school;
- To translate the guide into 10 foreign languages, to present it in video form, mimic gestural language and in Braille alphabet.

# LEGAL EDUCATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Legal practitioners have been trained to teach non - formal legal education in schools: judges, prosecutors, integrity inspectors, law students, police officers.

A guide adapted to the legislation of the Republic of Moldova was also published.

A national network for legal education consisting of members who support these lessons in the schools of the Republic of Moldova has been set up.



#### **DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIP**

In order to continue teaching legal education in schools, VeDem Just Association needs financial support. You can help as follows:

- 1. By transferring directly to the bank account: ING BANK- Central Branch METROPOLIS, in the name of Voci pentru Democratie si Justitie Association: RO34INGB0000999905740856 RON; RO66INGB0000999905740862 EUR; RO71INGB0000999905740869 USD;
- 2. Through EUPLĂTESC, PAYPAL or PATREON;
- 3. Directing 3,5% of the income tax dued to the state in the previous year throughout 230 form, till the 25.th of May, 2020;
- 4. Through sponsorships coming from economic agents till the 30 th of December 2020, redirecting maximum 20% of the income tax.

https://educatiejuridica.ro/doneaza

#### **SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom Romania

Ratiu Democracy Center

Stefan Mandachi Hotel

**Netherlands Embassy** 

**Embassy of Canada** 

Niste Oameni

Cluj Bar Association

Dimitrie Cantemir Law School - Cluj

Spiru Haret Constanța University

SC Chiorino SRL

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