



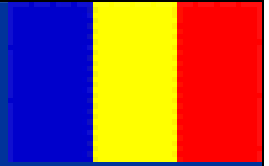
Romania

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Newsletter

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## You are partner in decision-making

Awareness Raising Campaign (ARC) is a national campaign under “Gender Balanced Political Empowerment” Project (GBPE) calling for an increased participation of women in politics and for equitable policies. Therefore it also draws attention to women already involved in politics to take a stand and fight for more equitable policies on the gender dimension.



*Liliana Popescu, Project Manager; Mona Musca, Minister of Culture & Religious Affairs; Soknan Han Jung, UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative; Minodora Cliveti, President of Equal Opportunities for Women and Men Commission; Professor Miroiu*

ARC was launched on 20 April 2005 at the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA), Bucharest. The event was conceived to bring together a few successful political women and talk about their successful growth in politics. Special guests of the event were Ms Soknan Han Jung, UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative; Ms Mona Muscă, Minister of Culture and Religious Affairs/National Director of GBPE Project; and Member of Parliament (MP) Minodora Cliveti, President of the Equal Opportunities for Women and Men Commission of the Chamber of Deputies. All three represent role models for the new generation of women interested in politics. Students were targeted for this event.

Ms Soknan Han Jung underlined UNDP gender mainstreaming policy and the fact that the present campaign is yet another proof. Women in Romania need to assume the responsibility of being political leaders. Ms Mona Musca pointed out that one of the most difficult issues is the reconciliation of the private and public life of women, especially those who became successful politicians. In addition to the presentations of the special guests, the audience was impressed by Professor Miroiu's intervention who expressed in a very direct and sharp manner the current gender inequalities in political life of Romania.

High profile journalists from most popular Romanian newspapers and magazines (Jurnalul National, Adevarul, Ziarul Financiar, 7Plus, Aspirina saracului, Plai cu Boi, etc) and Radio Romania were present. Among the media personalities and many students high level officials like Ambassador Simona Miculescu, parliamentarians (Cornelia Ardelean, Doina Dretcanu), NGOs (Mr. Nick Demeter, Director of the National Democratic Institute, Ms Mioara Tapalaga, Program Director, International Republican Institute) also attended the campaign.

Raising women's awareness of their political abilities and strengths is one of the main objectives of UNDP Romania's Project “An Integrated Approach to Gender-Balanced Political Empowerment and Participation” (GBPE). Therefore, awareness raising campaigns would be organized more often with this one being the first. It is meant to make Romanian women more aware of the importance of their political empowerment and of the gender balanced political representation. The launch unfolded in a relaxed atmosphere. The presentations were followed by free discussions and questions and answers. Special Campaign leaflets were distributed to participants. For more details about GBPE and its Campaign please visit our webpage: [www.gender-balance.ro](http://www.gender-balance.ro)

