



Special Session Proposal

Leave no one behind! The role of the EU Cohesion Policy in a changing world

Marginalised Zones – instrument to navigate the complexity of permacrisis and its social, economic and environmental impacts

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It should be noted the special importance given to the increase of cohesion in Romania, through the public policies formulated by the Government of Romania and under the responsibility of the Ministry of Labor and Social Solidarity. As a response to the complex persistence of poverty and need for resilience, recently was launched the National Strategy Concerning Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction for the Period 2022- 2027 (SNISRS 2022-2027). SNISRS 2022-2027 of 30.03.2022 approved by GOVERNMENT DECISION NO. 440/2022 establishes as the only General Objective (GO) "the reduction by at least 7% compared to the year 2020 of the number of people exposed to the risk of poverty or social exclusion, until the year 2027". This objective is strongly connected and harmonized with Romania's objectives assumed for the implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy (through the National Reform Program) and the 2030 Agenda through the National Strategy for the Sustainable Development of Romania 2030).

This strategic document marks Romania's commitment to cohesion as a priority at the level of public policy. Thus, in the context of the "Leave no one behind" principle and supporting the growth of cohesion, we note the assumption of the first two strategic objectives of the Strategy:

1st Strategic Objective. A decent living for all, based on the principle "No one is left behind";

2nd Strategic Objective. Social investments to promote cohesion.

Not at least, the other two strategic objective consolidates in a complementary manner the first two objectives, respectively:

3rd Strategic Objective. Social protection throughout a person's life;

4th Strategic Objective. Improving the administrative capacity to coordinate national policies in accordance with European requirements.

A new element in Romania's inclusion policy is the diversification of the spectrum of more efficient and effective interventions aimed at **marginalized areas together with their vulnerable communities**. In this context, we propose a deep rethinking of the "marginalized area" as a tool to navigate the complexity of permacrisis and its social, economic and environmental impacts. In this sense, we foresee the use and development of analysis and intervention tools at the community level, in order to successfully operationalize the Strategies that support the growth of cohesion through an integrated, spatial approach to social inclusion and poverty reduction, based on supporting employment in conditions of just transition, according to the wishes of the 2030 Agenda, under conditions of sustainability.

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2. Romania Four Degrees of Economic Potential

- i. Very poor village
- ii. Poor village
- iii. Villages with medium economic potential
- iv. Villages with high economic potential

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3. Romania White Zones, Romania Broadband Investment, 2016, actualizat in 2017
4. Romania Cities with Disadvantaged Population, 2017, Romania Cities with Disadvantaged Population - Overview (arccgis.com)
5. Romania Local Human Development Index, 2016
6. Romania White Spots (no fixed broadband, with/out 3G+), 2017
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