

## BM65 – ZAGREB



Internal motion

Resolution

Amendment

Title **\_\_6% of GDP for Romanian education\_\_**

Point of the agenda **\_\_8c\_\_**

Proposed by: **\_\_ANOSR\_\_**

Seconded by: **\_CREUP, SUS, SKONUS, NSUM, DSF, NUS-UK, USI, SRVS, PSRP, POFEN, FAGE, UASS, SSU, FEF, SAMOK, SYL, FAIRe, VSS-UNES-USU, SFS, NUIS,OH, ANSA, EUL, NSO, LSA, KSU**

Text:

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1 Given the low allocations Romania directs towards  
2 education, ESU urges the Romanian government to  
3 acknowledge the importance of investments in this sector  
4 and ensure a proper financing.

5 We, as students, believe that education is the safest way to  
6 ensure a medium and long-term development of our  
7 societies and it should therefore be among the top priorities  
8 of any democratic government.

9 Education is a public good and public responsibility. In order  
10 for the education system to be of high quality and to meet  
11 the needs of students and society, enough public funds must  
12 be ensured!

13 National and international commitments regarding financing  
14 of higher education must be respected and treated  
15 responsibly. Otherwise, the message that the government  
16 sends to the society is wrong and misleading, diminishing  
17 the factual importance that is given to building a high quality  
18 education system that is accessible to all.



19 The National Law on Education, adopted in 2011 in Romania,  
20 and an agreement between all political parties that was  
21 signed in 2008, provide the allocation of 6% of GDP for  
22 education, out of public funds. Unfortunately, in none of the  
23 recent years has this percentage been allocated, regardless  
24 of what political parties were in the governing coalition. The  
25 allocations were, year after year, around 3% of GDP. This  
26 has led to decreased quality at universities and higher fees.  
27 Equity measures, such as social scholarships, that should  
28 help students from a disadvantaged socio-economic  
29 background and that should cover, according to law,  
30 minimum living expenses, are only just over a third of the  
31 value they should have according to the National Council on  
32 Financing of Higher Education. The medium value for these  
33 scholarships is about 50 euros, according to a study  
34 conducted by the National Alliance of Student Organisations  
35 in Romania, while the needed value is estimated to be at  
36 least 130 euro / month. This discrepancy creates huge  
37 problems for students from low-income families in accessing  
38 higher education.

39 We strongly believe that the government is responsible for  
40 implementing equity policies in higher education and  
41 evaluate the effectiveness of these policies. From our point  
42 of view, there should be a clearer separation between  
43 scholarship funds that are allocated by the government to  
44 encourage merit and excellence and the fund allocated for  
45 ensuring equity, given that a unified fund has, in general,  
46 failed to ensure proper equity spending.

47 Furthermore, we believe that the Romanian government  
48 should have a coherent long-term strategy for ensuring a  
49 sufficient budget for education, in order to ensure high  
50 quality and equity. Education should be seen as an  
51 investment, not a cost, and the investment in education  
52 offers a reflection on how the future of the young  
53 generations will look like.

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Passed: **YES**      **NO**

(for use of board meeting chair only!)