



F.E.D.R.A.

Federația pentru Drepturi și Resurse pentru
Persoanele cu Tulburări în Spectrul Autist

Activity Report

2012



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Brief presentation of FEDRA

The Federation for Rights and Resources for People with Autistic Disorder (FEDRA) is made up of associations and foundations active within social protection for persons with disabilities.

FEDRA is a Romanian legal entity, private, non-governmental, non-profit, operating in accordance with its Statute and the Romanian laws. It is an apolitical, open, non-confessional, non-profit, autonomous and independent organization.

FEDRA aims to create and maintain a suitable environment in order to stimulate and support people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and their families.

FEDRA was founded in November 2010 by a group of six associations and foundations active in the field of social protection of disabled people. All the organization have family members belonging to this category.

The first meeting took place in Baia-Mare.

Before this meeting the first step taken was attending the 11th International Congress organized by Autism Europe in Italy (Catania) in October 2010. The main theme of the congress was – a future for autism. Also, this participation was represented the first step in the collaboration with Autism Europe, european network who militates for the rights of persons with autism and for improvement their life.

FEDRA members

The founding members of the Federation are:

- „Autism Baia Mare” Association - <http://www.autismbaiamare.ro>
- „Crystal Children” Association Braşov- <http://www.copiiidecristal.ro>
- „Transylvania Autism” Association Cluj Napoca- <http://www.autismtransilvania.ro>
- „Black Sea Therapeutic Center” Constanța- <http://www.psihologieconstanta.ro>
- „Association for Supporting People with Autism” (A.S.P.A.) Suceava, - <http://www.aspasv.ro>
- „Universe Plus Foundation” Piatra Neamț- <http://www.neamt-autism.ro>

They were subsequently joined by:

- „Defeat Autism” Association Bucharest - <http://invingemautismul.ro>
- „The Romanian National Association for Children and Adults with Autism” (ANCAAR), Iași - <http://www.ancaar-iasi.ro>
- „Romanian Angel Appeal” Foundation (RAA), Bucureşti - <http://www.raa.ro>
- „Autism Europe” Association – Centre for Resources and References “Little Prince” Bistrița- <http://www.crra.ro>
- „Beyond Autism” Association Craiova - <http://www.dicolodeautism.ro>
- „The Romanian National Association for Children and Adults with Autism” (ANCAAR), Craiova - <http://www.ancaar-craiova.ro>
- „Help Malin” Association, Bucureşti - <http://www.helpautism.ro>
- „The Romanian National Association for Children and Adults with Autism” (ANCAAR), Argeş - <http://www.argesautism.ro>



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In 2012, two General Assembly took place: the first in Bucharest on the 27th of May while the second was in Brasov on the 8th of December.



Activities

The main activities during 2012 consisted of lobby and advocacy as well as visibilities actions to advance the cause.

A coalition of organizations that have as beneficiaries people with autism - “Defeat Autism” Association, „The Romanian National Association for Children and Adults with Autism”- Craiova Branch, „Romanian Angel Appeal” Foundation in partnership with The Resources Centre for Public Participation” and „The Centre for Legal Resources” aimed to modify two legal acts: Order 725 of 2002 that stated the socio-medical criteria for establishing the degree of disability for children and Order 762 of 1992 modified in 2007 regarding the socio-medical criteria for establishing the degree of disability for adults.

The modifications focused on improving the procedures of establishing the degree of disability taking into account the characteristics of autism spectrum disorders. The two previous orders had a lot of confusions regarding autism spectrum disorders, mental retardation and/ or schizophrenia). The modifications also targeted the development of services tailored on the needs of people with autism.

On 2nd of April, the World Autism Awareness Day, a Petition for the rights of people with autism was drafted and handed in. The document was signed by 2.300 persons (http://www.petitiononline.com/petitie_penru_respectarea_drepturilor_persoanelor_cu_autism)



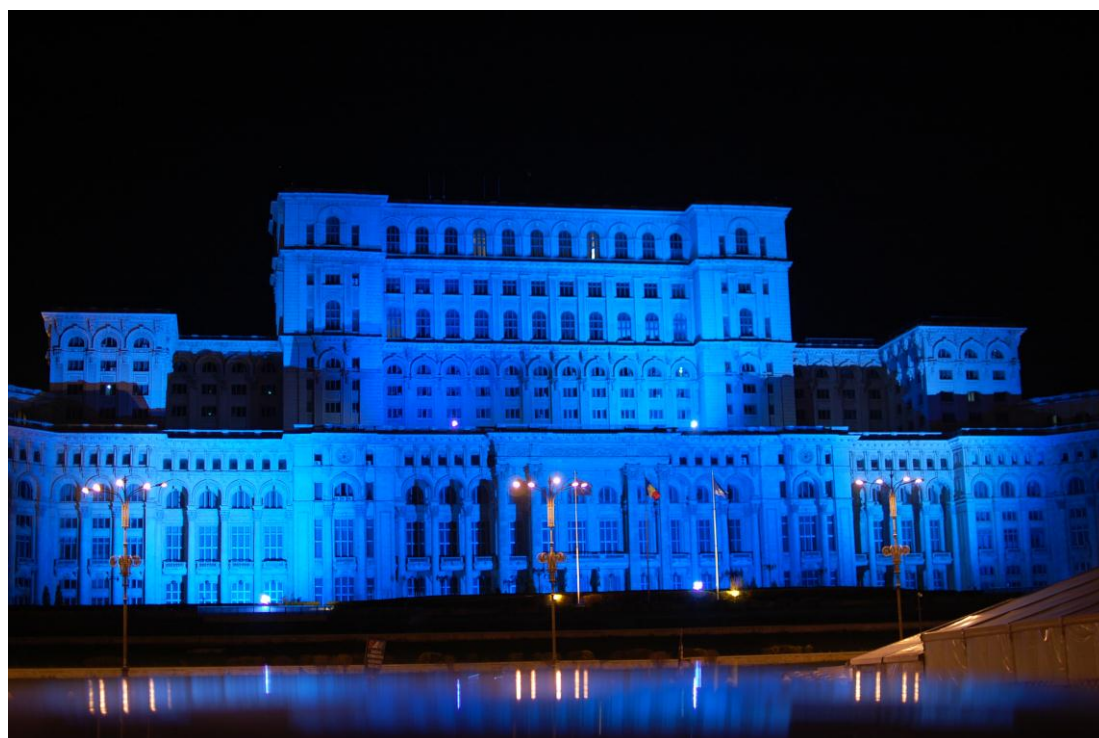
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The World Autism Awareness Day was marked by FEDRA members through special events such as: solidarity marches, simultaneous release of blue balloons, shaped bow puzzles involving children, volunteers and the general public.



Another important action was lighting up blue some public buildings in the main cities of Romania. The event was part of the Light it up Blue! Campaign initiated by Autism Europe.





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28th of May 2012 – 3.000 signatures

A delegation of 100 persons from different regions of Romania handed in a petition regarding the rights of people with autism, signed by over 3.000 people (2.370 online signatures and 800 signatures collected on the street). The delegation met and discussed the petition with Dr. Vasile Cepoi, the Minister of Health, a delegation from the Ministry of Labour and a representative of the Government.



In October 2012, FEDRA took position against the „Hate” Campaign initiated by a Pharmaceutical Company (SECOM). FEDRA’s reaction consisted of a mass media campaign, a social network campaign and also a Petition to The National Council for Discrimination (CNCD), requesting for the immediate withdrawal of the spot broadcasting and any other advertising material of the campaign displayed in pharmacies. CNCD fined SECOM company for its "Hate" Campaign.





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On November 15th, representatives of The Federation for Rights and Resources for People with Autistic Spectrum Disorder have handed in a new Petition at the Cabinet of the Prime Minister. The Petition entitled "We ask the state to support people with autism to become independent and active adults in society" was signed by nearly 3,000 persons. The Petition and copies of it were sent to The Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection, The Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports, The Ministry of Health and The Ministry of Finance on the same day.

This petition asked for:

- Implementing a national screening project among children aged 0-6 (currently Romania has no official statistics of autism spectrum disorder cases).
- Providing financial support and early intervention so as many children with ASD can be integrated in kindergartens and schools.
- Organising the educational system so as many children and young people with autism could benefit of education with specialized support to enhance their true potential in the company of children with typical development as much as possible.
- Providing financial support and personalized services for people with autism, depending on their age and degree of disability, throughout their life in order to abilitate them become independent citizens not remain socially assisted cases.

Budget of incomes and expenditures in 2012

In 2012 the incomes consisted exclusively of FEDRA members' contributions. In 2012 the general action plan for 2013 and 2014 were established with emphasis on the need to strengthen the organizational capacity of the association. An application was drafted in partnership with „Romanian Angel Appeal” Foundation. The project entitled „**Together we are a voice**” was submitted to the Thematic Fund for Civil Society Participation, Grants for NGOs. The project was approved and will be implemented from August 2013 to July 2016.

Income from subscriptions: 4.200 ron

Expenditures: 442 ron

Balanced sheet attached

Contact

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