



The Project PROBITAS 2001 is an initiative of West Foundation for Regional and Euroregional Journalism Timisoara sustained by Radio Vest Company and West FM Network, in partnership with School of Journalism Novi Sad, Radio 021 Novi Sad, University of Beograd, Publishing House "Libertatea" Pancevo (Serbia), "Tibiscus" University and "Banatul" University (Romania)



Acest proiect este finanțat de Programul Regional Artă și Cultură al Institutului pentru o Societate Deschisă din Budapesta, prin Fundația CONCEPT, organizație membră a Soros Open Network Romania
This project is financed by Arts and Culture Network Program of the Open Society Institute Budapest, through CONCEPT Foundation, member organization of Soros Open Network Romania



Acest proiect este realizat cu sprijinul Centrului Euroregional pentru Democrație și al Institutului pentru o Societate Deschisă New York, prin programul Youth Initiative Fund
This project is financed by Euroregional Center for Democracy and by The Institute for an Open Society New York - Youth Initiative Fund Program

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Printed by:
 West Foundation for Regional and Euroregional Journalism Timisoara Romania

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EUROREGIUNEA DUNĂRE - KRIS - MUREȘ - TISA
DANUBE - KRIS - MARIS - TISZA EUROREGION
EVROREGLJA DUNAV - KRIS - MARIŠ - TISA

Partnership Agreement

WFJ WEST FOUNDATION FOR REGIONAL AND EUROREGIONAL JOURNALISM TIMIȘOARA – ROMANIA, here represented by M. Marian Odangiu, President,
 NSSJ NOVISAD SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM – SERBIA, here represented by Mrs. Dr. Dubravka Valić Nelejić, President of NSSJ Executive Board,
 AUGUSTA UNION FOUNDATIONS – TIBISCUS UNIVERSITY TIMIȘOARA - ROMANIA, here represented by Mrs. Augusta Anca, General Manager,
 RADIO 021 NOVI SAD - SERBIA, here represented by Mrs. Jovanka Zlatković, Editor in Chief,
 WEST RADIO TIMIȘOARA - ROMANIA, here represented by M. Adrian Burdușa, General Manager,
 "LIBERTATEA " PUBLISHING HOUSE PANCEVO – SERBIA, here represented by M. Nicu Ciobanu, Manager,
 participants at the Media Meeting held in Timișoara, Romania, on May 18th – 19th 2002, taking into consideration that:
 The NGOs' and the public-private partnership is an essential condition for the development of the cross-border cooperation in all domains and that
 The events, the actions, the common projects, the joint programs, their results and the resources used by non-governmental organizations represent a significant and continuously growing weight within all the activities in this form of collaboration,
 Have agreed to cooperate in the future by sustaining:
 a) the mutual initiatives oriented to promote interdisciplinary research, dialogue, contacts and professional experience exchanges, with the final goal to set up an Euro-regional formal and/or informal journalistic network;
 b) a joint coherent educational strategy dedicated to young journalists, with the goal to increase the importance of the role played by the young generation in founding decisions at all levels of the social and democratic structures;
 c) the creation of a mechanism of information gathering and distribution, relevant for the increasing role of the civil society and of the NGO's networking in the cross-border cooperation;
 The signatory parts agree to collaborate in increasing sustainability and funds raising of all common initiatives, programs and projects, regional partnership, NGO know-how and practices transfer.
 Also, the signatory parts agree that all future joint activities will be based on the principles of innovation and creativity, transparency, respect of democratic values, human rights, ethnic and cultural diversity, with the ideal of peaceful coexistence, regional progress, prosperity and European integration.

PROBITAS 2002

II-nd Year No.1
June 2002
Sebiș-Arad
Timișoara
România

Published for participants at the Inter-operational Project for Regional and Euro-regional Journalism Probitas – 2nd Edition – Sebis – Arad 2002

WHAT IS PROBITAS 2002 ?

The inter-operational program "Probitas" Second Edition, Sebis-Arad, June-September 2002, is a project implemented by West Foundation for Regional and Euro-regional Journalism Timisoara and West Radio Company, in partnership with School of Journalism Novi Sad, Radio 021 Novi Sad, Publishing House „Libertatea” Pancevo (Serbia), „Tibiscus” University and „Banatul” University (Romania).
 The project „Probitas” is a part of a larger strategy focused on cross-border cooperation and launched in 1998 by some of actual partners of the project.
 „Probitas 2002” represents a new phase of this long term strategy and it is based on the Partnership Agreement signed by all actual partners at Timisoara, on the occasion of the Media Meeting held on May 18th-19th 2002.
 „Probitas 2002” project aims at creating a favorable framework to support and stimulate formal and/or informal contacts between young journalists and young artists from Romania and Serbia, for efficient exchanges of experience, for a future coherent inter-operational cultural and journalistic activity dedicated to consolidate the Euro-regional cultural identity in the Euro-region Danube-Kris-Maris-Tisza, to promote cultural information, mutual acquaintance and peaceful co-existence and with the goal to find jointly common realistic answers to multicultural society problems.
 PROBITAS 2002 project will respond to these by:
 a) organizing professional media meetings, debates, seminars, documentary trips and work-shops with participation of young and/or experienced artists (writers, painters, actors etc.) and young and/or experienced journalists, focused on exploring and defining the multicultural society in the region and on the relations between different cultural identities;
 b) establishing the most suitable ways to accomplish the technical needs in order to exchange audio, written and other cultural materials between the independent printed media and/or radio stations in both countries; so will be created the basis for further development of technical mechanism usefull for inter-operational cross-borders activities dedicated to support an efficient access to the cultural offer;
 c) sustaining during the 2002 summer the second edition of "Probitas" project interdisciplinary creative program dedicated to young artists and journalists from Romania and Serbia, representing the main cultural identities in the region: Romanian, Serbian, Hungarian, German, Slovak and Roma, with the goal to set up a regional network.
 The project is based on three Curricula as follows:
 A. First Curricula: „Exploring Multiculturalism”
 B. Second Curricula: „Voiceing Multiculturalism”
 C. Third Curricula: „Promoting Multiculturalism”.
 Each of these Curricula provides specific activities as media meetings, documentary trips, a large training program (which includes debates on cross-border cultural co-operation, the role of civil society, inter-ethnic relations, human and minority rights, seminars and work shops on the culture role in solving inter-ethnic tensions and conflicts, stereotypes and prejudices, in changing mentalities).
 The six training Sessions will take place in the town of Sebis (Arad county - 150 km from Timisoara), at the *Center for Regional and Euro-regional Journalism* (branch of West Foundation for Regional and Euro-regional Journalism) as follows:
 Session #1: Monday 24.06 -Thursday 04.07.2002
 Session #2: Monday 08.07 -Thursday 18.07.2002
 Session #3: Monday 22.07 -Thursday 01.08.2002
 Session #4: Monday 05.08 -Thursday 15.08.2002
 Session #5: Monday 19.08 -Thursday 29.08.2002
 Session #6: Monday 02.09 -Thursday 12.09.2002

Background of the project

On June 12th 1998, in Timisoara took place the first Euro-regional meeting of independent radio stations from Romania, Serbia and Hungary. Representatives from Radio West Timisoara, Radio 021 Novi Sad (Serbia) and Radio Media 6 Szeged (Hungary) signed an *Partnership Agreement* with the aim to stimulate the tri-lateral collaboration.
 On July 4th 1998, at the end of a second meeting, in Szeged (Hungary), the representatives of the three independent radio stations signed a new *Agreement* stipulating the *Foundation of "Euro-media Danube-Kris-Maris-Tisza"* project with the following goals:
 a) to inform the public, media and international organizations about "Euro-media Danube-Kris-Maris-Tisza" project;
 b) to establish the most suitable ways to accomplish the technical needs in order to exchange the audio and other materials between the studios and to create the basis for further development of the technical mechanisms used for communication already debated at the first meeting from Timisoara;
 c) to analyze and decide the structure and the deadlines of the audio materials which will be broadcasted as a part of the project;
 d) to establish the basic elements of a unique marketing strategy;
 e) to debate and elaborate a project to inform the European Community, the European Union and international organizations who support quick Euro-regional development about "Euro-media Danube-Kris-Maris-Tisza".
 On September 12th 1998, in Novi Sad, the participants signed *The Novi Sad Agreement* with the concrete activities for the first common Euro-regional radio program.
 In December 1998, the first 60 minutes Euro-regional radio program "Euro-media Danube-Kris-Maris-Tisza" was broadcasted simultaneously in Timisoara (by Radio West), Novi Sad (by Radio 021) and Szeged (by Radio Media 6).
 The cooperation between the three partners continued at the beginning of the Kosovo war and in the 1999 summer, when representatives of the three radio stations participated at the *First Edition of the Summer School for the Regional and Euro-regional Journalism* organized by West Foundation and Radio West Timisoara in Sebis, Arad County.
 The cooperation stopped in the 1999 Autumn, under the constraints of the Serbian regime hindering freedom of speech.
 The Euro-regional cooperation was re-launched on April 5-7th 2001, on the occasion of the *Euro-regional Mass Media Meeting*, organized by CED in Timisoara.
 The event aimed at bringing together journalists, press institution and media related NGO's and thus at increasing media's contribution to the establishment and/or consolidation of democracy in the region.
 At this meeting had participated representatives from Radio 021 Novi Sad, VK Radio Kikinda & City Radio Senta, Radio Impuls Vrsac, Radio Pancevo etc. The debates focused on the results of "Euro-media Danube-Kris-Maris-Tisza" project. All participants agreed the initiative of the "Probitas" project as an important step for the promotion of cross-border cooperation.
 During 2001 summer, financially sustained by America's Development Foundation USAID and Center for Euro-regional Democracy, the First Edition ("Probitas 2001") of the project implementation scored a great success, over fifty young and/or experienced journalists from Romania and Serbia being involved in its lucrative activities.
 New perspectives for the project were opened on the occasion of the Media Meeting held in Timisoara, on May 18th-19th 2002 when actual partners signed a long term *Partnership Agreement*.