

Summary of the workshop on Romania

5th BAYHOST-Donauforum hochschule dual international



As an introduction to the workshop Adriana Borza, Career Service of the University of Oradea presented the results of her research among universities in Romania and their dual studies approaches. She stated that dual studies did not exist yet and that good practice models could not be found.

Afterwards all participants started to discuss in changing groups. Topics were the status quo, obstacles and challenges of implementing dual studies in Romania and commonalities and differences in the systems between Germany and Romania.

The groups concluded that dual studies should be established in Romania and that the connection between theory and practice was very important. The business perspective shows that students have a lack of practical knowledge after their studies. A small discussion came up about the task of universities and the meaning of education. One participant stated, that the task of education should not be to ensure employability.

An interesting point about brain drain was brought up in the group sessions. One participant (originally from Romania, today working in Germany) spoke about the potential of dual studies of avoiding brain drain. If students get a dual education in Romania they do not have to leave the country. Nowadays many students leave the country to get best education abroad and when willing to come back they find many barriers to re-integrate to the local labor market. With the dual system students could build connections to business more easily.

The participants identified the following barriers in the cooperation between Germany and Romania and in the implementation of dual studies:

- Language issues
- Lack of budgets
- Lack of cooperation (Missing contacts and agreements)
- Cultural barriers
- Bureaucracy
- Difficulties to adapt to practical activities

The following points summarized the workshop session:

- Wish to establish a platform for training needs for students and companies reputation (Certified)
- Pilot project for Good-practice Models should be built up
- Memorandum of Understanding is not sufficient itself, it needs to be filled with life, collegial advice and sharing experiences could be helpful
- Possibilities for students to do dual studies and to go abroad on individual level exist, but concentrate on structure building and international returnees (as ambassadors/promoters)
- Vision of similar educational systems working together in order to enhance exchange
- Understand the differences but concentrate on similarities and try to understand modern Romania

More detailed information can be found in the presentations or via the organizing institutions of the Donauforum 2014: www.bayhost.de and www.hochschule-dual.de