

Vulnerabilities, Solutions and
Proposals of the
Romanian Justice System

**„Analyzing the vulnerabilities of the
Romanian judicial system“**

Conference

Bucharest, Romania

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Excerpts of the opening remarks by

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..Rule of Law is undoubtedly a key to guaranteeing sustainable democracy. This is why KAS supports the reform of the judicial system not only in Romania, but also in many other countries.

Not only in Europe - societies that are in a process of transition.

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This is why we supported this project and will support it because we think that drafting a long term strategy for the reform of the Romanian Justice is a condition for sustainable progress.

It is my impression that there is a broad consensus on the need for reform.

I understand that the Romanian Ministry of Justice has already last year published his Strategy for the Development of the Justice as a Public Service and I have studied his proposals very carefully.

But such an ambitious project needs the involvement of all the stakeholders and this is why we welcomed the initiative presented to us by the Center for Institutional Analysis and Development and why we support it.

I would like to express my profound thanks to the members of the working group who have worked hard during the last months to deliver what is always at the beginning of problem-solving: a profound analysis of the currently existing deficits and shortcomings.

Now the debate is open for everybody who wants to participate.

Legal professionals, civil society representatives, politicians and journalists.

Let me in this context make a few points

1. Whether this project fails or it will be successful is of the utmost importance for the development of the

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Romanian Democracy which is a still young one. Also in a country like Germany a lot of people do not always trust their government or their parliamentarians. But a vast majority has confidence in the integrity, professionalism and impartiality of the judicial system. A properly working judicial system, the rule of law they are cornerstones of a working democracy. And if we want to live in a sustainable democracy we must make these cornerstones very solid and strong ones.

2. The Romanian Justice system is still monitored by the European Commission under the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism. This should not last forever but the condition for its lifting is that true and irreversible progress will have been made.

3. As this project is of such an immense importance for the country as a whole it requires the goodwill of all those involved. Political debates especially strategic ones are controversial by nature, but those who take part should also show the will to compromise and to cooperate. Because endless debate will lose the momentum and will end up in nothing. And it should definitely not happen. So we should not have a debate for the purpose of itself, but with the objective to build a broad consensus that will go along with building broad political majorities and will lead to concrete results in a reasonable time...