



Institutul „Ovidiu Șincai“

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Short Presentation of the “Ovidiu Șincai” Institute

Short background

The "Ovidiu Sincai" Institute Foundation is a non-profit organization that has received legal status on 4 June 2002. The foundation has been established in the will to support the process of modernizing doctrine, of strengthening and developing democracy in Romania and the world and also with the goal of organizing more efficiently the educational and specialization activity of human resources.

Mission

The “Ovidiu Sincai” Institute was created under the aegis of the foundation and prioritizes the achievement of the following **objectives**:

- It designs and unfolds activities of doctrine and programmatic elaboration;
- It edits scientific and political papers and materials;
- It also functions as a think-tank for governmental institutions and political organizations;
- Organizes activities of education and professional training;
- Cooperates with similar institutes from within the country as well as from abroad;
- Offers scholarships to youth preoccupied with studying, promoting and upholding the values and the institutions of democracy.

Structure

The activity of the Institute is structured along four departments:

- **The Department for Scientific Research, Analysis and Prognosis;**
- **The Department for Education;**
- **The Department for International Relations;**
- **The MondoMedia Editorial Group.**

The "Ovidiu Sincai" Institute Foundation is engaged in unfolding **research activities** on political and socio-economical topics of the Romanian society.

Another research objective is the study of global phenomena that affect the contemporary world and for which we have the aim of finding solutions within a social-democratic approach.

Projects

The "Ovidiu Sincai" Social Democratic Institute Foundation places a particular emphasis to the dialogue with representatives of the civil society. This is the reason for which the Institute periodically organizes **meetings** and **debates** focused on issues of utmost importance, with national and international impact.

Periodically, the Institute organizes **symposiums** on themes of national interests, to which representatives of mass media, opinion leaders, as well as the personalities of the Romanian political, cultural and economic life are invited. In this context a presentation is made of the difficulties confronting the present-day Romanian society and methods for an efficient resolution are proposed.

The Institute unfolds actions that result in **seminars, conferences, roundtables** and **meetings**. In this context, important foreign political personalities are invited to visit the Institute.

The periodic meetings with the members of the European and worldwide democratic foundations and institutes were designed by the "Ovidiu Sincai" Institute Foundation with the purpose of mastering the social democratic values, as well as in order to strengthen the personal relations among the leaders.

For creating a more efficient environment in the relations with foreign foundations and institutes, the "Ovidiu Sincai" Institute has set to sign collaboration protocols with such organizations.

Educational activity

The "Ovidiu Sincai" Institute unfolds an ample activity of **educational training and formation** for those interested in the values and principles of democracy, aiming at contributing to the professionalization of the Romanian political class.

In the autumn of 2002 the Institute has created the "**Ovidiu Sincai**" **School for Post-University Academic Studies**, which is its most comprehensive educational project. By training the youth in "**Political Management**" it aims at instilling the knowledge and mastering of the values and principles of democracy, thus supporting the complex process of doctrinal modernization in Romania, of making the political class more efficient and professionally competent.

Within the Academic School six **scholarships** were awarded during the year of study 2003-2004 for participants from the Republic of Moldova appointed by the democratic left parties in this country. Also, the Institute is to sign a protocol with the China Center for Contemporary World Studies from Beijing, by which to annually provide two scholarships, one for studying and another for research, for young people from the People's Republic of China, beginning with the year of study 2004-2005.

Beginning with 18 June 2004, the Institute organizes the "**Ovidiu Sincai**" **European School** under the aegis of the Council of Europe. The School belongs to the Council of Europe's Network of Schools for Political Studies. It annually reunites 40 participants selected from a wide spectrum of the civil society. The main purposes of this school are the education of young politicians, of decision-makers in Romania, in the spirit of the European democratic practices and the relations between representatives of

different social groups. In May 2005, the Institute initiated the European School of Transylvania, the first regional school of the Council of Europe's network.

The third direction of the Institute's educational activity is called the **ISD Education Workshops**. The workshops dealt with issues such as: communication techniques; negotiation methods; communication in crisis situations; conceiving and unfolding an imagery strategy for institutions and organizations.

Editorial activity

The "Ovidiu Sincai" Social Democratic Institute is unfolding an **editorial activity** focused on political and socio-economic themes. Under the aegis of the Institute, through the MondoMedia Group, are published the *Agora Social-Democrata* and *Sinteze* magazines as well as a weekly *Newsletter* in Romanian, which comprises the main activities of the Social Democratic Party at central and local level. The "Newsletter" presents the governmental actions, as well as those of the representatives of the prefectures and municipalities. For a thorough information of the members of the Social Democratic Party, the Institute also publishes an "**Political analysis bulletin**", which encompasses studies on the main current Romanian and international political and social issues.

Also, ideological contributions of social democratic personalities were edited: Adrian Năstase, *Towards Normality – Government of the Reform. Reform of the Government*, Bucharest, 2004 (in Romanian and English); Adrian Năstase, *The Victory of Normality – Building the European Romania*, Bucharest, December 2004 (in Romanian); Adrian Năstase, *Quo Vadis Europe?*, September 2004 (in Romanian and English); Ion Iliescu, Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, Cristoph Zoepel, *Contemporary Social Democracy and Globalization. Social Democratic Solutions for a Global Order*, November 2004 (in Romanian); Adrian Severin (coordinator), *Contemporary Social Democracy – between Tradition and Globalization*, Bucharest, July 2004 (in Romanian); Adrian Năstase, *European Romania – a Social Democratic Political Project*, Bucharest, May 2007; Adrian Severin, *Pleading for the Truth*, Bucharest, October 2007.

The Institute also coordinates the publishing of periodicals with doctrinal, social, and political character.