

# **Confederația Sindicală Națională MERIDIAN din România**

## **National Trade Union Confederation MERIDIAN from Romania**

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The National Trade Union Confederation MERIDIAN is a nationally representative trade union organization whose main activity objective is the social dialogue and social inclusion in the labor market in Romania. The organization is a recognized social partner at the national level, which has accumulated 24 years of experience in terms of labor laws and employment policies in Romania, bringing its contribution during this period to solve social problems caused by the industrial restructuring, through a constructive and balanced approach in industrial relations, and also through involvement in the development of human resources responsible for the implementation of employment policies.

NTUC MERIDIAN was founded in 1994 in order to ensure a real and authentic representation of workers in Romania. NTUC MERIDIAN is a nationally representative trade union confederation, total independence from government or political groups and is open to accession by workers and cooperative members. Currently, professional organizations affiliated with NTUC MERIDIAN represents the various areas of activity, both public and private. The Confederation also coordinates the activity of a series of territorial trade union organizations, inter-branch.

Its fundamental mission is to strengthen Romanian democratic society by supporting democracy and civil society, in order to promote the interests of workers and social justice.

The organization advocate for creation of new jobs, improve the living conditions of the people they represent, a fair wage policy for stability and sustainable economic development.

### ***NTUC MERIDIAN specific actions:***

- negotiation and conclusion of collective labor contracts;
- advocacy actions for influencing the economic and legislative framework in the general interest of society and workers;
- promoting national and transnational social partnership, dialogue and solidarity, organizing and supporting the process for internal training for militants and of involvement in social dialogue;
- assisting and representing member organizations or members of the trade union, in matters relating to employment in the labor market and social inclusion.

The Confederation is present in all social dialogue structures recognized at European level, national and county.

At the national level, NTUC MERIDIAN participate various tripartite consultative structures such as the Economic and Social Council (ESC), social dialogue committees in ministries other tripartite institutions or civil dialogue.

At European level, the organization is a member of the European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions and is represented in the European Economic and Social Committee, the Advisory Committee on safety and health in the workplace, but also in the Raw Materials Group from General Directorate for

Industry and Enterprises of European Commission. Also in externally, must be mentioned that some of its member organizations, are also part in turn of European and international organizations in the field.

NTUC MERIDIAN contribute to the creation of balanced economic and social policies, influencing the decision-making process in terms of legislation and public policy at national and European level. Confederation constantly inform public opinion and its members on issues of public interest, making known its position on the various decisions of the authorities or employers that are likely to affect the interests of employees in Romania.

NTUC MERIDIAN is constantly involved in organizing of training courses and implementing social assistance policies for disabled and disadvantaged groups.

Restructuring from the mining industry, metallurgical industry, rubber industry or rail and river transports, which have affected the members of NTUC MERIDIAN, led the Confederation to be actively involved in the adoption and implementation of social assistance programs and insertion in the labor market for affected workers, giving special attention to the mining and industrial areas in economic decline.

In the last two decades, the Confederation was a partner of national and international governmental institutions such as the National Agency for Employment, Conversmin, World Bank, National Agency for Development and Implementation of Reconstruction Programmes in Mining Areas.

European funded projects implemented by NTUC MERIDIAN or in partnership with it other public institutions:

#### **Project no 1**

##### ***"Together for the development of social dialogue in Romania"***

During the period December 2010 - November 2013, NTUC MERIDIAN in partnership with the Farmers Federation "FARMERS" implemented the project "Together for the development of social dialogue in Romania" project co-financed from the European Social Fund through the Sectoral Operational Programme Human Resources Development 2007-2013 (contribution LEI 14,377,800.06) priority Axis 3 "Increasing adaptability of workers and enterprises", Area of Intervention 3.3 "Developing partnerships and encouraging initiatives for social partners and civil society".

Through this project, NTUC MERIDIAN became involved in improving communication and inter-institutional cooperation between the various levels of government in order to identify, expand and capitalize the opportunities area, with the aim of economic and social development.

The project has contributed to the promotion of social dialogue at national, regional and local level, helping to improve the quality and transparency of the central and local governance through public debate and strategic documents and proposals for improvement of the organized civil society.

An important component dedicated to improving dialogue and partnership between enterprises and educational institutions and/or organizations involved in training activities for young people, in order to identify the measures should be taken to increase the capacity of the professional insertion of graduates of high schools and vocational schools, so as to reduce the gap between demand and supply of skills in the labor market.

The results obtained by this project considered "successful" by AMPOSDRU can be mentioned:

- over 16,000 participants involved in project activities, of which 10 649 target group;
- 521 events promoting social dialogue (221 local events, 200 round tables, 96 regional and county conferences, 4 national conferences);
- 300 partnerships concluded with local public administration authorities, trade unions confederations, Non Governmental Organizations, public institutions and employers; over 500

graduates in the 20 accredited training courses organized (Project Manager, Trainer of Trainers and Trade Union Delegate);

- 800 union leaders, in courses and seminars (19 training seminars for activists - social dialogue);
- 1 sociological research study - knowledge of the population about the role and importance of social partnership, actors active in the trade union movement and the availability of respondents to join / support an association to represent their interests;
- over 500,000 people informed about the importance of social dialogue.

## **Project no. 2**

### ***“Pro Juvenes – partnerships for an inclusive labor market for young people”***

During the period October 2014 - November 2015, NTUC MERIDIAN in partnership with three other partners from Romania (Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Protection and Elderly, AUR, NOVAPOLIS, implemented the project “Pro Juvenes – partnerships for an inclusive labor market for young people”, project funded by the European Social Fund (Sectoral Operational Programme for the Development of Human Resources 2007-2013 from the Major Field of Intervention 6.4 "Transnational initiatives for an inclusive labor market").

Primary indicator of project: completion of 51 transnational partnerships in accordance with general and specific objectives of the project.

NTUC MERIDIAN contribution to achieving the main indicator: completion of 17 transnational partnerships.

Transnational partners which supported NTUC MERIDIAN in the implementation of the project:

- EVTA - The European Vocational Training Association, [www.evta.eu](http://www.evta.eu);
- CESI - European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions [www.cesi.org](http://www.cesi.org);
- EIPA–European Institute of Public Administration [www.eipa.nl/en/antenna/Luxembourg](http://www.eipa.nl/en/antenna/Luxembourg).

### **PROJECT ACTIVITIES THAT WAS IMPLEMENTED BY NTUC MERIDIAN THROUGH INVOLVING TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERS:**

1. Completion of 20 transnational partnerships;
2. An European comparative study on increasing the employability of young people in the labor market, from the perspective of political, administrative, institutional and social partnership mechanisms;
3. Preparation and conduct of seven thematic workshops that was held in seven distinct Romanian development regions;
4. 3 sessions of exchanges of experience in Brussels in which was involved 45 participants from Romania (15 participants/exchange experience - members of social partners and representatives of relevant administrative institutions);
5. Preparation and conduct of a national conference on employability of young people.

## **Project no. 3 (in implementation)**

### **“Quality Qualification for VET – QQVET”**

<http://www.esmovia.es/1573-quality-qualification-for-vet-erasmus-2nd-transnational-meeting-in-bucarest/>