

The Participation Effect Conference, Bucharest Romania

A packed few days travelling to Bucharest to reconnect with our friends and colleagues at UNATC for a wonderful conference focusing on the groundbreaking work being undertaken in Romania. .



Welcoming us to the conference opening were hosts, Bogdana DARIE and Andreea-Diana JICMAN and the Rector Liviu LUCACI, Professor. The UNATC group have been strong supporters of IDEA events and it is exciting to see their work in their own context and in perspective.

The packed opening speeches included exciting news about the introduction

of Grade 11 drama in Romanian schools from Bogdan CRISTESCU, Head of the Curriculum, Exams, and National Assessments Department, National Center for Curriculum and Assessment.

The broader context was provided by Ligia DECA, Secretary-General of the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO.

IDEA President, Sanja KRSMANOVIĆ TASIĆ, welcoming delegates to this IDEA supported event, spoke about *The Transformative Power of Drama and Theatre Education*.

I will write separately about the keynotes from the conference (Adam CZIBOLY, *Rolling the DICE: Drama's impact on learning and citizenship*;

Thalia GOLDSTEIN, *Thinking on Stage: The Science of Acting*; and, Shoshi KEISARI, *Playful minds: Psychological, cognitive, and physiological processes of improvisational theatre across adulthood and later life*.

There will be further Drama Tuesday reports about the presentation by Bogdana and Andreea on *Theatre Education in Romania: a brief overview of the steps taken by UNATC over the last 10 years*.

I need also to talk about the noteworthy student performances and a real sense of energy and positivity in the conference. Warm welcomes and genuine excitement for the future.



Congratulations to all.

Watch out for further reports from Bucharest.

Images included in this report are from my own collection and also from IPhotographer: Maereanu Iarina (Instagram: rems.gf) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1VIOvy4foJJxQlzyeYMSCwrNtyeT_c?usp=sharing

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