

**PROTOCOL OF COLLABORATION
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF ROMANIA
AND
SHARING ONE LANGUAGE FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

The Ministry of Education of Romania headquartered in Bucharest, 28 -30 General Berthelot Street, District 1 represented by Mr SORIN MIHAI CÎMPEANU as minister
and

Sharing One Language in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, hereinafter "SOL", based in 2 Bridge Chambers, The Strand, Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 1HB, UK, represented by Mr GRENVILLE YEO as chair of SOL

have agreed on the following terms of cooperation regarding the activity of the native English-speaking teachers recruited by SOL to teach in public pre-university education establishments and accredited higher education institutions in Romania.

The purpose of the Protocol is to carry out a cooperation programme, hereinafter referred to as "SOL Programme", focusing on the exchange of experience and good practice in English language teaching, by including, for a fixed period of time, teachers specialized in teaching English as a modern language, hereinafter referred to as "SOL teachers" who come from countries where English is the official language.

I. RESPONSIBILITIES OF SOL

SOL is a non-profit organization in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that wishes to collaborate with the Ministry of Education of Romania, taking the following responsibilities:

Art. 1 To recruit, on the basis of the request of the public pre-university educational establishments/accredited higher education institutions in Romania, qualified teachers from countries where English is the official language, and who are able to demonstrate a high degree of moral and professional training. The organization shall honour a maximum of 15 requests for SOL teachers from public pre-university establishments/ accredited higher education institutions annually.

Art. 2 To make sure that the recruited teachers fulfil all of the following conditions:

1) University degree in English Language and Literature and TEFL certificate (20 hours) or Bachelor degree for 3 or 4 years' primary and secondary education with English as major. If the teacher has a specialization other than English language and literature, the bachelor and master diplomas must be accompanied by a TEFFL certificate (120 hours). For teachers, who have completed 3 or 4 years of bachelor education in primary or secondary education, with non-English specialization, the bachelor diploma must be accompanied by a TEFL certificate (20 hours) and a

CELTA certificate (120 hours), or an equivalent certificate, obtained within 12 months after employment.

2) Experience in teaching a certain subject certified by documents issued by the educational institution(s) where the teacher has carried out his teaching activity.

3) For the teaching posts referred to in Art. 7 (1), experience in teaching the subjects referred to in that Article shall be required.

4) Minimum four (4) years seniority in education evidenced by documents issued by the schools where the recruited teacher has worked.

5) A DBS (Disclosure and Barring Services) certificate or a similar criminal record issued by a competent authority valid for a maximum of four (4) months from the moment of carrying out the activity in Romania.

Art. 3 To designate a coordinator for Romania, to support and coordinate the activities referred to in Art. 4 and 5. The coordinator shall have the authority to act as the official representative of SOL in Romania.

Art. 4 To offer advice and support to teachers recruited to adapt to the specificities of work and life in Romania, by organizing and conducting regular working meetings and assistance provided by the SOL representative in Romania.

Art. 5

1) To submit to the Directorate General for Pre-university Education of the Ministry of Education, in view of approval, through the representative provided for in Art. 3, a file for each teacher recruited, which shall contain the following documents: university degree in English Language and Literature, i.e. the degree of bachelor and master's degrees (for a major other than English language and literature) where appropriate, the TEFL certificate (20 or 120 hours as per case) and the CELTA certificate (120 hours), evidence of minimum activity years in education and of experience in teaching the required subject, confirmation of the position availability and the request from the management of the pre-university education establishment /higher education institution to employ the proposed SOL candidate, together with the approval of school inspectorate/higher education institution, the agreement of the local public authority governing the pre-university education establishment or of the higher education institution to cover the accommodation (rent) and the utility costs (gas, electricity, water/maintenance), including internet services.

2) Where the provision of accommodation for SOL teachers, covering their expenses and the costs of utilities, cannot be ensured with the assistance of the local public authority, accommodation and cover of such expenses may be provided by the association of parents legally constituted at the level of the school concerned, on the basis of the written agreement of the members of the association, which will be annexed to the file(s) of the selected SOL teacher(s).

3) Submission of the files referred to in paragraph 1 shall take place at least one month before the beginning of the school/academic year the SOL teachers are to teach.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Within the framework of this cooperation, the Ministry of Education, by means of the school

inspection and the public pre-university education units / the accredited higher education institutions participating in the SOL programme, shall have the following responsibilities:

Art. 6 To provide SOL support in identifying potential public pre-university education establishments/ accredited higher education institutions interested in receiving a SOL teacher whose teaching activity brings added value to the educational process, centralizing the requests received.

Art. 7 To ensure the placement of SOL teachers:

- 1) in accredited public pre-university education establishments, which have intensive and/or bilingual English classes, including elective studies on English language and literature, British and/or American history, geography, culture and civilization.
- 2) in accredited public pre-university education establishments, which wish to receive a native English-speaking teacher or in public pre-university education establishments where there is no possibility of hiring qualified teachers for elective studies. The positions made up of elective studies will be assigned, as a priority, to SOL teachers.
- 3) in accredited higher education institutions in Romania which request the services of native English-speaking teachers in view of developing students' language communication skills. The teachers proposed by SOL must meet the legal requirements applicable to the academic teaching staff in order to be allowed to teach in higher education institutions in Romania.

Art. 8 The Ministry of Education issues the minister's orders for the SOL teachers to be employed in public pre-university education establishments / accredited higher education institutions, for a school /academic year.

Art. 9 In accordance with the legal provisions, SOL teachers, foreign citizens, will be employed full or part time in one or more public pre-university education establishments / accredited higher education institutions depending on the number of available teaching hours and according to the number of vacant/reserved teaching positions.

Art. 10

- 1) The Ministry of Education, through the school inspection, provides SOL teachers employed in public pre-university education establishments with a salary equivalent to the *Tenure Degree* and to seniority.
- 2) The receiving higher education institutions cover the salary of SOL teachers from their own funds.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PUBLIC PRE-UNIVERSITY EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENTS / ACCREDITED HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Art. 11

- 1) For the SOL teachers in public pre-university education establishments, the provision of accommodation, the coverage of the related expenses (rent) and the payment of the utilities (gas, electricity, water/maintenance, Internet services) is the responsibility of the local public authorities which administers the pre-university education establishments concerned.

2) By way of exception to paragraph 1, in cases where the local public authorities cannot provide accommodation for SOL teachers and cover the rent and utilities, these may be provided by the parents' association, legally constituted at the level of the concerned pre-university education establishment, in accordance with the provisions of Art. 5, paragraph 2.

3) For the SOL teachers employed in accredited higher education institutions, the provision of accommodation and related expenditure (rent and utilities), shall be borne by the institutions themselves.

Art. 12 In order to provide favourable conditions for SOL teachers to teach and stay in Romania, the public pre-university education establishments / accredited higher education institutions have the following responsibilities:

a) designate a contact person within the framework of the partnership with SOL in order to help the SOL teacher(s) adapt to the specific educational requirements of the Romanian educational system and to the conditions of everyday life.

b) assist the SOL teacher(s) in official situations requiring the presence of a translator.

IV. MONITORING

Art. 13 School inspectorates and the accredited higher education institutions involved shall monitor the activity of SOL teachers by preparing annual activity reports on this topic. The reports shall be submitted to the Directorate General for Pre-university Education and the Directorate General for Higher Education, respectively within the Ministry of Education by the end of each school/ academic year.

Art. 14 The SOL coordinator for Romania shall draw up an annual report, which shall include:

- (1) the additional educational activities carried out by the SOL coordinator;
- (2) the participation in SOL national events.

Art. 15 The principals of the public pre-university education establishments, who are responsible for the employment of SOL teachers, shall draw up an annual report which shall include:

Section A

SOL teacher's portfolio – completed by each SOL teacher, containing:

- (1) the weekly schedule;
- (2) the performance of the pupils to whom the teacher has taught;
- (3) the extracurricular activities specific to the school subject(s) taught, organized together with the pupils.

Section B

The school's portfolio completed by the school principal shall include:

- (1) The annual report prepared by the English Department on the contribution of the SOL teacher to the improvement of pupils' linguistic performance and the effective exchange of good practice with other English teachers.
- (2) The school principal's annual report on the necessity /appropriateness of maintaining the SOL

teacher in the following school year, on the basis of the annual report of the English Department, the views of the Student's Board and the Parents' Committee.

Art. 16 The annual report of the SOL coordinator and the annual reports of school principals shall be submitted to the school inspectorates at the end of the second school semester of each school year. A copy of the school principals' reports shall be sent to the SOL coordinator for information.

Art. 17 At the end of the academic year, the directors of departments of the higher education institutions involved in the programme shall draw up a report on SOL teacher's activity and on the impact of his/hers work on the academic performance of the students and the teachers with whom he has cooperated.

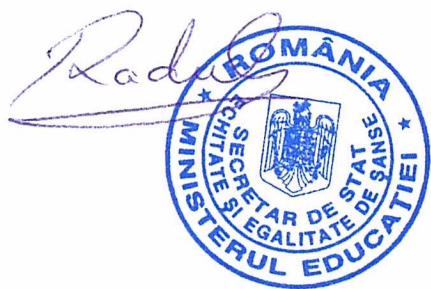
V. FINAL PROVISIONS

This Protocol of collaboration between the Ministry of Education of Romania and Sharing One Language of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland shall apply from the date of signature by both parties.

This Protocol shall be valid from the school/academic year 2021-2022 until 31st of August 2023. If neither Party requests in writing the renegotiation of this Protocol, at least one month before its expiry, it shall extend its validity for one further year.

Signed in Bucharest, on...23 August 2021..., in two original copies, each in Romanian and English, all texts being equally authentic.

For the Ministry of Education



For Sharing One Language

