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Alternative pathways for self-sustainability The dual learning system in Romania

The Schottener Foundation

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London

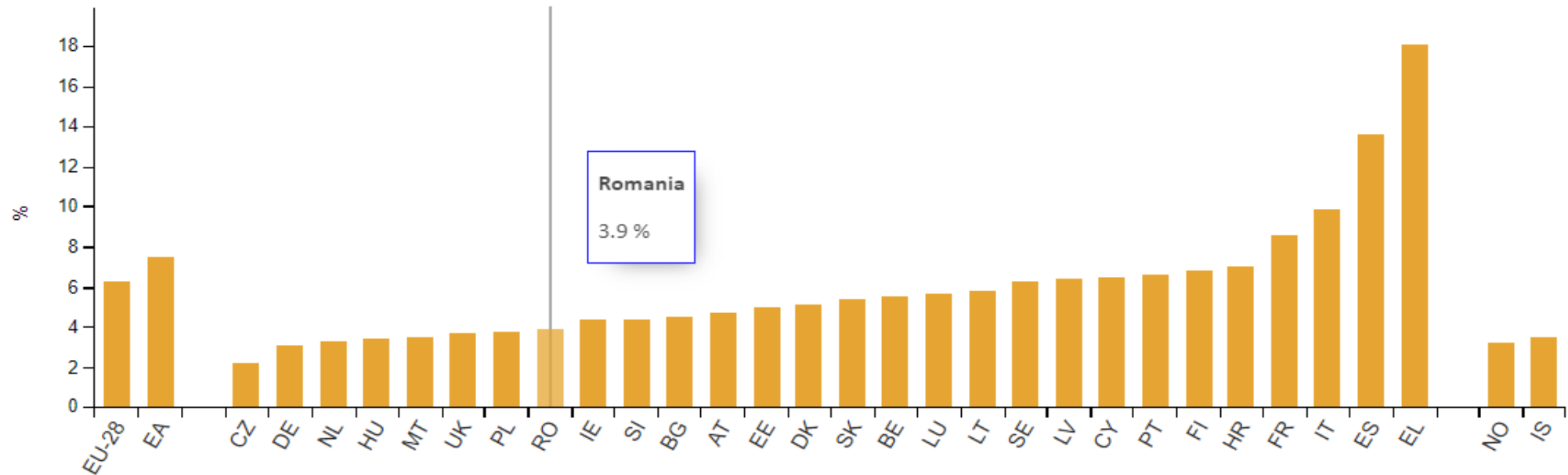
AIM OF THE PRESENTATION

- **Reveal the benefits of the dual vocational education system in Romania as an alternative path for low-skilled young people to become self-sufficient**
- **Present a good practice model developed by Hands Across Association in Romania.**

NATIONAL CONTEXT

Romania's unemployment rate is low **3.9%** compared to the EU average rate of 6,3% (EUROSTAT, May 2019)

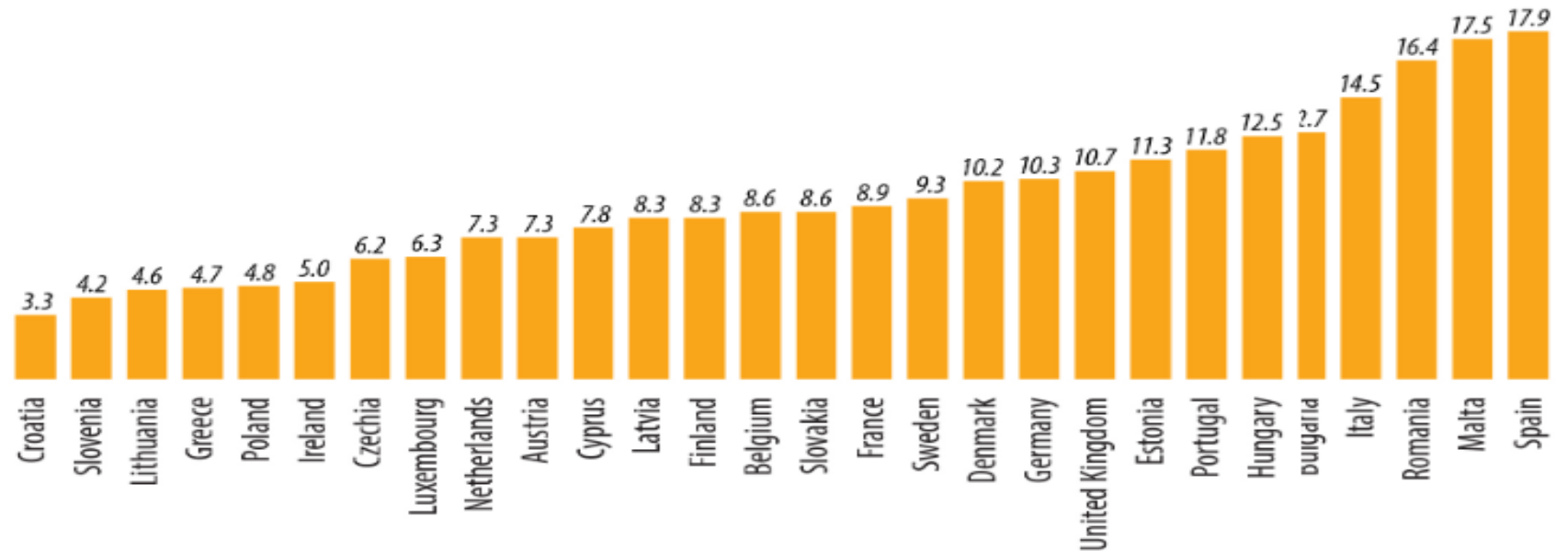
Unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted, May 2019 (%)



LOW UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BUT (I)RRELEVANT BECAUSE..

Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18–24)
(2018)

Romania ranks third in the EU with 16.4% among the countries with the highest ESL rate after Malta (17.5%), and Spain (17.9%)

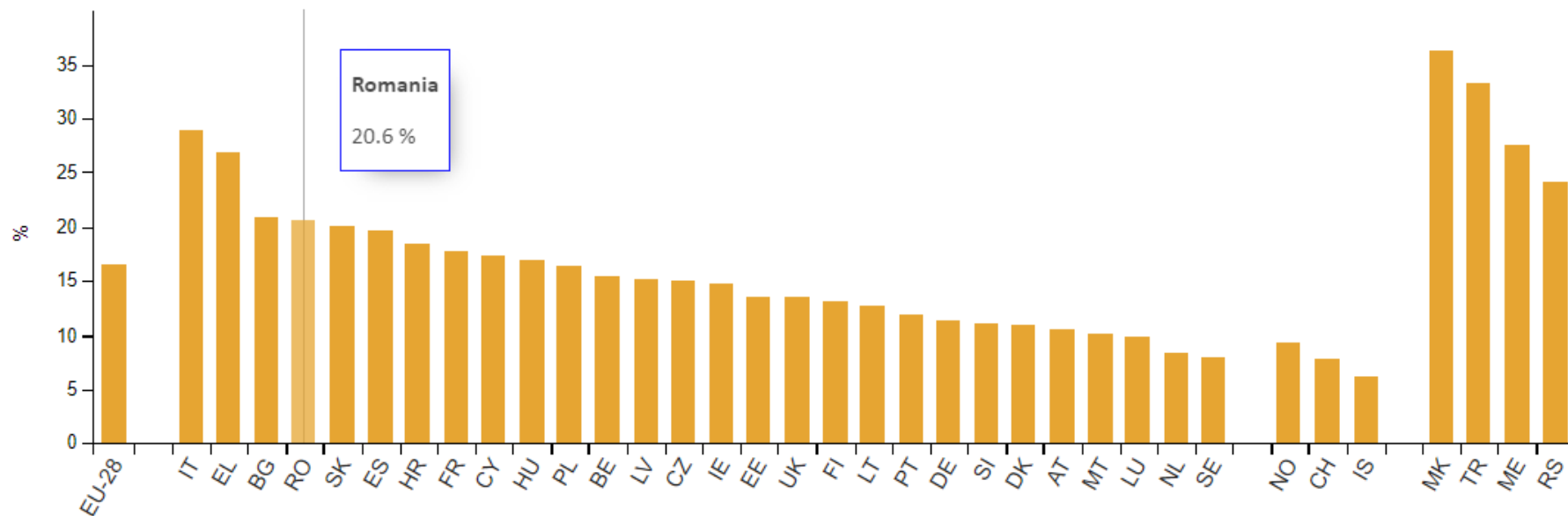


ec.europa.eu/eurostat 

LOW UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BUT (I)RRELEVANT BECAUSE..

The percentage of Romanian young people (aged 20 to 34) neither in employment nor in education is among the highest in EU, at 20.6 % compared to the EU average of 16.5 % (Eurostat, April 2019)

Young people (aged 20–34) neither in employment nor in education and training, 2018



Building a Sense of Self-Sufficiency in Youth

Hands Across Association & private sector -> joint action to move young ESL/Drop outs from non-engagement to self-sufficiency



The task is to assist young people in developing their own skill sets so they are more equipped to deal with the broader world and be less depended on their parents resources



Significant planning and advocacy for the development of the dual learning system

The dual vocational education training system (VET) in Romania

Implemented officially in 2017 despite low support from public authorities.

Generally VET has been looked down upon as the option for those who are not able to take up higher education; the parents only resort to it when their children fail.

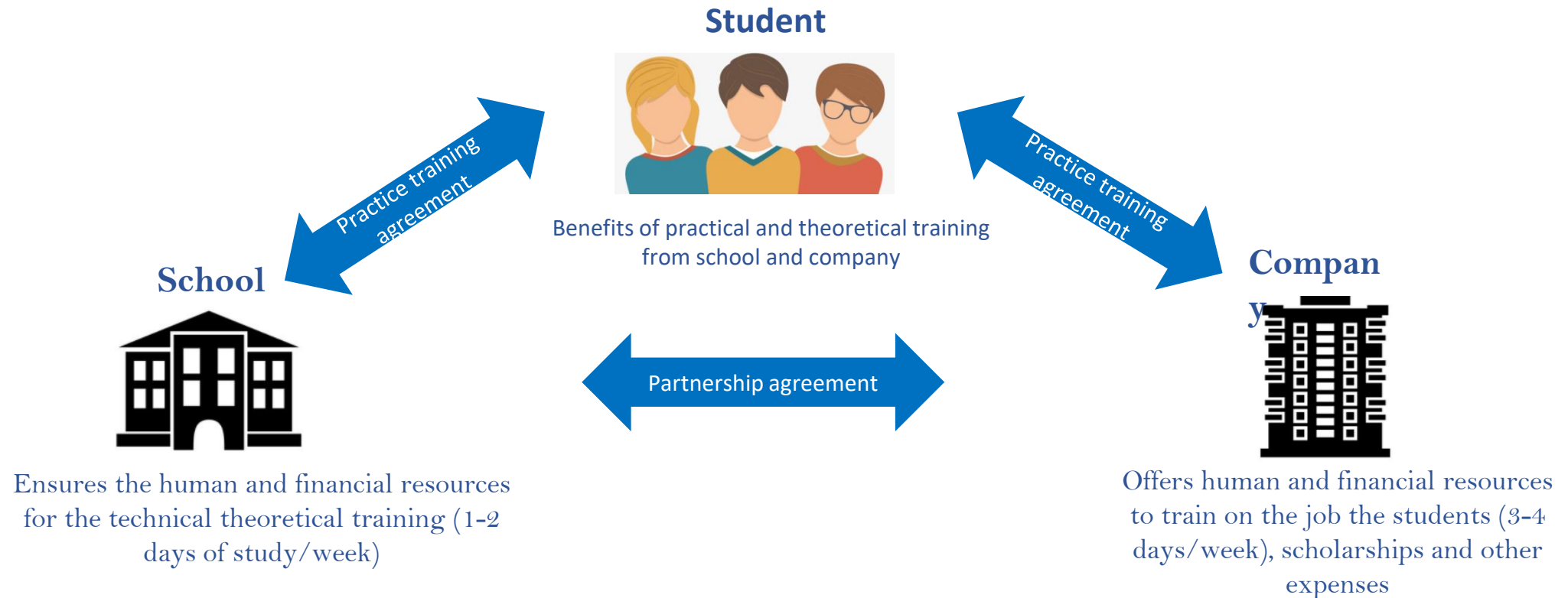


White colour jobs are the most sought after - blue colour are for people with no other options

What is dual VET

- ✓ The 'dual system' is a well-known example of 'alternance' vocational education and training **offering a combination of training periods in an educational institution and in the workplace.** It takes the form of an apprenticeship scheme where the apprentice is linked to the employer and receives a bursary for a duration of 3 years.
- ✓ Exclusively organized by the companies' request, as potential employers
- ✓ The companies' right to get involved in the educational decisions of the partner school

How the system works



Who benefits?



Any public school with the consultation of the local municipality and as a request of the interested companies



- Any student who graduated 8 classes
- Any student who graduated the mandatory educational level (10 grades) and dropped out it but is no older than 26yrs



Any company interested in dual VET in order to prepare a new generation of employees

The dual VET's advantages



Reconstructing the image of the vocational schools with benefits both for education and for society



Opportunity to graduate a promising school for a better future



Facilities to taxes payment



Strengthening the image of the current educational system



Acquiring skills and practical experience within a company



Labor force trained according to their expectations and needs



Offering a viable option for students who don't go to theoretical highschools



Opportunity to have a very good scholarship



Involvement in selecting the most promising students right from the beginning and keep investing in them for becoming the best employee



Opportunity to have the transport and boarding expenses covered

Added value of Hands Across Association in the VET

- Took a different approach to package the VET for parents – national awareness campaigns in lower secondary schools including rural and urban areas (motivational speeches & TEDx type of presentations)
- Design and delivery of training for young ESL/drop-outs/ VET students for developing attitudes, knowledge skills, finance-management & entrepreneurial skills -> seen as a priority for developing a pro-active attitude toward self-sufficiency in youth.
- Enrollment of young students in a recreational programs; peer-to-peer exchanges.
- Support for private companies to market their needs and could be at the next level of training - or something like that. The entire idea is not to train the skills which are not required by the market - training is expensive and resources are few

Thank you!



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