

## The Contribution of Professional Associations in Romania to the Prevention of Poverty and Exclusion by Developing Social Businesses - Part I of II

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### Abstract

Global poverty is neither created by the poor, nor the result of any incapacity associated to them; instead, it is the outcome of the system built by all the people, the institutions they set up and the concepts they have formulated. In what follows we don't want to suggest that Professional Associations would become philanthropic associations through the establishment and development of specific social economy foundations that concentrate their activity on poverty issues. Such associations have actually come to witness the problems mentioned above, namely the difficult situation of former employees from different areas; an example in this respect could be the massive and "the most successful privatization of all time" of oil companies, in 2004, when, by various subtle (compensatory) means, the new capitalists have fired more than 40 thousand people, relegating them and their families to a life of poverty. Private oil companies have outsourced more services, which subsequently became the property of the capitalists managing them, at the expense of society, proving their clear interest in gaining significant profit. Therefore, Professional Associations in this area might become, among other things, active organizations within society, assuming a social role, for both their members from the oil industry and for non-members, for society at large. Professional associations promote the idea of a new form of capitalism and a new type of company (understood as a business), based on the generosity of people and defined by experts as "social business". The fundamental purpose: to eliminate the social, economic and environmental problems; reduce the consequences of many other problems in society, such as hunger, homelessness, disease, pollution, lack of education, which finally lead to national insecurity.

**Keywords:** Professional associations; poverty; social exclusion; vulnerable groups; social business; social economy; social entrepreneurship, a new form of Capitalism.

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