

# QA in Romania

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# Outline - the Romanian system of QA

- Goals of the Romanian system
- Areas covered by QA system
- The role of internal & external QA in Romania
- Internal Quality Assurance in Romania
- Incentives and control in the Romanian system
- Benefits and challenges of the Romanian system

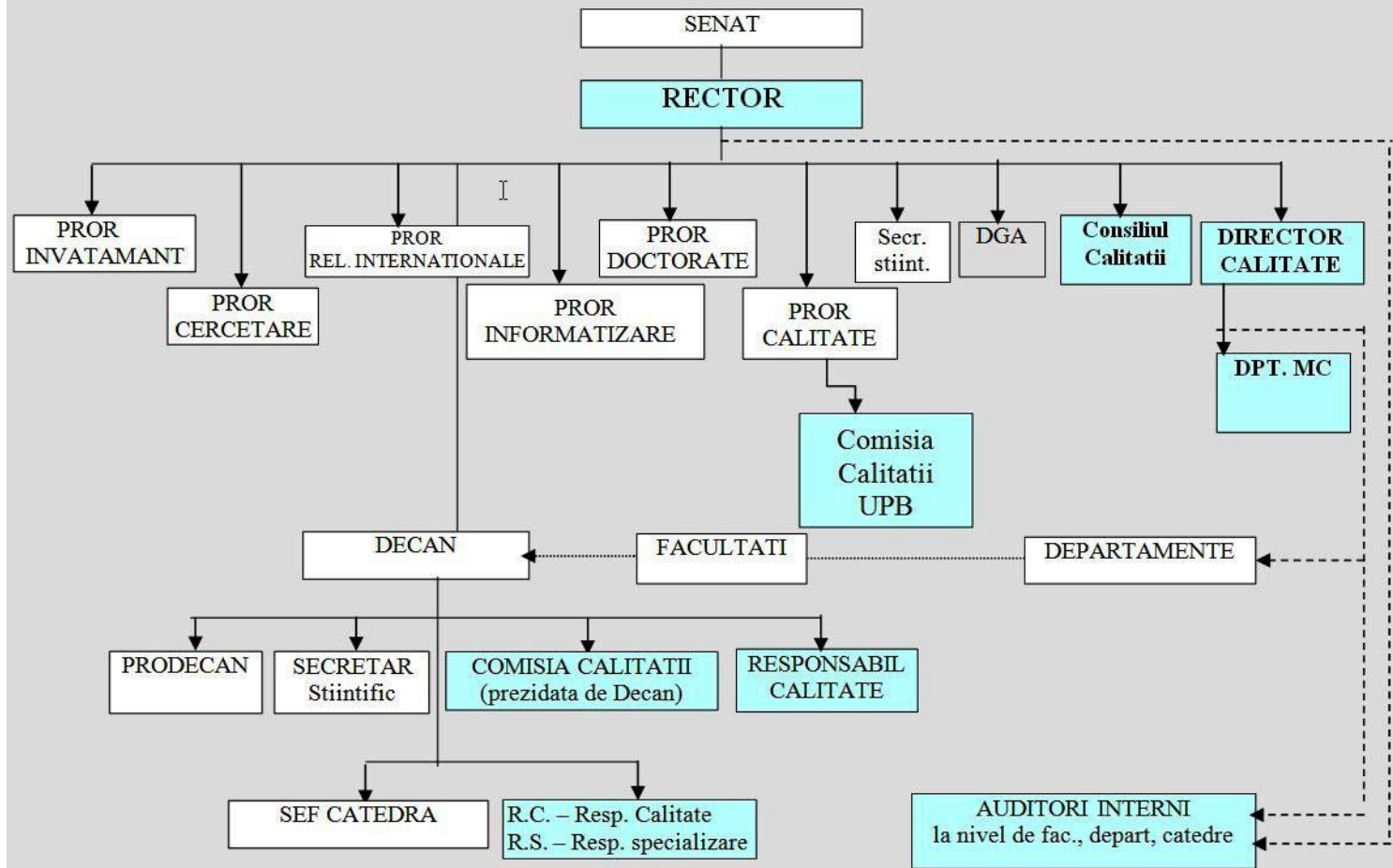
# Goals of the QA system

- To test the capacity of education providers to meet the expectations of the beneficiaries, based on quality standards;
- To contribute to the development of an institutional culture of quality, in higher education;
- To ensure the protection of the direct beneficiaries of HE study programs, by delivering and disseminating systematic, coherent and credible, publicly available information, regarding the quality of education;
- To assist the policy makers in development of strategies and policies for continuous improvement of HE.

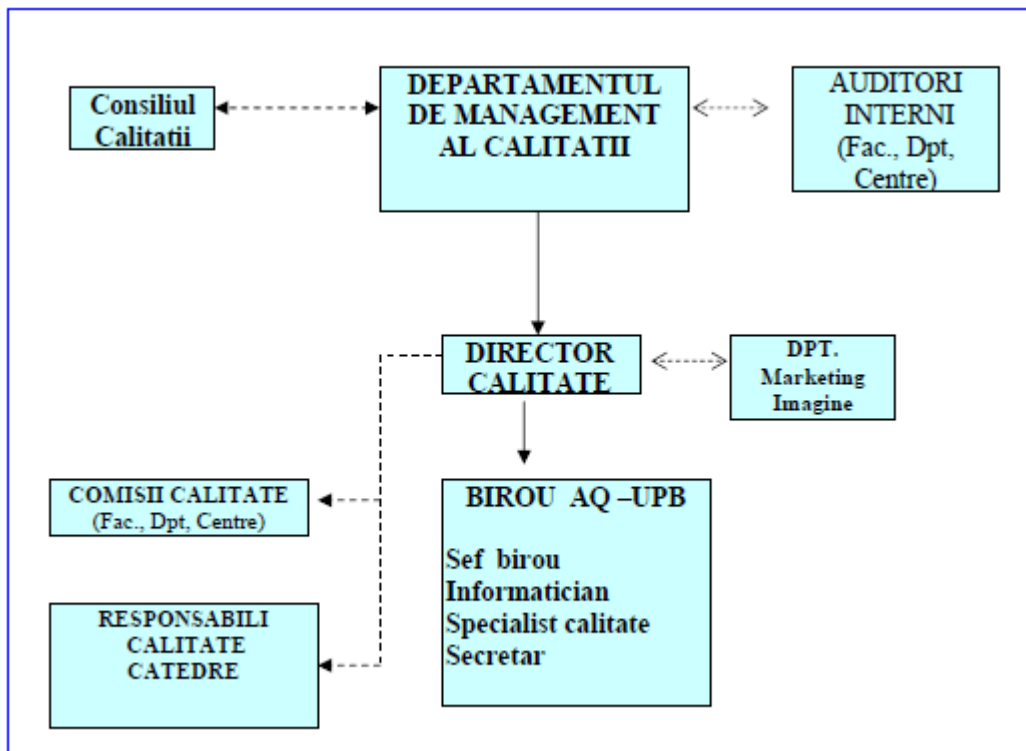
# Areas covered by QA system

- Bachelor studies
- Master studies
- PhD studies
- Continuous education at levels 6, 7 and 8

# QA Structures in the UPB



# QA Structures in UPB



# The role of internal & external QA in Romania

- **Internal QA:**
  - Ongoing monitoring of quality indicators
  - Support for process improvement
  - Preparation of external evaluation
- **External QA:**
  - Institutional accreditation
  - Authorisation and/or accreditation of study programs

# The role of internal & external QA in Romania

- Aspects of quality looked at, at university level?
  - Legal organization and operation of the institution
  - Teaching staff
  - Educational process
  - Students
  - Scientific research
  - Endowment, resources, materials



# Policy Declaration

Defines:

- the partners of the university (*students, teaching staff, alumni, industry partners, other HE institutions*)
- use of resources
- scientific research
- IT and communication
- university management

# Documents

<http://www.upb.ro/managementul-calitatii.html>

- Regulation regarding the QAS
- Regulation regarding the QA Council
- Organization chart of the QA system
- Procedures
  - System procedures
  - Work procedures
  - Operational procedures

# The Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education

- Full member of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education – ENQA
- Listed in the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education - EQAR

# The Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education

- ARACIS was established in 2005
- It is an autonomous public institution, of national interest, whose main mission is the external evaluation of the Romanian higher education's quality, at the level of study programs, as well as from the institutional point of view.

# ARACIS Methodology

- PART I: Study programs accreditation external evaluation
- PART II: Institutional accreditation external evaluation
- PART III: Academic quality external evaluation of accredited higher education institutions
- PART IV: External evaluation of teaching staff training departments
- PART V: External evaluation of distance learning study programs

# ARACIS & ANC

- National Authority for Qualifications (ANC) answers the question:
  - does the qualification build the required learning outcomes? (validation of qualifications)
- ARACIS answers the questions:
  - Is the HE institution capable to organize the educational process according to certain standards? (institutional accreditation)
  - In particular, is the HE institution/faculty/department capable to organize the study program associated to a qualification (program accreditation)

# Incentives and control in the Romanian system

- University autonomy
- Ranking of universities
- The system to promote teaching staff

# Benefits and challenges of the Romanian system

- Offers for both, public and private universities, the same functioning framework
- Gives an image about the performance of all universities:
  - future students
  - labour market
- Offers a credible image to the universities
- Ensures the alignment to European Universities
- Sometimes, the regulations are too rigid
- Organization of master and doctoral studies



Thank you for your attention