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Title: The national crisis of teachers. Moldova develops chronic poverty, loneliness and countless shortcomings cast out on people

Details: Teachers flee the country in search of a better life as a result of low national income, indifference on behalf of the educational system, whilst future generations suffer the effect.

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1. Story Pitch: The Moldovan educational system is corrupt, degrading and outdated. We have fewer teachers and fewer trained teachers in schools. Teachers flee the country because of low income and the teaching profession disappears from the new labor market. In the end, those who suffer from the defective system are the children, the future of the country. Instead of fighting the phenomenon, authorities shrug and blame the country's economy and low wages.

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Script:

0.04 – 0.30

Corrupt, degrading and outdated. This is how the moldovan educational system is seen from the inside. The great states of the world have understood that education is a priority. Meanwhile, in political speeches we hear more and more about "the future of the country". Everything is in vane. Authorities speak, but don't invest. Thousands of teachers leave Moldova because of chronic poverty. In the end, those who suffer from the defective system are the children.

0.30 – 0.44 Lucia Argint, Ph.D. in History, professor I work with many school directors. Every Monday, we start the day with greetings and the

question: "Do you have a teacher or a specialist in one or other discipline?" It's a big pain. 0.46 – 1.02 Valentin Crudu, Chief of the Education Department from the Ministry of Education,

Culture and Research

We have 93 vacancies at Drochia, 137 vacancies in Ungheni, 251 vacancies in Chişinău. The total number of vacancies reported is 1.875.

1.03 – 1.25

We face a catastrophic phenomenon. We have fewer teachers, and fewer trained teachers. Moldova is hit by a continuous depopulation, doubled by massive migration in the last years. We don't have solutions for any of these problems. As the national crisis grows and becomes more and more worrying, the authorities shrug and invoke motives just to ignore the reality.

1.25 – 1.46 Valentin Crudu, Chief of the Education Department from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research

The fact that some teachers leave the educational system... people leave other areas too. The Ministry of Education does not carry this statistic. Teachers, like all other people, have the right to migrate. The statistics that we have now do not have such an indicator, we don't know why schools are abandoned.

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1.47 – 2.09

Authorities ignore an ongoing national tragedy. As long as they show impotence and incompetence, the teaching profession disappears from the new labor market. The reason is

simple to understand, but hard to face. A teacher's salary is below human dignity. This situation leads to a slow, but constant destruction of the most important component of society.

2.10 – 2.28 Alex Leahu, Professor of Mathematics, Drochia A young man cannot secure his family's financial future with the salary of a teacher. How can

you build a house or raise two children? 2.29 – 2.42 Lucia Argint, Ph.D. in History, professor

They can't survive if the financial situation doesn't allow them to form a family and maintain it. That's why, they usually reprofile or leave the system.

2.43 – 3.15 Valentin Crudu, Chief of the Education Department from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research

Reporter: When I asked them what should happen so that they could stay in Moldova, they said: "We need a decent salary." I asked them how much do you need? They told me that they need at least 8,000 lei. So teachers ask for only 8,000 lei to stay here and educate a generation of children.

Crudu: I am sorry, but I am not in the competence to answer this question and please don't insist to hear an answer. It'll probably take some time. As long as the country's economy doesn't generate money for the state budget, we won't have competitive salaries in education either.

3.15 – 3.37

We can't talk about economic growth without the human factor. You can't have productivity without an active population and a trained workforce. But those who have to prepare it are removed from the equation by poverty. The salary of a young teacher is at the limit of survival - 150 euros. For the first time ever, budget places at the pedagogy faculties remained unassigned, and those who got a place, have a general

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average of 5, 6 or 7, at most.. There are students who simply want a diploma, not a profession.

3.37 – 4.28 Lucia Argint, Ph.D. in History, professor

A while back, students with ideals or whose parents were professors used to sign up there. Now, it's full of students who just didn't manage to pass into other faculties, but whose parents want them to have a higher education. When they get to pedagogical practice, students have to stand in front of children who are much more trained than them.

4.28 – 4.41

There are children who choose pedagogy from passion. They adopt it as a future profession and are taught... how to teach. It's an exchange of experience between them and the old professors.

4.41 – 5.00 Alex Leahu, Professor of Mathematics, Drochia

In such moments, you just have to create a team: a young teacher with an elder mentor. It's a reversible learning process. Not only the young teachers learn math from the elder ones, but also the elder learn digital skills from the younger.

5.01 – 5.20

Moldova is in a continuous depopulation, and the phenomenon is increasing from one year to another. We have migratory waves and negative demographic growth. Young people leave the country and we lose people with experience. In these conditions, the employment of a young specialist in the village means he must become a sacrifice for the future generations.

5.20 – 5.43 Alex Leahu, Professor of Mathematics, Drochia

Yes, you will not live the life the way you dreamed, but your children or grandchildren will live better. A generation has to sacrifice for another generation, but we are not ready to do that. Are you ready to sacrifice for the future generation?

5.43 - 6.01

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The most common answer is no. The outcome? This year, thousands of teachers are missing in schools. To compensate the lack of teachers, some of them come to teach 2, 3 or even 4 classes. That's the ridiculous result of poverty. The Chief of the Education Department explains the situation:

6.01 – 6.12 Valentin Crudu, Chief of the Education Department from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research

You have the possibility to get 50 percent or more of the basic salary. The majority of the professors do this.

6.13 – 6.34 ...and the quality of the studies doesn't really matter.

In comparison, teachers' salaries in the European Union are several times or even ten times higher than those of moldovan teachers. The biggest salary in the EU is raised by specialists in Luxembourg – 72.000 euros a year, which is 37 times higher than in Moldova.

INFOGRAPHIC 6.35 – 7.08 Victoria Borodin, professor, Montpellier, France

Here, the salary of a beginner is 10 times higher. In our country there is a desolated situation, especially in rural areas. Here, teachers are motivated, they benefit from different courses, from all teaching materials. It's a more interactive teaching.

7.08 – 7.29

We went to Ciutești, a village where time basically stopped. After a few miles of paved road, forgotten by modernity, we reached the gymnasium. When we arrived, the building had no heat or light. But it had over a hundred children at school. At the entrance, a teacher with a bell in his hand announces that the break is over.

7.34 – 7.56

13 years ago, professor Mihai Țărnă returned to teach in the village school. After university, he chose to come back home. He teaches history, but in order to fill his hours and receive the minimum wage of 3,000 lei, he also teaches civic education, technology, music and arts. So, 5 classes for 3,000 lei.

7.56 – 8.24 Mihai Țărnă, history teacher, Ciutești

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A teacher don't reach 18 hours. That's why we have to re-qualify in other areas and teach other classes. In the pedagogical field, the salaries are miserable. Teachers are not satisfied with the salaries they receive.

8.25 – 8.45

Each new class means dozens of daily papers and planning. They all end up in the school archive. But not even this guarantees teachers a decent salary. A single day is not enough for them to complete so many papers. Rural teachers are forced, in order to survive, to do household work each day.

8.45 – 9.20 Mihai Țărnă, history teacher, Ciutești

Sometimes we don't have enough time to prepare for our classes every day and we have to work on some documents that are stored somewhere, getting dusty over years. At home, we have to raise animals and this also takes time – time that we should have in order to dedicate to school.

9.21 – 9.54

A few kilometers away, in Soltănești, the village school faces the same lack of teachers. Dumitru Postu teaches geography. Last year, two of his colleagues left the country. Without any training or studies, but for a few hundred extra lei, the geography teacher had to fill three other posts. Now he teaches technology and sports. He's not that young anymore and fails to keep up with the students. Dumitru and the school administration are waiting for a new teacher. Until then, professor Postu somehow manages the impossible.

9.54 – 10.14 Dumitru Postu, professor of geography, Soltanesti

Years go by and we don't have the same power we once had. Now, I feel tired. I have nothing to hide. I understood the school situation and i covered the gap, but I tell you honestly, I find it very hard.

10.15 – 10.31

The passion and desire to educate children in the village motivates him. Summers in a row, in order to support his family, he worked in Moscow. But as years passed, his wife managed to help by getting a job in Italy.

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10.31 – 11.08 Dumitru Postu, professor of geography, Soltanesti

My wife is abroad. So morally and materially she supports me. Honestly, the salary I received a few years ago was enough just to buy bread and sugar. That's why we left, my wife and I, to give our children the opportunity to learn. I was wondering: how can my children not even be able to go to a college, when I am a professor?

11.08 – 11.23

These teachers are a model of good faith. For years, they found the motivation to continue to educate the children of Moldova, even if at home they were expecting a real struggle for existence. Who is found guilty of their fate? The incompetence of the state. Poverty.

11.24 – 11.50 Valentin Crudu, Chief of the Education Department from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research

I think everything will change very soon. I am not sure how much the salary will increase in the coming years, but I hope that the current government will pay attention to the motivation of young specialists. If we fail to find this motivation, I am really skeptical about hiring young specialists.

11.51 – 12.06

Authorities fool us one day to another with the hope that times will change. Until they prove it, instead of education, Moldova develops poverty and loneliness and out people. 12.06 – 12.40 Lucia Argint, Ph.D. in History, professor

But time passes and we lose some very important moments. We can lose some valuable people forever, which we will not be able to bring back into the system and that will be a cultural catastrophe. Each day I find myself thinking of taking my family and leaving.

12.42 – 13.34 sVictoria Borodin, professor, Montpellier, France

Would you come back home now? No. Firstly, because I have many more perspectives to grow professionally. You evolve throughout your life, and the salary reaches 7-8 thousand euros. Here you can afford to raise money to buy a house or an apartment. If i come home, what do I offer my children, 2,000 lei?

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countless shortcomings cast