

Minority Higher Education in Transylvania –
Modern Business Sciences College – Training Center Odorheiu-Secuiesc /
Szekelyudvarhely

Tünde Barabási

Babes-Bolyai University – Teacher Training College – Odorheiu-Secuiesc / Szekelyudvarhely
Barabasi@kabelkon.ro

Key words: Hungarian higher education in Transylvania, surviving possibilities, Modern Business Sciences College– Training Center – Odorheiu-Secuiesc

Aims of the research: The main aim of the research is the presentation and analysis of a Hungarian higher educational institute, which became through private initiation in one of the most “Hungarian” town from Transylvania. It is important to show how is able to function and survive a higher educational institute, which doesn’t use the official state language.

Results of the research: Odorheiu-Secuiesc is a little town in Transylvania, where the number of secondary schools is high (7) related to the number of the inhabitants (39.000). That’s why it is often called “school-town”. Before 1989 there wasn’t any higher educational possibility in the town even if the number of the high school graduates was high. In the last twelve years two colleges have been founded. One of them, the Modern Business Sciences College started its activity in 1998 as a result of the cooperation between the local government of the town and the college having the same name from Tatabánya (Hungary).

The case study shows the role of this college in the town, the way a college in Romania based on cooperation with a partner institution from Hungary can survive. We also try to point out how this institution meets the needs of the town and the area, what its structure and managerial way is, who the trainers are, what the structure of the training is, who the students are and the kind of social background they have. We are interested in the development plans of the institution, in the way the functioning of the institution is related to the (local, Romanian and Hungarian) political changes.

The methods of the research: case study, structured interviews, documentation analysis

The pedagogical and educational-political importance of the research: Through the presentation of the institution’s structure and functioning we try to point out how the higher educational institutions founded in cooperation with partner institutions from Hungary, can serve the local needs, and what they represent for the Romanian higher educational system.