

# AGM 2013 - Country report for full members

## 2. Your association

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**On behalf of which national association of sign language interpreters are you reporting?**

ANIALMG (Rumania)

**Your name:**

Gelu Bogdan

**Your email address**

anialmg\_rom@yahoo.com

## 3. Country facts

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**What is the population in your country/region?**

The population of romania is around 20 million

**What is the number of Deaf sign language users in your country (or in the region of the country) you are representing?**

In Romania there are approximately 25,000 hearing impaired people. There is no data regarding how many are using Sign Language.

**How many sign language interpreters are officially registered in your country / region?**

In Romania there are approximately 50 authorized Sign Language interpreters.

**How many interpreter members does your association have?**

There are 5 interpreter members in the association. There are two more members who have their authorization expired.

**If you have any comments on the above facts, please mention them here:**

## 4. Events & goals

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**What are the most important events for your association in the past year?**

This year the Association has drafted the occupational standard for Sign Language interpreters (with undergraduate studies). We have trained 3 new groups of 14 Sign Language interpreters (beginner level). We have drafted (together with a group of members of the parliament) a bill that will give each Deaf person 120 hours of free interpreting, the interpreters being paid by the state system. This bill is now under debate in the Parliament. Another bill we have drafted regards the set up of a National Register of Authorized Sign Language interpreters which can monitor, regulate and authorize the interpreters. Since March 2012 interpreters of our association are interpreting the regional news bulletin into Sign Language each Saturday and Sunday at the Cluj studio of the National Television (all the persons involved work as volunteers). On September 7 2013 we organized a National Conference regarding the role of the Sign Language interpreter in society, celebrating 5 years of the Association`s existence. On this occasion we have also published the first issue of the Sign Language Interpreter`s Journal.

**What are the most important events for the situation of sign language interpreters in your country/region (for example the recognition of the national Sign Language, of the profession, etc.)**

There unfortunately is a lack of communication and understanding between our association and and the National Association of the Deaf (even if we have a written collaboration agreement) who have the tendency to promote and impose their own hearing employees (social workers) as interpreters. The National Association of the Deaf has the advantage of being funded by the state.

**What are the goals of your association for the coming year?**

We want a real collaboration with The National Association of the Deaf and increase the number of interpreters as well as their standards of work. We hope the two bills will be turned into laws and this will develop this domain a lot. We would like to have a project for training and specialization and we would like efsli to be our partner.