Policy Accelerator Hub UEFISCDI, Romania

Vision and Aims	The Policy Accelerator Hub is a new initiative in Romania through which talent from the university environment is encouraged to actively participate in solving existing challenges in society by developing effective public policies.
	The Policy Accelerator Hub was created in 2019, within CERT-ANTREP, a project developed by SNSPA (National School of Political and Administrative Studies), in partnership with UEFISCDI (Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding) and CCIR (Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania). The hub aimed to create a space for collaboration, using the model of business accelerators, in which students learn to develop public policies, following all the steps - from the idea to the presentation of the policy developed in front of the decision makers.
Target Audience	- MSc Students - Doctoral students - Postdoctoral fellowships
Key Features	The acceleration programme involves a series of events whose role is to familiarize participants with the notion of public policy, to recommend model policy briefs or white papers, to present success stories and to connect them with policy makers. The events are doubled by a mentoring programme, in which participants choose a public policy theme and work in teams with mentors to develop a policy brief. In 2019, the Policy Accelerator Hub was launched as a physical hub within SNSPA, with offline events and meetings, but due to the current epidemiological situation, the entire programme takes place online.
	Why Policy Accelerator Hub? Because it is a unique learning programme and offers a complete experience - from idea, to development and presentation of the proposal to decision makers. Because public policies are a powerful tool for change, and this programme facilitates access to the mechanisms that produce change.
	How does the Policy Accelerator Hub work? Just like in a business accelerator, the programme starts with enrolling participants. When registering, they can choose one of the two acceleration options: CONNECT or CONNECT & ACCEL. The CONNECT option provides access to resources within the accelerator (events, meetings),
	The CONNECT & ACCEL option involves choosing a public policy theme and teamwork with

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a mentor for its development in the form of a policy brief or white paper that will be presented to several policy makers at a dedicated event.
At the end of the 8 months of the programme, participants will gather all the knowledge needed to develop a public policy and will benefit from the full experience of this process.
December 2020 – September 2021
SNSPA (National School of Political and Administrative Studies), in partnership with UEFISCDI (Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding) and CCIR (Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania).
https://cert-antrep.ro/policy-accelerator-hub-2021/
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