



**Arab Orthodox Christian Community  
Romania**

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AND ACTION FOR CHILDREN  
(DPAC)**

**ACTIVITY REPORT**

**"Ion Heliade Radulescu" School, Bucharest**

**19 November, 2012**

**Theme:** *"Stop Violence Against Children"*

**Venue:** "Ion Heliade Radulescu" School, Bucharest

**Date:** 19 November 2012

**Participants:**

- 1) 36 children (10 years old, 17 girls and 19 boys), grade IV
- 2) four adults (one teacher and three facilitators)

**Facilitators:**

1. Georgiana-Simona State
2. Daniela Sirbu
3. Diana Zotea

**Activities:**

1. Short film on Domestic Violence Against Children
2. DPAC presentation
3. Role plays
4. Drawings
5. Poems
6. Songs
7. Prayer

### **Activity description**

On November 19<sup>th</sup> 2012, the Arab Orthodox Community in Romania celebrated the World Day of Prayer and Action of Children together with the children of 4<sup>th</sup> grade from "Ion Heliade Radulescu" School in Bucharest. Based on the theme "Stop Violence Against Children", the activities were carried out by 36 children (10 years old) and their teacher.

The program activities were focused on the following aspects:

- violence in schools;
- violence on playgrounds;
- physical and psychological abuses against children;

The celebration started with a short film on domestic violence against children, showing children as victims of different forms of violence. Further, the children received special flyers prepared specially to describe the significance and the importance of such theme adopted by DPAC for the current circle.

One of the facilitators presented a power-point on the "World Day of Prayer and Action for Children". During the activity a scrolling slideshow representing pictures of victims of violence has been used.

Later on, the children "transformed" themselves into little actors who played different situations from their own life experience. Therefore, they were divided into two groups in order to show different cases of school and playground violence. This way they drew attention to some violent situations from their own life experience.

The participants also made different drawings where they expressed their vision about the general theme of the activity. One of the children, a young girl, read her own poem about the dangers of an aggressive behavior. Another one sang a song about the same subject. Both of them tried to raise awareness about violence against children.

At the end, the participants lighted candles and said a prayer for the children of the world, victims of violence.

## **Outcomes**

### **A. Participants**

The children responded to the evaluation questionnaires prepared by the facilitators where they expressed their interest to participate in such activities in the future. Also, they expressed their regrets regarding children who are in pain, therefore they would like to participate in charitable actions in order to help them. The children would like to take part in activities implying role plays and discussions on child rights. Some of them are interested in saving environment and having outdoor activities.

### **B. Facilitators**

As a result of the performed activities, the children acquired a more profound knowledge about different forms of violence and became more aware of their rights and responsibilities within the communities they belong to.