



## Associazione Italiana Editori

President

Mr Klaus Werner Iohannis  
President of Romania  
Cotroceni Palace, Geniului Boulevard no.  
1-3, Sector 6,  
Bucharest, Romania, Zip code 060116

Milan, 31 August 2017

Dear Mr President,

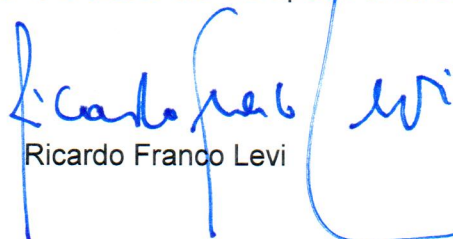
We have heard that the Minister of Education announced the issue of a new legislation imposing the presence of the unique textbook for every discipline and that the result of this new legislation will be that all textbooks in Romania will be published by one single publisher.

Italian publishers are very worried for the consequences that such a decision will have in the publishing landscape in Romania, which means at the heart of Europe, as far as we are all citizens of the same Union. The announced legislation would affect a primary value of our citizenship, the biblio-diversity, which is based on two pillars: the freedom to publish and the freedom of choice of the readers, and the freedom of teachers on behalf of their pupils.

We, in Italy, have historically the experience of the unique State textbook during the Fascism and – in reaction to that experience – we have both principles set in our constitution. The freedom of expression and to publish is coupled in our Constitution by the freedom of teaching, which also imply the freedom of every teacher to choose the book that better fits the needs of the students in every class.

Please, Mr President, consider the passionate appeal of the Italian publishing community. It is not about us, nor about our Romanian colleagues. It is about the European children and thus the European future.

Yours sincerely.



Ricardo Franco Levi