

## Synopsis - I'm a European

Romania will probably enter the European Union in 2007. Thirteen years after the fall of communism there still remain a lot of issues to be resolved in the country and this is felt by its inhabitants on a daily basis. In 'I'm a European' a portrait is outlined of the inhabitants of Vatra Dornei, a small town of 20.000 people in the picturesque region of Bucovina, in north-eastern Romania.

The young people enjoy themselves good enough, playing in the snow is a lot of fun and at night there is time to dance the night away in the local disco.

Nevertheless they too are aware of the problems their country faces and have plenty of ideas about how to improve the situation. Politicians only care about enriching themselves so perhaps it's better to become a journalist, and tourism, that's where the key to Romania's development lies.

The daily reality of the elderly people is dominated by having to consider every lei they spend, as their pensions have hardly been adjusted to inflation since 1989.

They long for the old days when you were at least sure of having a daily bread, although it meant queuing for hours.

But now the European Union comes along. What consequences will that have? Will the people of Vatra Dornei finally know prosperity and well being? Most of them think with the EU all problems will resolve in thin air, but they often don't realize that they will still have to work to achieve any improvements, according to Adrian Ardelean. Other aspects of accession to the EU are also important, he says, like a rich cultural heritage that Romania can offer Europe, poetry, music and folklore, that always have belonged to Europe.