

HISTORICAL REFERENCES

1990 – 1992

1991

It all began within A.U.S.K.I. (University Association of Karate Shotokan Iasi) with the support of its president, Mr. Neculai Amălinei and one of the karate instructors, Mr. Cătălin Ungureanu. The year was 1991, March, short after the changes that shook Romania. Trainings took place at the “Ion Ionescu de la Brad “ University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine gym.

Promoting renewal and diversity, Mr. Neculai Amălinei thought of an idea that had a great impact: introducing Aikido in Iasi.

As a result of the agreement, Mr. Cătălin Ungureanu was assigned to teach in the Aikido fashion of the Aikido Romanian Federation of Martial Arts (the only martial art federation of that time). And so, in May of 1991, A.U.S.K.I. came up with a new offer for the people of Iasi: the Aikido group for beginners. Schooling and official duties were made by and with the help of Romanian Federation of Martial Arts, regarding Aikido.

Director of this style was Mr. Dan Corneliu Ionescu, 2 dan Aikido, followed by Mr. Serban Derlogea, 2 dan, guided by renowned international instructors: Daniel Brun, 7 dan, France and Rolf Brandt, 5 dan, Germany. The Aikido group started work in the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine gym, having just six 20-year-old wrestling mattresses covered with a patched up tarpaulin.

1992

The following year, 1992, was a year of success regarding participation; there were about 30 members. That was the time when Mr.. Mihai Cozmei and Mr.. Dragos Iliescu, both extremely talented, very shortly, excelled and stood out from the other participants.

But by the end of the year a troubled feeling was amplified between Mr. Amălinei and Mr. Ungureanu. Reasons were many: lack of communication and transparency in taking decisions regarding the association, affiliation from the organizational point of view to different styles, strategy and last but not least, pride. We resorted to Mr. Dan Ionescu's reason and arbitration and so, after a common agreement , the Aikido group within A.U.S.K.I. was going to detach its self and become a self-supported association.

1993 – 2010

A meeting about constituting the “Nippon” Association took place on January 17th , 1993 and on the 31st of May same year, we gained judicial personality. From then until the autumn of 2005 the martial art association's activity took place at the “Ion Ionescu de la Brad “ University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine gym.

The year 1993 came along with some significant changes: the recognition as an instructor of Mr. Mihai Cozmei, bringing some mattresses from Aikirom Club, the uprising number of members (approximately 45) and the first visit of those who were to become over the next few

years some of the greatest friends and gurus of Aikido, Mr. Igor Zaharevici and Mr. Vitalie Oncea, both from Chisinău.

The same year brings new forces, Mr. Ionel Carabas and the late Mr. Vlad Volosievici which, ultimately, became instructors within the Association.

In the second half of the year takes place the scission of the Association because an important part of the members back then followed Mr. Mihai Cozmei, who intended to form an Aikikai Romania branch in Iasi.

1994

The autumn of 1993 and the first months of 1994 was a time of proving strength in the restoring of the Association. Supported locally by Mr. Miron Iliescu and central by what was called then Romanian Union of Aikido (which meanwhile was transferred to the newly founded Romanian Federation of Contact Martial Arts), the number of the members became once again normal so as everyone could continue and improve their training. New members came in 1994: Dumitru Fedorovici, Daniel Tîmpu and Ionel Cotovanu, they became instructors of the Association in the years that followed.

1995

In the autumn of 1995 Olaru Marian and Rosca Adrian enroll.Both from the city of Barlad. The two have been true examples of dedication, traveling back and forth from Iasi to Barlad at least twice a week for training.

Starting with the year 1995, in Bucharest a specialized group within the Nippon association was created. It's members all training in Karate Shotokan, under the guidance of Mr. Keul Volker, Nicolae Raileanu, Dragos Popazu and Victor Marcuson.

1996-1998

At the start of 1996, Adi Rosca starts a group of aikido in Barlad. The group had difficulties in functioning due to the lack of resources of any kind.

Between 1997-1998, Adrian Rosca meets Cristian Carari in Vaslui, whom he initiates in the bases of aikido practice.A minor occurance at first glance however this will prove to be of great importance within the following years because here in Vaslui also, a group of aikido will be formed.Adi will change the commuting area from Iasi to Vaslui.

2001

Within the course of this year all connections with The Romanian Aikido Association are broken off. From this point forward A.A.M "Nippon" becomes a free organization, unattached.

2002

On the 6th of June 2002, after approximately 3 years of functioning, a period in which direct connections were established with the Iasi association , the Vaslui "Nippon" branch is formed under the supervision of Mr. Cristian Carari.

2003

The association celebrates 10 years of official recognition.

2004

The first encounter with Soke Keido Yamaue, 10 dan Nord Shaolin Kung Fu and 10 dan Ryu Aikijutsu. Later on he will become a good friend and guide.

“Nippon” becomes associated with The Romanian Budo league and the Dai Nippon Butokukai, led and represented within Romania by Renshi Zoltan Veres-Cioanta.

2005

After 15 years of training within the same facility we are forced to change our practice location. Activity was later on reestablished within the new facility at C.S.S “Unirea” Iasi.

2006

The untimely passing of our association’s honorable president *Profesor Miron Iliescu* (26.07.1940-11.05.2006), the person that had understood and encouraged us from the very beginning.

2007

The “Nippon” Vaslui branch, through the actions of Alina and Cristi Carari, open a new group in Botosani.

2008

The association celebrates it’s 15 years of official recognition.

2009

“Nippon” leaves The Romanian Budo League and the D.N.B.K due to the complete lack of activity along the lines of aikido practice.

The Vaslui branch detaches itself from the main organization with the intention of creating an independent association.

2010

The “Nippon” association joins The Romanian Aikido Aikikai Foundation.

The group continues it’s activity along the lines of martial arts and specialized adventure tourism.

Note: This Historical record contains the data that we have considered as being important for our organisation’s image. For further details please consult the other columns within this site.