DANUBE RECTORS’ CONFERENCE (DRC) 2019
HOSTED BY
UNIVERSITY POLITEHNICA OF BUCHAREST (UPB)
6TH - 8TH NOVEMBER 2019

Consolidating the Role of Universities in Innovation Ecosystems: Challenges and Future Developments

DRAFT PROGRAMME
Meeting Venue

DRC Annual Conference will take place in the **Rectorate building** of the **University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest** (UPB), address 313, Splaiul Independenței, Sector 6, Bucharest ([www.upb.ro](http://www.upb.ro)). The Rectorate building can be reached either from Vasile Milea Street, Splaiul Independenței boulevard, at 10 minute walking distance from *Grozavesti* metro station, or from Iuliu Maniu Boulevard, at 10 minute walking distance from *Politehnica* metro station.

Volunteer students will guide the participants within the Campus, as well as in the Rectorate building.

The Rectorate building is located in the center of the campus, being surrounded by several faculties and research facilities.

Access to the Rectorate building is made through the ground floor.

UPB was founded in 1818 and is the largest and most prestigious technical university in Romania. At present, University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest conducts educational activities in engineering fields, organized in 15 faculties, for over 95 bachelor programs and 184 master programs. 35 programs are thought in English, German or French. Well over 30,000 students are studying at all academic levels, 1,700 being PhD candidates. The academic staff comprises of 1,400 teachers, over a quarter being full professors.
Location and Accessibility of the University

The University POLITEHNICA is located in Bucharest, which is the capital city of Romania. Bucharest has reasonable connections with most European capitals. International flights arrive at Henri Coanda International Airport (Otopeni), the largest airport in Romania, located about 19 km north of Bucharest center.

The list of airlines companies, which are directly connected to the Henri Coanda International Airport, is available here. More information can be found at the following link: http://romaniatourism.com/transportation.html

Transportation between Henri Coanda International Airport and City Center

By Bus: Express Bus 783, offers daily transport to the city center, with stops at Baneasa Airport, Piata Presei Libere, Piata Victoriei, Piata Romana, Piata Universitatii and Piata Unirii. This line runs day and night. The bus leaves every 15 minutes during the day and every 40 minutes during the night. The journey to the city center takes approximately 40 minutes. The bus fare is 7 Lei (about 1.8 Euro) for a round-trip ticket. Tickets can be purchased in the airport; the card desk being in front of the Arrivals terminal.

By Taxi: Only licensed taxi companies are allowed in the airport. A normal fare to central Bucharest is about 15 Euro. Taxi fare per km for trips from the airport starts from 1.99 lei to 3.30 lei (0.3 to 0.9 Euro/km).

If you want to pay by credit card you must travel with a Fly Taxi car (3.5 lei/km, approx. 0.75 Eur/km). The vehicles are equipped with POS (terminals for electronic payment: American Express, Mastercard, Maestro, Visa) (please see http://www.taxifly.ro/).

At the Arrivals Terminal a special desk can be found, where you can order an authorized taxi from a predetermined list. You will receive a receipt after ordering, containing the waiting time and cab number.

More information about distances from airport to various areas is available here: http://www.bucharestairports.ro/en/transport/taxi

For complete information regarding the transport in Bucharest please visit the website: http://www.tourism-bucharest.com/how-to-get-around-in-bucharest.html

No transportation from the airport is organized at arrival. However, for departure, on November 8th, two shuttle buses will transport participants to the airport (the departure hours will be established according to the flight schedule of participants and announced during the meeting).
Shuttle Service

Please note that a shuttle service will be provided for the following transfers:

- from the recommended hotels to the meeting venue on the mornings of 7th and 8th.
- November 7th - from the conference venue (UPB premises) to the dinner location, and afterwards, to the recommended hotels.

Guests are kindly requested to be present in the hotel lobby areas, according to the following pick-up schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the hotel</th>
<th>November 7th</th>
<th>November 8th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hotel Novotel Bucharest</td>
<td>7:45</td>
<td>7:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orhideea Residence &amp; Spa</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>8:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel Yesterday</td>
<td>8:10</td>
<td>8:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambiance Hotel</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>8:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPB Guest House</td>
<td>8:20</td>
<td>8:20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Accommodation

The accommodation is at the expense of the delegates. Delegates can either arrange accommodation on their own or they can book a room in the hotels that have been pre-booked by the organizers for two nights (from 6th to 8th of November). As the room availability is limited in Bucharest hotels, delegates are encouraged to book their accommodation at their earliest convenience. **Please note that the hotels guarantee the reservation until October 14, 2019.**

In order to book your room at a recommended hotel, you need to fill in the specific reservation form (see attachment) and send it to the indicated email of the respective hotel.

**Hotel Novotel Bucharest 4****

37B, Calea Victoriei, Sector 1, 010061, Bucharest

[www.accorhotels.com](http://www.accorhotels.com)

5 km from the meeting venue

This 4-star hotel is located on Calea Victoriei, close to the Cismigiu Park and few minutes’ walk from the Old Town of Bucharest. It offers free access to the wellness center and indoor pool with artificial waves, steam room and fitness area. In the vicinity you can find Bucharest historical center and the popular Lipscani Street with a wide choice of bars, restaurants and themed cafés. **Piata Universitatii Metro Station** is a 2-minute walk away. Henri Coanda Airport is a 30-minute drive away.
It takes about 15 minutes from the Universitate station to the Politehnica station, changing trains at Unirii station and taking the train marked Preciziei. From Politehnica Metro Station to the meeting venue (UPB Rectorate building) there is a 10-minute walk.

Travel Tickets – 1.10 Euro /2 trips (http://www.metrorex.ro/travel_tickets). Tickets can be purchased at the machines in the metro station.

The special rates for the rooms, including breakfast, are as follows:

- Room, single use - 90 Euro/night
- Room, double use -107 Euro/night

Please note that the hotel guarantees the reservation until October 6, 2019.

For reservations please access and fill-in the reservation form. Each participant will send the reservation form to the e-mail address indicated in the form.

Orhideea Residence & Spa 4****
145B, Calea Plevnei, Sector 6, 060012, Bucharest
http://orhideearesidence.ro/en-us

2.5 km from the meeting venue

Orhideea Residence & Spa is one of the most spacious apart hotel in Bucharest, offering up to 80 apartments with one or two bedrooms and living rooms, ranging from 93 sq.m. to 316 sq.m. per apartment. All the apartments are furnished in a modern style, have balconies and air conditioning. Orhideea Residence & Spa apartments Bucharest is located very close to public transport services such as the bus stop where you can catch bus No.123 to the city center. The Grozavesti metro station is within 10 minute walking distance from Orhideea Residence & Spa. The North Railway Station is within 15 minute walking distance and the airport is about 17 km away.
If you choose to use public transport from Orhideea Residence & Spa to the meeting venue, please use the tram no.11. The hotel is 20 minutes away from the meeting venue. One trip is 0.50 Euro. Travel cards (electronic wallets) are available for purchase at selected bus stations.

The special rates for the rooms, including breakfast, are as follows:

- Apartment, single use - 100 Euro /night
- Apartment, double use - 125 Euro /night

Please note that the hotel guarantees the reservation until October 14, 2019.

Each participant will send the reservation form to the e-mail address indicated in the form.

**Hotel Yesterday 3***

8, Economu Cezarescu street, Sector 6, 060754 Bucharest

[hits://yesterday.ro/](https://yesterday.ro/)

1.5 km from the meeting venue

Situated in one of the most dynamic areas of the city, Yesterday Hotel is located on Splaiul Unirii - and offers quick access to central Bucharest. The hotel is located within 10 minute walking distance from the meeting venue.

The special rates for the rooms, including breakfast, are as follows:

- Standard Single Room – 50 Euro/night
- Standard Double Twin/Matrimonial – 52 Euro/night

Please note that the hotel guarantees October 14, 2019

For reservations please access and fill-in the reservation form.

Each participant will send the reservation form to the e-mail address indicated in the form.
**Ambiance Hotel 3***

303, Splaiul Independentei, Sector 6, 060042 Bucharest


750m to the meeting venue

The hotel is situated on the Dambovita river side, in an area with easy access to public transportation, near University POLITEHNICA, 10 minutes away from the city center (Grozavesti metro station). Bucharest Airport is 20 minutes away from Ambiance Hotel.

The hotel is located within 10 minute walking distance from the meeting venue.

The special **rates** for the rooms, including breakfast, are as follows:

- Double Room, single use - 55 Euro/night

Please note that the hotel guarantees the **reservation until October 14, 2019**.

For reservations please access and fill-in the **reservation form**.

Each participant will send the reservation form to the e-mail address indicated in the form.

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**UPB Guest House 3***

1-3 Iuliu Maniu Avenue, Leu Complex, sector 6

800 m to the meeting venue.

The Guest House (GH), owned by the University Politehnica from Bucharest, is an accommodation unit located in Leu Complex, having 80,185 sqm area. From GH you can easily reach the AFI PALACE COTROCENI Commercial Complex, Botanical Garden and Cotroceni Palace.

The hotel is located within 5 minute walking distance from the meeting venue.

The special **rates** for the rooms, including breakfast, are as follows:

- Double Standard Room or Twin Room - 45 Euro/night
- Single Room - 38 Euro/night
- Apartment - 55 Euro/night

Please note that the hotel guarantees the **reservation until October 14, 2019**.

For reservations please access and fill-in the **reservation form**.

Each participant will send the reservation form to the e-mail address indicated in the form.
Registration

Please complete the Registration form link [http://drc.upb.ro](http://drc.upb.ro) and note that you will be kindly requested to provide information regarding your flight schedule, the hotel chosen, as well as participation in the social events. These details are very useful for a smooth organization of the event.

Program and Social Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY 1</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6th, 2019</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15:30 – 16:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 16:00 - 18:00 | DRC Presidency and Permanent Committee Meeting  
Venue: Rector’s Meeting Room, 2nd floor |
| 18.00 | Informal dinner for Presidency and Permanent Committee  
Transportation by minibus |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY 2</th>
<th>THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH 2019</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 08:30 | Registration  
Cloakroom available for luggage and coats until 17:00 |
| 08:15 – 9:00 | Welcome coffee |
| 09:00 - 9:30 | Welcome speech  
Mihnea Costoiu, Rector of University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest  
Ivanka Popović, Rector of University of Belgrade and DRC President |
| 09:30 – 10:20 | Keynote speakers  
Corina Crețu, Member of the European Parliament and Former European Commissioner For Regional Policy  
Marilena Ciot, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs |

Panel - Role of universities in regional innovation ecosystems: responding to the challenges of the future  
Moderator: Tudor Prisecaru (Former State Secretary, Ministry of National Education, UPB Vice-Rector)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:20 - 11:00</td>
<td>Academician Nicolae Panin and Academician Cristian Hera, “Romanian Academy and Danube Academies Scientific Support to the European Danube Strategy”</td>
<td>Senate Hall, 2nd floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 - 11:10</td>
<td>Group photo</td>
<td>Rectorate Building, main entrance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.10 – 11.20</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
<td>Rectorate Hall, 1st floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.20 – 11.50</td>
<td>Gerald Steiner, Dean, Danube University Krems, “Competences for Dealing Innovatively with Complex Societal Challenges: Why in Future there will be still a(n) (extended) need for Universities ... transdisciplinary Universities”</td>
<td>Senate Hall, 2nd floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.50 – 12:20</td>
<td>Jürgen Raizner, General Manager, Steinbeis Transfer Management, “Science and Entrepreneurship. Synergies for economic growth”</td>
<td>Senate Hall, 2nd floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30 – 13.30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>UPB Restaurant, 5th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.30 – 14.00</td>
<td>Răzvan Nicolescu, Leader of the Central Europe Sector on Gas, Oil &amp; Chemicals, Deloitte Romania, Former Energy Minister, (title of presentation - TBC)</td>
<td>Rectorate Hall, 1st floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.00 – 16.00</td>
<td>Danubius Award &amp; Danubius Young Scientist Award Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.15 – 18.15</td>
<td>Social programme (optional) Visit of the Romanian Parliament Transfer by bus</td>
<td>Meeting point: main entrance Rectorate Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:00</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
<td>Bragadiru Palace</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DAY 3**
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8th 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:30 - 09:00</td>
<td>Welcome coffee</td>
<td>Rectorate Hall, 1st floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>General Assembly</td>
<td>Senate Hall, 2nd floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>UPB Restaurant, 5th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.30</td>
<td>Afternoon free programme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Program
The final program will be sent to all participants, within two weeks before the meeting, the latest.

Gala dinner
The Gala Dinner is organized at the Bragadiru Palace (Calea Rahovei 147-153 Bucharest, sector 4, 050892), on November 7th.

The participants will be transferred from the Romanian Parliament to the dinner location. After dinner, participants will be transferred to the recommended hotels.

Social programme
The social program will be organized on the 7th of November, between 17:30 – 19:00 pm. The guests will be transferred by bus from the meeting venue to the Parliament Palace. Afterwards the participants will be guided to the dinner location and, at the end, to their hotels.

Visit to the Parliament Palace
The Parliament Palace is the second largest administrative building in the world, after the Pentagon. It took 20,000 workers and 700 architects to build it. The palace boasts 12 stories, 1,100 rooms, a 328-feet-long lobby and four underground levels, including an enormous nuclear bunker. Today, it houses Romania's Parliament and serves as an international conference center. Built and furnished exclusively with Romanian materials, the building reflects the work of the best artisans in the country. The interior is a luxurious display of crystal chandeliers, mosaics, oak paneling, marble, gold leaf, stained-glass windows, and floors covered in rich carpets.
General Information

Information Desk / IT Helpdesk / Meeting Point
An information desk has been set up near the conference room. Please direct any questions regarding meetings as well as requests for technical support to the information desk team.

Facilities and Services
Free Wi-Fi, computers, photocopiers and scanning facilities will be available at the meeting venue.

Medical Care
Medical assistance will be available throughout the conference. The UPB Medical Centre is located within 5 minute walking distance from the Rectorate building.

Currency
RON = Leu (plural “Lei”)
The official exchange rate is around: 1 EUR= 4.66 LEI. This rate varies slightly on a daily basis.

There are several exchange offices on Henri Coanda airport, but the exchange rates are better in the city.

Banks and Credit Cards
The nearest cash machines to the meetings venue are located at the main entrance of the Rectorate building - BRD Groupe Société Générale and Romanian Commercial Bank (BCR).

There are several ATMs in the Arrivals Terminal, Public area, first floor. You can take out local currency from almost any Credit and Debit Cards. All ATMs offer similar exchange rates and can be used with confidence.

The banks that have an ATM installed in the Arrivals terminal:

- Unicredit Tiriac Bank
- BRD-GSG
- Raiffeisen
- EURONET

General bank opening hours:
- Monday-Friday 09:00-17:00
Contact persons
For any questions concerning registration or technical issues please contact the organisational team: international@upb.ro.
For any other questions related to the meeting please contact DRC Secretariat: info@drc-danube.org

Other information
Temperature: 3-12°C (November)
Time zone: GMT+2
Electricity: 220V, 50Hz Standard continental European dual round-pronged plugs
Emergency number: 112
Romanian country telephone code: +40
Bucharest telephone code: 021+
International calls from Romania: 00 + country code + area code + telephone number

Smoking
Smoking is prohibited in all indoor public areas.

Foreign Representations in Romania
See https://www.mae.ro/en/foreign-missions

Things to do
For complete information, please visit the official Bucharest tourism website
You can find more information about what to visit in Bucharest at: http://romaniatourism.com/bucharest.html