



Deutsch-Rumänische
Industrie- und Handelskammer
Camera de Comerț și Industrie
România-Germania



CITIES *of* TOMORROW

10th anniversary edition

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Things are happening so fast in today's society that, in my opinion, you can't even make a 100% correct plan for the next 10 years. We need to increase our ability to adapt. The new challenge: adjust on the fly!

Ioan Popa, Mayor of Reșița

Cities. Since 2013.

Cities of Tomorrow, already at its 10th edition, has proven itself as Romania's top forum for business, architecture, urbanism and administration. Our experience and know-how, gathered during years of activity on and with relation to the Romanian and German markets, are the foundation of the event structure, the chosen topics and the promoted projects. Our common goal is to contribute to Romania's competitiveness and to set the stage for sustainable development and smart solutions. Hence, we encourage cooperation and dialogue between all involved actors as the means towards a more attractive and more modern country.

Why Cities

Romania and its cities are in transition. We are looking to the future and taking significant steps for the improvement of our living, yet regions in Romania need help to grow and develop into modern, sustainable, strong 21st century communities. This year, we added a new discussion topic, city and citizen safety, in light of recent challenges that cities all over the world go through since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic.

Cities of Tomorrow offers a platform for exchange of ideas, concepts and know-how between the three entities. The way we understand to engage as a community, as a company or public authority, to have a unitary voice and to constantly get involved together, defines our future.

ABOUT



discussion panels



project competition

public administration, business
environment, civil society



project marketplace



exhibition area



networking



round tables



international
best practice examples



B2B platform

10
editions

77
topics

202
speakers

2.820
participants

72
exhibitors

61
round
tables

30.000+
social media interactions

1.450+
media appearances

CONCEPT



Dipl. Eng. Thomas Madreiter
Director of Urban
Planning City of Vienna



Arch. Reinhard Joecks
Partner
FOSTER AND PARTNERS



Dr. Eng. Michael Horodniceanu
President
MTA Capital Construction



Stefan Reschke
Representative
CEE ExpoReal Munich



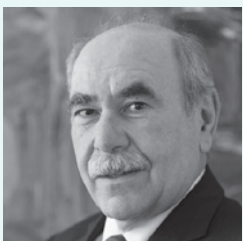
Prof. Arch. Stephan Braunfels
Director Stephan Braunfels
Architekten BDA



Prof. Dr. Acrh. Dorin Ștefan
Director Dorin Ștefan
Biruou Arhitectura – D.S.B.A



Dr. Arh. Șerban Țigaș
President Romanian
Order of Architects



Ivo Gönner
Mayor of the City of Ulm
(1992 - 2016); President of the Council
of the Danube Cities and Regions



Prof. Jörn Walter
Chief Urban Planner
of the City of Hamburg



Astrid Fodor
Mayor of Sibiu



Dipl. Eng. Hans-Jürgen Best
City Director of the City of
Essen and Divisional
Management Board Planning



Dr. Georg Pammer
General Manager Aspenn
Smart City



Arch. Eugen Pănescu
Founding Partner
planwerk



Dr. Marcel Heroiu
Senior Urban Development
Specialist World Bank



Ullrich Sierau
Mayor of Dortmund



Emil Boc
Mayor of Cluj-Napoca



Dr. Arnold Voss
Urbanist, Founder Office
for the Art of Planning, Berlin



Ivan Patzaichin
Preșident
Asociația Mila 23



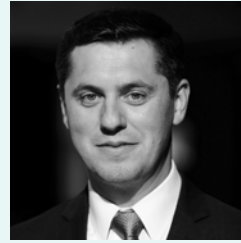
Nicușor Dan
Mayor of București



Raluca Munteanu
Development Director
Iulius



Dr. Rolf Heyer
Bochum Perspektive 2022
and MARK 51*7



Tatian Diaconu
CEO NHOOD



Leif von Nethen
Urban Planning
Department, Düsseldorf



Judith Artmann
Urban Planning
Department, Düsseldorf



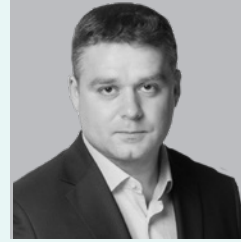
Ioan Popa
Mayor of Reșița



Allen Coliban
Mayor of Brașov



Radu Mihailescu
Mayor of District 2



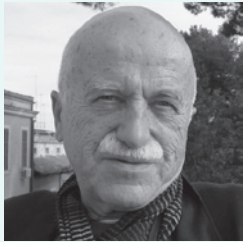
Ciprian Ciucu
Mayor of District 6



Burkhard Drescher
Managing Director, ICM –
Innovation City
Management GmbH



Ilinca Păun Constantinescu
Teaching Assistant at UAUIM,
Faculty of Architecture,
Author of "Shrinking Cities in
Romania"



Prof. Peter Zlonicky
Head of the Office of Urban Studies
Munich; University Professor (em.)
for Urban Planning and Design at the
Technical University in Dortmund



Andreas Kipar
Co-Founder, CEO & Creative
Director, LAND - Landscape
Architecture Nature
Development



Arch. Dorothee Dubrau
Deputy Mayor, Responsible
for Urban Development
and Constructions
City of Leipzig



Tilman Buchholz
Deputy Head of the Urban
Development Department of the German
Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature
Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

SPEAKERS



350
participants



40
speakers & moderators

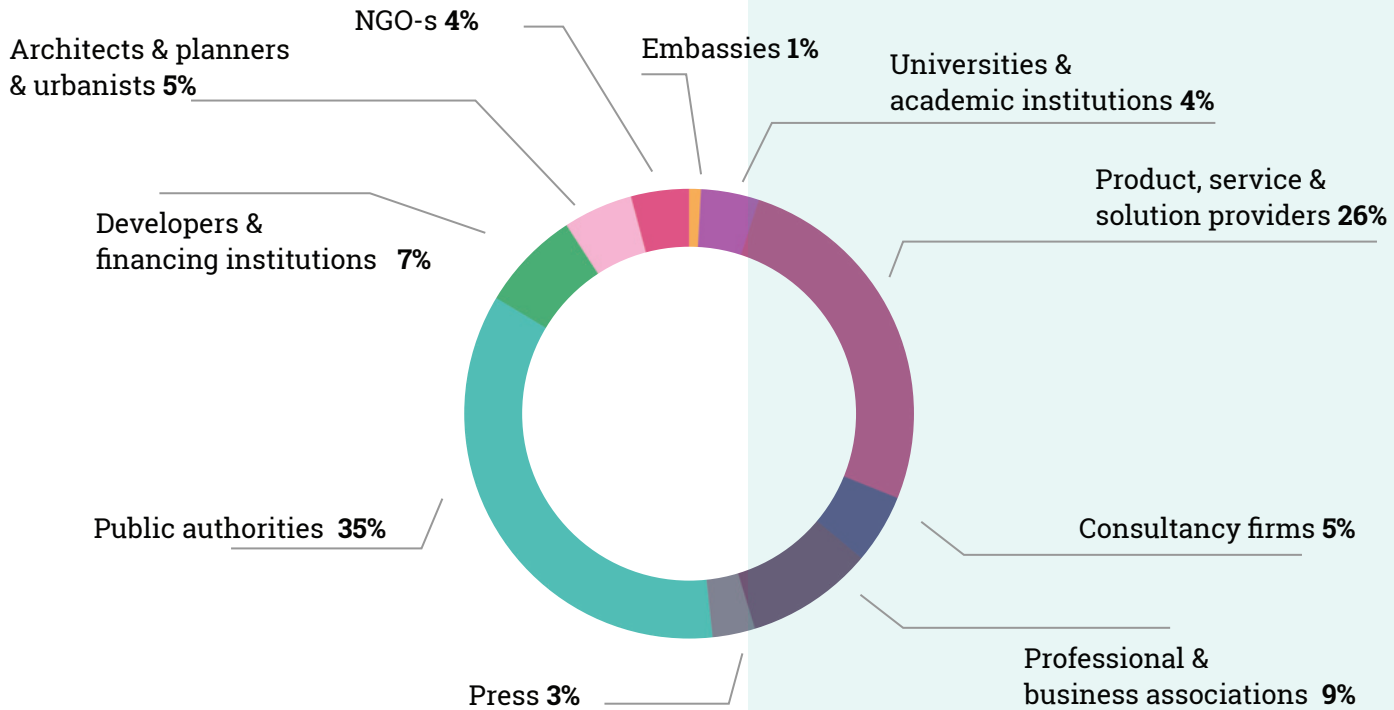
9
round tables



9
finalists of the project
competition & marketplace

60
projects in the competition
for the anniversary
edition

OVERVIEW



OVERVIEW

Cities in Dialogue I: 10-year retrospective: What Did We Learn?



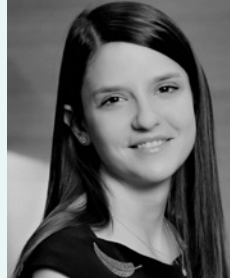
Arch. Eugen Pănescu
Architect and
urban planner,
founding partner
of planwerk cluj



Marcel Ionescu-Heroiu
Senior Urban
Development
Specialist
World Bank



Tatian Diaconu
CEO Nhood Romania



Raluca Munteanu
Development Director
Iulius



Ioan Popa
Mayor of
Reșița City



Arch. Șerban ȚIGĂNAȘ
Dean of the Faculty
of Architecture and
Urbanism, Technical
University of Cluj-Napoca

MODERATOR

The first panel was a **dialogue, a retrospective of 10 years of Cities of Tomorrow. We focused on the lessons learned during these years both on a personal level but especially in business** with a clear focus on sustainable development of cities. The panel was moderated by Arch. Șerban Țigănaș, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism of the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca.

The panel, which took the form of a maturity test for the invited speakers, revealed the definition of a city as perceived by its citizens. Since the Middle Ages, it has been known that a town is a place where everyone who lives there must respect the same set of rules. The pursuit of the public interest must be the focus.

Mr. Ioan Popa, mayor of Reșița, a city he has been managing for over 6 years, sees the city as a company, considering the citizens as shareholders and the mayor as a CEO: the ultimate goal being the quality of life of citizens.

Tatian Diaconu, CEO of Nhood Romania, with pioneering investments in Resita and many other cities in Romania, drew attention to the impact that our actions can have on the city. In the last 10 years, the evolution of local public administration as well as the political impact has been on a positive upward trend. Business representatives with long experience in various fields decided that it was time to make a change in their lives, to enter into political life, into the public domain, sharing and putting into practice all the knowledge they had gained for the local benefit.

The partnership that facilitates dialogue between the private and public sectors is one of the most commendable aspects of developments over the last 10 years.

CSR was also discussed. In the last 10 years we have all heard about corporate social responsibility, which in the end means nothing more than making an active contribution to developing the society in which we live.

The guests also told what they have learned and what they have achieved during these years of their involvement, we have all been actively involved in the sustainable development of cities and regions, we have promoted examples of good practice in public administration, urban planning and sustainability.

The conclusion was a simple one but with considerable impact: we all have a responsibility to do good!

Cities in Dialogue II: 10-year retrospective: Who Are We and What's Next?



Alina Silaghi
Director ADLO,
Local Development
Agency Oradea



Prof. Dr. Rolf Heyer
Bochum Perspektive
2022 and MARK 51°7



Arch. Mihai Danciu
Valea Jiului Integrated
Territorial Development
Association



Allen Coliban
Mayor of Braşov City



**Ing. Arch.
Dorothee Hasnaş**

MODERATOR

If the first panel was a retrospective of 10 years, the second panel was an inventory of the status quo in Romania's cities and their future plans and strategies.

Over the years we have learned and debated together at Cities of Tomorrow about magnet cities, shrinking cities, green cities or those facing structural change. We tried now, **after 10 years of gaining knowledge**, to find out from the guests on this panel **what we are left with, how we define ourselves as a city/region, what is our promotion strategy, what are we planning in the field of promotion and marketing to make the city more attractive?**

We talked in turn about Brasov, Oradea and Valea Jiului about what is happening in these cities and what marketing and promotion strategies are in place or will soon be implemented.

Examples of international best practices were given by Prof. Dr. Rolf Heyer. With degrees in geography, history, philosophy and education, Prof. Dr. Rolf Heyer, a member of the German Academy for Urban Development and Regional Planning (DASL), has been involved in a large number of local city development projects, as well as international projects with Poland, France, Scotland and China. From 2014 to 2019, Prof. Dr. Rolf Heyer was CEO of WirtschaftsEntwicklungsGesellschaft Bochum and Bochum Perspektive 2022 and carried out international projects in Cuba and China.

The 10th edition of Cities of Tomorrow hosted a project competition for public administration, business and civil society. The sustainable development factor was taken into account in the selection of the final projects. We were therefore looking for initiatives that lead to green cities, with a focus on improving the quality of life of their inhabitants.

The jury - Marianne Schulze (Freelancer journalist Germany), Tatian Diaconu (CEO Nhood), Alexandru Petrovici (Executive Director, Association of Romanian Cities), Tudor Popp (Managing Partner, REC Partners and Hotspot Workhub), Aurel Simionescu (Representative of the Association of Romanian Municipalities) and Sebastian Metz (AHK Romania) - chose 9 finalists from a total of 60 projects proposed in the first three categories. All submitted projects can be found here: www.citiesoftomorrow.ro

CATEGORY
**Public
Administration**

Municipality of Buzău - Smart – Green – Circular Buzău - www.primariabuzau.ro

Municipality of Aiud - Invest in Aiud - www.investinaid.com

WINNERS **District 6 of Bucharest Municipality** - Liniei - www.primarie6.ro

CATEGORY
**Business
Environment**

Cruze - Cruze – just go together - www.cruze.ro

iNergy Agtech - Cleantech. Made in RO - www.inergyagtech.eu

WINNERS **UNITH2B SRL** - Tram Trains Resița - www.unith2b.com

CATEGORY
**Civil
Society**

WINNERS **GIS Berzei 21** - An urban regeneration project in the heart of the city - www.berzei21.ro

Văcărești Natural Park - Văcărești Natural Park - www.parcnaturalvacaresti.ro

Polytechnic University Timisoara - Digitizing history, one castle at a time - www.ct.upt.ro

AHK Romania offered 3 prizes for the encouragement of the projects' development.

The 9 round tables, held online on three consecutive days, were a good opportunity to discuss practical and applied topics & projects. Afterwards, the conclusions and identified solutions were briefly presented in a final wrap-up panel during the main conference on September 16



Energy efficiency & energy management



Financing & EU funds



Digital City Governance



Mobility

European Trends and Local Challenges in Smart & Sustainable Urban Mobility



Construction Law

Zonal urban plans - The importance of collaboration between the public authority and the private sector



Reconversion & Revitalisation

Case study: Reșița



Circular Economy



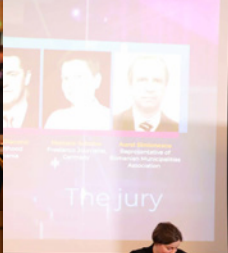
Tourism, lifestyle & culture



City Safety

Management of migrant's crisis









City Safety

Managing the migrant crisis

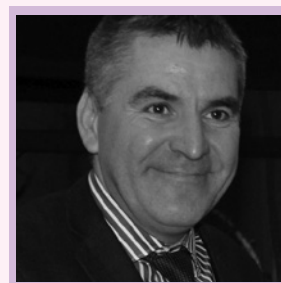
The first round table was dedicated this year to the Safety of the Citizen, managing the migrant crisis, moderated by the Mayor of Siret, Adrian Popoiu. It was a table attended by many public authorities from the border areas of Romania, with an exchange of experience between the city of Siret, Suceava County and Maramureş. They told how they managed and how quickly they mobilised in a very short time to cope with the large influx of Ukrainian citizens fleeing the war. We found out that there are classes in Maramureş taught in Ukrainian, as Romania is a country that can boast about the rights it grants to minorities.

In addition to support from the authorities, representatives of the business community were also at the table. Mr Cătălin Ioniţă from BCR, which is one of the most active banks in this area of support for Ukraine, was present. BCR is active in Isaccea, where they offer support to those entering the country, even exchanging the Ukrainian national currency, the hryvnia.

Conclusions:

The communities on the Ukrainian border have been able to mobilise very quickly, the Covid pandemic has prepared them to react in unforeseen situations. Both local public authorities, the private sector and civil society did their best to help all Ukrainian citizens who crossed the borders to save their lives.

MODERATOR



Adrian Popoiu
Mayor of Siret



Digital City governance

The European Commission invested €1.7 billion in 612 smart city projects between 2014-2017 through Horizon project 2020.

By 2023 it is estimated that €49 billion will be spent on Smart City initiatives across Europe.

By 2025 there will be 54 million active IoT connections in Europe's smart cities industry.

The COVID pandemic has also brought something beneficial to society. During this period investment in digital services has increased substantially. Technical parts have also been discussed, what digital city governance really means and how it can be successfully implemented in the public environment.

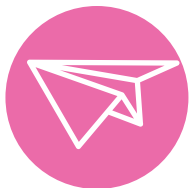
Conclusions:

- In order for there to be interoperability, companies need to come up with data and together with public authorities they will bring all the data into a cloud. The partnership between local authorities and business will lead to finding solutions to implement and use (IoT) data.
- The Bable company, which is also based in our country, in Iasi, is currently offering Smart City Ready Certification in Germany. This certificate helps companies and municipalities to bring all the data together in a proper way. The only solution to be sure that in the end it will be a real success. They want and are trying to implement the same system in our country.

MODERATOR



Markus Nolle
Smart City
Business Development,
BABLE



Mobility

European trends and local challenges in smart and sustainable urban mobility



During the round table on mobility we had 4 interesting presentations and interactivity between speakers and participants. Continental challenged the participants to discussions about the future of a sustainable mobility ecosystem, for which the company is also developing many smart technologies, with benefits for both state institutions (which can be part of the solution for integrating smart urban mobility) and for the people who use these intelligent means of transport.

The first presentation was delivered by representatives of Easy Mile, a company that deals with autonomous mobility services and has developed the “Robo Taxi”. These taxis are 8-seater driverless, autonomous cars that travel along a predetermined route. A number of deployment scenarios have already been carried out which have shown that this technology really works, and any citizen in the designated area has been able to see how this vehicle works. They were very interested in the new technology. These tests were carried out in a hospital car park, and then put on the road in an old town centre in Germany to reduce and ease traffic congestion and make it easier for people to get into areas with limited access. (Continental brought the Robotaxi presented by Easy Mile to Romania for the first time in mid-2022, equipped with technologies that Continental specialists have been working on. It ran demonstratively in Timișoara’s Unirii Square).

The second presentation was supported by Continental, a major player in the development of innovative technologies and services for the sustainable and interconnected mobility of people and their goods. The technology-driven company, present in Romania since 2000, offers safe, efficient, smart and affordable solutions for cars, vehicles, traffic and transport. With the boom of Industry 4.0 and IoT, they are supporting and engaging in the development of solutions for autonomous, connected mobility that deliver an extraordinary user experience.

The third presentation was from the city of Hamburg, which brought together 31 partners in 2 years in the field of autonomous mobility. The city has 12 km of track that can be used by anyone who wants to test new means of autonomous transport. The infrastructure changes daily, which is a challenge for the authorities. Their goal is to have the option of sustainable mobility by 2030.

Mr. Ovidiu Cîmpean, Director of Development of Cluj-Napoca municipality, outlined the projects that have been carried out and are in progress. By 2030 the entire public transport fleet will be 100% electric. Through a strategic partnership with the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, autonomous shuttles will be purchased, which will be the first autonomous public transport line in Romania. The partnership is currently preparing the specifications. The entire central area will become a pedestrian zone by 2023 and hydrogen buses will be purchased, which will also lead to the construction of a hydrogen production plant.

Ștefan Roșeanu, on behalf of the Railway Reform Authority, presented the ARF plan to introduce rail shuttle services, of the S-Bahn type. They are currently running a pilot project for fare integration in the Bucharest metropolitan area. The plan is to modernise stations and to set up an integrated ticket sales and control system.

Conclusions:

- Public-private partnerships are needed to implement and integrate projects.
- There is a colossal need for intelligent mobility solutions, and the authorities are keen to implement them and provide streets/spaces where their pilot use cases can take place.
- We need a lot of people and education in IT and engineering, as well as newer skills such as cybersecurity, machine intelligence, systems technology and cloud computing to facilitate the implementation of sustainable mobility solutions.

MODERATOR



**Dr. Christian
von Albrichsfeld**
Country Head &
GM Continental
Automotive România

CO-MODERATORS

Violeta Mihalache
CIVITAS

Ștefan Roșeanu
President Railway
Reform Authority

Ovidiu Cîmpean
Director of Development,
Cluj - Napoca City Hall



Circular economy



Three speakers, specialists in fields between which there is a connectivity, were present. More than 80 participants were asked to participate in an exercise of imagination: we are in the year 2025, we have solved the problem of the circular economy. But how?

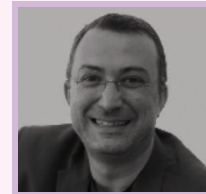
Circular economy and waste management do not exist without a community, and we all know that being a community means being a citizen in society. Waste collection and waste generation must be closer to the generator, to the citizen, so that they can understand much better what this area really means, what happens in the waste stream.

The level of recycling in Romania is not what we would like it to be. Circular economy is also about energy. It comes with batteries, whether it is industrial batteries, household batteries or batteries for electric cars which are increasingly popular nowadays. These must necessarily be recycled.

MODERATORS



Dr. Radu Merica
CEO RER Group



Ionuț Georgescu
CEO Fepra



Elena Gaspar
President SNRB

Conclusions:

- There is no efficient waste management and recycling without a circular economy tax, which in Romania is the lowest in the European Union, namely 30 lei/tonne. It should be much higher to discourage landfilling and encourage recycling.
- Pay as you throw – There should be a system where we all pay according to how much waste we produce, and there should be a difference between those who recycle, who are very civic-minded, and those who are not, to motivate them. The circular economy is not expensive
- There were circular economy measures submitted by the participants:
 - Bring water filters into schools so that children can drink water directly without using plastic containers.
 - Have selective collection
 - Set up re-use and repair centres



Reconversion & Revitalisation



The discussion focused on the case study of the municipality of Reșița. The three moderators were Ruxandra Dragomir, Development Director of Nhood Romania, Grațian Mihăilescu, founder of UrbanizeHub and Mihai Șercăianu, MKBT.

Nhood discussed their urban regeneration project in Reșița, which will be developed on an area of more than 35 ha, a mixed-use project that will include functions such as shopping center, aqua park, hotel, residential complex, aparthotel and office buildings. Any city with a glorious industrial past needs this kind of investment, aimed at regenerating both the urban fabric and the community. To achieve this, Nhood wants to involve a multi-disciplinary team to help create a destination.

The local government's vision is a very ambitious one, backed up by one of the most dynamic take- ups of European funds. These projects that have already started to be implemented aim to increase the quality of life, promote education, tourism, attract investment and investors.

The second speaker was Mihai Șercăian, from MKBT, part of the team of specialists in urban regeneration with numerous projects in Reșița in the last 6 years, projects ranging from social integration to the mapping of buildings, cultural projects, all to revitalize the community of Reșița.

At the end, UrbanizeHub presented the document they developed during 2015-2016, highlighting how important a plan/vision and a strategy for a city is, which then give rise to various projects or pilot projects that contribute to the overall well-being. The fact that the City Hall of Reșița has managed to attract over 140 million Euro in the last 6 years, that it links investments to the development of current tourism, to innovative projects such as the suspended bike path, shows that all this will turn Reșița in the coming years into a model of urban reconversion and revitalization, an example to follow throughout Europe. At the same time, the first partnership in South-East Europe was signed for the establishment of a tram-train on the Reșița - Timișoara route.

Conclusions:

- The Romanian real estate market needs a clear vision from developers and authorities, collaboration between the two sides, and passionate people who believe in the projects even when others say that such projects will not work in our country.
- The community needs to be a permanent partner in/dialogue and better cities are built taking into account the needs and aspirations of citizens, an integrated vision, where each actor assumes its role and contributes to the development of the city. We need more constructive dialogue between all stakeholders, a sustainable vision and development and public-private partnerships.

Solutions:

If the local administration assumes its role and gets involved, the result will always be positive.

Reconversion & Revitalisation was the round table voted by the public as the winner in terms of the quality and viability of the discussions held and the projects proposed.

MODERATOR

Ruxandra Dragomir
Development director
NhooD România

CO-MODERATORS

Grațian Mihăilescu
founder UrbanizeHub

Mihai Șercăianu
MKBT



Construction law

Zonal Urban Plans: The importance of collaboration between the public authority and the private sector

The round table was moderated by Arch. Jan Demeyere, Co-Founder Partner Speedwell and Răzvan Gheorghiu-Testa, Partner Țuca Zbârcea & Asociații, Co-Head of the Real Estate Practice Group.

“The topics discussed at this table focused on the situation in Bucharest, where we have to work from a law constructions and urban planning point of view with a PUG (General Urbanism Plan) that has been expired since 2010, which the authorities are still struggling to update.”, said Răzvan Gheorghiu-Testa.

The audience at the table was made up of more than 60 people, more than half of the participants were representatives of local and central public authorities. Positive examples implemented by some local authorities were highlighted, such as an urban regeneration project in Cluj-Napoca where land in a former central industrial area was purchased and transformed under a restructuring contract, which provided for rights and obligations for both the investor and the local public authority. It is a concept that could be successfully implemented in Bucharest.

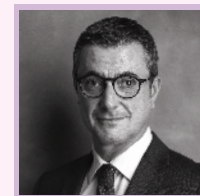
Conclusion:

- The conclusion drawn from the discussions at this table was the undeniable importance of a real partnership between local authorities and investors.

MODERATORS



Arh. Jan Demeyere,
Co-Founder Partner
Speedwell



Răzvan Gheorghiu-Testa
Partner Țuca Zbârcea & Asociații,
Co-Head of the Real Estate Practice
Group



Tourism, lifestyle & culture

We were happy to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Cities of Tomorrow and take a look back at where we started and where we have come with our cities, towns and villages in terms of tourism, culture and lifestyle. During the round table, we focused on public-private partnership, because this is what is at stake for Romania in the coming years, to start to understand what it means to collaborate.

Destination management carried out by municipalities together with the business community is a key factor in the development of tourism in a city or region. Various projects that exist at the moment were reviewed, such as the Entrepreneurs - Adopt a Village, which is a project where entrepreneurs adopt a village/municipality/city where they transfer information and entrepreneurship. Repatriot Turism is also a project that promotes cities and destinations in the country through Romanians in the diaspora.

Conclusions:

- There is a need for public-private partnership as a driver of regional and local development on the tourism, lifestyle and culture side.
- The opportunity for entrepreneurs, business people is to contribute, to get involved, just like every person and to have a sincere dialogue with local public authorities.
- Progress is being made and we want it to continue.

MODERATOR



Dr. Dragoș Anastasiu
President
Eurolines Group



Energy efficiency & energy management



This table was moderated by Mr Kurt Weber, Managing Director Horváth, Romania. Kurt discussed how with the adoption of the European Green Pact and the Fit for 55 legislative package both companies and public authorities are taking an active role in the transition towards a green, sustainable economy, towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Very high gas and energy prices are the result of a lack of coherent long-term strategies, a lack of investment across the entire value chain, which exacerbates this cost pressure and leads to a competitiveness problem for the Romanian economy. At a time when electrification of sectors is becoming the most important source of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, but Romania is still dependent on coal and lignite power generation, energy efficiency becomes the key solution for the public and private sector, industry and households. The cheapest energy we can benefit from is the energy we do not consume.

Energy efficiency can mean a series of process optimisations in the organisation, reducing consumption, it can mean investing, where appropriate and possible, in own renewable energy sources, even taking on a prosumer role, it can mean creating energy communities, where different entities can engage in generation, including renewables, distribution, supply, consumption, aggregation, energy storage, energy efficiency services, charging services for electric cars or other energy services for community members.

Conclusion:

- There is funding available for these efforts and projects, at the national level we have PNRR, Modernization Fund as the most important sources, but also a number of other funding schemes. However, access to this funding can only be achieved with solid projects, well established in the current activity, technically and economically justified, well structured and realistic business plans, it means minimizing technical, financial and market risks.

MODERATOR

Kurt Weber
Managing Director
Horváth România



Financing & EU Funds



We have discussed current funding resources available to Romania. Any strategy, plan or project needs resources to be implemented.

More than 80 billion Euros are directly allocated for the period 2021-2027. These are divided as follows:

- 29,2 billion Euro through the National Recovery and Resilience Plan
- 31 billion Euro through the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027
- 20,9 billion Euro through the Common Agricultural Policy

The NRDP is structured around 6 pillars established at European level:

- 15,31 billion Euro for the Green Transition
- 1,88 billion Euro for Digital Transformation
- 3,01 billion for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth
- 2,55 billion Euro for Social and Territorial Cohesion
- 2,81 billion Health and economic, social and institutional resilience
- 3,61 billion Euro for Policies for the new generation

The implementation of the NRDP must be completed by the end of August 2026.

Within the Green and Digital Transition Fund there is a funding component for smart city/village. Funds can be accessed for renewing the public transport vehicle fleet, providing infrastructure for green transport (electric vehicle charging points, local/metropolitan bikes).

There was also a discussion about the traditional European funds, more specifically the cohesion policy. The General Director General of ADR West, Mr. Sorin Maxim took also part at the debate. The good news for the next period 2021-2027 is that there will be 8 regional operational programmes, one for each region and they will be managed by the ADRs.

MODERATOR



Oana Bâra

Director of BCR Funding
programmes

Conclusions:

- There are funding opportunities, but we need predictability and applied advice, a consultation between authorities and beneficiaries.

With the transfer of regional funds to ADRs, access to them will become more efficient.

Solutions:

One of BCR's initiatives is a digital tool for advising entrepreneurs on how to identify the best financing solutions. The ADA chatbot, provides advice on what type of financial funds are suitable for each entrepreneur.

For me personally, the 10 years coincide largely with the early years of the FEPR group; we started in September 2013 with 3 colleagues and we arrived in 2022 with 130 colleagues and that means a lot because their contribution, of all of them, has been enormous and I thank them. I also thank my fellow members and colleagues in the AHK team because I have learned, grown and matured with them; a very big part of our success at Fepra is also due to them.

Ionuț Georgescu, CEO FEPR

Cities - the best event dedicated to cities on the Romanian market! An event that brings together current topics and specialists from various fields to find the best solutions to the challenges that cities and their inhabitants have. Quality, valuable content, professionalism and a team of dedicated and ambitious people who, year after year, contribute to a better, more competent and more competitive Romania!♥

Ramona Grozăvescu Chirtoc, Corporate Communication & CSR Manager NHOOD Romania

Cities of Tomorrow is an unique platform that brings together people from different professions to discuss and collaborate on solutions to one of the most challenging question of the future. "How do we make our growing cities sustainable and enjoyable for the next generations". What was clear during our discussion that the answer isn't in freezing a city and stopping all developments.

Jan Demeyere, Co-Founder Partner Speedwell





Deutsch-Rumänische
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AHK Romania is the largest bilateral Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Romania and the official representative of the **German economy** in our country. AHK is actively supporting German companies to enter the **Romanian market** and, on the other hand, works as a **partner** for Romanian companies who are interested in the German market, through the services it provides and the events it organizes. Moreover, it is an important platform for **networking, exchange of information and experiences**, not only for its members, but also for other interested companies. AHK is engaged in fields like green energy, environment and constructions by means of its GreenTech initiative, **econet romania**.

www.ahkrumaenien.ro ● www.econet-romania.com ● www.citiesoftomorrow.ro

THE ORGANIZER



econet romania

the GreenTech-Initiative of AHK Romania
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During the last years, the Chamber has focused its efforts on sustainable development and is permanently engaged in drawing the attention of the local and national Romanian authorities to this topic. The experience and global market knowledge of the personnel represent a solid basis for gaining new competences and abilities. Therefore, topics such as energy efficiency, renewable energy, environment and sustainable buildings are now easy to handle in a professional manner. The close relationship with the mentioned sectors in Romania, cultivated over the years through participation at fairs, the creation of market studies and organization of own econet events, conferences, workshops, business trips to Romania and Germany, but also the working groups the Chamber hosts, convey a better market understanding and position us as a serious business partner. For almost ten years, AHK Romania is the main starting point in the field of sustainable development, offering a bilateral platform for know-how and experience exchange by means of its GreenTech initiative, econet romania.

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