



DRC
Danube Rectors' Conference

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). The Rectorate building can be reached either from Vasile Milea Street, Splaiul Independentei boulevard, at 10 minute walking distance from *Grozăvești* 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

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.taxify.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:

Name of the hotel	November 7th	November 8th
Hotel Novotel Bucharest	7:45	7:45
Orhideea Residence & Spa	8:00	8:00
Hotel Yesterday	8:10	8:10
Ambiance Hotel	8:15	8:15
UPB Guest House	8:20	8:20

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

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](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.**

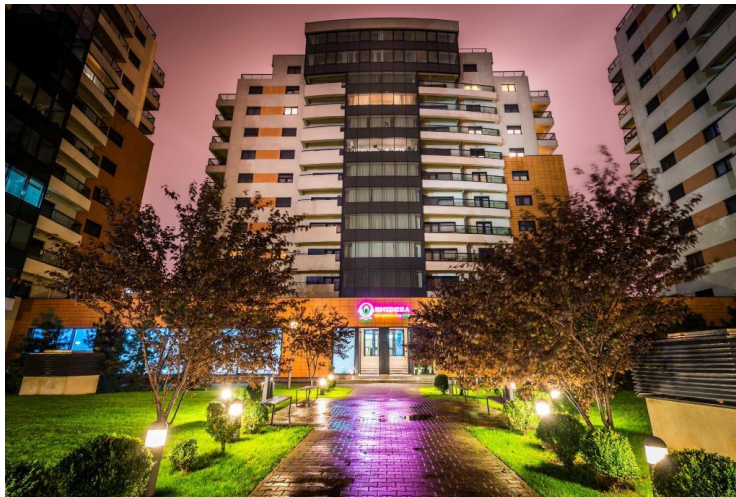
For reservations please access and fill-in the [reservation form](#). Each participant will send the reservation form to the e-mail address indicated in the form.

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

<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.

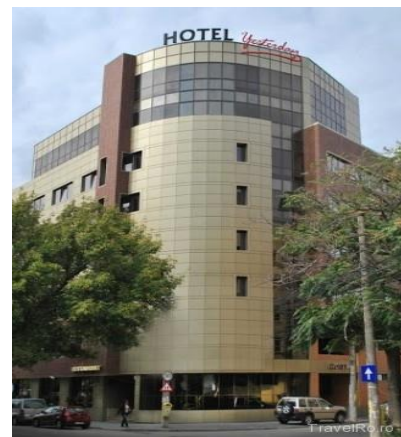
The special **rates** for the rooms, including breakfast, are as follows:

- 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

<http://ambiance-hotel.ro/en/welcome/>

750m to the meeting venue

The hotel is situated on the Dambovitza 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.



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> 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

DAY 1 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6 th , 2019		
15:30 – 16:00	Registration	
16:00 - 18:00	DRC Presidency and Permanent Committee Meeting Venue: Rector's Meeting Room, 2nd floor	Rector's Meeting Room, 2 nd floor
18.00	Informal dinner for Presidency and Permanent Committee Transportation by minibus	Casa Doina Resturant

DAY 2 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7 th 2019		
DRC Annual Conference		Senate Hall, 2 nd floor
08:30	Registration Cloakroom available for luggage and coats until 17:00	Rectorate Hall, 2 nd floor
08:15 – 9:00	Welcome coffee	Rectorate Hall, 1 st floor
09:00 - 9:30	Welcome speech Mihnea Costoiu, Rector of University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest Ivanka Popović, Rector of University of Belgrade and DRC President	Senate Hall, 2 nd floor
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	Senate Hall, 2 nd floor
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)		

10:20 - 11:00	Academician Nicolae Panin and Academician Cristian Hera, "Romanian Academy and Danube Academies Scientific Support to the European Danube Strategy"	Senate Hall, 2 nd floor
11:00 - 11:10	Group photo	Rectorate Building, main entrance
11.10 – 11.20	Coffee break	Rectorate Hall, 1 st floor
11.20 – 11.50	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!"	Senate Hall, 2 nd floor
11.50 – 12:20	Jürgen Raizner, General Manager, Steinbeis Transfer Management, "Science and Entrepreneurship. Synergies for economic growth"	Senate Hall, 2 nd
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch	UPB Restaurant, 5 th floor
13.30 – 14.00	Răzvan Nicolescu, Leader of the Central Europe Sector on Gas, Oil & Chemicals, Deloitte Romania, Former Energy Minister, (title of presentation - TBC)	Rectorate Hall, 1 st floor
14.00 – 16.00	Danubius Award & Danubius Young Scientist Award Ceremony	
16.15 – 18.15	Social programme (optional) Visit of the Romanian Parliament Transfer by bus	Meeting point: main entrance Rectorate Building
19:00	Dinner Transfer by bus	Bragadiru Palace

DAY 3		
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8th 2019		
08:30 - 09:00	Welcome coffee	Rectorate Hall, 1st floor
09:00 - 12:00	General Assembly	Senate Hall, 2nd floor
12.00	Lunch	UPB Restaurant, 5th floor
13.30	Afternoon free programme	

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-foot-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 Tirioc 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>