

**Conference “Week of Innovative Regions in Europe”,
The Xth edition 2019
Explore. Create. Innovate in your region!
26-28th of June 2019, Iași, România**

DAY 1 – Wednesday, 26.06.2019

Time	Session name & topics	Format & speakers
13.00 – 17.00	Welcoming and registration office <i>Location: Palas Conference Centre – Room (tbd)</i>	
16.00 – 18.30	FIELD VISITS <i>Location: Iași Municipality area</i> Technical & scientific tours: - “Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iași; - “Gr.T. Popa” University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Iași; - “Ion Ionescu de la Brad”, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Iași.	<i>Departure by bus, from Registration Office’s location. Guided tours by representatives of RDA North-East and visited universities (EN language).</i>
19.30 – 20.30	OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE <i>Location: “Ferdinand” Hall, Biblioteca Centrală Universitară, Iași</i> <i>WIRE X movie (conference’s teaser video presentation, 2 min.)</i> <i>Artistic programme (experimental theatre; folk, pop & new age music, 30 min)</i>	Introductory speeches: 1. Vasile Asandei , Director General of North-East Regional Development Agency 2. Mihai Chirica , Mayor of Iași Municipality 3. Maricel Popa , President of Iași County Council 4. Nicolae Hurduc , Minister for Research and Innovation, Romania <i>Moderator: Mihai Bulai, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Geology and Geography, “Al. I.Cuza” University, Iași</i>

20.30 – 21.30	NETWORKING COKTAIL <i>Location: Biblioteca Centrală Universitară, Iași</i>	<i>Participants: all conference speakers and delegates.</i>
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Day 2 – Thursday, 27.06.2019

Time	Session name & topics	Format & speakers
09.00 – 09.30	PARTICIPANTS REGISTRATION and welcome coffee <i>Location: Palace of Culture, Iași – Hall of Honour</i>	
09.30 – 11.00	PLENARY SESSION <i>Location: Palace of Culture, Iași – “Henri Coandă” Hall</i>	<p><i>Welcome by Jennifer Baker, Master of Ceremony</i></p> <p><i>Welcome by RO officials</i> Nicolaie Hurduc, Minister for Research and Innovation, Romania Academician Bogdan C. Simionescu, Vice-President of Romanian Academy</p> <p><i>Welcome by European Commission official</i> Signe Ratso, Deputy Director General, European Commission, Directorate General for Research, Technology and Innovation</p> <p><i>Keynote speeches</i> Kevin Morgan, Professor, School of Geography and Planning, Cardiff University, UK Tal Catran, Founder TC Holdings, Israel</p>
11.00 – 12.25	<p>Roundtable <i>Location: Palace of Culture, Iași – “Henri Coandă” Hall</i></p> <p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional development towards industrial modernization and smart specialization with support of research and innovation – as to approach the objective of “a smarter and competitive Europe”; - How to increase national R&I investments in EU 13 countries; - Widening R&I excellence in catching-up regions of South East Europe – the mission of research within the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework; - Forward-thinking business: integration within the new value chains and global markets. 	<p>Panellists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nicolaie Hurduc, Minister for Research and Innovation, Romania 2. Academician Bogdan C. Simionescu, Vice-President of Romanian Academy 3. Signe Ratso, Deputy Director General, European Commission, Directorate General for Research, Technology and Innovation 4. Kieran McCarthy, Member of the European Committee of the Regions, Member of SEDEC and COTER Commissions 5. Kevin Morgan, Professor, School of Geography and Planning, Cardiff University, UK 6. Adrian Solomon, Project Manager Environmental, Sustainability and Digital Projects for Industry, Research Excellence Centre for South-East Europe, Unit Leader Sheffield University, International Faculty, CITY College, Greece

		<p>Moderator: <i>Jennifer Baker, Master of Ceremony</i></p> <p>Rapporteur: <i>Alin Andries, Professor Faculty of Economy and Business Administration, "Al.I. Cuza" University of Iași</i></p>		
12.30 – 13.40	<p>NETWORKING LUNCH</p> <p><i>Location: Palas Conference Centre, Iași – Room tbc</i></p>	<p><i>Participants: all conference speakers and delegates.</i></p>		
13.00 – 14.00	<p>WORKING LUNCH</p> <p><i>Location: Palas Conference Centre, Iași – Room tbc</i></p>	<p><i>Participants: Romanian and European Commission officials, as well as rectors of the public universities in North-East Romania Region</i></p>		
13.40 – 14.00	<p>Side event, exhibition "VISUAL SCIENCE" – opening and visiting</p> <p><i>Location: Palace of Culture, Iași – Hall "of Honour"</i></p>	<p>Introduction: <i>Roxana Pintilescu, Director Regional Resource Centre North-East</i></p>		
14.00 – 15.30	<p>PARALEL SESSION 1. From regional excellence to European and global value chains</p> <p><i>Location: Palace of Culture, Iași – "Henri Coandă" Hall</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Zoya Damianova, Programme Director of the Applied Research and Communications Fund, Bulgaria Angel Prieto, Director, Business Innovation Centre of Albacette, Spain Stefan Weiers, Head of Sector, Directorate General Research, Technology and Innovation, European Commission Marcela Mihai – Scientific Secretary, "Petru Poni" Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry of Romanian Academy, Iași, Romania Biba Visnjicki, Fraunhofer Project Centre, University of Twente, Netherlands Tudor Darie, CEO Fagura, Republica Moldova 	<p>PARALEL SESSION 2: Research and Innovation for economic transformation</p> <p><i>Location: Palace of Culture, Iași – "Princiary" Hall</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dominique Foray, Professor, Chair of Economy and Innovation Management at Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland Katja Reppel, Deputy Head of Smart Sustainable Growth Unit, DG Regio (tbc) Pirita Lindholm, Director, European Regions for Research and Innovation Network (ERRIN) Frederic Pinna, Director at DEV'UP Centre-Val de Loire, France Andrea di Anselmo, Vice-President, Meta Group, Italy Marcin Warzocha, CEO Coolmat Sp. Z.o.o., Poland <p>Moderator: <i>Representative of the Directorate General for Research, Technology and Innovation, European Commission(tbd)</i></p>	<p>PARALEL SESSION 3: Education for innovation</p> <p><i>Location: Palace of Culture, Iași – "Ștefan Procopiu" Hall</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Joao Santos, Deputy Head of Unit for Vocational training, Apprenticeships and Adult learning – Directorate for Employment (E.3), Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission Gianluca Coppola, Founder & President of European Digital Learning Network - D Learn Brikena Xhomaqi, Director of Lifelong Learning Platform Romeo Vasilache, Entrepreneurship & IPR Programs Director, Romanian-American Foundation Willem Foorhuis, Professor School of Financial and Economic Management, "Hanze" University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands Michel Rod, Associate Dean, Research and International & 	

	<p>Moderator: <i>Philippe Vanrie</i>, Head of EUREKA Secretariat Rapporteur: <i>Niki Naska</i>, Communication manager, EUREKA</p>	<p>Rapporteur: <i>Esteban Pelayo</i>, Director, European Association of Regional Development Agencies (EURADA)</p>	<p>Professor, “Sprott” School of Business, Carleton University, Canada Moderator: <i>John Edwards</i>, Policy Officer, Joint Research Centre, European Commission Rapporteur: <i>Bogdan Chelariu</i>, Coordinator of Brussels Representation Office, RDA North-East</p>
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee break – location Palatul Culturii		
16.00 – 17.00	<p>Parallel workshop 1 – Marketing tools for research</p> <p>Location: <i>Palatul Culturii Iași – “Ștefan Procopiu” Hall</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel Dumitrescu, InnovX Business Accelerator, România Mark Crowell, Executive Chairman of the Academic Venture Exchange, USA <p>Moderator: <i>Harry Konstantopoulos</i>, European Academy, UK Rapporteur: <i>Adriana Zait</i>, Professor Faculty of Economy and Business Administration, “Al.I. Cuza” University of Iași</p>	<p>Parallel workshop 2 - Innovation management in SMEs</p> <p>Location: <i>Palatul Culturii Iași – “Henri Coandă” Hall</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Tal Catran, Founder TC Holdings, Israel Ionut Tata, Founder @Iceberg / Innovation and Technology Cluster - Digital Innovation Hub, Romania <p>Moderator: <i>Pieter de Jong</i>, EU Representative, WETSUS, Netherlands Rapporteur: <i>Corina Forascu</i>, Associate Professor Faculty of Information Technologies, “Al. I. Cuza” University</p>	
16.00 – 17.00	<p>From ideas to real life solutions – COST connecting pockets of excellence</p> <p>Session hosted by COST ASSOCIATION</p> <p>Introduction to COST - Primož Pristovšek, Head of Science Operations, COST Association Roundtable with COST Association members, Chaired by Katalin Alföldi</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Andreja Kuntnar, Director at InnoRenew CoE George Loudos, Assistant Professor in the Department of Medical Instruments Technology, TEI Athens, Coordinator of Nuclear Imaging team 	<p>Strengthening European regional innovation ecosystem through smart specialization</p> <p>Session hosted by EURADA and the Ministry of Research and Innovation, Romania</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Biba Visnjicki, Fraunhofer Project Centre, University of Twente, Netherlands Ibrahim Ethem Sahim, Head of the Planning Programmig and Coordination Department, Middle Black Sea (OKA) Development Agency, Turkey Frederic Pinna, Director at DEV'UP Centre-Val de Loire, France 	<p>Demand-driven innovation to foster regional competitiveness</p> <p>Interactive session hosted by ERRIN</p> <p>Explanation of inDemand model - Myriam Martin, inDemand Project and Centru Region, Romania</p> <p>Discussion with the audience in two groups: Group 1: Sustainable impact in the region, innovation in public organisations Group 2: Improving regional competitiveness through demand-driven approach</p> <p>Moderators: <i>Myriam Martin, Anett Ruszanov and Centru Region Romania representative, inDemand Project</i></p>

	<p>3. Maya Dimitrova, PhD Associate Professor at the Institute of Systems Engineering and Robotics of BAS (ISER-BAS)</p> <p>4. Adrian Iftene, Faculty Member at “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași</p>	<p>4. Carolina Arriagada, Expert FDI Office of the City of London <i>Moderator: Octaviana Marincas, Director General, Ministry of Research and Innovation Romania</i></p>	<p>Wrap-up: Francois Brizard, Policy Officer, Directorate General Research, Technology and Innovation, European Commission.</p>
16.00 – 17.00	<p>From idea to global markets through collaboration - Accompanying SMEs in their innovation journey</p> <p><i>Location: Palas Conference Centre, Iași – Room (tbc)</i></p> <p>Session hosted by EUREKA <i>Moderator: Niki Naska, Communication Manager EUREKA</i></p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Philippe Vanrie, Head of EUREKA Secretariat 2. Representative SC Magnum SRL, Romania 3. Carlos Garcia Delgado, Head of Sector from CTA Andalucia 	<p>Training „How to shoot and edit a video with your mobile phone”</p> <p><i>Location: Palas Conference Centre – Room (tbd)</i></p> <p>Training session hosted by COST ACADEMY</p> <p><i>Trainer: Twan Spierts, Mobile journalist</i></p> <p>Session of 2.5hours with max 35 participants</p>	
17.00 – 18.30	<p>Rapporteurs meeting with European Commission to discuss the conclusions of the day</p> <p><i>Location: Palas Conference Centre Iasi – Room (tbc)</i></p>		
19.00 – 21.30	<p>EXPERIENTIAL DINNER - MEET TRADITIONAL NORTH-EAST ROMANIA</p> <p><i>Location: “La Castel” Restaurant</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Romanian traditional music & dances; - Traditional fashion: “Romanian Blouse” catwalk; - Camping party (traditional food buffet & wines tasting). 	<p><i>Outdoors program!</i></p> <p><i>Transfer by bus, starting from the Palace of Culture (19:00pm), with a guided socio-cultural tour “Classic and Novel Iași”.</i></p>	

Day 3 - Friday

Time	Session name & topics	Format & speakers
09.00 – 09.30	<p>PARTICIPANTS REGISTRATION and welcome coffee</p> <p><i>Location: Palace of Culture, Iași – Hall “of Honour”</i></p>	
	<p>EXHIBITION VISUAL SCIENCE - opened whole day</p>	
09.30 – 11.15	<p>Plenary session</p> <p><i>Location Palatul Culturii, Iași - “Henri Coanda” Hall</i></p> <p>Learning from WIRE 2019</p> <p>Digital Innovation HUBs in Europe</p>	<p>Introduction and moderation: Jennifer Baker Master of Ceremony (10 min)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Magda de Carli, Head of Unit, Directorate General Research, Technology and Innovation, European Commission and Kieran McCarthy, Member of the European Committee of the Regions, Member of SEDEC and COTER Commissions 2. Cristian Otgon, Transilvania iHUB 4.0 and Alina Popa, Director EURONEST ITC HUB

	<p>The future Horizon Europe – strategic planning and regions</p> <p><i>Evolution along decade, experiences from coordinators of WIRE projects</i></p> <p><i>Awards ceremony for WIRE organizers 2010-2019, Popularity Award for the exhibition</i></p>	<p>3. Renzo Tomellini, Head of Unit Added value Materials, Directorate General Research, Technology and Innovation, European Commission</p> <p>4. Gerhard Schadler, Minister for Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research, Tirol, Austria, Edition 2018 and Radoslav Delina, Head of Dpt. Banking and Investment, Faculty of Economics, Technical University of Kosice, Edition 2017</p> <p>5. Ana-Roxana Pintilescu, Director Regional Resource Centre North-East and Vasile Asandei, Director General, North-East RDA</p>
11.15 – 11.45	<p>Plenary closing</p> <p>Location Palatul Culturii, Iași - “Henri Coanda” Room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conclusions of the WIRE X organizer - Introduction of the future host of WIRE Conference 2020 Croatia 	<p>1. Gabriela Macoveiu, Director for Communication, Innovation and Cooperation, North-East RDA</p> <p>Video with “street interviews” collected during the conference.</p> <p>2. Maja Fredotović, Prof. Dr. Sc. Dean, Faculty of Economics, University of Split, Edition 2020 Organiser</p>
12.00 – 13.30	<p>LUNCH</p> <p>Location: Palas Conference Centre Iași – Room (tbc)</p>	

ASSOCIATED EVENTS

<i>25th of June 2019 – Tuesday</i>		
Time	Session name & topics	Format & speakers
08.30 – 17.15	<p>Workshop: New opportunities for collaboration between actors of the regional innovation ecosystems. Fostering regional capacities and territorial development</p> <p>Location: Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University, “Carmen Silva” Hall, Bd. CAROL I, no. 11A, IAȘI</p>	<p>Hosted by NC WIDENING Network</p> <p>Welcome and Introduction Professor Dan Cașcaval, Rector, "Gheorghe Asachi" Technical University of Iași</p> <p>Sessions & Speakers:</p> <p>Session I: Future perspectives for collaborative research Moderator: Ana Hidalgo, Spanish NCP for Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Magda de Carli, Head of Unit B5, European Commission DG RTD - Octaviana Marincas, Director General at Ministry of Research and Innovation, Romania - Nida Ozbolat, European Commission, JRC <p>Session II: Collaboration opportunities between ESIF and EIT-KICs</p> <p>Facilitator: Gonçalo Amorim, Executive Director in Building Global Innovators (BGI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laura Supjeva, EIT - Nida Ozbolat, European Commission, JRC and Laura Supjeva, EIT - Irene Vivas Lalinde, EIT Climate-KIC

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kamil Szydłowski, EIT InnoEnergy - Katalin Szalóki, EIT Health <p>Session III: Experiences on multi-actor approach for “Spreading Excellence and Widening participation” projects</p> <p>Facilitator: Matthias Woiwode von Gilardi, Head of EU Regional and Innovation Policy and Programmes in German Aerospace Centre (DLR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Magdalena Borzęcka, Institute of Soil science and Plant Cultivation, Puławy, Poland - Marika Kůrová, Department of Scientific Research and Development, University of Chemistry and Technology Prague- EIT Food Hub for Czechia - MARITEC-X project - Goran Kitic, BioSense institute, Novi Sad Serbia
26th of June - Wednesday		
10.00 – 12.00	<p>Workshop: Interregional cooperation and Smart Specialization Platforms Location: APAVITAL Conference Room, Iași, Strada Mihai Costăchescu, nr. 6</p>	<p>Hosted session by iWATERMAP INTERREG Europe Partners</p> <p>Moderator: Pieter de Jong, EU Representative, WETSUS, Netherlands</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nikos Pantalos, Policy Officer on innovation and clusters at European Commission, Directorate general GROW - Eric van Sonsbeek, CEO EColoRO BV, Water Smart Territories Thematic Area in S3 Platform for Industrial Modernisation - Adina Simionescu, Expert, North-East Regional Development Agency Romania, Smart Regional Investments in Textile Innovation - Thematic Area in S3 Platform for Industrial Modernisation
09.15-13.30	<p>Infoday: Spreading excellence and widening participation Location: Romanian Academy Iasi</p>	<p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wojciech Adamiak, IPPT Pan, Coordinator - Stefan Weiers, Deputy head of unit B5, European Commission, Directorate general for research Technology and Innovation - Dr. Theodora Rusu, Project manager, „Petru Poni” National research Institute for Macromolecular Chemistry - Dr. Sabin C. Buraga, Faculty of Computer Science, „A.I. Cuza” University Iasi - Marika Kurova, Department for Scientific Research & Development University of Chemistry and Technology Prague, EIT Food Hub Czechia
28th of June 2019 - Friday		
14.00 – 16.00	<p>Academic panel – Open call for scientific papers</p>	<p>Academic session hosted by “A.I. Cuza” University of Iași</p>

	<p>Location: "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași – Senate Hall</p>	<p>Moderator: Alin Andries, Professor, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, "Al.I. Cuza" University of Iași</p>
14.00 – 17.00	<p>Workshop: Exploring alignment on a shared purpose, using LEGO serious play methodology</p> <p>Location: "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași – Room (tbc)</p>	<p>Interactive workshop hosted by Atelierul de Idei Iași</p> <p>Access of participants limited to 15 persons in the order of registration</p> <p>Trainer: Cristina Baghiu, Founder & CEO Atelierul de idei</p>



"Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași



GRIGORE T. POPA UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY IASI



"ION IONESCU DE LA BRAD", UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND VETERINARY MEDICINE



"GHEORGHE ASACHI" TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY



IASI CITY HALL



IASI COUNTY COUNCIL



Moldavia Iasi National Museum Complex



Central University Library Iași

