

Romania Section

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What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to foster Industry Relations? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Industry Relations? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations? How are you going to continue to foster Industry Relations?

- Invited presentations of distinguished lecturers are hosted by various companies. Also, companies are invited to attend such lectures hosted by universities.
- Companies are involved in organizing conferences together with universities. Over the years, many engineers from industry understood that IEEE is the best way to publish their work, to increase their personal visibility, to be up to date with the newest technology advancements. The visibility of their work helps them to participate in EU funded research projects.
- Some chapters present awards, on yearly basis, to engineers from industry. For instance, PES Chapter presents the Outstanding Engineer Award.
- The Section helps engineers from industry to elevate to Senior Member.
- Engineers from industry are invited to universities to share their professional experience. The most active chapters are CS, EMB, PES, and MAG.
- Extensive participation of IEEE members into IEEE Standards Association and other standardization bodies (IEC, CEN-CENELEC, ASRO), which is usually attained through a strong collaboration with industrial representatives in these bodies. Most active: IEEE-PES and IEEE IMS.
- Intensive courses for local national and international companies are organized and are well attended.

What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to Attract and Support Future Members, e.g., Students and Young Professionals? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to better Attract and Support Future Members? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Attracting and Supporting Future Members? How are you going to continue to support Students and Young Professionals?

- In order to encourage the future engineers to become IEEE members, the IEEE Romania Section pays the membership fee for the first-year membership for students proposed by chapters.
- We believe that free access free to IEEEExplore for students will help IEEE to reach its goals. Most of the students cannot afford to pay for having access to IEEE publications, but their access will help the science. IEEE will have no financial loss from this.
- Representatives of the Section participate to various conferences held in Romania to present the benefits of being an IEEE member.
- The Section supports financially (awards) all IEEE student competitions organized by the Romanian chapters (SSC, ED, EMB, CS).
- A new Student Branch was formed at University Politehnica of Timisoara last year. We are in progress of creating two new SBs, one at Technical University of Cluj-Napoca and one at the Technical University of Iasi.
- The YP AG celebrated the IEEE Day.

What activities/programs/initiatives work well to drive the vitality and sustainability in your Section? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Section vitality and sustainability? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Section Vitality? How are you going to continue to foster Section Vitality?

- The number of members of the IEEE Romania section was maintained over 1000 last years. This was also possible because of young professional and student members who understood the benefits offered by IEEE.
- The IEEE Romania Section contains 24 Chapters and 2 Affinity Groups. Many of our chapters (CS, PES, IAS, ES, and MAGS) are very active and organize various activities in the spirit of IEEE. Examples of activities are conferences, one-day workshops, invited speakers, student competitions, promotional activities and others.
- In 2018 we had elections within the Women in Engineering AF. We have now an enthusiastic team who did an interesting program of activities for 2019. Also, 2018 was successfully closed, with two meetings.
- The Section encourages members to apply for Senior Member and Fellow.
- Conferences and technical events are good practices to keep the members active within the IEEE. The Section promotes IEEE and the Section's activities during the opening ceremonies organized in Romania. On the other hand, rules have been introduced to increase the quality of the conferences.

What are your recommendations to IEEE Region 8 and the Africa Council Chair Gloria Chuckwudebe to foster IEEE in Africa? How does your Section support IEEE Activities in Africa?

The IEEE Romanian Section would like to support IEEE members from Africa by tutoring them.

What services and which kind of support would you expect for Region 8 and/or your section out of the new IEEE office in Vienna, Austria? How has the existence of this office influenced your section since its inauguration last year?

- Still not very clear how this office can support our Section. However, we expect support in dealing with local rules when organizing conferences financially co-sponsored by IEEE Romania.
- It would be great to have free access to webinars/short courses/ on research ethics (IEEE code of ethics).

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

- Two Chapters were created in Romania in 2018, i.e. "Robotics and Automation Society" and "Antennas and Propagation Society and Council on RFID Joint Chapter".
- However, although the Section develops activities to attract industry, the large number of members are from universities.