

Romania Section

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List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- Invited presentations of distinguished lecturers are hosted by various companies. Also, companies are invited to attend such lectures hosted by universities. For example, PES Chapter organizes a presentation at the Romanian TSO Transelectrica.
- Companies are involved in organizing conferences together with universities. Over the years, many engineers from the 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 technological advancements. The visibility of their work helps them to participate in EU funded research projects.
- Some chapters present awards, on a yearly basis, to engineers from industry. For instance, PES Chapter presents the Outstanding Engineer Award. The Romania Section has initiated the 2020 Awards. A special award will be presented to engineers with significant achievements.
- The Section helps engineers from industry to elevate to Senior Member.
- Engineers from industry are invited to universities to share their professional experience. For example, the Communications Chapter has invited two engineers at University Politehnica of Bucharest to talk about "Vulnerabilities in GSM Networks.
- 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 industry representatives in these bodies. Most active: IEEE-PES and IEEE IMS.
- Meetings between students and industry representatives are planned. Company profiles and job characteristics are introduced to students. An example is the "Career in the energy industry 2020" that will be co-organized at University Politehnica of Bucharest by the YP group.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Two major student activities were held for students with the support from IEEE Romania Section:

- In order to encourage future engineers to become IEEE members, the IEEE Romania Section pays the membership fee for the first-year membership for students proposed by chapters. This strategy helps to keep involved as many students as possible under IEEE although many events organized by Chapters are attracting lots of students. Also, the Distinguished Lecturer program is used by various Chapters to invite international specialists and deliver hot topics to future engineers.
- Starting with 2019, the IEEE Romania Section is a financial sponsor for a traditional Student Contest (<https://concret.ro/sponsori/>). Various other summer schools are organized by Chapters.
- We believe that free access to IEEE Xplore 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 would be a good reason to join IEEE. IEEE will have no financial loss from this. The students in Romania have access to IEEE Xplore via the local IP of their university.
- Representatives of the Section participate in various conferences held in Romania to present the benefits of being an IEEE member.
- The Section is guiding the universities to create Student Branches and Student Branch Chapters in Romania.
- The YP AG celebrated the IEEE Day.
- The YP AG becomes very active by both organizing individual events and by participating in events organized by Chapters.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

- The Section helps its members to elevate to Senior Member. The Number of SMs in Romania has gradually increased reaching about 14
- The membership in Romania is steady, between 950 and 1000. We are doing campaigns with the Chapter Chairs or highly ranked persons to support students and your professionals.
- Webinars are planned focusing on engineering careers where experienced speakers will be invited.
- A new website was created at <https://romania.ieeer8.org/> This is intended to keep the members active and understand the importance of being an IEEE member.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- A new association registered with the Romanian authorities has just been created. The purpose is to help the chapters to attract sponsorship and to ease the use of their financial resources.
- We encourage and support Chapters to organize elections. The purpose is to attract enthusiastic people, who are willing to volunteer. We support candidates to the board of officers from different cities. In this way, the chapter has local representatives. In this way, the chapter can better organize local events while collaborating with the membership development coordinators.
- The Section encourages and supports members to apply for Senior Member and Fellow.

- The 30th year anniversary was scheduled to be held on October 10th, 2020. This is intended to gather together members and non-members
- The NANO chapter was just created, while a new joint chapter EP/NANO Romania/Hungary was reorganized.
- 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.
- The Romania Section has initiated the 2020 Awards, where a special award will be presented to Chapters.

Challenges (with a focus on what support is required from Region 8)

Still not identified why is difficult to increase the membership.