

# PROGRAMME



## Global Forum on Nuclear Science, Technology and Policy

### *Country-Specific Workshop: Aligning Higher Education and Workforce Needs in Romania*

*In co-operation with*  
**National University of Science and Technology  
Politehnica Bucharest**

**10-11 October 2023  
Pitesti, Romania**



ANDR

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## The NEA Global Forum on Nuclear Education, Science, Technology and Policy

In recent years, the NEA has stepped up its work with member countries in the area of education and capacity building. At the centre of its efforts is the NEA Global Forum on Nuclear Education, Science, Technology and Policy (the Global Forum on Nuclear Education) – a framework for sustained co-operation and for enabling a long-term dialogue among academic institutions, policymakers and key stakeholders in the nuclear energy sector and civil society worldwide. Since 2021, the Global Forum on Nuclear Education has used creative problem-solving to help confront some of the most significant challenges in nuclear education and human capacity.

The Global Forum on Nuclear Education began holding Global Commencements for nuclear technology graduates during the COVID-19 pandemic, and launched global discussions about promoting nuclear education, developing relationships between nuclear energy and society, and improving diversity in nuclear academic programmes. The latter fostered the Rising Stars programme to bring more talented women into teaching and research positions in university nuclear programmes. Most recently, the Global Forum has supported country-specific workshops that enable dialogue between academia, government, and the nuclear industry to overcome barriers to nuclear education and to outline scenarios for its future.

### Country-Specific Workshop objectives

The Global Forum is organising a workshop that is to be hosted by Romanian universities and will discuss the future of higher education in Romania, in particular the role of academia in developing the workforce needed to advance the nuclear energy sector in the country.

The event will bring together national and international experts from academia, industry and government to discuss their experience, the challenges faced, best practices and ideas for supporting and further developing higher education in Romania.

The envisioned outcome of this workshop is to have all stakeholders identify the principles of a national strategy to enhance university education with a focus on fields that are relevant to the nuclear sector.

The workshop will be conducted in English.

# Agenda

## Day 1 – 10 October 2023

Registration	
09:30-10:00	<b>Registration of participants</b>
Opening session	
10:00-10:30	<b>Welcome and opening remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome by the workshop Chair, <i>Prof. Lisa Marshall</i>, representative of the NEA Global Forum on Nuclear Education, North Carolina State University (NCSU), United States</li><li>• Remarks by <i>Prof. Ian Farnan</i>, representative of the NEA Global Forum on Nuclear Education, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom</li><li>• Opening remarks from NEA Director-General <i>William D. Magwood, IV</i></li></ul>
Keynote session	
10:30-11:15	<b>Keynote speeches</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Mr Sebastian Ioan Burduja</i>, Minister of Energy</li><li>• <i>Ms Ligia Deca</i>, Minister of Education and Research</li><li>• <i>Ms Simona Bucura</i>, Minister of Labour</li></ul>
Session 1: Romanian universities' concerns and challenges	
11:15-13:30 <i>with coffee break</i>	<b>Opening and introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Dr Tatiana Ivanova</i>, NEA Head of Nuclear Science and Education</li><li>• <i>Prof. Dumitru Chirlesan</i>, Rector, the National University of Science and Technology Politehnica Bucharest (UNSTPB) – Pitesti University Center</li><li>• <i>Prof. Mihnea Costoiu</i>, Rector, UNSTPB</li></ul> <b>Presentations by faculty members</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• University of Bucharest</li><li>• University “Babes-Bolyai” from Cluj Napoca</li><li>• University “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” from Iași</li><li>• West University from Timisoara</li><li>• University Ovidius from Constanta</li><li>• University “Valahia” from Targoviste</li><li>• University from Craiova</li><li>• Other universities</li></ul> <b>Q&amp;A session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All participants</li></ul>
13:30-14:30	<i>Lunch break</i>

**Session 2: Developing the workforce for the future:  
Perspectives of stakeholders**

14:30-16:00

**Presentations**

- Ms Laura Constantin, Deputy General Manager, Corporate Services, Nuclearelectrica
- Mr Mihaita Gaina, President, Nuclear and Radioactive Waste Agency (ANDR)
- Cantemir Marian Ciurea-Ercau, President, National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control (CNCAN)
- Mr Nicolae Marius Mărginean, Director General, National Research and Development Institute for Physics and Nuclear Engineering “Horia Hulubei”
- Mr J.J. Arthur, Senior Director, Nuclear Steam Supply System (NSSS) Engineering, NuScale Power, LLC

**Q&A session**

- All participants

**Session 3: STEM education in foreign universities:  
Best practices and lessons learnt**

16:00-17:00

with coffee  
break

**Presentations by representatives of the NEA Global Forum on Nuclear Education**

- Prof. Ian Farnan, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom
- Prof. Lisa Marshall, NCSU, United States

**Q&A session**

- All participants

**Session 4: Needs, expectations and concerns of Romanian students and recent graduates**

17:00-18:00

**Presentations by students and recent graduates representing Romanian universities**

- Students and recent graduates

**Q&A session**

- All participants

## Day 2 – 11 October 2023

Session 5: Summary of day 1	
09:00-09:30	<p><b>Summary of Day 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The workshop Chair, Prof. Lisa Marshall</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All participants</li> </ul>
Session 6: Breakout discussions: <i>Main principles for the development of a national strategy for the enhancement of higher education</i>	
09:30-12:00 <i>with coffee break</i>	<p><b>Topical groups</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting the education and workforce needs: areas for governmental focus</li> <li>• Provisioning industry needs: workforce skills and competencies</li> <li>• Amending university curricula to address country's needs</li> </ul> <p><b>Presentation of the outcomes of the breakout discussions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representatives from all breakout groups</li> </ul>
12:00-13:00	Lunch
Session 7: Aligning higher education and workforce needs: <i>Areas of focus for Romanian stakeholders</i>	
13:00-14:30	<p><b>Roundtable discussion: Identifying principles for a national strategy to reinforce higher education, including nuclear education, in Romania</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All participants</li> </ul>
Closing session	
14:30-15:00	<p><b>Workshop conclusions and actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The workshop Chair, Prof. Lisa Marshall</li> </ul> <p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEA Director-General William D. Magwood, IV</li> </ul>





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