



Romania Digital Communications and Media Forum 2026

Date: 25th - 26th May 2026

Location: Bucharest, Romania

Agenda: Monday 25 May 2026

08:00 - 09:30: Pre-Conference Roundtable for Regulatory Authorities Only

Sharing best practice policy and regulation for the digital era

Moving from legacy telecommunications/media regulation to digital regulation – how do we manage the migration/transition to new models, structures and challenges?

Regulators and policy makers share experiences with “rules and tools”: structural and regulatory models, experimentation with approaches to new technologies and collaboration within and across borders.

Co-chairs:

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

Valeriu Zgonea, President, National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM), Romania

Stimulus speakers:

Marko Mišmaš, Director, Agency for Communication Networks and Services of the Republic of Slovenia (AKOS); BEREC Chair 2026

Mantas Martišius, Chairman, Radio and Television Commission of Lithuania (RTCL), Lithuania

Andrew Lewis, Head of International Strategy, Ofcom, UK

Josip Popovac, President of the Media Council, Media Regulatory Authority, Croatia

Liliana Vitu, Chair, Audiovisual Council, Republic of Moldova

Armela Krasniqi, Chair, Audiovisual Media Authority, Albania

Agenda: Monday 25 May 2026

09:00: Registration and networking

10:00: Welcomes

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

Valeriu Zgonea, President, National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM), Romania

Radu Mihaiu, President, Committee for Information Technology and Communications, Chamber of Deputies

Mihnea Costoiu, Rector, University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, Romania

Anton Rog (Maj.Gen.), Director, National Cyberint Center, Romanian Intelligence Service

10:45: Policy and regulatory pillars to support universal connectivity and next generation digital networks

- Closing the connectivity gaps – rolling out broadband and 5G coverage to overcome disparities between urban, rural and remote areas
- How can the financial sustainability of these solutions be ensured?
- Infrastructure sharing, technological neutrality and interoperability
- Spectrum policy and regulatory decision making in the 5G and 6G era
- What flexible regulatory frameworks can support innovative pilots in underserved regions?

Moderator:

Pavel Popescu, Vice President, National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM), Romania

Speakers:

Marko Mišmaš, Director, Agency for Communication Networks and Services of the Republic of Slovenia (AKOS); BEREC Chair 2026

Omer Abdullah Karagozoglu, Chairman, Information and Communication Technologies Authority, Turkey

Valentin Popoviciu, Chief Strategy & Operating Officer and Executive Director, Digi Communications

11:45: Networking break

12:15: Satellite connectivity and Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTN): integrating space into national electronic communications frameworks

- Licensing and spectrum allocation for satellite operators
- Coexistence with terrestrial networks; enabling universal coverage through hybrid terrestrial–satellite solutions
- Satellite IoT and direct-to-device services
- Implications of the Digital Networks Act on authorisation of satellite networks, services and spectrum
- Preparations for WRC-27 and the satellite-related Agenda Items

Moderator:

Ulpia-Elena Botezatu, Dr., Space Policy Officer, Romanian Space Agency

Speakers:

Nedim Baytorun, CEO, Vodafone Romania

Mieke de Regt, EU Public Policy Manager, Amazon

Pavel Popescu, Vice President, National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM), Romania

13:15: Networking Lunch

14:15: Digital corridors, network resilience and cybersecurity – building and maintaining resilient digital ecosystems

- How are universal connectivity, hyperconnectivity, the expansion of mobile comms and AI increasing the surface area to be protected and therefore the sophistication of cyberthreats?
- Use of toolboxes: 5G security toolbox

- NIS2 requirements and comparisons with other initiatives
- Supply-chain risk management and incident response coordination
- Examples of collaboration across supply chains and across borders to counter the cyberthreat landscape

Moderator:

Anton Rog (Maj.Gen.), Director, National Cyberint Center, Romanian Intelligence Service

Speakers:

Gabriel Dinu, Deputy Director, Romanian National Cyber Security Directorate (DNSC)

Julien Ducarroz, CEO, Orange Romania

Katja Kmet Vrko, Advisor to the Director for International Affairs, Agency for Communication Networks and Services of the Republic of Slovenia (AKOS); Co-chair Cybersecurity and Resilience EWG at BERIC

Katarzyna Chojecka-Tomaszewska (Ph.D.), Head of Government Affairs CEE, Cisco Systems

Razvan Eusebiu Craciunescu, Associate Dean, Faculty of Electronics, Telecommunications and Information Technology, University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest

15:30: **Networking break**

16:00: **Artificial Intelligence and network infrastructure: pipes, power, policy and trust**

- Two sides of the coin:
- AI as a driver of unprecedented demand for connectivity, power and data flows; ensuring networks can handle rapidly expanding AI workloads
- AI as a driver of network efficient, enhanced quality of service, and new revenue streams for network operators
- How can strict oversight be balanced with the need for innovation and competitiveness in emerging AI ecosystems?
- What regulatory tools can be developed to oversee critical AI infrastructure such as data centres, cloud, and high-performance computing?

Moderator:

Horia Cucu, Associate Professor, AI Researcher, University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest

Speakers:

Cezara Panait, Head of Government Affairs & Public Policy RO, BG, MD, Google

Ola Bergstrom, Director Government and Policy Advocacy, Ericsson

Adrian Victor Vevera, General Director, National Institute for Research & Development in Informatics (ICI Bucharest), Romania

Sabin Totorean, Senior Country Officer, Nokia

17:15: **Close of day one followed by networking reception kindly hosted by ANCOM**

Agenda: Tuesday 26 May 2026

09:00: **Welcome**

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

Ciprian Rus, President, Committee on Communications, Information Technology and Artificial Intelligence, Romanian Senate

09:15: Keynote

The making of Romania's first unicorn – policy and regulatory considerations

Alexandru Mihailciuc, SVP Customer Engineering International, UiPath

09:45: Digital markets: best practice digital market and competition regulation to ensure better outcomes for industry and consumers

- Comparing the effectiveness of ex ante and ex post initiatives to address the global nature of large digital platforms whilst fostering innovation and the development of digital services
- How can national, regional, and international cooperation be used to address anti-competitive practices in digital markets including for search engines, app stores, messenger services, digital advertising?

Ionut Stefan-Birdea, Principal, Frontier Economics

Bogdan Chiritoiu, President, The Competition Council, Romania

11:00: Networking break

11:30: Regulatory snapshot: Protection of minors – the Norwegian experience

Mari Velsand, Director General, Norwegian Media Authority (Medietilsynet)

11:45: Digital services: balancing innovation, consumer rights and online safety

- Progress reports: experiences with Digital Services Act (DSA) implementation and enforcement
- Comparisons with other national and regional initiatives to protect citizens whilst enabling innovation and competitiveness, especially for SMEs
- Highlighting specific issues and initiatives concerning the protection of children and adolescents online

Moderator:

Allyson Leacock OR (Dr. TheHon.), Chairman, Barbados Broadcasting Authority; Director, National Transformation Initiative, Government of Barbados; Board Director, International Institute of Communications

Speakers:

Calin Coznan, Director of Digital Services, National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM), Romania

Mari Velsand, Director General, Norwegian Media Authority (Medietilsynet)

Peter Matzneller (LL.M. Eur.), Manager Global Affairs, (AVMS), Netflix

13:00: Networking lunch

14:00: Digital transformation in the media sector: protecting media pluralism, public service broadcasting and the future of news

- The European Media Freedom Act (EMFA) as a case study
- Comparison with other initiatives designed to protect editorial independence, transparency and public service media
- Initiatives to counter foreign information manipulation and interference and preserve the integrity of elections
- Media literacy initiatives to help build the digital citizen

Moderator:

ValentinJucan, Vice President, National Audiovisual Council, Romania

Speakers:

Robert Schwartz, President Director General, Radio Romania

Cezar Ion, Director of Editorial Content, TVR (Romanian Public Television)

Liliana Vitu, Chair, Audiovisual Council, Republic of Moldova

Josip Popovac, President of the Media Council, Media Regulatory Authority, Croatia

Mauricio Vera Sánchez, Commissioner Audiovisual Content, Commission for Communications Regulation of Colombia (CRC)

15:15: Networking break

15:45: Data governance in digital communication ecosystems: access, portability and re-use

- Implementing the Data Governance Act and Data Act – experiences and comparisons regionally
- What are the benefits and risks associated with the establishment of dataspace?
- Specific considerations for B2B and B2G data sharing models

Catalina Dobre, Head of Unit, Service, Regulations, Authorisation and Users' Rights, National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM), Romania

Andrei Niculae, Vice President, Authority for the Digitalization of Romania (ADR)

Dan Cimpean, Director, Romanian National Cyber Security Directorate

17:00: Close of Romania Forum

Pavel Popescu, Vice President, National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM), Romania

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications