

RED**Security of Supply, Energy Markets, Sustainability and
Affordability in Energy Transition****Ioan Dan GHEORGHIU, Ph. D.
WEC-RNC, Vice-chairman**

Dr. Ioan Dan Gheorghiu was appointed Chairman of the Supervisory Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Studies and Power Engineering (ISPE) in 1992, after 6 years of coordinating the engineering activity as Technical Director. He joined ISPE immediately after graduating from Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest - Energetic Faculty - Power Section (1969).

Academic distinguishes and activities:

- “Magna cum laudae” Ph. D. (Eng) with the topic “Management and financial engineering in the energy field”
- Associated professor at Oradea - Polytechnic University - Energetic Faculty.

Prof. Ioan Dan Gheorghiu has as main professional concern to consolidate ISPE leading position in the field of consulting and engineering services, defining it as the unique energy project developer at national level. He is constantly involved in global energy issues, such as:

- Developing a sustainable energy future for Romania, through the entire consulting and engineering activity of ISPE
- Developing, as team leader, the national strategy in the field of power and heat generation, transmission and distribution
- Promoting the security of energy supply, rational primary resources use and energy efficiency in Romania and at regional level
- Management of all retrofitting and up-grading programs in the field of power and heat generation, transmission and distribution
- Development and promotion of environmental friendly energy projects
- Promoting the use of RES in Romania and RES technologies development

Professional societies and activities in international affairs, scientific works and different articles within:

- UNECE work shops - Sustainable Energy Division
- World Energy Council - WEC Congresses
- CIGRE - International Major Overhead Transmission Lines Conference
- Power Gen Conferences
- Regional Energy Forums
- Politechnica University of Bucharest workshops.

Mr. Ioan Dan Gheorghiu is a leadership voice in the Romanian energy development strategies and has assumed opinions regarding all issues in the fields of power, oil and gas. He is a member of several professional bodies and employers' associations:

- WEC-RNC – World Energy Council, the Romanian National Committee, founder member and vice-chairman
- APER – Romanian Power Policies Associations, founder member
- FREM – Romanian Foundation for Power and Environment, founder member
- SIER – Romanian Society of Thermo-energetic Engineers, member

Mr. Ioan Dan Gheorghiu is author or co-author for more than 20 volumes and over 80 scientific papers on energy issues.

VALERIU BINIG
ENEL, Regulatory Director
AMCHAM, Head of Energy Committee

Valeriu Binig is one of the leading specialists in the energy market in Romania, with over 32 years of professional experience in the sector, in various roles ranging from technical and academic to M&A and finance raising advisory, power plant operation engineer, designer, researcher, lecturer, coordinator of Phare programmes, European Commission Delegation Task Manager, top utility company manager, administrator and consultant in investment banking/financial advisory services in the sector.

In his capacity as Regulatory and Antitrust Affairs Director, Valeriu Binig leads a highly qualified and diverse team, having as main objectives defining, representing, and promoting the company's position on regulatory and antitrust issues. Also, he is responsible of identifying the regulatory trend for the assessment of the economic and financial impact of regulations on local business lines as well as managing regulatory and antitrust issues and proceedings towards interested relevant stakeholders, addressing and monitoring local business lines compliance and defining the optimal local strategy.

Prior to joining Enel Romania, Valeriu Binig held leading positions in consultancy firms like EY Romania and Deloitte, and was also a director within an investment banking and investment fund management team. Before that, he undertook roles in the transformative process of the local energy market, in management positions of energy distribution and generation companies, prior to the unbundling process in the Romanian electricity sector.

He was (Co)Chairman of the AmCham Energy and Environment Committee (2013-2017) and member of Amcham Romania Board of Directors (2013 – 2014); Chairman of the Energy Task Force of the Coalition for Developing Romania (2015, 2017) and the Engagement Partner for assistance to the Romanian Ministry of Energy in quantitative modelling for the elaboration of the National Energy Strategy (2016). He is currently a member of the Advisory Board of the Energy Policy Group.

Mr. Binig graduated the Power Engineering Faculty of University Politehnica of Bucharest . He holds a PhD degree in Reliability of Power Systems after two years of Doctoral School at The Compiegne University of Technology.

George NICULESCU
Ministry of Energy, Secretary of State

Mr. George Niculescu is currently serving as State Secretary in the Romanian Ministry of Energy since March 2021, where he is dealing especially with electricity, natural gas and oil topics, as well as with energy security in the energy transition context.

Mr. Niculescu holds the position as a Member in the Board of Nuclearelectrica, the Romanian company dealing with the production of nuclear energy. He recently concluded his mandate as member of the executive management of the most important natural gas producer, Romgaz SA, a wide-known national Romanian company.

Previously to his appointment in the Ministry, Mr. Niculescu held the position of Governor for Constanța County until October 2020, managing the activity of the Government in this region.

Mr. Niculescu holds a BA in Law (2004) and a MBA in Energy Entrepreneurship (2018) awarded by the Academy of Economic Studies from Bucharest. He is proficient in English and masters the Italian language at intermediate level.

In addition to the above, Mr. Niculescu has good leadership, teamwork and communication skills.

Anca Dana DRAGU
Senate of Romania, Senator

Anca Dana DRAGU is a Romanian economist and politician. She was the former Minister of Public Finance and was the President of the Senate of Romania from 21 December 2020 until 23 November 2021. She is the first woman in the history of the Senate to hold this position.

Mrs. Dragu graduated from the Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies in 1996. From 1999 to 2000 she studied at Georgetown University. She obtained an MA degree in public administration from the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration in 2007 and a PhD in economics from the Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies in 2010.

Yana POPKOSTOVA
European Centre for Energy and Geopolitical Analysis, Founder & President
European Union Institute for Security Studies,
Associate Analyst

Yana Popkostova is the founder of the European Centre for Energy and Geopolitical Analysis [ECEGA]. Her policy work explores the evolving landscape of risks associated with the low-carbon transition, building tailored corporate and regulatory anticipatory foresight for agile risk management to particularly geopolitical, governance and commodities volatility, but also resource scarcities and societal stresses. She advises international organisations, national governments and the diplomatic corps, as well as C-suite and corporate boardrooms. She is equally an all-round advocate for women's empowerment and diversity in energy. In 2021, Popkostova was recruited by the EU Institute for Security Studies [EUISS] to spearhead the Institute's Energy, Climate and Environmental Security portfolio and enhance the EU's analytical capacity and foresight in this domain.

Popkostova's background is in the EU Energy policy incubator. She has previously worked on energy policy and strategy for the European Climate Foundation; and before that as a policy advisor within the cabinet of the Vice-President of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe, and DG Presidency in the European Parliament. She served as an expert reviewer for the landmark IPCC 1.5°C Report and sat at the advisory board for France of the Women's Entrepreneurship Day.

Yana Popkostova has received numerous accolades throughout her careers. In 2017, she was designated as one of the 35-under-35 Future Energy Leaders by the World Energy Council. Popkostova is also a recipient of the prestigious EUI Policy Leaders Fellowship on Transnational Energy Governance. She was featured as amongst the Alumni that make a difference by the London School of Economics in 2020.

She serves on the advisory board of the World Energy and Meteorology Council [WEMC] and as a mentor for the German Ministry of Industry-sponsored Global Women Network for the Energy Transition. In 2020 she was asked to join the London Speakers Bureau as a Boardroom Advisor and Keynote Speaker on the Net-Zero Transition. She is also an expert at the World Energy Council's working group on Net-Zero Economy.

She has published widely and is a highly requested speaker on global energy relations and transformations, transnational energy governance and geopolitics of energy, as well as access to critical raw materials, the EU Green deal and other net-zero strategies, and talent, diversity and empowerment in the energy industry.

Her latest appearances as a keynote speaker include, inter alia, the DAKAR Forum on Peace and Security 2021; UAE Energy Forum 2021; the World Energy Week 2020 alongside the EU Commissioner for Energy Kadri Simson; the Gulf Intelligence Middle East Energy Transition Dialogues 2020 with IRENA's Policy Director Rabia Ferroukhi; and the flagship World Energy Congress in Abu Dhabi alongside the CEO of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the undersecretary of Energy of the UAE. She has equally delivered expert addresses at the Global LNG Forum 2020 [Milan], the Paris Peace Forum 2019 [Paris], the EU Dialogue on Decarbonisation Pathways 2019 [Brussels], and the International Conference on Energy and Meteorology 2019 [Copenhagen] amongst others.

Yana Popkostova is trilingual and holds a postgraduate degree with distinction from the London School of Economics.

Zoltan NAGY - BEGE
ANRE, Vice-President

Mr. Zoltan Nagy – Bege has more than 10 years' experience working on energy regulatory activities since 2007 as General Director for gas market, regulations for electricity, renewables, energy efficiency and cogeneration. Also, he was involved on approving the Romanian Energy Regulatory Authority (ANRE) regulations as member of the Regulatory Board of ANRE for 5 years.

Since October 2017, Mr. Zoltan Nagy – Bege was appointed as ANRE Vice-President for 5 years term by the Romanian Parliament and he is the Head of the Energy Efficiency Department within ANRE.

ANRE is an autonomous administrative body under Parliamentary control, entirely self-financed and independent as regards its decision-making process, organisation and functioning, whose scope of activity is to issue, approve and monitor the implementation of the national-wide binding regulatory framework required for the proper functioning of the electricity, heat and natural gas sectors and markets in terms of efficiency, competition, transparency and consumer protection.

Prior to working to the Romanian Energy Regulatory Authority (ANRE), Mr. Zoltan Nagy-Bege has an important activity since 2000 on managing companies and being member on regulatory board for the Romanian administration.

He graduated the Economical Sciences and Management from Babes - Bolyai University from Cluj Napoca in 2000 and took part in several training programs in management like CODECS – The Open University Business School in 2008-2009.

In the context of the national and European energy targets, Mr. Zoltan Nagy-Bege has carried out an important role regarding the implementation of the current energy legislation and elaborating the secondary regulations, by promoting the constructive dialogue with all the stakeholders in the energy regulatory activity and the sustained dissemination of the relevant energy legislation at national and European level.

Eric STAB
ENGIE Romania, Chairman & CEO

Eric Stab is Chairman & CEO of ENGIE Romania and Managing Director Europe & AMEA and Chief Operational Excellence Officer of ENGIE's GBU Networks. Eric is further Vice President of Concordia, of the Foreign Investors Council as well as President of the French Foreign Trade Advisors (CCEF) for Romania.

His career started 31 years ago, in Germany, where he held various management positions for 9 years. He then led Gaz de France's European gas sales before becoming CEO of the Group's UK energy sales and electricity generation affiliate. After the merger between Gaz de France and Suez, he was appointed CEO of GDF SUEZ's energy activities in Eastern Europe. He became Chairman and CEO of ENGIE Romania in 2010 and has, until 2021, been supervising activities in Poland, Austria, Czech Republic and Slovakia.

He holds a Master in Management from ESCP Europe in Paris and graduated from the Executive Program at Stanford University.

Volker RAFFEL
E.ON Romania, CEO

Volker RAFFEL is the CEO of the E.ON Romania Group starting with August 1, taking over the attributions from Manfred Paasch, who retired from the position he held for almost two years.

With 22 years of experience at E.ON, Volker Raffel is a graduate of technical university studies, specializing in Physics, as well as engineering studies in France, specializing in Energy and Nuclear Energy. In recent years he has held various management positions, most recently as Director of Energy Management, Communication and Coordination at PreussenElektra, the group's nuclear power company. In Romania, he was part of the team involved, starting with 2004, in the privatization process of the former Electrica Moldova, later being the deputy general manager of the distribution company until 2008.

Teofil MUREȘAN
E-INFRA, CEO and Chairman of the Board

An experienced and respected entrepreneur in the local and international business environment, Teofil Mureșan is a graduate of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, class of 1989, from the Technical University of Cluj Napoca. Within the same University, he also obtained his doctorate in electrical engineering and worked for 8 years as an Associate Professor in the Electrical Engineering Department. Continuous collaborator of UTCN, he participated in various joint projects, including obtaining a joint UTCN – Electrogrup Patent, a partnership in establishing in Cluj-Napoca the first Executive MBA program in Romania with British curriculum, together with Hull University in United Kingdom. Mr. Muresan is also a member of various scientific committees.

At the same time, he has constantly invested in his own education, so that, in addition to his PhD in Electrical Engineering at UTCN, Teofil holds a master's degree in Leadership and Strategy from London Business School and is a graduate of the renowned OPM program at Harvard Business School.

In addition to the management role within the E-INFRA Group, Teofil Mureșan is a member in Boards of Directors of several companies and non-profit organizations. Also, his belief that education is a catalyst for change has led him to become actively involved in many educational initiatives.

In parallel with his academic activity, Teofil began his career as an engineer at the Local Energy Dispatcher in Cluj, and soon became a Dispatcher within the National Energy Dispatcher. 1997 is the year in which he took the step towards entrepreneurship by founding the first company in the E-INFRA Infrastructure Group: Electrogrup, through which he initially offered large mobile telephony companies in Romania services in energy infrastructure and telecom.

Teofil Mureșan played an essential role in the development of Electrogrup from the position of founder and then CEO for 18 years, the company expanding its services portfolio at an alert and continuous pace, becoming one of the most important builders of energy infrastructure, telecommunications and civil engineering in Romania. Since 2013, after consolidating its position in the Romanian market, Teofil has taken the Electrogrup business abroad, carrying out important construction and telecom infrastructure projects in several European countries, such as Germany, Poland, Belgium or the Netherlands.

Visionary, Teofil Mureșan understood that there are important synergies between the telecom, energy and civil engineering industries, so in 2007 he took the following steps in consolidating the E-INFRA Group: he founded the company Direct One, which today has the largest neutral long-distance national fiber optics network and adds Nova Power & Gas, a supplier and distributor of electricity and natural gas, to the Group's portfolio. At the same time, in 2010, together with a German partner, he founded WESEE, with activity in the wind energy infrastructure sector, and in 2017 he acquired Netcity, the company that develops and operates through a strategic partnership with the City Hall, the entire metropolitan fiber optic infrastructure in Bucharest.

Currently, E-INFRA Group, founded and led by Teofil Mureșan as Chairman and CEO, has over 600 employees and generates an annual turnover of over 100 million euros.

Andrei SECELEAN
Siemens România, Head of Smart Infrastructure

Graduated from "Politehnica" University of Timisoara in 2004, Faculty of Electronics and Telecommunications, Mr. Andrei Secelean has over 17 years of experience in the field of automation solutions for industrial environment, both in production and sales. He started his career as an automation engineer in production facilities of multinational companies in the automotive industry, then continued as sales manager and business segment manager in Siemens, Digital Industries.

Mr. Secelean has been part of the Siemens team for over 14 years, where he has held several key positions such as Regional Sales Manager, Head of Department General Motion Control, and currently Head of Smart Infrastructure.

Alexandru SĂNDULESCU
European Commission, Consultant

Mr. Sandulescu obtained his MsC in Energy, at Bucharest Technical University. He also holds a PhD in Energy Markets and studied utility regulation at University of Gainesville Florida and Sherbrooke University Montreal. Before joining the European Union High Level Advisers' Mission to the Republic of Moldova, Mr. Sandulescu was Director General for energy in the Romanian Ministry of Economy, Director General in the Romanian Energy Regulatory Authority, researcher and programme director in ICEMENRG, a national energy engineering and research institute.

His current assignment in Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure, Republic of Moldova, includes policy advice in creating a competitive energy market by transposing EU energy acquis, in increasing energy security of supply by promoting the gas and electricity interconnections with EU networks, in development of a sustainable energy sector by increasing the use of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency projects.

Marcel MIȚNEI
Tuca, Zbarcea & Associates, Managing Associate

Marcel Mițnei, Managing Associate at Tuca Zbârcea & Asociații, works in the firm's Oil & Gas and Energy & Natural Resources practice group. His vast professional experience spans more than 20 years, having acted for the most important players in the oil & gas and energy industries in connection with the business development strategical planning, creating of their distribution networks, supply and acquisition channels, and structuring the marketing products; drafting and negotiating industry specific contracts and subsequent documentation (sale and transport of petroleum products agreements, farm in/farm out agreements, joint operations agreements, etc.). He is also highly skilled in managing complex M&A projects, including due diligence processes, drafting and negotiation of complex contractual documentation, closing and post-closing advice, as well as advisory work in relation to various corporate restructuring operations, business transfers and public procurement proceedings. Marcel's experience in corporate law includes legal assistance to Romanian and foreign companies in connection with complex corporate operations, preparation and implementation of management and reorganization plans, organizing and conducting complex shareholders' meetings, advisory work in relation to share capital increases and decreases, share sale and purchase transactions etc.

Georgian ALBU

Future Energy Leaders Romania, Chairman

Georgian Albu is a strategy and energy professional, with relevant experience in regional energy issues, public affairs, regulatory and risk management, with a focus on natural gas.

More broadly, Georgian Albu has 10 years of experience in the field of energy, gained by working in both the public and private sector, specializing in an array of energy related issues such as security of supply, energy poverty and sustainable energy strategies.

Since 2020, he is Chairman of Future Energy Leaders Romania, the most representative youth platform for debates on energy issues whose activity is overseen by the Romanian National Committee, part of the World Energy Council international network.

Georgian Albu holds an MBA in Energy Business Administration and a BSc in Communication and Public Relations.