

**PREPARATORY SEMINAR OF THE SECOND EU-LAC ACADEMIC SUMMIT  
BUCHAREST, MAY 26th and 27th, 2014**

***USEFUL INFORMATION***

**Travelling to Romania**

**Conditions of traveling to Romania**

Since 2007 when Romania became a EU member, EU citizens can use a national identity card or a passport for traveling to Romania. For the list of countries **whose nationals, holders of simple travel documents, must be in possession of a visa upon entry in the Romanian territory** (list drafted according to the provisions of EC Regulation no. 539/2001), as well as for the exceptions to the obligation of getting a Romanian visa, please visit the official website of Romania`s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the “Romanian Visa” Section at: <http://www.mae.ro/en/node/2040>.

**Transportation in Bucharest**

The Otopeni Airport (officially named “Henri Coanda”) is located 17km north of the city on the DN1. To quickly order a taxi from there, it is best to use the touch screens in the arrivals hall which display the time the taxi arrives and its ID number. To get to the city center, you can also take bus 783 which stops in front of the airport and leaves every 30 minutes during the day and every 40 minutes during night time. You can also take the bus 780 leaving for Gara de Nord (from around 05.15 to 23.00) every 30 minutes. Before boarding make sure you purchased an Active Card; the cost of a return journey to the city and back is 7 lei plus the cost of 3.70 lei for the card itself. The card can be recharged at any ticket kiosk near bus stops and used on all buses, trolleybuses, trams and the metro in the city. One trip by surface transportation costs 1.30 lei. Please note that you cannot buy these cards on board. Buses, trolleys and trams run from around 04.30 in the morning to 23.00 while the night buses – all departing from Piata Unirii – run every hour during the

night time. The metro runs from 05.00 to 23.00 and the cost for one ticket (for two trips) is 4 lei; you can also choose to purchase ten trips at a cost of 15 lei or one-day pass.

### **Practical Information**

Romania's currency is Leu (plural "Lei"), abbreviated RON. The **banknote denominations** are 1, 5, 10, 50, 100 and 500 lei and the coins are 1, 5, 10 and 50 bani pieces. Foreign currencies may be exchanged at banks or authorized exchange offices. International airports and larger hotels also offer currency exchange services. *Although some stores, merchants or taxi drivers may accept payments in \$ US, Euros or other freely convertible currencies the National Bank of Romania regulations stipulate that payments for goods and services purchased in Romania should be made with Romanian money (LEI).*

Romania's electrical current is 230 V; 50 cycles and **sockets** take the standard continental European dual round-pronged plugs. A plug adaptor is required for non-European appliances. Please remember that simple adapters do not convert voltage or frequency.

International direct dialing service is available throughout Romania.

#### **Dialing within Romania:**

0 + three digit area code + six digit telephone - when dialing anywhere in the countryside  
or

0 + 21 + seven digit telephone # or 0 + 31 + seven digit telephone - when dialing a number Bucharest.

*Three digit telephone numbers are local toll-free numbers for emergencies or businesses.*

**International dialing from Romania:** 00 + country code + area code + telephone

#### **Dialing from a foreign country directly to Bucharest:**

International Access Code +40 (country code) + 21 + seven digit telephone

#### **Dialing from a foreign country directly to any other city in Romania:**

*International Access Code + 40 (country code) + three digit area code + six digit phone*

Romania has several Internet access providers offering advanced services such as Internet

messaging via mobile telephone, Internet paging, international roaming and more.

Although violent crime against tourists is almost non-existent visitors should take customary steps to safeguard their valuables. Visitors are advised to leave their valuables and passport in the hotel's safety deposit box or to use a money belt kept out of sight and be aware of pickpockets.

**The general emergency phone number is 112.**

### **Accommodation**

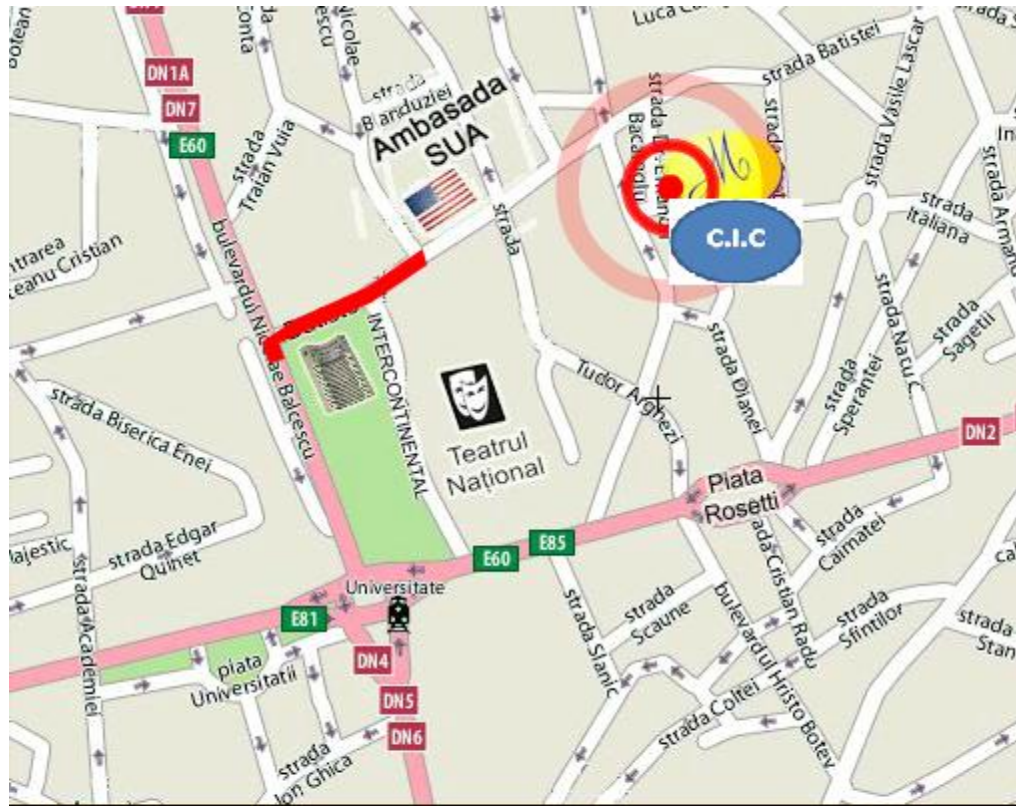
Bucharest offers numerous accommodations options to suit everyone's taste. If you would like to stay in one of the the city's finest and most luxurious hotels, *Athenee Palace Hilton* (Str. Episcopiei 1-3, tel. (+4) 021 303 37 77, [www.hiltonbucharest.com](http://www.hiltonbucharest.com)), *Carol Parc* (Aleea Suter 23-25, tel. (+4) 021 336 33 77, [www.carolparchotel.ro](http://www.carolparchotel.ro)), *Crowne Plaza Bucharest* (B-dul Poligrafiei 1, tel. (+4) 021 224 00 34, [www.crowneplaza.com/bucharest](http://www.crowneplaza.com/bucharest)), *Epoque* (Str. Intrarea Aurora 17C, tel. (+4) 021 312 32 32, [www.hotelepouque.ro](http://www.hotelepouque.ro)), *Grand Hotel Continental* (Calea Victoriei 56, tel. (+4) 0372 01 03 00, [www.grandhotelcontinental.ro](http://www.grandhotelcontinental.ro)), *Howard Johnson Grand Plaza Bucharest Hotel* (Calea Dorobantilor 5-7, tel. (+4) 021 201 50 00, [www.hojoplaza.ro](http://www.hojoplaza.ro)), *Intercontinental* (B-dul Nicolae Bălcescu 2-4, tel. (+4) 021 310 20 20, [www.intercontinental.com/bucharest](http://www.intercontinental.com/bucharest)), *JW Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel* (Calea 13 Septembrie 90, tel. (+4) 021 403 00 00, [www.jwmarriott-bucharest.com](http://www.jwmarriott-bucharest.com)), *Novotel Bucharest City Centre* (Calea Victoriei 37B, Universitate, tel. (+4) 021 308 85 00, [www.novotel.com](http://www.novotel.com)), *Pullman Bucharest World Trade Center* (P-ta Montreal 10, tel. (+4) 021 318 30 00, [www.pullman-hotels.com](http://www.pullman-hotels.com)), *Radisson Blu* (Calea Victoriei 63-81, tel. (+4) 021 311 90 00, [www.radissonblu.com/hotel-bucharest](http://www.radissonblu.com/hotel-bucharest)) are excellent choices. Other exquisite hotels (over € 150) are *Alexander* (Sos. Pipera-Tunari 1/VI, tel. (+4) 021 569 51 10/(+4) 021 569 51 19, [www.alexanderhotel.ro](http://www.alexanderhotel.ro)), *Cismigiu* (B-dul Regina Elisabeta 38, el. (+4) 031 403 05 00, [www.hotelcismigiu.ro](http://www.hotelcismigiu.ro)), *Marshal Garden* (Calea Dorobanti 50B, , tel. (+4) 021 319 44 44, [www.hotelmarschalgarden.ro](http://www.hotelmarschalgarden.ro)), *Parliament* (Str. Izvor 106, tel. (+4) 021 411 99 90, [www.parliament-hotel.ro](http://www.parliament-hotel.ro)), *Ramada Bucharest Park* (B-dul

Poligrafiei 3-5, tel. (+4) 021 549 20 00, [www.ramadabucharestparc.ro](http://www.ramadabucharestparc.ro)). For €100-150, you can choose *Angelo Airporthotel Bucharest* (Calea Bucurestilor 283, tel. (+4) 021 203 65 00, [www.angelo-bucharest](http://www.angelo-bucharest)), *Berthelot* (B-5, Str. General Berthelot 9, tel. (+4) 031 425 58 60/(+4) 0771 65 40 09, [www.hotelberthelot](http://www.hotelberthelot)), *Capital Plaza* (B-dul Iancu de Hunedoara 54, tel.(+4) 0372 08 00 80, [www.capitalplaza.ro](http://www.capitalplaza.ro)), *Duke* (B-dul Dacia 33, tel. (+4) 021 317 41 86/(+4) 021 317 41 87, [www.hotelduke](http://www.hotelduke)), *Opera* (Str. Ion Brezoianu 37, tel. (+4) 021 312 48 55, [www.thhotels.ro](http://www.thhotels.ro)), *Residence Arc de Triomphe* (Str. Clucerului 19, tel. (+4) 021 223 19 78/(+4) 0372 15 07 00, [www.residencehotels.com.ro](http://www.residencehotels.com.ro)), and for less than €100 *Boutique Hotel Monaco* (Str. J. L. Calderon 74, tel. (+4) 021 310 56 68, [www.hotelmonaco.ro](http://www.hotelmonaco.ro)), *Caro* (B-dul Barbu Văcărescu 164A, tel. (+4) 021 208 61 00, [www.carohotel.ro](http://www.carohotel.ro)), *Europa Royale Bucharest* (Str. Franceza 60, tel. (+4) 021 319 17 98, [www.europaroyale.com](http://www.europaroyale.com)), *Golden Tulip Victoria Bucharest* (Calea Victoriei 166, tel. (+4) 021 212 55 58, [www.goldentulipbucharest.com](http://www.goldentulipbucharest.com)), *Hotel Nonna Mia* (Str. Chile 10, tel. (+4) 021 231 22 83/(+4) 0728 60 22 83, [www.nonnamia.ro/hotel-nonnamia](http://www.nonnamia.ro/hotel-nonnamia)), *Ibis Palatul Parlamentului* (Str. Izvor 82-84, tel.(+4) 021 401 10 00, [www.ibishotels.ro](http://www.ibishotels.ro)), *Minerva* (Str. Gheorghe Manu 2-4, tel. (+4) 021 311 15 55, fax (+4) 021 312 39 63, [www.minerva.ro](http://www.minerva.ro)), *Rembrandt* (Str. Smardan 11, tel. (+4) 021 313 93 15, [www.rembrandt.ro](http://www.rembrandt.ro)). If you prefer hostels and villas and you are looking for a great bargain, here are some great choices: *Flower`s B&B* (Str. Plantelor 2, tel./fax (+4) 021 311 98 48, [www.flowersbb.ro](http://www.flowersbb.ro)), *Vila 11* (Str. Institutul Medico Militar 1 tel. (+4) 0722 49 59 00) or *X Hostel* (Str. Balcesti 9 tel. (+4) 021 312 76 13, [www.xhostel.eu](http://www.xhostel.eu) ).

For detailed information about hotels and other accommodation facilities, please use Accommodation Finder on the official website of the Romanian Tourist Office: <http://www.romaniatourism.com/hotels/index.asp>.

### **Reaching the Meeting Place**

The works of the Preparatory Seminar of the second EU-LAC Academic Summit will be held at **Batistei International Center for Conferences (CIC)**, located on 2, Emanoil Bacalogu Street, district 2, Bucharest.



**Str. Dr. Emanoil Bacaloglu nr. 2, Sector 2,  
Bucuresti**

## **Tourist Information**

With an area of 92,043 square miles (approximately the same size as the United Kingdom and slightly smaller than the U.S. state of Oregon), Romania is the largest country in Southeastern Europe and shares borders with Hungary to the northwest, Serbia to the southeast, Bulgaria to the south, the Black Sea to the southeast, Ukraine to the east and to the north and the Republic of Moldova to the east.

Romania`s terrain is approximately evenly divided between the splendid Carpathian Mountains (also known as the Transylvanian Alps), traversing the center of the country, hills and plateaus rich in orchards and vineyards, and fertile plains mainly devoted to agriculture. The main attractions in Romania include the Danube Delta - the second largest and best preserved delta in the world, home to over 5,500 flora and fauna species; the national parks in the Carpathian Mountains providing numerous choices for exciting outdoor experiences such as rock climbing, bird watching, horse riding, wandering in the countryside, visiting caves or studying the endangered flora; the Black Sea resorts; Romania`s outstanding collection of castles and fortresses: Peles Castle in Sinaia, Rasnov Fortress, Bran Castle, Cisnadia Fortified Church, Corvinesti Castle in Hunedoara, Fagaras Fortress, the fortified Saxon churches in Biertan, Calnic, Darju, Prejmer, Saschiz, Valea Viilor and Viscri designed by UNESCO as World Heritage Sites; the painted monasteries in Bucovina (northeastern Romania), the towns of Brasov, Sibiu, Cluj Napoca, Sighisoara, Bistrita, Medias, Sebes best illustrating the rich medieval heritage of the country; traditional Romanian villages rich in architecture, traditions and history; or the natural spas in Baile Felix, Bazna, Eforie Nord, Mangalia, Ocna Sibiului, and Sovata - started by the Romans and unique in Europe.

Bucharest, the capital city of Romania and its political, administrative, financial, economic commercial, cultural and scientific center is the largest city in the country with a population of over 2.3 million inhabitants. Populated since 500 BC and first documented in 1459, the city of Bucharest is said to have been founded on the Dambovita River banks by shepherd Bucur whose name literally means ‘joy’; the city which became known as ‘Little Paris’ for its glorious Belle Époque buildings and its reputation for the

high life is now a busy metropolis. Its main attractions include the House of the Free Press, the Arch of Triumph, Victoriei Avenue- the oldest and one of the most beautiful streets in the city – the Cantacuzino Palace, the historical Revolution Square, the Military Club, the National History Museum, the Romanian Athenaeum, the Athenee Palace Hotel, Kretzulescu Church, the Royal Palace Great Concert Hall, the Palace of the Savings Bank and many others. The city`s unique charm is perhaps best reflected by its old historical center: the area of Lipscani - named after the numerous German traders from Lipsca or Leiptzig, which today hosts a variety of art galleries, antique shops, coffeehouses and restaurants -, the remains of the Old Princely Court and Church built in the 15<sup>th</sup> century by Vlad Tepes, known as Dracula, Manuc`s Inn, The Beer Cart Restaurant, and the National Bank of Romania should not be missed. Other wonderful places to visit in Bucharest are its historic churches (such as the Apostles` Church, the Metropolitan Church, the Stavropoleos Church, St. Joseph`s Cathedral, St. Nicolas Church), museums (including the Art Collection Museum, Cotroceni Palace and Museum, George Enescu Museum, Grigore Antipa Natural History Museum, Museum of the Romanian Peasant, National History Museum, National Military Museum, Village Museum, National Museum of Contemporary Art and many other), or its beautiful parks and gardens like the Cismigiu Garden, the Botanical Garden, Herastrau Park or Carol I Park. For getting familiar with the city`s central area and its main places of interest in less than one hour, hop-on, hop-off bus tours are available daily during the warm season by new double-decker buses.

For more information, please visit Romania`s official travel and tourism information website at: <http://www.romania.travel/>