



Bucharest, August 17, 2022

**Dear Speaker,**

We have the honor to extend an invitation to participate in the first international Parliamentarian – Private Sector Forum, dedicated to parliamentary committees with interest in the IT&C field, to be held on September 31st - October 1st, in Bucharest, Romania.

In today's world, emergent technologies have overcome national borders. They now connect continents, they unite people, and they have an increasing impact on all economic and social sectors. ICTs are key in the joint efforts of eradicating poverty and building a people-centered, inclusive, and development-oriented governmental approach. But we can no longer talk about international evolution without considering coordinated national measures toward building a framework that enables individuals and communities to improve their quality of life.

The Parliamentarian – Private Sector Forum is being held in conjunction with the 2022 International Telecommunication Union Plenipotentiary Conference, which will take place in Bucharest this year, from September 26 - October 14. Held every four years, the Plenipotentiary Conference is ITU's highest policy-making body, adopting resolutions for ICTs, with a strong impact at the worldwide level.

Organized under the overall theme Bridging the digital divide – a global agenda for the future, this multi-stakeholder event will address the challenges and opportunities arising from ITU's efforts for connecting the unconnected and build stronger cooperation among governments worldwide, while focusing on stimulating dialogue between parliamentarians, policymakers, and business leaders.

Parliamentarians and private sector members will now have the chance to connect with international development vectors, to engage with transcontinental policy trends, and to acknowledge that is essential to work towards a global consensus with regard to improved access to information and communications technology and to bridging the digital divide.

Building on the International Telecommunication Union's goal to connect all the world's people – wherever they live and whatever their means (connect the unconnected), the Parliamentary - Private Sector Forum is a chance for all the stakeholders, be they law-makers, private sector representatives or academia, to set the grounds for establishing new frameworks, that will generate huge opportunities for economic, political and social development.

The list of the panel speakers will comprise some of the most influential CEOs of the IT industry and high officials from international public organizations.

Therefore, we would be very pleased to welcome the chairperson of the specialized committee on the ICT from your Parliament, or his/her representative, to this event.

We look forward to your Parliament's participation in this important event.

**PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE HERE**

until September 25th

For questions, please refer to the official email address: **ppf@cdep.ro**

Yours sincerely,

**Marcel Ciolacu**

President of the Chamber of Deputies



**Alina Gorghiu**

President of the Senate





## DRAFT PROGRAMME

### The Parliamentarian – Private Sector Forum Bridging the digital divide – a global agenda for the future

On-site, hosted by the Parliament of Romania  
September 30th - October 1st

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>

**20:30 - 22:00** Opening Gala Dinner

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>

**09:30 – 10:30** Opening Session & Keynote Addresses

**10:30 – 11:00** Session 1 – Bridging the connectivity gap

**11:00 – 11:15** Coffee break

**11:15 – 12:00** Session 2 – Digital Literacy

**12:00 – 12:45** Session 3 – Cyber security & resilience

**12:45 – 14:30** Lunch

**14:30 – 15:15** Session 4 – Fostering IT&C investments in developing countries

**15:15 – 17:00** Session 5 – Sharing visions – MPs & CEOs

**17:00 – 17:15** Coffee break

**17:15 – 18:00** Closing of the conference - Special guest

**18:00 - 21:00** Evening reception



## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### **The Parliamentarian – Private Sector Forum** **Bridging the digital divide – a global agenda for the future**

On-site, hosted by the Parliament of Romania  
September 30th - October 1st

#### VENUE, DATE AND PROGRAMME

The Parliamentarian – Private Sector Forum will take place in Bucharest, Romania, at the Palace of Parliament, Conference - I.I.C Brătianu Hall, level P.  
The location for Opening Gala Dinner and the Evening Reception will be announced soon.

#### PARTICIPATION

Organized under the overall theme Bridging the digital divide – a global agenda for the future, this multi-stakeholder event will address the challenges and opportunities arising from ITU's efforts for connecting the unconnected and build stronger cooperation among governments worldwide, while focusing on stimulating dialogue between parliamentarians, policymakers, and business leaders.

The overall objective of the Parliamentarian – Private Sector Forum is to offer strategic considerations for lawmakers and private sector representatives, in their approach to communications and digital development at a national level.

Parliamentarians and private sector members will now have the chance to connect with international development vectors, will engage with transcontinental policy trends, and will acknowledge that is essential to work towards a global consensus with regards to improved access to information and communications technology, and to bridging the digital divide.

Building on the International Telecommunication Union's goal to connect all the world's people – wherever they live and whatever their means (connect the unconnected), the Parliamentary - Private Sector Forum is a chance for all the stakeholders, be they lawmakers, private sector representatives or academia, to set the grounds for establishing new frameworks, that will generate huge opportunities for economic, political and social development.

The list of the panel speakers will comprise some of the most influential CEOs of the IT industry and high officials from international public organizations. They will tackle topics such as bridging the connectivity gap, cybersecurity, and digital skills.

### THE ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

In accordance with the ITU Convention, a delegation sent by a Member State to the plenipotentiary conference can be comprised of representatives of all stakeholders. Therefore, parliamentarians willing to attend the Forum are kindly advised to address the national institutions representing the country to ITU and request to be included in the delegation to the PP-22.

Please note that registration to PP-22 is carried out online, and every request for participation must be validated by the Focal Points designated by each administration.

### WORKING LANGUAGES

The official language of the event will be English.

Please note that the delegations that need interpretation facilities are required to provide their own interpreter, whereas the additional booth will be provided by the organizers on a first-come-first-served basis.

Delegates are kindly requested to submit their requests to the organizers no later than September 15, 2022.

### REGISTRATION

Delegations are invited to register online, using the provided form:

[https://bit.ly/PPForum\\_Registration](https://bit.ly/PPForum_Registration).

### HOTEL ACCOMMODATION AND RESERVATIONS

The organizers of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference have secured rooms at a range of selected hotels for the event participants. Please contact the responsible within your country's delegation to the PP to book hotels by using the online booking system which will guarantee you the best rates.

Due to the high demand, participants are strongly recommended to book their accommodation as early as possible.

 **TRAVEL, ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE**

Bucharest is served by Henri Coandă International Airport. The participants at the Parliamentary Private Forum are kindly requested to perform their personal travel arrangements to and from Henri Coandă International Airport and within Bucharest. All the travel-related expenses will be covered by each participant.

 **VISAS**

A valid passport is required to enter Romania, except for nationals of EU countries, who may enter with a valid national ID card.

To obtain visas or further information on customs regulations, participants are advised to contact the embassy of Romania in their respective countries. The Romanian embassies situated in the participating countries will be advised to facilitate expeditious issue of visas to the delegates. For more information on this topic please visit: [www.mae.ro/en/node/2040](http://www.mae.ro/en/node/2040).

 **REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION DESK**

A Registration Desk will be available at the entrance and an Information Desk will be available to participants at the forum venue.

 **SECURITY**

The national authorities will take all the necessary security measures. Participants are required to wear their identity badges at all times while present at the forum venue. Participants are kindly required to show a valid ID (passport or identity card) when entering the Palace of Parliament. For security reasons, participants might be subject to identity checkings.

 **WEATHER CONDITIONS**

For information on weather in Bucharest please see [www.accuweather.com](http://www.accuweather.com).

 **CURRENCY REGULATIONS**

The local currency is the Romanian lei (RON). The exchange rate is about 4.9 RON = 1 EURO; 4.8 RON=1 USD.

Major international currencies can be exchanged at banks, currency exchange bureaus and hotels; most major credit cards are widely accepted.



## MEDICAL FACILITIES

During the Forum, first aid facilities will be available on the premises. All other medical services and prescriptions will be at the participants' own expense. COVID-19 travel restrictions were lifted in Romania. Providing proof of vaccination, recovery from COVID-19 or negative test results is no longer required.

## ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

In Romania, the power plugs and sockets are of type F. The standard voltage is 230 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz.

## TIME ZONE

Local time zone in Bucharest is Eastern European Time (EET; UTC+02:00).

## CONTACT

The official email address is [ppf@cdep.ro](mailto:ppf@cdep.ro)

