

WEC CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE

ENERGY FORUM

FOR ^{REGIONAL} ²⁰²⁶ ^{ENERGY FORUM} ^N®

18TH EDITION

WORLD ENERGY COUNCIL

SECURE, SUSTAINABLE AND AFFORDABLE ENERGY FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE



WORLD ENERGY COUNCIL

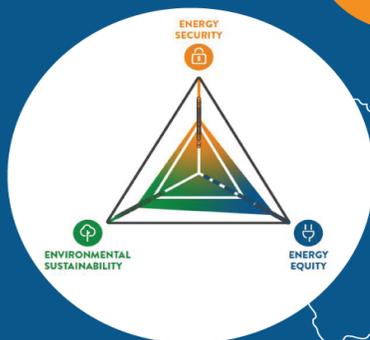
COMITETUL NAȚIONAL ROMÂN



MINISTRY OF ENERGY

14-17
JUNE
2026

INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE
CENTER,
NEPTUN
ROMANIA



FOREN 2026 AT A GLANCE

JUNE, 14	EXHIBITION FOREN 2026 – OPENING CEREMONY
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JUNE, 15	RED 1- REGIONAL ENERGY HIGHWAYS: ELECTRONS
	RED 2- REGIONAL ENERGY HIGHWAYS: MOLECULES
	SESSION 1- ADAPTING THE ENERGY SECTORS OF COUNTRIES IN THE REGION TO TODAY AND TOMORROW'S CHALLENGES
	SESSION 2- INTEGRATED NATIONAL PLANS IN THE ENERGY FIELD AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERING THE ENERGY TRILEMMA
JUNE, 16	SESSION 3- INTEGRATING BIOFUELS AND GREEN HYDROGEN INTO THE FUTURE ENERGY MIX BEYOND FOSSIL FUELS
	SESSION 4- MARKET TRANSFORMATION IN ENERGY: REGULATION AND DECENTRALIZATION
	WEC SESSION
	SESSION 5- ADAPTING HUMAN RESOURCES TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ENERGY INDUSTRY IN THE DIGITAL ERA
	SESSION 6- NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION, INCLUDING AI, BLOCKCHAINS AND DEMAND FLEXIBILITY
JUNE, 17	SESSION 7- DEVELOPMENT OF THE ELECTRICITY AND GAS NETWORK GRID IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION
	SESSION 8- ROLE AND CHALLENGES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY IN THE EVOLUTION OF THE ENERGY CONTEXT
JULY, AUGUST	TUTORIALS

FOREN - WEC CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE REGIONAL ENERGY FORUM

There has already become a tradition for the Romanian National Committee of the World Energy Council (WEC/ RNC) to organize the biennial Regional Energy Forum (FOREN) ever since 1992.

Having reached its 18th edition, FOREN 2026 responds to a real need for analysing and debating on the status of the energy sectors in the Central and Southeast European region and identifying cooperation solutions in energy domain.

At this moment, the need seems to be even more acute as the challenges are growing and are becoming more demanding: During the last years, energy sectors of countries in the region faced many different challenges and the general landscape for development changed dramatically with effects on specific markets and energy consumers and the quality of life for populations of these countries. These also impacted the competitiveness of the whole region and increased the important effort that some of these economies must undertake in trying to get climate-neutral or – for others - to drastically reduce their carbon footprint. One can mention here the painful recovery after the global medical crisis, the spreading military conflicts and other geopolitical extended tensions with their effect of transforming energy into a political weapon, the need to reshape and improve the technologies, abnormal energy prices increase. We may add economic development affected by inflation felt all over the region, perturbation of essential materials supply chains, pressure to fulfil the requirements of energy transition, difficulties in energy accessibility, and many others.

Therefore, facing these challenges, a reasonable question could be raised: does the energy sector remain the support for economic development and a pillar of the stability for the long-term development? One possible hurdle would probably be explained in the situation of a shortage of energy resources, but this is not the case. The region has resources, both fossil and renewable, with the Black Sea continental platforms having a recognized potential. So, the question may be changed: what can be done to use them optimally? That means access to the best technologies and appropriate materials, innovative financing, proper regulation/deregulation, skilled staff in this key domain, well-functioning of the markets, and a stable geopolitical environment. All these can help countries in the region to answer to the combined requirements of Energy Trilemma, where its three challenges (stable energy supply, mitigation of its impact on environment, and affordability) have equal importance. Stable supply requests change of traditional routes, reshaping the energy mix, access to new technologies. Reduction of energy impact on environment is now under the imperative of energy transition to climate neutral energy sectors, and affordability is connected to the new position of consumers and their active role.

At all these, for the countries in the region, we must add a very important ingredient: cooperation. Without it, the opportunities cannot be used, and the impediments overpassed. Experience accumulated from the previous regional forums showed that to find the best solutions in this try there is a need for joint debate on common problems specific to this complex zone. In this respect, themes related to just energy transition in the region, how to adapt energy sectors to the new challenges, energy efficiency and smart consumption, use of an optimized fuel mix, new technologies, education of qualified energy staff, and many others will be discussed.

Taking into consideration this region's distinctive features versus the other parts of Europe, the participants will find in FOREN 2026 a good platform for information of specific problems and solutions, exchanges of experience and good practices among experts from the countries of the region, but also the business meeting opportunities needed in these special times.

KEY TOPICS



Oil & Gas



Clean Coal



Hydro



Nuclear



Renewable



Power Grid



End Users



New Technologies



Energy Accessibility



Disruptive Innovative Solutions



Environmental Issues

FOREN 2024 statistics

+400
Participants from Romania and 11 other countries (physically and ONLINE presence)
BE, BG, DE, FR, HU, MD, NL, SK, UK, US, TR

4
Conference Days



+55
Technical Papers
• 40 oral presentation
• 15 Technical Posters

12
Discussion Sessions
• 1 Opening Ceremony
• 11 panel debates

+125
Speakers

+40
Hours of event