

Romanian Future Energy Leaders' Programme

WEC Central & Eastern Europe Regional Energy Forum – FOREN 2016, Romania, 12-16 June 2016

The Romanian FEL Declaration

Motto : „*Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.*”
John F. Kennedy

The Romanian Future Energy Leaders' Programme (FEL Romania) was initiated by the Romanian National Committee of the World Energy Council to get in line with the Council's Future Energy Leaders' Programme (FEL-100) and is designed to encourage the Romanian energy young professionals and promote their new, bold and original ideas, such as to create the future energy leadership capable to solve the next national challenges regarding energy sustainability.

We, the young energy people, witness the energy paradigm shift focused on innovative smart technologies in all areas, and we shall have to embrace the change staying ahead, as we trust that we can control the future by changing the present and making a memorable past.

Within the international FEL workshop „*EnerGeneration for Tomorrow's Challenges*”, organised by FEL Romania, we have joined our efforts to define the Romanian FEL Vision for the years to come, based on the four topics debated upon by this event.

Our Vision constitutes Romanian FELs Declaration at FOREN 2016, which we want to present you below.

1. Geopolitics of Energy Sources

For Romanian FELs environmental sustainability, economic feasibility, social acceptance and political will represent the main prerequisites for adopting the new and smart technologies. Those, along with the global, regional and national policies will play a crucial role in defining the future energy mix and the market design for an improved regional position, using Romania's geostrategic advantage as center of energy security and transit country.

At the European level, interconnected grids could represent the framework under which these four conditions could be met. Given that they are strongly correlated in-between, in terms of economic feasibility *“a first stage would be to estimate the net benefits to Europe of a European Energy Union, based upon a Europe-wide complete set of electricity transmission and gas pipelines”*. (Dieter HELM)

2. Digital energy

Energy digitization is an inevitable process of future technologies, providing huge benefits related to easy access to information, efficient use of the already existing infrastructure, development of new customer tailored services. New challenges are also particularly addressed to education and raising public awareness regarding the efficient energy use, acceptance of cyber-security and mitigating old and new potential risks, adaptation of institutional policies and mentalities. We, the young FELs, assume the challenges generated by the digital energy for the economic recovery and new jobs creation.

3. Prosumers

Prosumers can meet the challenges of the energy sector through properly defined and implemented programmes, aiming at balancing the energy trilemma's key pillars: energy security, energy equity, environmental sustainability. Prosumers feel and must cope with energy market challenges, supporting clean technologies, and have to mutually understand the challenges that grids face with their development. Therefore, the vision must be defined and encouraged according to which the active users may benefit from the advanced technologies by actively participating in the market, while also the utility companies may understand and respond to their needs, guarantee their rights and

personal data protection. This win-win approach will bring real benefits, eliminating potential frustrations that could arise from the both sides. Therefore, we, the young FELs, consider that prosumers are not the problem, but the drive-resolution for the transition to a sustainable society, with a steadily economic growth, responsible for the people and the planet.

4. Youth in energy

Willing to avoid the generation gap and harmonising the young generation with the senior one, the young FELs proposed the creation of a programme dedicated to young energy people, called „YouthErg”. According to this programme the youngsters can convey their enthusiasm, ambition and new vision, while the energy seniors may share their knowledge, experience and expertise, in an attempt to better harmonise the two generations. As a first step, „YouthErg” will develop, test and optimize an open access platform, meant to facilitate the organisation of workshops, debates and lectures on the WEC Academy model, already started in Argentina and extended to several countries in South America and Europe. We intend to expand this initiative to other sectors as well . i.e. education, environment, industry , such as together we can create a community based on the motto “*Together we are better!*”.



By properly considering the above four topics - that we consider to be the most important among other emerging ones, we trust that we are capable able to offer answers to the challenges staying ahead the energy sector for a future sustainable future.

N.B. The Romanian FEL members participating in drawing up the FEL Declaration at FOREN 2016 are: **Ioana Gafton, George Constantin, Dorian Sidea, Claudiu Butacu, Alisa Manoloiu, Luminița Durău, Gabriela Sava, Liliana Simhas, Roxana Pigulea, Florian Mihalce, Emil Macovei, Mihai Vilt, Mihai Toader-Pastî.**

The Romanian FEL Programme is headed by Mrs. **Elena Ratcu** – manager and **Lucian Toma**, technical coordinator. The Director general Executive of the WEC Romanian MC is Mr. **Gheorghe Bălan.**

Being committed to further on make our contribution in strengthening the Romanian FELs objectives, activities and networking, we convey all our gratitude to the Romanian National Committee of the World Energy Council for giving us full support and helping us to develop our own programmes and for making possible our participation in FOREN 2016.

„Together we shall overcome.”

