

# INFORMATION

## FOR THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE 55<sup>TH</sup> ESReDA SEMINAR

*Accident Investigation and Learning to Improve Safety Management in Complex Systems:  
Remaining Challenges*

*October 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Bucharest, Romania*

**Romania** (*România*) is situated in the north of the Balkan Peninsula on the western shores of the Black Sea. It enjoys great natural beauty and diversity and a rich cultural heritage. Romania enchants visitors with its scenic mountain landscapes and unspoiled countryside areas, and also with its historic cities and its busy capital. Over the last decade Romania had undergone a significant development and it is one of the recent members of the European Union. This is a large country which can sometimes be shocking with contrasts: some cities are truly Western Europe; some villages can seem to have been brought back from the past. While it has significant cultural similarities with other Balkan states, it is regarded as unique due to its strong Latin heritage. Things for which Romania is famous include: the Carpathian Mountains, sculptor Constantin Brancusi, wine, salt mines, George Enescu, medieval fortresses, Eugene Ionesco, "Dacia" cars, Dracula, stuffed cabbage leaves, Black Sea, sunflower fields, wolves and bears, painted monasteries, the Danube Delta, etc. etc.

Romania is a member of the Schengen Agreement but has not yet fully implemented it. For EU and EFTA (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) citizens, together with those of Switzerland, an officially approved ID card (or a passport) is sufficient for entry.

The official language of Romania is Romanian, *limba română*, which is a Romance language.

The national currency of Romania is the *leu* (plural *lei*), which, literally translated, also means *lion* in Romanian. Exchange rate is about **1 EUR = 4,7 lei**.

When exchanging money, it is extremely advisable to use exchange bureaus or to use cash machines (which will provide ready access to most foreign bank accounts).

Romanian transactions generally take place in cash. Although some places will accept Euro or USD you will generally be charged an additional 20% paying by this method and it is not advisable, although this is changing. The best method is to pay using local currency - lei (RON). Also, please note that wherever Visa/Mastercard cards are accepted. The most European issued cards are valid for payment. It is very usual to be asked both for the PIN and the signature on the slip.

Romanian food is distinct yet familiar to most people, being a mixture of Oriental, Austrian and French flavors, but it has some unique elements. The local dishes are the delicious **sarmale**, **mamaliga** (polenta), **bulz** (traditional roasted polenta, filled with at least two kinds of cheeses, bacon and sour cream), **friptura** (steak), **salata boef** (finely chopped cooked veggies and meat salad, usually topped with mayo and decorated with tomatoes and parsley), **zacusca** (a yummy, rich salsa-like dip produced in the fall) as well as **tocana** (a kind of stew), **tochitura** (an assortment of fried meats, and traditional sausages, in a special sauce, served with polenta and fried eggs), **mici** (a kind of spicy sausage, but only the meat, without the casings, always cooked on a barbecue). Other dishes include a burger bun with a slice of ham, a slice of cheese and a layer of French fries, **ciorba de burta** (white sour tripe soup), **ciorba taraneasca** (a red sour soup, akin to bors without the beet root and using instead fermented wheat bran, with lots of vegetables), Dobrogean or Bulgarian salads (a mix of onions, lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, white sauce and ham), onion salad - diced onion served in a dish,

tomato salad - diced tomato with cheese, pig skin - boiled and sometimes in stew, and **drob** (haggies) - a casserole made from lamb or pork liver and kidneys. Local eclectic dishes include cow tongue, sheep brain (Easter), caviar, chicken and pork liver, pickled green tomatoes and pickled watermelon.

Romania has a long tradition of making wine (more than 2000 years of wine-making are recorded), in fact Romania is the 12th (2005) world producer of wine, the best wineries being Murfatlar, Cotnari, Dragasani, Bohotin, Bucium, Recaș.

**Bucharest** (Romanian: *București*) is [Romania](#)'s capital and largest city, as well as the most important industrial and commercial center of the country. With 2 million inhabitants in the city proper and more than 2.4 million in the urban area, Bucharest is one of the largest cities in Southeastern Europe.

The **metro**, which has four lines (M1, M2, M3, M4) and covers the city quite extensively, is usually a cheap (5 lei for 2 trips, 20 lei for 10 trips and 70 lei for a monthly pass) and easy way to get around even though there are surprisingly few stops in the city center, since the system was originally built to transport workers and commuters from outlying neighborhoods through the city to peripheral industrial areas.

For **bus, tram or trolleybus**, the ticketing system uses contact-less smart-cards, called **Activ** cards [\[118\]](#). You must know the ticket is valid only for one trip with the transport vehicle from one end to the other. However, in Bucharest most of the buses and trolleys will have one end (usually in downtown, where is no space for creating proper "end of the line" stops) without any distinct stop, so you will not be aware that you have to validate again, being liable to receive a fine. For this reason, is better to buy a daily (8 RON = 1.8 Euro) or weekly pass (17 RON = 4 Euro) for your trips in Bucharest, because the pass will not require any validation. The prices are very small compared with the travel options available (buses, night buses, trams and trolleys), so the pass will help you to have a trip without any headaches.

Starting with July 2011, the night buses are also available. They will run between 23:00 to 01:00, every 30 minutes, 1:00 to 5:00, every 1 hour and 5:00 to 6:00, every 30 minutes. The lines can be seen here [\[119\]](#) and the map here [\[120\]](#)

For the official map of the public transport network, use the official RATB site [\[121\]](#)

## **SEMINAR**

### **Location**

Ramada Plaza Hotel, meeting room TERRA, 3-5 Poligrafiei st., sector 1, Bucharest, Romania

[www.ramadaplazabucharest.ro](http://www.ramadaplazabucharest.ro)

Information: +40 21 549 3000 / +40 21 315 3000

- **IMPORTANT**: For the participants who will reserve rooms at this hotel or Ramada Parc Hotel -[www.ramadabucharestparc.ro](http://www.ramadabucharestparc.ro) (please see reservation form), the transport from/and to the airport will be assured by AGIFER (please see transport form).

Other hotels, close to the seminar location, without ensuring transport by AGIFER:

- Crowne Plaza Bucharest <http://crowne-plaza.bucharest-hotel.com/en/>
- Phoenicia Grand Hotel [www.hotel-bucuresti.com/hoteluri/phoenicia\\_grand\\_hotel-50.html](http://www.hotel-bucuresti.com/hoteluri/phoenicia_grand_hotel-50.html)
- Hotel Pullman Bucharest <http://www.pullmanhotels.com/gb/hotel-1714-pullman-bucharest-world-trade-center/index.shtml>

**Host: Romanian Railway Investigation Agency –**

**Agenția de Investigare Feroviară Română - AGIFER**

Email contact: [55thseminar.registration@agifer.ro](mailto:55thseminar.registration@agifer.ro), [seminar.esreda@agifer.ro](mailto:seminar.esreda@agifer.ro)

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For more information about **Romania** and **Bucharest**, please click on:

<http://www.arrivalguides.com/en/Travelguides/Europe/Romania/BUCHAREST>

**RESERVATION AND CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION FORM**

Group Reference: *The 55th ESReDA Seminar on Accident Investigation and Learning to Improve Safety Management in Complex Systems: Remaining Challenges*

Date: 9th – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Kindly complete this form and fax or scan and e-mail the completed form to Ramada Bucharest Parc Hotel at +40-21-5492330 or [reservations@ramadabucharestparc.ro/](mailto:reservations@ramadabucharestparc.ro) cc to [cristina.zahiu@ramadaplazabucharest.ro](mailto:cristina.zahiu@ramadaplazabucharest.ro).

**Please fill in following information:**

Last name
First name
No. of rooms
Single room <span style="margin-left: 150px;">Double room</span>
No. of adults
Date of arrival
Date of departure
Accompanying Guests Information
Name
Comments/Requests
e-mail

Due to the strict rules mandated by the credit card companies, we must request the following information

Mailing Address for the Credit Card Bill
Name (as it appears on the credit card)
Address:
City: <span style="margin-left: 100px;">State:</span> <span style="margin-left: 100px;">Zip code:</span>

I hereby authorize Ramada Plaza Bucharest to use my credit card as guarantee of the booking
Card name (Visa, Master Card, Maestro, Amex)
Card no.
Expiration date
Signature
Date

**Please enclose credit card copy for guarantee**

**Payment directly at the hotel**

**Daily price per room in EUR**

**Rate single room: 115,5euro taxes included (breakfast included)**

**Rate double room: 139,7euro – taxes included (breakfast included)**

**NOTE: check-in 2 pm/check-out 12:00 midday**

**Cancellation policy:**

- until the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018 free cancellation;
- after the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and until the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 one night will be charged;
- all cancellations after the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2018 all nights will be charged

Guest signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## TRANSPORT FORM

<b>Name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Country</b>
<b>Organization</b>		

<b>Arrival date</b>	<b>Hour of arrival</b>	<b>Flight no.</b>	<b>Departure airport</b>
<b>Departure date</b>	<b>Hour of departure</b>	<b>Flight no.</b>	/
<b>Hotel</b>	/		

**This part shall be filled in by the car driver who shall collect you from the airport**

<b>ARRIVAL</b>	<b>Car no.</b>	<b>Hour for airport collection</b>	<b>Arrival hour at the hotel</b>
	Passenger signature		
<b>DEPARTURE</b>	<b>Car no.</b>	<b>Hour for leaving to the airport</b>	<b>Arrival hour at the airport</b>
	Passenger signature		

**After completing, this form must be send to:**

**[office@travel2go.ro](mailto:office@travel2go.ro) AND [55thseminar.registration@agifer.ro](mailto:55thseminar.registration@agifer.ro)**