



3SI - „Investing into a resilient tomorrow” Business Forum 2023

Bucharest, Romania

Event held under the High Patronage of H.E. Klaus Werner IOHANNIS,
President of Romania

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Main forum events

Wednesday, September 6

20:00 - 22:00 - Dining Reception for 3SI Business Forum 2023 participants | Host: Mr. Ștefan-Radu OPREA, Minister for Economy, Entrepreneurship and Tourism, Romania | Location: Grand Ballroom, JW Marriott Hotel, Bucharest

Thursday, September 7

Location for all below: Palace of Parliament, Bucharest

10:00 - 11:00 - High Level Opening Session, Unirii Hall

11:00 - 11:30 - Coffee break & B2B meetings

11:30 - 14:30 - Forum sections: Energy, Transportation, Digital, Investments

14:30 - 15:30 - Lunch & B2B meetings

15:30 - 18:00 - Networking session & B2B meetings

15:30 - 16:00 - Three Seas Business Development Association (TSBDA) - inauguration ceremony, Mihai Viteazul Hall

Forum sections

O. High Level Opening

Format: Plenary, Official speeches, 5-7 minutes each

Location: Unirii Hall

Host: Ion-Marcel CIOLACU, Prime Minister of Romania

Speakers:

- Mr. Klaus Werner IOHANNIS, President of Romania
- Mr. Ion-Marcel CIOLACU, Prime Minister of Romania
- Mr. Andrzej DUDA, President of Poland
- Mr. Andrej PLENKOVIĆ, Prime Minister of Croatia
- Mr. Edgars RINKĒVIČS, President of Latvia
- Mr. Gitanas NAUSĖDA, President of Lithuania
- Mr. John KERRY, United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate

A. Section on Energy

Time: 11:30 - 14:30

Location: Unirii Hall

General concept: We will explore challenges and opportunities in renewable energy, nuclear power, and hydrogen, focusing on how the region, the continent and the world can transition to a future of sustainable energy. We aim to bring to the fore innovative solutions and key perspectives for the development of a sustainable and interconnected energy infrastructure that contributes to economic growth, energy security and combating climate change. Strategic topics such as supply chain security or trends in public opinion, with particularities for each energy source, will also be explored. Lastly, we acknowledge that significant capital will have to be marshalled towards such ambitious goals as Fit for 55, so we will also investigate how public and private funds could be synergised, including through the setup of a 3SI Innovation Fund.

A.1. Opening remarks - 25 minutes (4 minute speeches)

Potential topics:

- Welcome speech by Minister Burduja
- Speakers will provide their take on one or more of the hot issues related to the general concept

Speakers:

- RO: Mr. [Sebastian-loan BURDUJA](#), Minister of Energy, Romania
- HR: Mr. [Davor FILIPOVIĆ](#), Minister for Economy and Sustainable Development, Croatia
- IT: Mr. [Valentino VALENTINI](#), Deputy Minister for Business and Made in Italy
- UK: Ms. [Nusrat GHANI](#), Minister of State, Department of Business and Trade, UK
- WB: Ms. [Marina WES](#), Regional Director EU Countries, World Bank
- EU: Mr. [Matthew Baldwin](#), Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General for Energy, European Commission

A.2. Panel: Decarbonisation & Renewables - 60 minutes (5-minute speeches, followed by moderator questions, followed by questions from audience)

Potential topics:

- Trending technologies, with examples of ongoing projects.
- Innovation outlook and intellectual property aspects
- Funding available and ways to stimulate private investment and how to synergise with public investment
- Onshore and offshore advantages and challenges in renewable energy development.
- Network resilience under intermittent supply - novel storage, increased interconnections, smart grids
- Supply chain security for raw materials, components, and consumables
- Public perception and uptake

Panelists:

- JP: Mr. [Nobumitsu HAYASHI](#), Governor, Japan Bank for International Cooperation

- PL: Ms. [Beata DASZYŃSKA-MUZYCZKA](#), President BGK Poland / President 3SIIF Supervisory Board / Ambassador - Special Representative of the President of the Republic of Poland for the Three Seas Initiative
 - US: Mr. [David COOK](#), Representative, Arizona House of Representatives, US
 - AZ: Mr. [Elnur SOLTANOV](#), Deputy Minister for Energy, Azerbaijan
 - GE: Mr. [Alexander KHVTISIASHVILI](#), Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Georgia
 - GR: Mr. [Georgios STASSIS](#), Chairman & CEO at PPC/DEI
 - RO: Ms. [Christina VERCHERE](#), CEO, OMV Petrom
- Moderator: Dr. [Radu DUDĂU](#), Co-founder & President Energy Policy Group, Romania

Break: 5 minutes

A.3. Panel: Nuclear - 50 minutes (5-minute speeches, followed by moderator questions, followed by questions from audience)

Potential topics:

- Trending and incoming technologies, with examples of ongoing (pilot) projects.
- Innovation outlook and intellectual property aspects
- Funding available and ways to stimulate private investment and how to synergise with public investment
- Role of nuclear energy in meeting Fit for 55 goals
- Supply chain security for raw materials, components, and consumables
- Nuclear waste management
- Public perception and uptake

Panelists:

- US: Ms. [Reta Jo LEWIS](#), President and Chair of Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank of the United States
- BG: Mr. [Nikolay NIKOLOV](#), Deputy Minister for Energy, Bulgaria
- US: Mr. [John HOPKINS](#), CEO, NuScale, US
- RO: Mr. [Cosmin GHIȚĂ](#), Director General, Nuclearelectrica, RO
- UK: Mr. [Hidde BAARS](#), Director for Government Affairs, Urenco, UK
- UK: Mr. [Alastair EVANS](#), Director of Corporate Affairs, Rolls-Royce SMR
- SL: Mr. [Robert JAMBRICH](#), Manager for International Relations, European Affairs and Environment, Slovenské Elektrárne

Moderator: Dr. [Murman MARGVELASHVILI](#) - Georgia - Founder and Board member - World Experience for Georgia (WEG)

Break: 5 minutes

A.4. Panel: - Hydrogen - 45 minutes (5-minute speeches, followed by moderator questions, followed by questions from audience)

Potential topics:

- Trending and incoming technologies, with examples of ongoing (pilot) projects.
- Innovation outlook and intellectual property aspects
- Funding available and ways to stimulate private investment and how to synergise with public investment
- Hydrogen production challenges
- Hydrogen transportation, storage, and distribution challenges
- Green hydrogen vs. low-carbon hydrogen
- Use of green hydrogen in energy-intensive industries
- Public perception and uptake

Panelists:

- EU: Mr. [Matthew Baldwin](#), Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General for Energy, European Commission
- UK: Mr. Ajay AGGARWAL, President for Europe, LIBERTY Steel Group
- PL: Mr. [Krzysztof ZDZIARSKI](#), CEO, PESA
- PL: Mr. Robert NOWICKI, CEO, ORLEN Neptun
- DE: Dr. [Jacopo Maria PEPE](#), Expert, German Institute for International and Security Affairs
- RO: Mr. [Corneliu BODEA](#), President, Romanian Energy Center, Romania

Moderator: Mr. [Adrian MĂNIUȚIU](#), Journalist

B. Section on Transportation

Time: 11:30 - 14:30

Location: Nicolae Bălcescu Hall

General concept: Improved connectivity is key to fostering economic growth and to improving the overall quality of life within the Three Seas Initiative region and beyond. In this section, we will investigate the role that the Three Seas Initiative will play in enhancing regional connectivity and optimizing the transport of goods. The speakers will also address the challenges and future requirements that must be overcome to successfully achieve the objectives outlined in the Green Deal. Emphasizing the transformative impact of digital and other technologies, the discussions will also explore how innovation can greatly augment the flow of passengers and freight within the Three Seas Initiative region and beyond.

B.1. Opening remarks - 20 minutes, 5-minutes speeches

Potential topics:

- Welcome speech by Minister Grindeanu
- Speakers will provide their take on one or more of the hot issues related to the general concept

Speakers:

- RO: Mr. [Sorin-Mihai GRINDEANU](#), Minister for Transport and Infrastructure
- MD: Mr. [Andrei SPÎNU](#), Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development
- US: Gen. James L. JONES, USMC, Ret., Fmr United States National Security Advisor, Executive Chairman Emeritus Atlantic Council

B.2. Panel: - Rail transportation - 75 minutes (5-minute speeches, followed by moderator questions, followed by questions from audience)

Potential topics:

- Trending technologies in infrastructure and rolling stock, with examples of ongoing (pilot) projects.
- Innovation outlook and intellectual property aspects, in both infrastructure and rolling stock
- Funding available and ways to stimulate private investment and how to synergise with public investment
- Major projects under development in Member States aligned to the 3SI strategic approach to increase interconnectivity, rail corridors
- Role of rail transportation in achieving objectives set out in the Green Deal and Fit for 55, environmental impact of rail.
- Regional, European, and global challenges to rail infrastructure development and maintenance
- Viability of high-speed rail transportation as an alternative to air transportation; competition with other modes of transportation
- Economic and social benefits of rail transportation
- Military and security benefits of a wide-reaching regional rail network
- Safety and security of rail transportation
- Public opinion and uptake

Panelists:

- LT: Ms [Loreta MASKALIOVIENĖ](#), Vice-Minister for Transport and Communications
- LV: Ms. [Ilonda STEPANOVA](#), State Secretary, Ministry of Transport
- RO: Mr. [Ionuț Cristian SĂVOIU](#), State Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure
- EBRD: Ms. [Venera VLAD](#), Associate Director, Infrastructure Europe, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- UAE: Mr. [David MOORE](#), Managing Partner, CMS - Law Tax Infrastructure Projects

Moderator: Mr. [Anthony KIM](#), Manager of Global Engagement - Margaret Thatcher Center for Freedom, Heritage Foundation

Break: 10 minutes

B.3. Panel: - Road transportation - 75 minutes (5-minute speeches, followed by moderator questions, followed by questions from audience)

Potential topics:

- Categories of road mobility - from inter-state all the way to micro-mobility
- Trending noteworthy technologies, with an emphasis on infrastructure, with examples of ongoing projects
- Noteworthy technological advancements and intellectual property aspects, with respect to both infrastructure and vehicles
- Funding available and ways to stimulate private investment and how to synergise with public investment, for both infrastructure projects and vehicle innovation
- Major projects under development in Member States aligned to the 3SI strategic approach to increase interconnectivity, road corridors
- Sustainable road transportation; strategies for reducing the environmental impact of road transportation
- Intelligent transportation systems and their role in optimizing traffic and reducing accidents
- Regional, European, and global challenges to road infrastructure development and maintenance
- Military and security benefits of a wide-reaching regional road network
- Safety and security of road transportation
- Public opinion and uptake

Panelists:

- RO: Mr. Ionel SCRIOȘTEANU, State Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure
- UK: Mr. [Joe PHILIPSZ](#), Senior Director Amber Infrastructure Group, investment adviser to the Three Seas Initiative Investment Fund
- NL: BrigGen Retd [Hans DAMEN](#), Former ACOS J4 Netherlands MOD - Head of Insparcom
- UA: [Andriy SMORODIN](#), Chairman, Association of Ukrainian Transport Infrastructure Innovations
- GE: Mr. Shalva TSAKADZE, Director General, E60 Shippingline

Moderator: Mr. [Anthony KIM](#), Manager of Global Engagement - Margaret Thatcher Center for Freedom, Heritage Foundation

C. Section on Digital

Time: 11:30 - 14:30

Location: Nicolae Iorga Hall

General concept: In this section, we will delve into the dynamic landscape of digital transformation, with a particular focus on two critical dimensions: cybersecurity in the era of cloud computing and the sustainable and secure integration of artificial intelligence (AI). Our aim is to explore the evolving challenges and promising opportunities in these domains, considering the regional, continental, and global perspectives. As our region and the whole world become increasingly interconnected, it is essential to navigate the complexities of these transformative technologies thoughtfully, fostering innovation while safeguarding the digital fabric of our societies.

C.1. Opening remarks - 15 minutes, 5 minutes each

Potential topics:

- Welcome speech by Minister Ivan
- Speakers will provide their take on one or more of the hot issues related to the general concept

Speakers:

- RO: Mr. [Bogdan-Gruia IVAN](#), Minister of Research, Innovation and Digitalization - Romania
- BG: Ms. [Milena STOYCHEVA](#), Minister of Innovation and Growth, Bulgaria
- OECD: Mr. [Ulrik Vestergaard KNUDSEN](#), OECD Deputy Secretary General

C.2. Panel: - Navigating the AI Frontier: Strategies for safe, sustainable, and swift adoption of artificial intelligence - 85 minutes (5-minute speeches, followed by moderator questions, followed by questions from audience)

Potential topics:

- Current state of artificial intelligence adoption, with highlights of quantifiable success stories across industries and regions
- Ethical AI development and adoption - strategies for addressing bias, transparency, and accountability
- Incorporation of ethical and responsible AI principles into corporate strategies
- AI as part of the solution to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Challenges faced by governments seeking to integrate AI in their back-office processes and in electronic public services
- Strategies for building public trust in AI
- Challenges faced by companies seeking to increase their competitiveness through the adoption of AI
- Approaches to preparing the workforce for the AI era
- Societal impact of accelerating AI adoption across industries previously not massively affected by automation
- National and global security implications - the "AI arms race"

Panelists:

- RO: Mr. [Mihai MATEI](#), President of ANIS Romania

- US: Mr. David BARNES, Vice President, Global Workforce Policy, IBM Corporation
- US: Ms. [Sasha RUBEL](#), Head of Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning, Public Policy, Europe, Middle East, and Africa, AWS
- DE: Ms. [Josephin GALLA](#), Director Eastern Europe, SAP
- RO: Mr. [Ionuț SAS](#), VP, Tax & Treasury, UiPath
- US: Ms. [Vitnija SALDAVA](#), Public Policy Lead, CEE, Meta
- US: Ms. [Cezara Alexandra PANAIT](#), Government Affairs and Public Policy Lead for Romania & Moldova, AI Policy Lead CEE, Google
- RO: Mr. [Mihai FILIP](#), CEO, Oves Enterprise
- RO: Mr. [Stefan IARCA](#), CEO & Co-Founder, Rayscape, Romania

Moderators: Dr. [Matthias BAUER](#), Director, European Centre for International Political Economy (ECIPE), Germany

Break: 10 min

C.3. Panel: - Cyber security under the cloud paradigm - 70 minutes (5-minute speeches, followed by moderator questions, followed by questions from audience)

Potential topics:

- Salient features of the current cybersecurity landscape in the cloud
- Examples of cloud-based security breaches and their implications
- Government's role in cloud security - collaboration between government agencies and the private sector to enhance cyber security
- Government's uptake of cloud technology and its implications on the security, quality, and cost of electronic public services
- Industry best practices and innovations to secure cloud infrastructure
- Scientific research and emerging technologies for cybersecurity advancements
- Data privacy and sovereignty in multi-cloud environments
- Global collaboration in cloud security - cross-border cyber threats, state actors, the sharing of threat intelligence
- Education and workforce development - public policies and funding for bridging of the cyber security skills gap, the advent of private cloud cyber security certifications

Panelists:

- MD: Mr. [Mihai LUPAȘCU](#), State Secretary for Digital, Ministry of Economic Development and Digitalization, Republic of Moldova
- RO: Mr. [Dan CÎMPEAN](#), Director, National Directorate for Cyber Security
- EU: Mr. [Miguel GONZÁLEZ-SANCHO](#), Executive Director, ECCC

- US: Mr. [Thomas REYNAERT](#), Vice President Government & Regulatory Affairs Europe, IBM Corporation
- US: Mr. [Marcin KRASUSKI](#), Head of CEE Government Affairs and Public Policy Cloud, Google
- US: Ms. [Samara MOORE](#), Director AWS Regulatory Affairs, AWS
- PL: Mr. [Sławomir PIETRZYK](#), CEO, IS-Wireless

Moderators: Mr. [Michał KANOWNIK](#), Chairman of the Board, ZIPSEE Digital Poland

D. Section on Investments

Time: 11:30 - 13:10

Location: Mihai Viteazul Hall

Format: Round table discussion

General concept: Speakers will engage with critical topics including untapped investment potential in Central and Eastern Europe, ensuring economic resilience during these challenging times, promoting sustainable growth through trade and FDI connectivity, and enhancing the region's attractiveness for foreign investment and trade. Also, the discussions will cover the expansion of the Three Seas Initiative Investment Fund's influence and the strengthening of ties among investment promotion agencies and business associations. These deliberations will provide sustenance for the ongoing efforts to drive economic advancement and further wealth, creating a conducive environment for investments within the 3SI region.

Potential topics:

- Unleashing potential investment opportunities in CEE amidst the new geopolitical and geo-economic context
- Economic policies targeted for economic resilience and crises preparedness
- Trade and FDI connectivity in the Three Seas region for sustainable growth
- Building a more attractive and secure region for foreign investments and private capital, as a way of complementing the EU cohesion instruments
- Increasing the Three Seas Initiative Investment Fund capacity to impact the global economy and future prospects for expanding to new members
- Strengthening ties between investment promotion agencies and business associations engaged in increasing awareness on domestic and regional competitive advantages and new investment opportunities

Round table on trade & investments (opening remarks: 3 minutes, each; answer to one moderator question: 2 minutes, each; other questions from the moderator and from audience: 25 minutes)

Speakers:

- RO: Ms. [Luminița-Teodora ODOBESCU](#), Minister of Foreign Affairs, Romania
- UA: Ms. [Yuliia SVYRYDENKO](#), First Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine - Minister of Economy of Ukraine
- BSEC: Mr. Lazăr COMĂNESCU, Secretary General, Black Sea Economic Cooperation
- US: Amb. [Georgette MOSBACHER](#), Co-chair of Three Seas Programming, Atlantic Council
- RO: Mr. [Rareș-Ștefan BURLACU](#), President, Romanian Agency for Investment and Foreign Trade
- IMF: Mr. [Helge BERGER](#), Deputy Director of European Department, International Monetary Fund

- PL: Ms. [Jadwiga EMILEWICZ](#), Secretary of State, Government Plenipotentiary for Polish-Ukrainian Development Cooperation
- UA: Mr. [Volodymyr KUZO](#), Deputy Minister of Economy, Ukraine
- GE: Mr. [Mikheil KHIDURELI](#), CEO, Enterprise Georgia
- EIB: Ms. [Pilar SOLANO](#), Department Director, European Investment Bank
- EIF: Mr. [Roger HAVENITH](#), Deputy Chief Executive, European Investment Fund
- US: Mr. [Jake LEVINE](#), Chief Climate Officer, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation
- UK: Mr. [Richlove MENSAH](#), Regional Director for Trade and Investment, Department for Business and Trade

Moderator: Prof. [Liviu VOINEA](#), Faculty of International Business and Economics, Bucharest University of Economic Studies

Side events

Side event by the Three Seas Initiative Investment Fund

Date & Time: September 6th

Location: JW Marriott Hotel

Topic: IIF Board Meeting

Participation: closed meetings - invite only

Side event by the American Chamber of Commerce in Romania (AmCham Romania)

Date & Time: September 6th, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Location: JW Marriott Hotel

Topic: „U.S.-Romania Economic Forum: Innovation for Prosperity” - innovation and transatlantic cooperation

Participation: open - based on prior registration

Side event by the Romanian Energy Center

Date & Time: September 6th, 12:30 - 14:30

Location: Epoque Hotel (entry Aurora 17C)

Topic: Financing opportunities for the Romanian energy sector and 3SI regional projects

Participation: open - based on prior registration

Side event by the Atlantic Council's Europe Center

Date & Time: September 6th, 13:00 - 14:15

Location: JW Marriott Hotel

Topic: „Digital 3SI: Advancing Europe's economic security” - role of the Three Seas digital pillar in Europe's bid for greater economic security and competitiveness in the tech sector

Participation: invite only

Side event by the Atlantic Council's Global Energy Center

Date & Time: September 6th, 14:30 - 16:00

Location: JW Marriott Hotel

Topic: High-level private roundtable on „Transatlantic cooperation to bolster clean energy and low-carbon investments in Central and Eastern Europe”

Participation: invite only

Side event by the CEE Digital Coalition

Date & Time: September 6th, 17:00 - 19:00

Location: Palace of Parliament, Human Rights Hall

Topic: 3SI's digital economy: Unleashing the region's potential | Launch of the 3SI ICT sector impact report and discussion of its findings

Participation: open, based on prior registration

Side event by the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration RO

Date & Time: September 7th, 11:15-13:30

Location: Palace of Parliament, Human Rights Hall

Topic: Democratic values - Challenges and Opportunities ([agenda](#))

Participation: open, based on prior registration

Side event by ANIS Romania & CEE Digital Coalition

Date & Time: September 7th, after lunch

Location: Palace of Parliament, Constantin Stere Hall

Topic: Strengthening cyber resilience in the 3SI region: opportunities and challenges brought by cloud security certification

Participation: invite only

Side event by New Strategy Center, Romania & Three Seas Initiative
Research Center, the project realized at the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish
Academy of Sciences

Date & Time: September 8th, 11:00-12:30

Location: Cercul Militar, Alba Iulia Hall

Topic: „Conclusions from the Three Seas Initiative summit in Bucharest. The use of
scientific research and academic dimension for regional cooperation”

Participation: open, based on prior registration (registration closed, details [here](#))