

Forging UK- Romania Higher Education Partnerships Forum Bucharest, 5 – 6 February 2024

Programme

Monday 5 February

12:30-13:00 Registration

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-14:30 **Welcome**

Mr. Andrew Glass, British Council

Prof. Constantin Vică, Vice-Rector for International Affairs and Public Relations,
University of Bucharest

Mr. Bogdan Cristescu, State Secretary, Ministry of Education

14:30-15:00 **Introductions**

Ms. Maria Tsakali, British Council

British Council TNE goals in the EU

Dr. Janet Ilieva, Education Insight

Forum overview forum, participant
introductions and expectations

15:00-15:30 **Research highlights on the Romania TNE landscape with Irina Geantă and Cristina Ramona Fiț at the Centre for Educational Policies.**

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-16:45 **Setting the policy scene for TNE in Romania: panel discussion**

Mr. Bogdan Cristescu, State Secretary, Ministry of Education, will present a national perspective on the internationalisation of HE in Romania. The new Higher Education legislation includes dedicated provisions for joint, double and multiple degree programmes and microcredentials.

The quality oversight of HE provision lies with ARACIS. This is an opportunity to hear from **Prof. Teodor Ioan Trașcă**, Vice-president of the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS) on the proposed steps to safeguard TNE quality.

Mr. Josh Fleming from the Office for Students (OfS) will detail the regulatory and oversight arrangements that ensure English HEIs deliver a high-quality educational experience and excellent outcomes for students, wherever their HE course is delivered.

Mr. Piers Wall from the UK's Quality Assurance Agency will draw on the QAA's experience in quality assessment of TNE over the past decades and their work with quality bodies internationally.

16:45-17:00 **Responses from participants and closing remarks.**

17:00 A **guided tour** of historical university buildings is offered to interested participants.

18:45-20:30 **Networking reception and dinner**

Tuesday 6 February

09:00-9:15 **Reflections from Day One and burning questions.**

09:15-10.15 **Panel discussion**

This session will start with an overview of the work of the **National Council of Rectors**, from **Prof. Costel Negricea**, Vice-president, a sector body representing 74 Romanian universities.

Universities UK, a sister organisation to the National Council of Rectors, is the collective voice of 142 universities in England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, which was founded in 1918. **Ms. Franziska Enichlmayr** from UUK, will showcase areas where successful campaigning and lobbying have protected the core work of UK universities, such as the association of the UK to Horizon Europe, international students and graduates, and global engagement activities, including TNE.

Mr. Fabrizio Trifiro from **Ecctis** and **Ms. Gianina Chirazi** from the **National Centre for Recognition and Equivalence of Diplomas (CNRED)** will detail the recognition of international degrees and qualifications in Romania, with a special focus on TNE degrees.

10:15-13:00 **Case studies on TNE collaboration, discussion and Q&A** (flexible coffee break)

Undergraduate programme	Prof. Tudor Edu, Romanian-American University (with City College, University of York Europe Campus)
Master's / applied approach	Mr. Sebastian Georgescu, American Hotel Academy
Executive education	Ms. Adriana Lobda, Envisia (with Henley Business School, University of Reading)
Short courses	Prof. Daniela-Anca Deteseanu, University of Bucharest (with the British Law Centre)
HE collaboration (civic engagement)	Ms. Andra-Mirona Stan-Dragotesc, West University of Timisoara (with Nottingham Trent University)
Dual and Double PhDs	Prof. Judith Lamie, Swansea University

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 **Partnership development session**

15:30-16:15 **Closing discussion with HMA Mr Giles Portman, evaluation and next steps**

16:15-17:00 **Optional continuation of the partnership development session.**

Wednesday 7 February

Follow-up Visits/Meetings (self-organised by the universities with support from the British Council)