

# **DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FORUM GOVERNANCE x WATCHDOGS**

**May 3-4, 2018**

**Romanian-American University  
Bucharest, Romania**

The Digital Transformation Forum, Governance x Watchdogs (Bucharest, May 3-4, 2018) is focusing on ways digital information technologies are contributing to better governance but also to the work of media and civil society watchdogs, making sure that policies and their implementation serve the people.

Government representatives, journalists, civil society experts, and communication professionals will interact with peers attending from over 30 countries for 2 days of sessions, focusing on more efficient and honest governments, effective media and civic activism.

## **WEDNESDAY, MAY 2**

**20:30-22:00**                    **Dinner at Brasserie Paris – Bucharest, Pullman Hotel, Bucharest**

This dinner is for organizers and speakers only to discuss the forum and make last arrangements

## **THURSDAY, MAY 3**

**8:30 – 9:00**                    **Registration and Coffee**

**The forum will be moderated by Alin Claudiu Apostu, Project Manager, Romanian Business Leaders; Member of the Board of Digital Communication Network**

**9:00**                    **OPENING REMARKS**

- Professor **Ovidiu Folcut PhD**, President, Romanian-American University, Bucharest, Romania
- **Ms. Manuela Catrina**, State Secretary, Communication and Information Society Ministry, Government of Romania
- **Mr. Artur Gurau**, President of the Digital Communication Network

- 9:40**            **CRISIS COMMUNICATION**
- Ms. Daria Mykhailova**, Researcher and Media Consultant, Kyiv, Ukraine
- 10:00**            **CORNERSTONE OF E-ESTONIA**
- Mr. Margus Arm**, Estonian Information System Authority, Tallinn, Estonia
- 10:20**            **YOU’VE GOT TO FIGHT ... FOR YOUR RIGHT ...TO PUBLIC RECORDS**
- Mr. Drew Shenkman**, Senior Legal Counsel, CNN, Atlanta, Georgia, United States
- 10:40**            Coffee Break
- 11:00**            **BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY FOR E-GOVERNANCE (VIDEO FEED)**
- Mr. Dzmitry Markusheusk**, Academic Director, Public Administration Research Center SYMPA, Minsk, Belarus
- 11:20**            **DIGITAL TOOLS FOR FIGHTING CORRUPTION**
- Ms. Victoria Savchuk**, Head of Communications, Anti-corruption Action Center Kyiv, Ukraine
- 11:40**            **EMPOWERING PEACEBUILDERS WITH DIGITAL TOOLS**
- Mr. Tim Receveur**, Director, PeaceTech Lab, Washington, DC, United States
- 12:00**            **GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND DIGITAL MEDIA**
- Ms. Natia Sirabidze**, Professor, BSU and Robakidze Universities Tbilisi, Georgia
- 12:20**            **WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM CIVIC TECH FAILURES?**
- Mr. Dmitri Romanovski**, Head of the TransparenCEE Project, TechSoup Europe, Poland
- 12:40**            **A DIGITAL TIME** (proposed title)
- Mr. Donald Carroll**, Information Officer and Spokesperson, U.S. Embassy, Bucharest, Romania
- 13:00**            **Lunch at the conference site**
- 14:00**            **DIGITAL TOOLS TO PROMOTE TRANSPARENT DECISION MAKING**
- Mr. Ionut Ciurea**, Proinfrastructura Romania, Bucharest, Romania

- 14:20**            **MAPPING DIASPORAS, CASE STUDY MOLDOVA**
- Ms. Iulia Tvigun**, Media and Diaspora Outreach Specialist, International Organization for Migration Mission to Moldova, Chisinau, Moldova
- 14:40**            **DIGITAL INFLUENCERS**
- Ms. Liisi Toom**, Communications Consultant, Tallinn, Estonia
- 15:00**            **BREAKING NEWS WITH DIGITAL TOOLS**
- Mr. Paul Murphy**, Producer/Writer, CNN, New York City, New York, United States
- 15:20**            **FUTURE OF SKILLS**
- David Timis**, Educational Consultant, Bucharest, Romania
- 15:40**            **SAMARAGATE INVESTIGATION – CASE STUDY OF JOURNALISM AS A WATCHDOG**
- Mr. Rinat Tuvatshin**, Kloop.kg, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- 16:00**            **DIGITAL TOOLS TO CONNECT THE GOVERNMENT TO THE PUBLIC**
- Ms. Karin Kase**, Communications Advisor, Ministry of the Interior, Tallinn, Estonia
- 16:20**            **THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HARMONIZATION OF GOVERNMENT DATA AND REGISTRIES**
- Mr. Martin Turcek**, Investigative Reporter/Journalist, aktuality.sk, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 16:40**            **PROMOTING ACCESS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ON GOVERNMENT WEBSITES**
- Mr. Andrew Sushko**, Co-Founder, DigitalFreedomsLab/ Human Constanta Minsk, Belarus
- 17:00**            **NEW MEDIA AS GOVERNMENT WATCHDOGS**
- Mr. Sarunas Cerniauskas**, Journalist, 15min, Vilnius, Lithuania
- 17:20**            **LET’S JUDGE THE JUDGES. IMPACT OF OPEN DATA ON PERFORMANCE OF THE JUDICIARY**
- Mr. Matej Simalcik**, Legal Expert, Transparency International, Bratislava, Slovakia

- 17:40**            **OPEN GOVERNMENT - #RenewTrust**
- Mr. Radu Puchiu**, Open Government Partnership, Bucharest, Romania
- 19:00**            For those staying at Pullman the bus will be leaving in front of the hotel to take you to dinner
- 19:30**            **Group dinner at Hanu lui Manuc** (<https://www.hanumanucrestaurant.ro/ro/>)

## **FRIDAY MAY 4**

- 8:30 – 9:00**            **Coffee**
- 9:00**                **JOURNEY OF E-GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTATION IN AFGHANISTAN**
- Ms. Palwasha Etebari**, e-Government Consultant, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Kabul, Afghanistan
- 9:20**                **BUILDING COMMUNITIES THROUGH DIGITAL**
- Mr. Franak Viacorka**, Vice-president and Member of the Board, Digital Communication Network
- 9:40**                **HOW THE TECHNOLOGY MADE BUDGETS FUN TO WORK ON**
- Ms. Elena Calistru**, President, Funky Citizens, Bucharest, Romania
- 10:00**                **INTERNET GOVERNANCE AND THE MEDIA. DEMOCRACIES IN TRANSITION**
- Ms. Anna Romandash**, Journalist, South and Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance, Board Member of Digital Communication Network, Kyiv, Ukraine
- 10:20**                **ORGANIZATIONS GO VIRAL**
- Mr. Toma Grozavescu**, Smarters, Timisoara, Romania
- 10:40**                **Coffee break**
- 11:10**                **E-GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. PERSPECTIVES FROM ITALY**
- Mr. Giorgio Caridi**, Senior MARCOM Executive, Italian National Institute for Social Assistance, Rome, Italy

- 11:30**                    **CREATING INVESTIGATIVE STORIES WITH IMPACT. AN AUDIENCE PERSPECTIVE**
- Ms. Julia Chan**, Director of Audience, Mother Jones, San Francisco, California, United States
- 11:50**                    **CORRUPTION RECOGNITION PATTERNS**
- Mr. Attila Biro**, Rise Project, Bucharest, Romania
- 12:10**                    **WHY NOT ALL GOOD TECHNOLOGIES GET HAPPILY EMBRACED BY PEOPLE**
- Ms. Pille Pruulmann-Vengerfeldt**, Professor, Malmö University, Malmö, Sweden
- 12:30**                    **HOW ENGAGED JOURNALISM IS THE KEY TO AN OPEN SOCIETY**
- Mr. Adam Thomas**, Director, European Journalism Center Maastricht, The Netherlands (TBC)
- 12:50**                    **HOW TO INNOVATE IN JOURNALISM AND HOLD GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABLE**
- Mr. Djordje Padejski**, Impact Leader, John S. Knight Journalism Fellowships at Stanford University, San Francisco, California, United States
- 13:10**                    **Lunch at the conference site**
- 14:15**                    **CAN DIGITAL HELP GOVERNANCE?**
- Mr. Dan Nechita**, Co-founder and President of Smart Everything Everywhere, Bucharest, Romania
- 14:35**                    **ONLINE GAMES FOR INTERNET USERS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS**
- Ms. Lidja Pisker**, Bosnia
- 14:55**                    **COMBATING DISINFORMATION. DIGITAL TOOLS**
- Mr. Glenn KATES**, Managing Director, Current Time, Radio Free Europe, Prague, Czech Republic

- 15:15**                    **NEW TRENDS IN SEEKING JUSTICE**
- Mr. Mario Maletic**, Head of the E-Justice Department, Ministry of Justice, Belgrade, Serbia
- 15:35**                    **NEWSROOMS ARE SHRINKING. HERE IS HOW THEY ARE FINDING NEW WAYS TO HOLD GOVERNMENTS ACCOUNTABLE**
- Ms. Kristen Hare Jairam**, Local News Innovation Reporter, Poynter Institute, Tampa, Florida, United States
- 15:55**                    **USE OF INTERACTIVE GAMES IN INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING. PARTICIPATORY APPROACH TO INFORMATION PROCESSING FOR DECISION MAKING**
- Mr. Boris Kudar**, Founder and Director, Training Center of Human Rights Advocacy, Kyiv, Ukraine
- 16:15**                    **DIGITAL TOOLS HAVE GLOBAL IMPACT**
- Mr. Nigel Mugamu**, 263 Chat, Harare, Zimbabwe (TBC)
- 16:35**                    **GOVERNANCE VERSUS E-GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRACY VERSUS E-DEMOCRACY**
- Ms. Iulia Dragneanu**, Associate Lecturer, National School of Political Science and Public Administration, Faculty of Political Science, Bucharest, Romania
- 16:55**                    **TAG A PROBLEM! DIRECT POLITICAL COMMUNICATION IN SOCIAL NETWORKS**
- Mr. Viktor Denisenko, PhD**, Lecturer and Fellow Editor of *Journalism Research*, Vilnius University Faculty of Communication, Vilnius, Lithuania
- 17:15**                    **CASE-STUDY: PARTICIPATORY JOURNALISM**
- Ms. Maria-Anna Tanagia**  
Founder and Editor in Chief, PubliSHIT Magazine, Blogger, Huffington Post Greece, Thessaloniki, Greece
- 17:35**                    **FOR FACTS' SAKE**
- Mr. Aaron Sharockman**, Executive Director, PunditFact and PolitiFact Tampa, Florida, United States

**17:55**

**CLOSING STATEMENT**

**Mr. Franak Viacorka**, Vice-president and Member of the Board, Digital Communication Network

**19:00**

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**19:30**

**Group dinner at Red Angus** (<http://redangus.ro/>)

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