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Implementing the EU Methane Emission Regulation (I-MER) in Romania and Czechia

CONSTRUCTIVE STAKEHOLDER ROUNDTABLE,

DECEMBER 9th, 2025, 9:00 - 14:00

Virgil Madgearu Hall,

Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies (Piața Romană no. 6)

I-MER is a European project led by ASE Bucharest (FABIZ) and funded by the European Climate Initiative (EUKI). It supports Romania and Czechia in effectively applying the new EU Methane Regulation by strengthening institutional capacity, fostering dialogue among government, business, and civil society, and promoting practical solutions for methane reduction in the energy sector.

On Tuesday, **December 9th, 9:00 - 14:00**, we are pleased to invite you to a **constructive stakeholder roundtable** organized within **I-MER**. The event aims to bring together industry operators, policymakers, regulators, international experts, and civil society representatives to strengthen engagement and collaboration in implementing the EU Methane Regulation, while jointly identifying key challenges, good practices, and practical solutions to accelerate its effective implementation.



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AGENDA

08:30 – 09:00 Participant registration & welcome coffee

09:00 – 10:45

Session 1: EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL CONTEXT AND CHALLENGES

Objective: building a shared understanding of the stakes, to identify challenges and co-create possible practical solutions / good practices

Welcome & framing: **Why this matters for Romania and for business** - 45 min

- **Words of welcome** - **Prof. Dr. Nicolae Istudor**, ASE Rector - 5 mins
- **Introduction, purpose, agenda, intentions** – Moderator, **Florin Ghindă** - 5 min
- **About I-MER** - Project Director, **Dr. Corina Murafa** - 10 min
- **EU-level updates on the EU Methane Regulation** - Legal and Policy Officer in the Decarbonisation and Sustainability of Energy Sources unit in DG ENER, **Joana Simão Costa** - 15 min
- **Romanian institutional updates on the EU Methane Regulation** - Minister of Energy, **Bogdan Ivan (TBC)** – 10 min

Context & perspectives, Romanian / national situation - Panel Discussion + Q&A - 60 min

- **Interministerial Committee on Climate Change (CISC)** - Advisor in the Prime Minister's Office, **Luminița Tîrchiță**
- **National Regulatory Authority for Mining, Petroleum and Geological Storage of Carbon Dioxide (ANRMPSG)** - Director of the Geological Storage of Carbon Dioxide and Climate Change Directorate, **Florina Sora**
- **Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests** - State Secretary, **Raul Pop**
- **Ministry of Energy** - State Secretary, **Cristian Bușoi**
- **Romgaz** - General Director, **Răzvan Popescu**
- **OMV Petrom** - Advisor Integrated Operations, Exploration and Production, **Nicolae Neculaescu**
- **Q&A** - 20 min

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee break





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11:00 – 12:15

Session 2: INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE & GOOD PRACTICES.

Objective: sharing experiences and good practices, identifying common challenges
Panel discussion + Q&A - 75 min

- **Francesca di Macco and Francesca Ganora**, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica - **Italian experience with the public registry of abandoned mines & with the publication of methane emissions data reported by oil & gas operators**
- **Raffaele Piria**, Senior Fellow, Ecologic Institute - **National penalty rules and legal obligations**
- **Foteini Stavropoulou**, Methane Research Analyst, Environmental Defense Fund - **EDF Emissions Assessment**
- **Natalie StClair**, Energy and Climate Analyst, International Energy Agency - **IEA calculation on the cost of emissions reduction**
- **Carles Debart**, Director of Business Development for Europe, GHGSat - **Using satellite imagery for methane monitoring. The German experience**
- **Q&A**

12.15 – 12:30 Coffee break

12:30 – 14:00

Session 3: CHALLENGES AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS.

Objective: Identifying common challenges and points of disagreement. Identify potential solutions

- **Group conversations (World Café)** with 3 rounds of conversations on topics/tables: 20 min × 2/3 rounds = 60 min

Topics for the 3 rounds:

1. Working with measurement-based data: needs, barriers, and pathways forward. **Lead: EDF**
2. Penalties regime. **Lead: Ecologic**
3. Investor and policy nexus in fugitive methane emissions. **Lead: ASE**

- **Main takeaways/debates from the World Café discussions – 15 min**
- **Conclusions, next steps, feedback, closing – 15 min**

14:00 – 15:00 Lunch and networking

Note: Simultaneous interpretation will be provided (EN-RO).

Partners

