



Transilvania  
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# NEWSLETTER

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## "BLUESTREAMLINE", PODIUM IN ITALY – REMATCH AFTER 14 YEARS AND CLOSING OF A HISTORIC SEASON

In this season's last travel, BlueStreamline, UNITBV's car-racing team drove over 1,600 kilometres to Italy, in Motor Sports Valley, Varano de' Melegari, with a view to attending *Formula Student Italy* competition. This is one of the oldest student competitions in Europe, celebrating 20 years of activity this year.



For BlueStreamline, it was an emotional return to the beautiful hills of this village, Varano de' Melegari, after over 14 years. At that time, in 2011, the students competed with the BS11 single-seater and obtained outstanding results, including the Popularity Award.

With these past achievements in mind, but also out of desire to carry this season's progress forward, the goals were clear for BlueStreamline and their BS25 single-seater: podium ranking in the overall standings. BlueStreamline shone from the first day, with the team winning the award for the competition's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo, and taking the podium at the opening ceremony. The following days brought static tests for the UNITBV team, with the students being assessed on the way of building, cost and design of the car. The competition jurors, engineers within big specialised companies, praised the UNITBV students' work and dedication.

Next came the dynamic tests, where the BS25CV single-seater took precedence. Prepared by the team members, it raced smoothly and swiftly, after the many international circuits and competitions attended. The pilots were up to the task; thus, together with the team, they ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Acceleration, Skid-pad, Endurance and Efficiency tests, as well as 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Autocross test. These results attested once again to the dynamic supremacy of this single-seat race car, and its reputation as the team's best-performing combustion

engine single-seater. With these noteworthy achievements, BlueStreamline fulfilled its goal in Italy, ranking 2<sup>nd</sup> in the overall standings, for the combustion class, surpassing teams of major universities in Italy, Germany, Austria or France.



It was a memorable and epic season for BlueStreamline car-racing team, which took the podium in all competitions attended for the combustion class, and obtained excellent results with both the electric single-seater and the classical one, as follows: Formula Student Spain – 1<sup>st</sup> place overall CV; Formula Student Romania – 1<sup>st</sup> place overall CV; Formula Student Italy – 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall CV; Formula Student Alpe Adria Croatia – 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall CV; Formula Student Spain – 23<sup>rd</sup> place overall EV; Formula Student Romania – 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall EV; Formula Student Spain Classic – 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall; Formula Alpe Adria Croatia Retirement Cup – 5<sup>th</sup> place overall and Formula Student Romania – 1<sup>st</sup> place overall.

The team's extraordinary journey is the outcome of the students' commitment and efforts, as they work day and night for their dream to come true. Based on the past generations' expertise, knowledge and information, they completed a season full of joy and exceptional results. Guided by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mihai Comșit and supported by UNITBV, BlueStreamline team marked the most successful competitive season in their history. Next comes the new competitive season, with equally great challenges and students eager prove once again their mastery in the field of engineering.

Cosmin-Mihai CHINDEA  
BlueStreamline Team Leader  
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

## MEDALS OF EXCELLENCE AND BEST OF NATION AWARD FOR THE UNITBV TEAM WHO REPRESENTED ROMANIA AT THE MECHATRONICS SECTION OF EUROSKILLS 2025 INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIAD

The ninth edition of Euroskills, which is the greatest event dedicated to education, vocational training and excellence in trades all over Europe, took place in Denmark, at Herning, between 9 and 13 September.



Organised every two years, Euroskills offers the best-prepared young people the once-in-a-lifetime chance to participate in this competition, in order for them to prove they are the best in their field of activity. The 2025 edition was attended by 597 young people from 32 countries. The Romanian delegation competed under 10 of the 38 sections, namely: *Mechatronics, Robot Systems Integration, Mechanical Engineering - CAD, WEB Development, Hairdressing, Automobile Technology, Cooking, Patisserie and Confectionery, Graphic Design Technology, Hotel Reception.*

The Mechatronics section was part of the *Manufacturing and Engineering Technology* package, and it was, as always, one of the most interesting and complex sections, in which the competitors showcased their mastery, skill, talent and resourcefulness, all taken to the level of *excellence*.

Youth from 20 countries registered for this section. Most competitors are trained for two or three years by expert teams in FESTO centres specialised to this effect. The teams consist of two members up to 25 years old. Romania's Mechatronics Team included, this year as well, students of the Faculty of Product Design and Environment, Transilvania University of Brașov.

Sebastian Ovidiu Ștefan, first year in the Mechatronic Systems for Industry and Medicine master's study programme, and Vlad Dumitru Crepșe, third year in the Mechatronics bachelor's study programme are the two students who showcased their skills in mechanical, electrical and pneumatic assembly, in programming and commissioning, in troubleshooting and optimization of complex mechatronic systems.

After Romania's obtaining, in the last two years, still through our university's students, Medals of Excellence under the Mechatronics section worldwide, that is, at Worldskills Lyon 2024, respectively Euroskills Gdansk 2023, this year, at the end of the three competition days, the mechatronics students succeeded in accumulating 739 points on the Worldskills scale, which allowed them to rank 5<sup>th</sup> out of 20 countries, and to obtain the *Medals of Excellence*. Their achievements also earned them the medals for *Best of Nation Award*, given to the section with the best result for Romania's entire delegation.

The fact that, for the third year in a row, the Mechatronics Team brings Romania medals of excellence proves that Romania and UNITBV provide superlative training in the field of Mechatronics, and that we have talented, passionate youth, who are very good young professionals. The preparation took place in the Centre for Excellence Training in Mechatronics under the Faculty of Product Design and Environment within Transilvania University of Brașov, under the coordination of Prof. Dr. Eng. Luciana Cristea, Prof. Dr. Eng. Codruța Ileana Jaliu, Prof. Dr. Eng. Marius Cristian Luculescu and Lect. Dr. Eng. Leonard Gabriel Mitu. The participation in Euroskills Herning 2025 international competition was also a good opportunity to exchange experiences and to promote Transilvania University of Brașov and Romania, as well as an important stage in terms of preparation for the next year's attendance at Worldskills Shanghai 2026 international competition.

The support for Romania's Mechatronics Team is provided by Transilvania University of Brașov and Festo Romania company, together with important economic partners. We are grateful to everyone fostering the field of Mechatronics and believing in young people who can deliver excellence: Siemens Industry Software, Miele Tehnica, Asti Automation, Raptronic Process Engineering, Robert Bosch, DWK Fit For Future, Schaeffler Romania, Stabilus Romania, Preh Romania, Benchmark Electronics Romania, NTT Data, Autoliv Romania, Varta Microbattery, Auconsys, Assembla Engineering, IFM Electronic, Normandia, Multitech, Logic Computer, Insulheat, International Van Der Wal, Arinovis Motors.

Prof. Dr. Eng. Luciana CRISTEA

Prof. Dr. Eng. Codruța Ileana JALIU

Lect. Dr. Eng. Leonard Gabriel MITU

Prof. Dr. Eng. Marius Cristian LUCULESCU

## RESEARCHERS' NIGHT 2025

On Friday, 26 September 2025, the Research and Development Institute within Transilvania University of Braşov hosted the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the Researchers' Night. From 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., about 2,000 visitors of all ages explored the world of scientific research at over 50 interactive stands, during hands-on demonstrations and innovative workshops.



The theme of this year's edition was *Professions of the Future in the Age of Artificial Intelligence*. In times when young people have a strong need of professional counselling, the event offered a clearer perspective on how artificial intelligence (AI) changes the labour market and reconfigures traditional crafts. Through the researchers' interactive demos and presentations, the youth could explore real career scenarios, and thus better understand how to orient their professional training towards emerging fields. The participants interacted with autonomous and humanoid robots, found out how machine learning algorithms worked, and experimented virtual reality and mixed reality applications.

In the field of medicine, the students explained first aid in clear terms, during interactive workshops, while the researchers presented non-invasive diagnosis programmes. The visitors found out how AI revolutionised fields such as precision agriculture (crop monitoring via satellite data), food industry (nutrition customization and 3D food printing), or building waste management (with BlockChain technology).

Another side of the event targeted the development of core skills for the digital age. The young participants tested their skills through games that boost reaction speed, creativity and adaptability. They participated in quizzes on the compatibility with various jobs, and experimented simulations in various fields, from the programming of the educational robots to AI-generated image recognition, and from 3D printing to the development of the entrepreneurial spirit.

The Career Counselling and Guidance Centre offered dedicated sessions under the title "Career Compass: Where Am I Heading?", and a special stand fostered the exploration of the topic "People vs. Artificial Intelligence: Jobs that Technology Cannot Replace", offering youth essential guidelines for the choice of their professional path. The event also approached the ethical dimension of technological development. The visitors learned to recognise fake news in the digital environment, and discovered how AI could improve life quality and accessibility for disabled people. Moreover, research projects funded from European and national grants were presented, which shows the actual impact of funding on the local community's development.

As in previous editions, "Țara Bârsei" Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, Braşov County Police Inspectorate and "Nicolae Titulescu" Gendarmerie Inspectorate of Braşov County presented their intervention technique and equipment. "Henri Coandă" Air Force Academy made their flight simulator available, offering a unique virtual piloting experience.

The Technology and Business Incubator, along with the economic partners, NGOs and student associations have proved, through concrete applications, that science and research offer real solutions to contemporary society's challenges. Hands-on demos covered a wide range of fields: from digitally mediated medical recovery and media production, to artisanal "chocolaterie" and intelligent systems for buildings.

Researchers' Night 2025 succeeded in creating a genuine dialogue between scientific the community and the general public, thus providing the young generations with useful directions for navigating a constantly changing job market. The diversity of its activities and the quality of its presentations strengthened UNITBV's role as a regional leader in promoting scientific culture and preparing young people for current challenges.

Prof. Dr. Monica RĂILEANU SZELES, Director of ICDT  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radu MUNTEAN, Faculty of Civil  
Engineering

Camelia UNGUREANU, Compartment of Communications

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## PERADENIYA INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM (PIERS) 2025 – THE 10<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

On 11 September 2025, the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of Peradeniya International Economics Research Symposium (PIERS) took place, under the organization of the Department of Economics and Statistics, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, in partnership with the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration, Transilvania University of Braşov.

This year's edition, entitled "Forging a path for sustainable and inclusive development amidst global and local challenges", brought together researchers and professors in the field of economic sciences and other related fields, and was an opportunity for them to present and disseminate their research results. The main conference sections focused on major themes such as:

- I. Entrepreneurship, technological change, and business management;
- II. Land, labour, and capital markets;
- III. Sectoral challenges and policies;
- IV. Health, nutrition and food security;
- V. Natural resources and environment;
- VI. Growth and development;
- VII. Inequality and gender;
- VIII. External sector, banking and finance;
- IX. Crisis, fiscal policy and macroeconomics.



During this symposium, Transilvania University of Braşov was represented by Prof. Dr. Bianca Tescaşiu, Vice-Dean and ALUMNI coordinator (Department of Marketing, Tourism-Services and International Business) – as Keynote Speaker, Prof. Dr. Tiberiu Foriş (Department of Management and Economic Informatics) and Assist. Prof. Dr. Camelia Ungureanu (Department of Finance, Accounting and Economic

Theory). UNITBV's representatives gave presentations on complex and current topics, such as graduate career assessment, artificial intelligence and entrepreneurship, as well as on the link between economic growth and uncertainty.



The event was a real opportunity to strengthen the partnership between the University of Peradeniya and Transilvania University of Braşov, opening up prospects for new collaborations. Moreover, the event provided the framework for promoting the exchange of ideas and good practices in education and research, but also for establishing professional contacts and enhancing the international visibility of Transilvania University of Braşov.



UNITBV's involvement in this conference confirms its commitment to excellence and active involvement in the international academic network.

Prof. Dr. Bianca TESCAŞIU  
Vice-Dean and ALUMNI coordinator  
Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business  
Administration

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## TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY'S TECHNOLOGICAL AND BUSINESS INCUBATOR - A NEW IMPETUS OF INNOVATION AND COLABORATION

Transilvania University of Braşov marked, on 26 September, an important moment for the local research and entrepreneurship ecosystem: relaunch of the Technological and Business Incubator (ITA-UNITBV), hosted in the Research and Development Institute.



The event coincided with the 2025 edition of the Researchers' Night, offering the public the opportunity to discover the latest initiatives at the intersection of science, technology and entrepreneurship.

After a period when the incubator mainly supported industrial businesses, the new stage comes with its clear orientation towards the field of services, digitalization and applied innovation. With ten incubated companies, the space is currently fully occupied, bringing together entrepreneurs in IT, media, healthcare, education and technological design.



They include companies developing digital medical applications, augmented reality solutions, independent media projects, innovative photo-video techniques or unique educational concepts, such as *The Taste of Braşov*, dedicated to local gastronomic culture.

The relaunch event was organised to promote not only the achievement of the incubator's highest output, but also its adaptation to the current needs of the market and the university, through the emphasis on services and technologies fostering the local impact and direct collaboration with both students and academic personnel.



Through the new model, the incubator becomes a platform for practical learning and knowledge transfer, where the students can collaborate with entrepreneurs, participate in internships and contribute to real research and development projects. This relaunch confirms the University's role as a regional innovation hub, where education, science and business meet to forge the professions of the future.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Horia MOAŞA, Dean  
Faculty of Sociology and Communication  
Coordinator of ITA-UNITBV

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## FROM LOCAL LEGENDS TO AUGMENTED REALITY: *TALES IN MOTION*, THE PROJECT PRESENTED AT ICSIMAT 2025 CONFERENCE

The 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Conference on Strategic Marketing, Innovation and Tourism ([ICSIMAT 2025](#)) took place at Katerini, in Greece, between 26 and 30 September 2025. The event brought together experts of the academia and industry from over 40 countries, who discussed the current and future trends in marketing, tourism, communication and technology.

During this event, Prof. Dr. Eng. Mihai Duguleană participated as a guest in a panel dedicated to communication and sustainable tourism. The panel discussions focused on the role of the new digital technologies in creating innovative experiences for the visitors, as well as on the ways in which marketing strategies can foster responsible tourism.



In his intervention, Prof. Dr. Eng. Mihai Duguleană emphasised the significant contribution brought by Transilvania University of Braşov to recent European projects, and presented the research results in “Co-Creating XR Heritage Narratives: The Tales in Motion Approach”, a paper included in the conference programme. In this context, *Tales in Motion*, a *UNITA Starting Grant* project, developed with partners of Portugal and Spain, under the *UNITA Alliance*’s umbrella, was brought to widespread public attention.

The project *Tales in Motion* pursues the valorization of the intangible cultural heritage through XR (*Extended Reality*) technologies, by involving the local communities and students in the co-creation of animated narratives based on traditional myths and legends. These stories then

become interactive experiences of augmented and virtual reality, which contribute to the preservation of cultural identity and foster sustainable tourism and education.

This panel presentation highlighted that such a participatory model can be replicated in other regions as well, offering both a cultural promotion tool and an opportunity for innovation in the educational and tourist fields. The ensuing discussions showed the international interest in integrating the XR technologies into the strategies of cultural management and promotion.



The ICSIMAT 2025 programme also included cultural activities, such as visits to Mount Olympus, Dion archaeological site and Palaios Panteleimon traditional village, complementing the academic experience with an authentic component of insight into the Greek heritage.

The participation of Transilvania University of Braşov in ICSIMAT 2025 confirms the institution's contribution to international research and academic exchange networks, as well as its commitment to the digitization and promotion of cultural heritage.

By presenting the project *Tales in Motion*, our University affirms its active role in the development of innovative solutions at European level, where technology becomes a catalyst for the preservation and promotion of cultural identity.

Prof. Dr. Eng. Mihai DUGULEANĂ

Project coordinator for *UNITA Starting Grant*,  
*Tales in Motion*

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## RELIGITOUR TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN SANTA MARIA DI LEUCA – EUROPEAN GOOD PRACTICES AND RELIGIOUS HERITAGE



Between 1 and 5 September 2025, a team from Transilvania University of Braşov, consisting of professors and researchers within the Faculty of Sociology and Communication, participated in the international activity of short-term training organised in Santa Maria di Leuca, Italy, in the framework of the European project ReligiTour ("Enhancement of the competences and possibilities for religious tourism development and for better integration and management of religious sites in the urban environment", no. 2023-1-PL01-KA220-HED-000156074).



The project, funded through the European Erasmus+ programme, brings together universities and cultural organizations of Poland, Spain, Greece, Italy, Bulgaria and Romania, and aims at developing the academic and professional skills in the field of religious tourism, as well as at promoting a sustainable approach to the religious heritage in an urban context.

The training programme, hosted within Santa Maria de Finibus Terrae Sanctuary, combined the theoretical training sessions with applicative activities and study visits. During the five days, the participants took part in roundtables, presentations, case studies and thematic visits dedicated to the religious heritage of Puglia region. The towns Galatina, Lecce, Ugento, Gallipoli, Otranto and Bari proved to be the ideal setting for the direct observation of the relations between the sacred heritage, local communities and the tourism potential of these sites. The visits to cathedrals, museums and historical centres were complemented by applied discussions on the ways

of valorising these resources in education and local development programmes.



Our university's team included Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arabela Briciu (project manager, trainer), Prof. Dr. Codrina Csesznek (trainer), Prof. Dr. Gabriela Răţulea (trainer), Assist. Prof. Dr. Mara Panaite (trainee) and drd. Flavia Hurducaş (trainee). The UNITBV team's contribution focused on the activities of teaching/training, moderation of the analysis sessions and participation in workshops, as well as testing of the educational materials, with a view to preparing the national piloting phase of the ReligiTour training kit.

The training activity conducted in Santa Maria di Leuca was a valuable opportunity to exchange experiences and strengthen the relations between the project partners. It confirmed withal the potential of the religious tourism as a tool for capitalising on the cultural and spiritual heritage, thus contributing to the development of innovative and sustainable educational approaches in the current European context. More details about this initiative, its objectives and activities can be found on the official project website, <https://www.religitour.eu>.



Co-funded by  
the European Union

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arabela BRICIU  
Project manager on behalf of UNITBV  
Faculty of Sociology and Communication



## UNITBV JOINS ASEA-UNINET NETWORK

Between 8 and 12 September 2025, Transilvania University of Braşov attended ASEA-UNINET network's 20<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting, organised in Brescia, Italy, where it was represented by Prof. Dr. Ana-Maria Cazan. The event reunited prestigious universities all over Europe and Southeast Asia, under the theme "For a Peaceful and Sustainable Development", with a view to strengthening international academic cooperation for an ever-sustainable and equitable future.



A truly important moment was the acceptance of new member institutions into the network. Romania entered the aforementioned network for the first time through its two applicant universities: Transilvania University of Braşov and West University of Timişoara. This acknowledgement confirms our university's openness and international visibility, and creates the premises for extensive collaboration in the field of research, academic exchanges and interdisciplinary projects.

The meeting also brought changes to the network's management: Dr. Mullika Sungsanit, Vice-Rector of Suranaree University of Technology (Thailand), was elected the new chairperson of

ASEA-UNINET. Under her leadership, the network will continue to promote peace, sustainability and innovation in education and research. Furthermore, East Timor's accession has a strong symbolic value, as it brings a message of resilience and international cooperation to the network. In the same spirit, the working groups addressed major themes for contemporary society: climate change and marine sciences, renewable energies, global health and food security, bioeconomy and the impact of digitalization on society and culture.

The accession of Transilvania University of Braşov to ASEA-UNINET opens up unique opportunities to collaborate with leading institutions in Europe and Southeast Asia. This means:

- participation in joint research projects on global themes;
- academic mobilities for students and teaching personnel;
- increase in UNITBV's visibility and role worldwide.

Thus, UNITBV reaffirms its commitment to actively contribute to solving the contemporary world's great challenges, through education, research and international partnerships.

ASEA-UNINET's next meeting will take place in 2027, in Thailand; by then, UNITBV will be an active part of the initiatives launched within the network.

Prof. Dr. Ana-Maria CAZAN  
Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

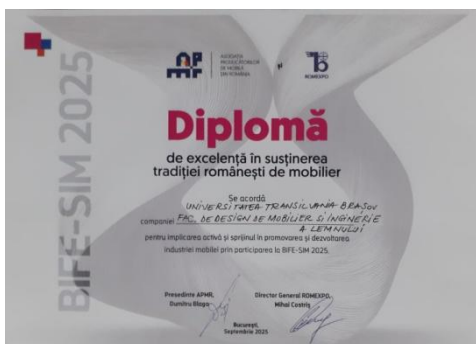
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## A PARTICIPATION DEDICATED TO INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY IN WOOD INDUSTRY

From 18 to 21 September, at the invitation of the Romanian Association of Furniture Manufacturers (APMR), the Faculty of Furniture Design and Wood Engineering attended BIFE-SIM 2025 – a milestone for the Romanian furniture industry – benefiting from a dedicated exhibition space. The stand offered visitors the opportunity to discover the current study and research directions within the academic programmes, highlighting the role of higher education in the development of the next generation of specialists in this field. During this event, the students showed the public posters with their semester papers, bachelor's theses and dissertations, on various topics such as furniture design, specifically ornamented classical styles of furniture, research, restoration, wooden buildings, as well as the way of using CADWork software.



The faculty's participation in this fair was an important opportunity to dialogue with the industry professionals and to promote the students' creative and technical potential. The direct interaction with the specialists, manufacturing companies and all business sector representatives facilitated the exchange of ideas.



The team attending ROMEXPO Bucharest included the students: Mărta Modi, Aida Minciu, Anastasia Andone, Sergiu Gavrilă, Gabriel Berzoi, Laurențiu Pruteanu, Alexandru Fabian and Adrian Ghintuială.



Lect. Dr. Eng. Antonela LUNGU  
Faculty of Furniture Design and Wood Engineering

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## "TRADITION OF GERMANITY IN DOBRUDGEA" AUTUMN ACADEMY

Between 24 and 28 September 2025, Transilvania University of Braşov, through the Faculty of Letters, Department of Literature and Cultural Studies, along with "Ovidius" University of Constanţa, through the Faculty of Letters, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and Communication Sciences, and with "Ion Creangă" State Pedagogical University of Chişinău organised "Tradition of Germanity in Dobrudgea" Autumn Academy, in its second edition, with the support of the Department for Interethnic Relations within the Romanian Government.



The project, contributed and attended by students in programmes of German studies in Braşov, Constanţa, Chişinău and Bălţi, included workshops of contemporary German language, literature and culture. The participants thus discovered the multiculturalism of Constanţa, and identified traces of the former German minority, present in Dobrudgea for about a century. On 27 September, the volume *German Colonists between*

*Danube and Black Sea*, signed by Josef Sallanz and translated from German by Maria Muscan, was launched in a small setting. The event offered the students the opportunity of relevant discussions, based on current information and data about the German community in Dobrudgea.



The Autumn Academy "Tradition of Germanity in Dobrudgea" was a valuable experience for all participants. Apart from providing thorough knowledge of the German history, culture and language in Dobrogea, the event gave everyone the opportunity to make new friends, improve their German language skills, and plan future collaborations.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Delia COTÂRLEA  
Faculty of Letters

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## BARTHA ÁRPÁD - EXHIBITION OF GRAPHICS AND PHOTOGRAPHY

### *Raster Retina* Bartha Árpád

grafică și fotografie / 10.09 - 1.10.2025  
Centrul Multicultural  
al Universității Transilvania  
din Brașov



Between 10 September and 1 October, the Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University of Brașov hosted *Raster Retina*, the exhibition signed by Bartha Árpád, an artist whom our city takes pride in.

Born in the city of Brașov, in 1953, Bartha Árpád was a distinguished graduate of "Ioan Andreescu"

Academy of Visual Arts, he taught the art of drawing, and was the Director of Brașov Art Museum, which he led from 2006 to 2018. In addition to photography and painting, he has achieved graphics and engraving artworks. Bartha Árpád's artistic activity includes numerous personal and group exhibitions, both in Romania and abroad, in countries such as Italy, Canada, France, Hungary, Germany or Belgium.

For the exhibition hosted by the Multicultural Centre, which features recent artworks of graphics and photography, the artist resorted to recognisable patterns, such as delicate embroidery motifs or sinusoidal lines, translating a sublimated and disciplined perception of the surrounding world.

Anca PAPANA  
Multicultural Centre,  
Transilvania University of Brașov

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## NOD EVENTS AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTRE

Between 25 and 28 September 2025, Braşov hosted the first edition of NOD – *International Literary Rights Festival*, an event dedicated to literature, but also, by extension, to film, theatre and music.



Thus, in five different places, in the framework of workshops, debates, direct meetings with the public, for four days, the organizers, namely *Matca Literară* [*Literary Matrix*] magazine and *Reading is Cool* platform, brought together writers, publishers, literary agents, musicians, directors, playwrights from Romania, but also from abroad.

The Faculty of Letters and the Multicultural Centre partly hosted the NOD events, some of them especially organised for the students. Thus, two workshops themed on artistic debut, respectively literary career (*Debut Authors and the Journey to Publication and Beyond* and *Literary Careers*) brought before the student audience Marilena Iovu, literary agent, Cristina Chira, writer, Roxana Petrescu, writer, Silviu Săndulescu, founder and director of Rights Expert agency, as well as Elisa

Copetti, foreign literature editor at Bottega Errante publishing house.

The series NOD Writers @ Multicultural Centre proposed a series of four meetings with Romanian writers, attended by the prose writer Maria Orban, the poets Andrei Dósa and Denisa Ştefan, the prose writers Bogdan-Alexandru Stănescu and Simona Antonescu, the musician and composer Dan Byron, as well as the writers Mihail Vakulovski, Simona Goşu and Cristian Fulaş.



On the last day of festival, *Poetry Performance / Spoken Word* interwove, in a unique dialogue, the poetry of the artists Simona Sigartău, Andrei Dósa, Cosmin Perţa and Mina Decu, with the music played on the harpsichord by Raluca Enea.

Anca PAPANA  
Multicultural Centre,  
Transilvania University of Braşov

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## SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI - SEBASTIAN MĂNOIU



Sebastian Mănoiu graduated, in 1994, the three-year study programme of *Electronics*, specifically the first class (1991-1994) of the Technical University College, under the

Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, within Transilvania University of Braşov.

His interest in studying Electronics at the Technical University College of Braşov marked Sebastian's continuity of professional development, after his graduating, in 1988, the Electronics courses of an industrial high-school, and conducting, for almost three years, his activity as an electronics worker, for two big Romanian enterprises.

During his student years, Sebastian stood out through his seriousness and achievements, in both learning and practical projects; and he graduated the Technical University College with flying colours. After graduation, Sebastian was co-opted and employed by an IT company, where he conducted his activity until the spring of 1999.

Since the summer of 1999 so far, Sebastian has been the employee of a big company manufacturing flexible electronic circuits, namely *Flexible Printed*

*Circuits* (FPCs), with the head office in California and manufacturing plants in Asia. Sebastian works as a *design engineer* (in charge of conception and planning), collaborating with many teams of design engineers from major international design companies (Original Equipment Manufacturers, OEMs) for personal and household electronic products and electronics of use to the automotive industry.

Sebastian never gave up studying and learning new things, but he also shared his knowledge by giving professional training courses ("Flex101") for both the customers' various teams of design engineers and his workmates, but also for his industry colleagues, within international technical conferences ("PCB West", Santa Clara/California: <https://pcbwest.com/>).

At the moment, Sebastian lives with his wife and their two children in Orange County, California, and continues his activity in the flexible electronic circuit manufacturing industry, as *technical business development manager*, liaising the customers' teams of design engineers and the engineering teams in the company's manufacturing factories.

Prof. Dr. Eng. Petre Lucian OGRUȚAN

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