

14TH EDITION OF URBAN CONCEPT NATIONAL CONFERENCE – MODERN URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN ROMANIA

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The National Conference URBAN CONCEPT – Modern urban development in Romania, started in 2005, reached its 14th edition. The event is organized by the firm “People and companies”, editor of the web portal www.eurourbanism.ro, in an attempt to create an interactive communication platform for the Romanian specialists involved in urban and spatial planning. Previous editions gathered every time around 170 people, including chief architects of counties and municipalities, presidents of urban planning commissions, presidents of companies and professional associations, representatives of central and local authorities, and specialists from academia and research.

The 14th edition was organized in Sinaia, Romania during 13-15 May 2014, with scientific support from the Association of Chief Architects of Counties, the territorial office of the Registry of Urban Planners in Romania for the North-East region of development and Iași branch of the Union of Architects in Romania. The topic of this edition was “Territory, city, architecture and legislative news”.

Out of the oral professional and sponsored presentations included in the program, ten were delivered:

- Architect Radu SPÎNU, PhD, Associate Professor delivered a

presentation focused on the relationship between urban and rural settlements in the metropolitan area of Cluj Napoca, Romania, in the framework of territorial development.

- Architect Aurelian GHEORGHIU presented the changes in the morphology of Someș river and its neighboring area, including the development of urban and rural settlements in relationship with the water and economic activities.
- Mr. Dan MIHOCI, Sales Manger of Greensoft delivered a presentation of Greencity, an intelligent software solution for managing utility networks and cadastre, useful for local public authorities and city managers, including those responsible for planning.
- Senior researcher and Assistant Professor Alexandru-Ionuț PETRIȘOR, PhD (Ecology), PhD (Geography), Habil. (Urban Planning) discussed the use of Geographical Information Systems in spatial planning and territorial research, emphasizing the situations when a GIS is really needed.
- Architect Eugenia MĂRGINEAN, Chief Architect of Alba County, presented the results of an architectural design competition focused on Motilor Land, consisting of designing housing and tourism facilities.

- Architect Mircea GRIGOROVSKI, PhD, Associate Professor presented the results of a didactic project which asked students to reflect over landscaping specific transects of Iași city in order to enhance their urban image
- Architect Șerban ȚIGANAȘ, President of the Order of Architects in Romania, presented a challenging reflection offering arguments for a reform focused on the concepts of “*urban planning architecture*” or “*architectural urban planning*”, starting from the contrasts between regulations and their enforcement
- Mr. Florian SIMIONESCU, Manager of CEO Integrisoft, delivered a product-oriented presentation of software solutions consistent with a modern management of urban planning activities oriented to the integration of territorial data and information in a coherent framework
- Sorin GABREA, General Director of SC WESTERN OUTDOOR SRL, delivered a presentation focused on the urban plans aimed at developing the northern part of Bucharest, starting from the historical evolution of the city in conjunction with changes in the market and urban planning system
- Architect Radu RADOSLAV, PhD, Professor and representative of the Registry of Urban Planners in Romania for the Western region of development presented the evolution of urban agriculture, green corridors and transportation in the northwest of Timișoara city.

As an attendant of URBAN CONCEPT for 15 years, I was able to see a continuous growth of the scientific quality of the event, reflected by the topics compliant with the most recent trends in Europe and worldwide, by the quality of presentations (delivered didactically and attractively) and by the particular research focus (all presentations of the 14th edition were research-based).

Furthermore, the conference aimed at (and succeeded) to disseminate the presentation to a broader audience; the 14th edition is the 4th to benefit upon an abstract proceedings volume, including other interesting materials, and will be the first to benefit upon a full paper proceedings volume.

Congratulations are due to the organizers, in addition to the warmest wishes for success in relationship to the next editions.