**Romanian Venture Forum Agenda**

**Bucharest National Opera House, December 7, from 09:30**

**Moderator: Adrian Cojocaru**

**09:00 - 9:30 Registration & welcome coffee**

**9:30 - 9:45 Opening remarks**

* Cristina CHIRIAC – President CONAF, Doctor of Economics, Entrepreneur, Author
* Marius GHENEA - Managing Partner Catalyst Romania, Entrepreneur, Angel investor, Venture Capitalist, Author

**9:45 - 10:00 Officials Speeches**

* Nicolae-Ionel CIUCĂ – The Prime Minister of Romania
* Ramona CHIRIAC - Head of the Representation of the European Commission to Bucharest
* Sebastian BURDUJA – Minister of Research, Innovation and Digitization

**10:00 - 10:20 Keynote Speech: The Private Equity / Venture Capital Market**

* Horia MANDA - President Romanian Private Equity Association (ROPEA)

**10:20 - 10:40 EIF as catalyst of the venture ecosystem**

* Jacques DARCY, Department Director of Mandate Management – Equity at European Investment Fund (EIF)

**10:40 - 11:35 Panel I: The Rise of Growth Equity. Romania, an emerging ecosystem**

**Moderated by Daniela Iliescu, Executive Director ROPEA**

* Radu HANGA – President Bursa de Valori Bucureşti
* Marius GHENEA – Managing Partner Catalyst Romania
* Camelia DRĂGOI – Senior Mandate Management-Equity, European Investment Fund (EIF)
* Adrian STĂNCULESCU – Partner, Head of Romania at Abris Capital Partners
* Omer TETIK - CEO Banca Transilvania

**11:35 - 12:20 Panel II: From Zero to Hero, how are successful start-ups being built?**

**Moderated by Varinia Radu, Founder and CEO Energynomics**

* Andrei PITIȘ – CEO & Founder VectorWatch, Founder Simple Capital
* Adrian ERIMESCU – Co-Founder & CEO Imobiliare.ro & Growceanu Angel Investment
* Mircea CĂPĂȚÎNĂ – Co-Founder SmartBill.ro
* Ana-Maria STANCU – Robot Fleet Amiral
* Ionuț Cristian CIUBOTARU – Vice-president Business Development OMV Petrom

**12:20 - 13:30 Pitching session** (5 Tech start-ups present 10 minutes each including Q&A) in front of a Jury of 5 VC& Investment Professionals.

**Jury Members:**

* Alexandru AGATINEI – CEO HowToWEB
* Adrian ERIMESCU - Co-Founder at Growceanu Angel Investment
* Alexandru BOGDAN – CEO RocaX
* Andrei DUDOIU – Founder Seedblink
* Alexandru BURCIU - Fortech Investments/Transylvania Angels Network

**13:30 - 14:30 Lunch**

**14:30 - 15:15 Panel III: Cooperation between Business Angels and Investments Funds**

**Moderated by Vlad Andriescu, Editor in Chief Start-up.ro**

* + Malin ȘTEFĂNESCU – President TechAngels
  + Radu GEORGESCU – Serial Entrepreneur, Founding Partner Gecad Ventures
  + Alexandru BOGDAN – CEO RocaX
  + Dan MIHĂESCU – Founding Partner GapMinder Venture Partners
  + Alin STANCIU – Partner Catalyst Romania

**15.15 - 16:15 Green Pitching session** (5 start-ups from Clean Tech/Green Energy Sector)

**Jury Members:**

* Cristian NEGRUȚIU – Founding Partner Sparking Capital
* Antonela DRAGOMIR– Investment Manager Catalyst Romania
* Ionuț Cristian CIUBOTARU - Vice-president Business Development OMV Petrom
* Gabriel BIRIȘ – Co-Managing Partner Biris Goran
* Aleksandar BIJELIĆ – President of the Board Serbian Venture Network

**16:15 - 16:45 Coffee break**

**16:45 - 17:30 Panel IV: Cross-border Investments/Growing Cooperation in the region**

**Moderated by Alin Stanciu, Partner Catalyst România**

* Pekka MAKI – Managing Partner 3TS Capital Partners
* Peter TANCZOS – Managing Partner EuroVentures
* Valeri PETROV – Partner Eleven Ventures
* Carmen SEBE – CEO Seedblink
* Karol LASOTA – Principal Inovo Capital
* Aleksandar BIJELIĆ - President of the Board Serbian Venture Network

**17:30 - 18:15 Panel V: Wingate**

**Moderated by Aleksandar Bijelić, President of the Board Serbian Venture Network**

* Agnes PUSKAS – Lead Poject Manager of Wingate (Hungary)
* Lotte FROST – Communication Manager, Wingate (Norway)
* Nicoleta MUNTEANU – Vicepresident of ANAA (Romania)

**18:15 - 18:30 Announcing the Pitch winners for each session & Wrap-Up**

**18:45: Exclusive Networking Event**

\* **The National Association of Entrepreneurs (ANAA)** is a founding member of the National Confederation for Female Entrepreneurship (CONAF) - the strongest confederation in Romania, that brings together the interests of entrepreneurs, in the European spirit of gender equality and equal opportunities.

CONAF was born following the need to create a modern, sustainable and fair entrepreneurial culture, not only for female entrepreneurship, but also for the entire business environment.

CONAF has in its composition 2 federations, 10 patronages, 5 associations and over 3,000 companies.

ANAA, together with CONAF, organizes important events for e the Romanian society, focused on continuous education and learning, awareness and finding solutions for problems and areas of a wide range of public interest.

The association develops and completes national projects with a strong impact, both for society and for the development strategies of central and local authorities.

\*\***Catalyst Romania** is one of the leading technology-focused venture capital firms in Romania and targets investments in exceptional, high growth SMEs from Romania and from the region, that are founded by outstanding management teams. Its investees are either proven businesses becoming local leaders or truly innovative global challengers the broader TMT sectors including Technology & Internet (Software, Hardware, Mobile, Ecommerce, etc.), Media & Communications (Digital Media, Operators, etc.) and Technology-Enabled Services (Consumer and Business Services, Healthcare Services, etc.). Catalyst Romania’s two Funds have a total capitalization of over €60 million, the main investors being the European Investment Fund, Banca Transilvania alongside other institutional and private investors. The Catalyst team consists of highly qualified experts, with entrepreneurial and financial background, from several European countries and USA. Catalyst Romania contributes to scaling and development of its portfolio companies through know-how, resources, business partners and co-investors from Europe, America and Asia.

**\*\*\*ROPEA** is an independent, non-profit organisation, promoting the interests of the Romanian Private Equity and Venture Capital industry. We collaborate to provide capital, unlock potential, grow businesses and deliver enhanced returns to investors.

ROPEA’s mission is to interconnect the Private Equity and Venture Capital community, assist in the development of Private Equity and Venture Capital industries and represent their interests. We also aim to improve the efficiency of the sector by increasing its awareness and widening access to it, proving the positive role of our industry in the Romanian economy.