

Bucharest 2018 Symposium on Microgrids, 2-6 September 2018
University Politehnica of Bucharest, Romania



web: <http://microgrid-symposiums.org/> == email: bucharest@microgrid-symposiums.org

5 July 2018

Invitation to the Bucharest 2018 Symposium on Microgrids

Dear {invitee}:

On behalf of the International Microgrid Symposiums Steering Committee and the University Politehnica of Bucharest (UPB) Local Organising Committee, we invite you to the fourteenth in our series of international microgrid symposiums in Bucharest, Romania, on 2-6 September 2018. As you are a highly regarded microgrid expert, we would value your participation in discussions on current and future microgrid and related smart grid research, development, and demonstration activities. Note that participation in these symposiums is by invitation only, and since interest is high, please carefully follow the reservation process. The final day to register was 30 June 2018, but there are a few spaces still available on a first-come-first-served basis.

The purpose of the Symposium is to exchange information internationally, yet informally, on the current state of research on microgrids, and to identify key technical, economic, and policy issues that should be addressed by future work. The prior thirteen symposiums have been: Berkeley, U.S.A., 17 June 2005; Montreal, Canada, 23 June 2006; Nagoya, Japan, 6 April 2007; Kythnos Is., Greece, 2 June 2008; San Diego, U.S.A. 17-18 September 2009; Vancouver, Canada, 21-22 July 2010; Jeju Is., S. Korea, 26-27 May 2011; Evora, Portugal, 3-4 September 2012; Santiago, Chile, 11-12 September 2013; Tianjin, China, 13-14 November 2014; Aalborg, Denmark, 27-28 August 2015; Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada, 20-21 October 2016; and Newcastle, Australia, 28-30 November 2017. All have been highly productive and enjoyable. To see the presentations and other materials from these past events, please go to <http://microgrid-symposiums.org/>

Our goal for the Bucharest 2018 Symposium on Microgrids is to continue our exchange of results from microgrid research, demonstration, and deployment worldwide with an emphasis on recent results and areas of potential international cooperation. As before, each region will invite eminent speakers to present their work, and there will be additional short summaries of each region's research program. In addition to these prepared presentations, group discussion will be encouraged.

Symposium Arrangements

The format of the Bucharest Symposium will be similar to prior ones. Attendance is by invitation only, and attendees, including speakers, are responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses. As in past years, we will endeavor to finance the Symposium without a registration fee, although an approximately €215 fee will be charged for the optional post-conference technical tour. Additional fees may be collected for other events if insufficient funds are contributed.

The Symposium will be held from Sunday to Thursday, 2-6 September, on the campus of the University Politehnica of Bucharest, Romania. Monday and Tuesday, 3 and 4 September, will be full days of presentations at the Rectorat Building, 313 Splaiul Independentei. An optional technical tour to the Danube Delta will depart on Wednesday, 5 September morning and return to Bucharest on Thursday, 6 September evening. Please see the end of this letter for more tour details.

To help justify costly and time-consuming international travel, the Symposium dates have been chosen to follow the CIGRE General Meeting in Paris, to be held on 26-31 August.

Additionally, the 7th Microgrid Global Innovation Forum will be held in London on Tuesday through Thursday, 11-13 September. Its organizers offer a 30% discount for anyone attending both microgrid events, but please note the U.K. is not in the Schengen Area. For more information, including the Call for Speakers, see: <http://www.microgridinnovation.com/EMEA/index.htm>

Registration

If you are coming to the Bucharest 2018 Symposium on Microgrids, please send us an email at bucharest@microgrid-symposiums.org, and please let us know if you need a visa invitation letter. Your email should include your full name, as it appears on your passport with your family name in CAPITAL LETTERS, your affiliation, and the email address we should use to respond. Also, please add bucharest@microgrid-symposiums.org to your phone book or whitelist so our future email isn't trapped as SPAM.

Within a week, we will ask you for further details using the Eventbrite platform, so please look out for your Eventbrite invitation email. Please respond to it as soon as possible to help us manage attendance, and similarly, immediately cancel your registration if you cannot attend. For transportation purposes, we would also like to know soon which hotel you've chosen. When you have a hotel reservation, please add it by returning to your Eventbrite account. ***We will distribute future symposium information from Eventbrite.***

Currency

The Leu (RON) is the official currency of Romania, with the plural form for leu being lei. The exchange rate is approximately 4.7 lei/EUR and 4 lei/USD, and all Romanian bank notes are polymer (not paper). Money may be exchanged at banks, airport, hotels or authorized exchange offices called 'casa de schimb' or 'birou de schimb valutar.' ATMs are available at banks, airports and shopping centers. You can easily get lei from ATMs with your personal debit/credit card. MasterCard, Visa, and American Express are widely accepted, but not by taxis.

Transportation

The *Henri Coanda* airport (OTP is the international code) is located north of Bucharest, 26 km from the city center, and is well linked with major European hubs.

Taxis in Bucharest are quite cheap, although you may find a range of prices used by the various companies. The most common prices are 1.4 lei/km and 1.7 lei/km, but you may be asked for higher prices. You can avoid them because there are many regular price taxis available. All taxis are yellow and show all key information, e.g. price, taxi number, and phone number.

Depending on the tariff, a ride between the airport and the city center costs between 25 lei and 40 lei, whereas a ride between the Bucharest city center and the UPB campus is around 15 lei. Taxis can be ordered at the airport using the electronic booths right at the exit area of the arrivals terminal, and the taxi area is just outside. Uber also operates in Bucharest at similar prices.

Bus 783 (http://www.ratb.ro/v_bus_expres.php) connects the airport with the Bucharest city center. The fare is 7 lei/2 rides. There is no train station at the airport.

Accommodation

You are advised to make all your own travel arrangements, including reserving your accommodation. Please search for hotels located in the city center, close to “Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta.”

Here are some example hotels:

- 5-star: Intercontinental, Athénée Palace, Radisson Blue, and JW Marriott Grand Hotel;
- 4-star: Novotel, Ramada, Cismigiu, The Mansion Boutique, Old Town Boutique Hotel, Venetia by Zeus International, Capitol, K+K Hotel Elisabeta, and Old City Bucharest NF;
- 3-star hotels close to the conference venue: Ambiance Hotel, and Yesterday Hotel.

Please note that if you plan to join the technical tour, one hotel night in the delta region is included.

Visas

For information on Romanian entry requirements, please visit the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at <https://www.mae.ro/en/node/2035>

If you need a visa, there are two options: either apply for a Romania visa, or use a multiple-entry Schengen visa you already have or one you apply for using other channels. A valid **multiple-entry Schengen visa, it is also valid for Romania**, but you cannot travel to Schengen countries (e.g. France, Italy, or Spain) on a Romania visa. If you hold a Schengen visa, please make sure that your authorized number of entries and length of stay are adequate for all your planned European travel. Your stay in Romania cannot exceed the residency time granted by a visa/residence permit issued by any Schengen Member State.

It is now too late for the University to provide an invitation letter for you to obtain a Romania visa, nor can we help you obtain a Schengen or U.K. visa.

Poster Session

The Symposium will include a poster session. Posters can have multiple authors, and typically we like to see developments fostered by an active microgrid research team. The deadline for poster submissions has past, but if you have a poster idea that will significantly improve the symposium, please send your one-page or less abstract to bucharest@microgrid-symposiums.org

Poster presenters are responsible for printing their posters and bringing them to the Symposium. Posters must be in excellent English, and the suggested size is A0, or roughly 84 cm (33 inches) by 119 cm (47 inches). Please consider that the posters will appear on the <http://microgrid-symposiums.org/> website, and you can see examples of past accepted posters there. A “best poster” competition will be organized by the Publications Committee.

We hope you will be able to join us in Bucharest and help us extend our highly productive International Microgrid Symposium series. We look forward to seeing you there. If you have any further questions, please contact us or any member of the International Steering or Local Organizing Committees listed below.

We look forward to seeing you in Bucharest!

Nikos Hatziaargyriou



Steering Committee Chair

Mihaela Albu



Symposium Co-Chair

Maria Brucoli



Symposium Co-Chair

Local Organizing Committee

Mihaela Albu (Chair)

Maria Brucoli

Geo Darie

Lucian Toma

Cornel Chira

Radu Porumb

Stella Wang

Goncalo Mendes

U. Politehnica of Bucharest

EdF Energy Research

U. Politehnica of Bucharest

U. Politehnica of Bucharest

U. Politehnica of Bucharest

U. Politehnica of Bucharest

KAYAK

Lappeenranta U. of Tech.

mihaela.albu@upb.ro

maria.brucoli@edfenergy.com

george.darie@energy.pub.ro

lucian.toma@upb.ro

cornel.chira@upb.ro

radu.porumb@upb.ro

shi.stella.wang@gmail.com

Goncalo.Mendes@lut.fi

International Microgrid Symposium Steering Committee

Leadership

Nikos Hatziargyriou (Steering Committee Chair)	NTUA & HEDNO	nh@power.ece.ntua.gr
Mihaela Albu (Bucharest Symposium Co-Chair)	Politehnica U. of Bucharest	mihaela.albu@upb.ro
Maria Brucoli (Bucharest Symposium Co-Chair)	EdF Energy R&D	maria.brucoli@edfenergy.com
Ryoichi Hara (Prior Steering Committee Chair)	Hokkaido U.	rhara49@gmail.com
Pierluigi Mancarella (Prior Symposium Co-Chair)	U. of Melbourne	pierluigi.mancarella@unimelb.edu.au
Saad Sayeef (Prior Symposium Co-Chair)	CSIRO	Saad.Sayeef@csiro.au

Europe & Africa

Mihaela Albu (Europe Lead)	Politehnica U. of Bucharest	mihaela.albu@upb.ro
Nikos Hatziargyriou	NTUA & HEDNO	nh@power.ece.ntua.gr
Johan Driesen	K.U. Leuven	Johan.Driesen@esat.kuleuven.be
Maria Brucoli	EdF Energy R&D	maria.brucoli@edfenergy.com
Josep Guerrero	Aalborg University	joz@et.aau.dk
Goncalo Mendes	Lappeenranta U.T.	Goncalo.Mendes@lut.fi
Jan von Appen	Fraunhofer IEE	jan.vonappen@ieee.fraunhofer.de

The Americas

Jim Cale (Americas Lead)	Colorado State U	jcale@colostate.edu
Farid Katiraei	Quanta Tech.	fkatiraei@quanta-technology.com
Chris Marnay	MgDoM	ChrisMarnay@LBL.gov
Guillermo Jimenez	U. of Chile	GJimenez@centroenergia.cl
Alexandre Prieur	NRCan	alexandre.prieur@canada.ca
Brian Miller	NREL	Brian.Miller@nrel.gov
Dave Turcotte (acting member)	NRCan	Dave.Turcotte@canada.ca

Asia & Oceania

Dong-Jun Won (Acting Asia Lead)	Inha University	djwon@inha.ac.kr
Jaeho Choi	Chungbuk Nat'l U.	choi@chungbuk.ac.kr
Shigeru Bando	CRIEPI	bando@criepi.denken.or.jp
Saad Sayeef	CSIRO	Saad.Sayeef@csiro.au
Meiqin Mao	Hefei U. of Tech.	mmqmail@163.com
Alex Chong	A*STAR	alex_chong@epgc.a-star.edu.sg
Ryoichi Hara	Hokkaido U.	hara@ssi.ist.hokudai.ac.jp
Toshifumi Ise	Osaka U.	ise@pwr.eng.osaka-u.ac.jp
Pierluigi Mancarella	U. of Melbourne	pierluigi.mancarella@unimelb.edu.au

DANUBE DELTA TECHNICAL TOUR

€215 must be paid by 23 July to guarantee a place

afterwards you can join only if accommodation can be found

TOUR ITINERARY

Wednesday, 5 September

09:00 depart Bucharest

- Bucharest to Cernavoda is 163 km, < 2 h by bus

11:00 Danube bridge crossing at Cernavoda

- 15 min overview of nuclear and wind power plants
- Cernavoda to Constanta is 65 km, < 1 h by bus

12:15 arrive at Constanta (this is the only point where you can see the Black Sea)

- short (~1 h) lunch in Constanta
- Constanta to Tulcea is 125 km by regional road, < 2 h by bus
many wind turbines are visible on this road
- short stop at the Fantanele-Cogealac wind power plant
at 600 MW, the world's largest on-shore

16:00 arrival at Tulcea

- hotel check-in

19:00 dinner

Thursday, 6 September

09:00 depart Tulcea

- visit to smart metering infrastructure
- full day trip on the Danube Delta

17:30 depart to Bucharest by a shorter route

21:00 arrival at Bucharest

Danube Delta Day Trip Tulcea - Mila 23

- This trip follows Tourist route No 1. Departing from Tulcea, we pass downstream on the Tulcea Channel to the junction with the Canal 36, and in about 10 minutes we are already in the Danube Delta. We go further downstream on Channel 36 and then turn right on Garla Sireasa and into a delta area rich in fauna (water birds and animals). We continue on Garla Sontea among marshlands full of birds and vegetation. We have an opportunity to see white and yellow water lilies, swans, coot, ducks, geese, spoonbills, godwits, ibises and even pelicans.
- Then, we cross the Lake Fortuna (Furtuna), one of the large lakes of the Danube Delta, a very beautiful lake rich in wildlife. If it's a windy day with high waves, the lake will be avoided. The guide will decide whether or not to cross the lake.
- We follow the Olguta channel for about 3 hours to Mila 23, right in the middle of the Danube Delta. At Mila 23, we visit the village and talk with the locals, and eat a traditional fish lunch (optional) at a very nice 3 *** pension or local household. After lunch, we go back on much the same route as we followed coming. Nonetheless, in the opposite direction, everything looks completely different. You will not recognize the places we passed earlier. The ride back takes about 2 hours.

