



International Conference on: „*INTER UNIVERSITY COOPERATION FOR OPEN SCIENCE*”

**An event dedicated to the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Baku
State University**

Proposed date: May 28th-29th, 2019

Place: University of Bucharest, Romania

Background:

In 1919 the Parliament of Azerbaijan Democratic Republic decided the establishment of Baku State University as one of the main institutions to contribute to the establishment and consolidation of the young democratic Republic of Azerbaijan.

Based on the decision of the Black Sea Universities Network General Assembly, the Celebration of 100th Anniversary of Baku State University shall be organized with a major event.

The main topic of this event is proposed to be “Open Science” and the University of Bucharest offered the possibility to co-organize such an event with the support of UNICA.

Open Science represents a new approach to the scientific process based on cooperative work and new ways of diffusing knowledge by using digital technologies and new collaborative tools (European Commission, 2016b:33).

The OECD defines Open Science as: “to make the primary outputs of publicly funded research results – publications and the research data – publicly accessible in digital format with no or minimal restriction” (OECD, 2015:7), but it is more than that. Open Science is about extending the principles of openness to the whole research cycle, fostering sharing and collaboration as early as possible thus entailing a systemic change to the way science and research is done.



Aim: The event shall facilitate discussions on the current challenges in addressing the complexity of Open Science concepts and principles from the perspective of higher education in the global and regional context, in a changing and globalizing world. Selected keynote speakers and participants will analyze and elaborate from different views the topics covering the core missions and priority processes within the universities.

Topics to be debated during the event shall address the Open Science concepts and principles from the following perspectives:

- a. Current challenges in higher education in the Black Sea Region;
- b. Modern History – Social Cohesion – European Cooperation
- c. Frontier Scientific Research – Nanosciences, Biotechnologies, Genomics
- d. Sustainable Development Goals in the Black Sea Region
- e. Digital transformation of the society.

Participants: the event shall be attended by academics, students, members of the governments, experts in the field, ambassadors and representatives of diplomatic missions of BSEC member countries and other international organizations, journalists.

Co-organizing institutions:

The University of Bucharest is considered to be the most important educational, research and cultural institution in Romania. During its 150 years of existence, it has achieved a steadfast national and international prestige.

The University of Bucharest is one of the most important scientific research centres nationwide. Within the University, there are over 50 research institutes, departments and centres, most of them collaborating with similar scientific centres abroad.

The University of Bucharest has been and still is the motor of important reformation measures for the development of the higher education, which have also been taken over by other universities around the country, or which have represented the grounds for the elaboration of several laws and national regulations.

The Black Sea Universities Network (BSUN) represents the cooperation framework for Academic Institutions from the Black Sea Region. BSUN intends to facilitate the inter-university cooperation and the generation of synergies among education, scientific research, innovation and cultural cooperation. At present, the Network includes 110 universities from the 12 member countries of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, including Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine.



Baku State University is known as a leader of educational institutions, has a rich history and today it is known as one of the most famous scientific and educational centers of Republic of Azerbaijan. The University has been the center of thought and national thinking. Azerbaijan's famous politician, Heydar Aliyev and thousands of well-known scientists, intellectuals, and outstanding diplomats have graduated from this university.

According to the decree of our national leader Heydar Aliyev dated June 13, 2000, the university got the status of autonomy, and began to implement its activity on the basis of its own statute.

Today, Baku State University offers students 16 majors with 55 bachelor and 153 master degrees.

Every year, thousands of young people do their best to pass difficult competition, to enter Baku State University: the competition is 3 persons per place of the faculty; sometimes it reaches 10 persons per place of the certain faculty. Every year 40 of the 100 best entrants, are awarded by the president of Republic of Azerbaijan for their high results in education to "presidential grant" on behalf of BSU.

UNICA is an institutional ***Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe*** which was founded in 1990, and it is currently made up of 51 universities from 37 capital cities of Europe, combining over 160,000 university staff and 1.900,000 students.

UNICA provides a forum for its Members to reflect on the latest developments and demands of strategic change in university research, education and administration.

To achieve its aims, UNICA carries out member-driven activities, the content, format, and frequency of which depend substantially on UNICA Member Universities' engagement and interest.



Tentative Program

May 27th, 2019

Arrival of the participants

19:00 Cocktail offered by HE Amb. Huseyn N. NAJAFOV on the occasion of Republic Day of Azerbaijan, Diplomatic Club, Bucharest

May 28th, 2019

Location: University of Bucharest, Faculty of Law, Stoicescu Hall

09:30 *Registration of participants*

10:00 Opening Speeches

Prof. Ecaterina ANDRONESCU, Romanian Minister of Education (t.b.c.)

Amb. Huseyn N. NAJAFOV, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Republic of Azerbaijan in Romania (t.b.c)

Prof. Adrian BADEA, President, The Academy of Romanian Scientists (t.b.c)

Prof. Pericles A. MITKAS, President of the Black Sea Universities Network

Prof. Mircea DUMITRU, Rector of the University of Bucharest, Romania

Prof. Elçin BABAYEV, Rector of Baku State University, Azerbaijan

Prof. Luciano SASO, Vice-Rector for European University Networks at Sapienza University and President of the UNICA network of the Universities from the Capitals of Europe

11:00 *Press conference and coffee break*

11:30 Plenary Section on: *“Open Science and Current Challenges on the Role of Science in the Society”*

Moderator: Prof. Elçin BABAYEV, Rector of Baku State University

Speakers:

Dr. Corina PASCU, European Commission, *The Open Science Initiative of the European Commission*

Prof. dr. Manuela EPURE, “Spiru Haret” University, *Open Science Policy Platform Group*

Mrs. Ioana SPANACHE, UEFISCDI, *Open Science and Scholarly Communication. What can OpenAIRE offer?*

Prof. Luciano SASO, UNICA, *The impact of artificial intelligence (AI) and digitalization on teaching and learning at universities*



Debates and points of view

13:00 *Lunch Break*

14:00 Plenary Panel on “*Open Publications on Humanistic and Natural Sciences*”

Location: University of Bucharest, Faculty of Law, Antonescu Hall

Moderator: Prof. Mircea DUMITRU, Rector of University of Bucharest

Speakers:

Costin LIANU, „Spiru Haret” University, *Open Science and Innovation Ecosystem*

Debates and points of view

16:00 *Coffee-Break*

16:30 Plenary Panel on “*Open Science Issues on Frontier Research: Nanosciences, Biotechnologies, Genomics and Digital Transformation of the Society*”

Moderator: Prof. Eden MAMUT, ECHA Nanomaterials Expert Group

Speakers:

Prof. Dr. Sergiy BELYKOV, *Open Science Approaches Initiatives in Ukraine*

Prof. Dr. Elmar GASIMOV, Baku State High Oil School

Debates and points of view

18:00 Closure

19:30 Dinner at “Monte Carlo” Restaurant located in the Cismigiu Park

May 29th, 2019

10:00 Visit to the Palace of the Parliament

11:00 Meeting with Mrs. Roberta ANASTASE, PABSEC vice-President and the Members of the Delegation of the Romanian Parliament to the PABSEC

12:00 Lunch at the Restaurant of the Palace of the Parliament

Social Program and Departure of the participants