

ROMANIAN ENERGY CENTER ASSOCIATION AT THE DIGITAL EDUCATION STAKEHOLDER FORUM

18th of April 2022, Carina Ioana ZIDARU

The representatives of the Romanian Energy Center (CRE) Association participated at the "Digital Education Stakeholder Forum - Making education and training fit for the digital age", organized online by the European Commission (EC), on Tuesday, 22nd of March 2022. The Digital Education Stakeholder Forum was the first major European Event on the digital education subject organised by the European Commission since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Event highlighting the Digital Education aimed at collecting important input from stakeholders and discuss the implementation of digital education, in terms of policy and practice at European, national and regional levels. In this context, digital education has become a key political priority across the European Union (EU). Additionally, the Forum was a great opportunity to reflect on the first year of implementation of the brand new [Digital Education Plan](#).

The Forum brought together a wide range of stakeholders and partners from across EU, including policymakers at the European and national levels, practitioners, academics and representatives from civil society and business. All the participants were guided by the common objective of promoting the transformation of education and training in Europe to provide learners with a high-quality, inclusive, and effectively digitalised system.



The Agenda of the [Digital Education Stakeholder Forum](#) underlined interesting and important topics such as: key enablers for digital education in Europe; the Digital Education Action Plan; the experiences of young people; digital education ecosystem; and digital skills and competences for the digital transition.

The digital transition is a key priority for the European Union. In terms of key enablers for digital education in Europe, the European Commission has put forward ambitious targets to equip 80% of Europeans with basic digital skills and to have 20 million Information and Communications Technology (ICT) specialists employed in the EU by 2030. To achieve these targets, Member States will need to have in place strong digital education ecosystems. These will need to be supported by key enabling factors, such as digital infrastructure and connectivity, teachers equipped with digital skills and competences, and cooperation with the private sector.

During the panel discussion on key enablers for digital education in Europe, the European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth - Ms. Mariya GABRIEL and high-profile speakers from the European Parliament and the current Council of the EU presidency trio discussed the impact-focussed investment in digital education, the place of digital competences in education and training systems, and the governance of digital education and skills policies.

The digital transformation plays an important role in European Projects funded by the European Commission. [CRE](#) Association is constantly researching and innovating towards synergies between the telecommunications, energy and transport sectors in terms of investments in ICT, Digitalization and Infrastructure.

The event was relevant for the Association as CRE is a partner in **EDDIE Project - Education for Digitization of Energy**, an Erasmus+ funded by the EU Commission aiming to create a Sector Skills Alliance (SSA) by bringing together all the relevant stakeholders in the Energy value chain. The main objective of this SSA is to develop a long-driven Blueprint for the energy sector to enable the matching between the current and future demand of skills necessary and the supply of improved Vocational Education and Training systems and beyond.

CRE already implemented five European H2020 Projects: [SUCCESS](#), [RESERVE](#), [NRG5](#), [WISEGRID](#), [SOGNO](#), and is currently implementing other six projects: [CROSSBOW](#), [PHOENIX](#), [TRINITY](#), [EDDIE](#), [EDGEFLEX](#) and [CYBERSEAS](#).

CRE Association is an active and strategic partner together with its members and other potential members in international consortia for deploying energy projects funded by the European Commission.

