



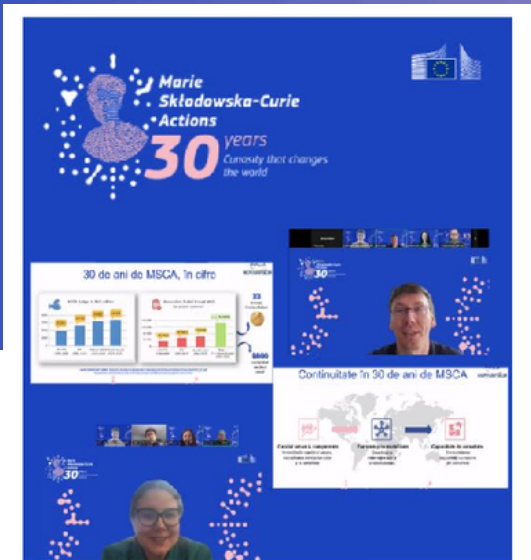
# 30 Years of MSCA: Inspiring Romanian Researchers

Post-event synthesis report



22 April 2026 | 10:00 – 14.00 (Bucharest time)  
**Online event** (in Romanian)

# Executive summary



The anniversary event **“30 Years of MSCA: Inspiring Romanian Researchers”** was successfully organised online on 22 April 2026 by MSCA National Contact Points in Romania at UEFISCDI, as part of the celebration of three decades of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions. The event brought together representatives of the European Commission, the Romanian MSCA National Contact Point team, researchers, alumni, supervisors, beneficiaries, and members of the Romanian research and innovation community.

Designed to highlight both the strategic relevance and the human dimension of MSCA, the event offered to the 120 participants an overview of the key novelties and updates in the MSCA 2026-2027 programme, alongside insights into Romania’s participation in MSCA.

The event combined presentations, roundtable discussions, an interactive audience poll, short video testimonials and Q&A sessions. These contributions created a dynamic and engaging format, encouraging dialogue between experienced beneficiaries and researchers interested in future MSCA opportunities.

Overall, the discussions clearly reinforced **the importance of MSCA for Romania**, not only as a funding instrument, but as a strategic driver for developing research talent, increasing international visibility, and integrating Romanian institutions into the international research area.

# Table of contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Executive summary                          | 01 |
| Introduction                               | 03 |
| Opening remarks & national perspective     | 08 |
| MSCA 2026-2027 updates & overview          | 10 |
| Romanian participation in MSCA at a glance | 12 |
| Roundtable discussion & interactive poll   | 14 |
| Short testimonials                         | 23 |
| Main insights & follow-up                  | 26 |

**Marie  
Skłodowska-Curie  
Actions**



**30**  
years

*Curiosity that changes  
the world*

# 01 Introduction

# 30 Years of MSCA: Inspiring Romanian Researchers

Eveniment online: 22 Aprilie 2026, 10.00-14.00 (ora României)

Dr. Sabina OLARU\*, Adriana ROTAR\*, Dr. Corina BARNA\*\*

## Background

The year 2026 marks the 30th anniversary of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, one of the European Commission's flagship programmes for supporting research careers, international mobility, doctoral training, postdoctoral development, intersectoral collaboration and institutional capacity building.

For Romania, MSCA represents an important European instrument for:

connecting  
researchers and  
institutions to  
international networks

increasing visibility  
and reputation

strengthening  
participation in Horizon  
Europe

To mark this anniversary, the event "30 Years of MSCA: Inspiring Romanian Researchers" was organised to celebrate the programme's legacy, present future opportunities, and bring forward the voices of Romanian researchers and institutions involved in MSCA.

## Event at a glance

The event in brief, through key figures and highlights:

**120 / 268**

**active / registered  
participants**

researchers at  
different career stages  
and and stakeholders

**14**

**speakers in the  
roudtale discussion**

MSCA alumni,  
supervisors,  
beneficiaries,  
coordinators

**07**

**short videos for  
testimonials**

researchers  
(PhD / postdoc)  
involved in MSCA  
projects

# Objectives

The event was designed to achieve the following objectives:

01

Informing the Romanian R&I community about the main novelties in the MSCA 2026–2027 programme

02

Presenting Romania's participation in MSCA and the main areas of interest

03

Showcasing the concrete experiences of Romanian researchers involved in MSCA

04

Encouraging interest in future participation in MSCA calls

## Agenda overview

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 10:00 – 10:05 | <b>Opening remarks</b>   |
| 10:05-10:15   | <b>Welcome and national perspective</b><br><b>Alexandra VANCEA</b> , MSCA Programme Committee member, National Authority for Research  |
| 10:15 – 11.10 | <b>Key novelties and updates in MSCA 2026-2027: Programme overview   Q&amp;A session</b><br><b>Dr. Robin GADBLED</b> , Policy Officer, European Commission, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, Unit C2: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions |
| 11.10 – 11.40 | <b>Romanian participation in MSCA at a glance</b><br><b>Dr. Sabina OLARU</b> , MSCA NCP, UEFISCDI<br><b>Adriana ROTAR</b> , MSCA NCP, UEFISCDI<br><b>Dr. Corina BARNA</b> , MSCA NCP, University of Life Sciences "King Michael I" from Timisoara                |
| 11.40 – 13.00 | <b>Roundtable discussion: From Romania to Europe and beyond - Building research careers with MSCA</b><br>MSCA alumni, supervisors and beneficiaries  |
| 13.00-13.10   | <b>Active break</b><br><b>Interactive poll: Your MSCA experience in brief</b>  |
| 13.10 – 13.30 | <b>Short testimonials: My MSCA experience in 1 minute</b><br>Researchers (PhD / postdoc) involved in MSCA projects   |
| 13.30 – 14.00 | <b>Q&amp;A   Concluding remarks</b>  |

# Speakers and moderators

## Moderators


- Dr. Sabina Olaru, MSCA National Contact Point, UEFISCDI
- Adriana Rotar, MSCA National Contact Point, UEFISCDI

## Speakers

- Alexandra Vancea, MSCA Programme Committee member, National Authority for Research
- Dr. Robin Gadbled, Policy Officer, European Commission, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, Unit C2: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Dr. Sabina Olaru, MSCA NCP, UEFISCDI
- Adriana Rotar, MSCA NCP, UEFISCDI
- Dr. Corina Barna, MSCA NCP, University of Life Sciences “King Michael I” from Timișoara

## Testimonials contributors

- Dr. Adriana M. Soaita, University of Bucharest, MSCA PF fellow
- Dr. Andreea Nita, University of Granada - Spain, MSCA PF fellow
- Dr. Cristina Georgiana Bucur, University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, MSCA DN fellow
- Dr. Atena Ungureanu, University of Oslo - Norway, MSCA PF fellow
- Dr. Balázs Vass, Babeş-Bolyai University, MSCA PF fellow
- Dr. Simon Anghel, LTE - Paris Observatory - France, MSCA PF fellow
- Dr. Bianca-Rodica Pop (Ghinoiu), Institute of Solid Mechanics of the Romanian Academy, MSCA SE team member



The diversity of speakers reflected the complementary perspectives: institutional representatives, European experts, MSCA project coordinators and beneficiaries, as well as researchers who will share their personal experiences.

## Roundtable contributors

- Dr. Leyla Safta-Zecheria, West University of Timișoara, MSCA SE project coordinator
- Dr. Elena Fleaca, National University of Science and Technology POLITEHNICA Bucharest, MSCA SE project coordinator
- Dr. Nicoleta Laura Popa, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, MSCA SE project coordinator
- Dr. Dan Vodnar, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca, MSCA SE projects coordinator and beneficiary
- Dr. Claudia Martis, Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, MC IAPP and MSCA ITN project supervisor and beneficiary
- Dr. Codruta Mare, Babeș-Bolyai University, MSCA DN projects supervisor and beneficiary
- Dr. Rodica Ianole-Călin, University of Bucharest, MSCA DN and MSCA SE projects supervisor and beneficiary
- Dr. Sergiu Miscoiu, Babeș-Bolyai University, MSCA DN projects supervisor and beneficiary
- Dr. Alexandru Rotaru, Petru Poni Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry, MSCA RISE and MSCA SE projects beneficiary
- Dr. Ionut Sandric, University of Bucharest, MSCA SE project beneficiary
- Dr. Maria Boștenaru-Dan, Ion Mincu University of Architecture and Urbanism, Founding chair of the Romanian chapter of the Marie Curie Alumni Association, MC doctoral fellow and MC EIF and MC ERG projects beneficiary
- Dr. Cecilia Arsene, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, MSCA IF and MC IRG projects beneficiary
- Dr. Cătălin Negrea, Institute of Space Science, MSCA IF project beneficiary
- Dr. Daniel Cruceriu, Cancer Research Center of Lyon - France, MSCA PF project beneficiary

**Marie  
Skłodowska-Curie  
Actions**



**30**  
years

*Curiosity that changes  
the world*



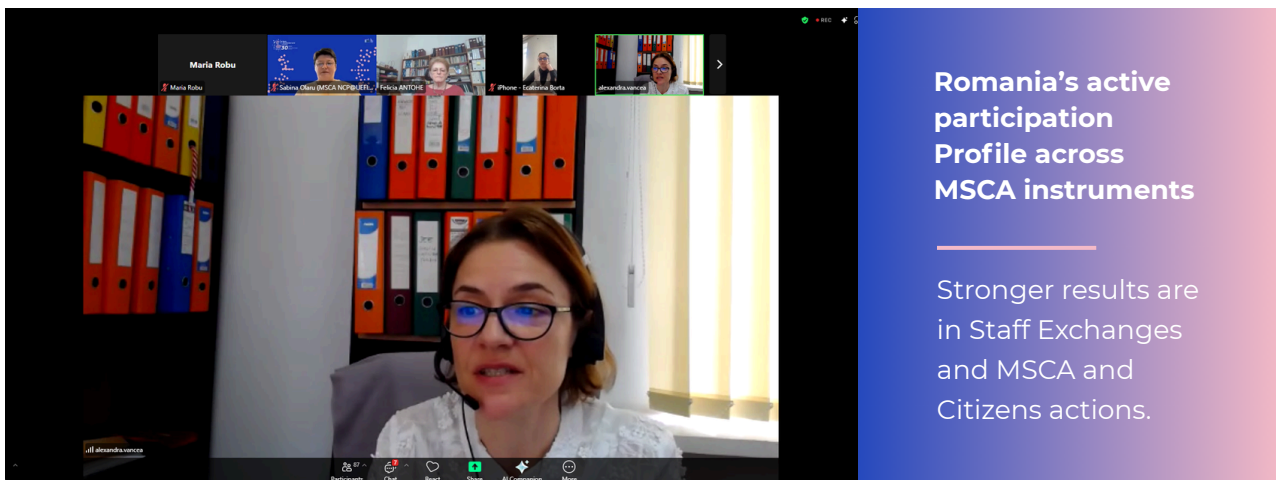
**02**

# Opening remarks & national perspective

# Introductory remarks

The event opened with introductory remarks that highlighted:

- the significance of the 30-year MSCA anniversary as a flagship European programme for scientific excellence and mobility
- the role of MSCA in supporting research careers, mobility and skills development
- the relevance of the programme for Romanian researchers and institutions
- the value of connecting national participation with European-level opportunities.



## National perspective

The welcome and national perspective were delivered by **Alexandra Vancea**, MSCA Programme Committee member, National Authority for Research, and focused on the following ideas:

- For Romania, MSCA has been an important European instrument for international connection, helping researchers build partnerships, develop their careers and increase the visibility of Romanian research.
- Success in MSCA also depends on proposal-writing culture, institutional capacity and continuous support, especially in Widening countries.
- The full-time NCP model in Romania was highlighted as a positive step, supporting applicants and strengthening national participation in the programme.
- The anniversary moment offers an opportunity to reflect on achievements and prepare for future participation.

**Marie  
Skłodowska-Curie  
Actions**



**30**  
years

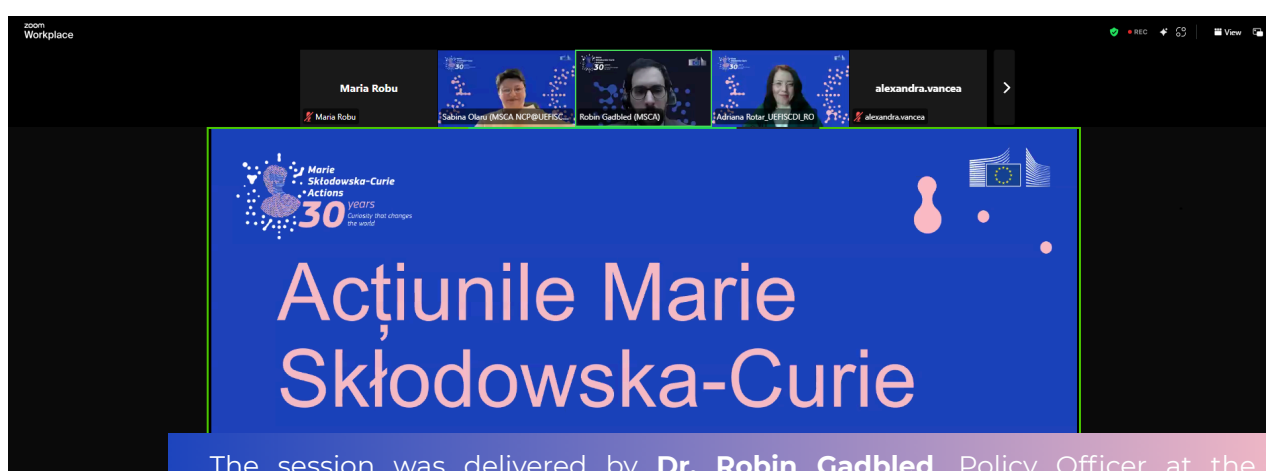
*Curiosity that changes  
the world*

**03**

# **MSCA 2026–2027 updates & overview**

The presentation focused on the MSCA 2026–2027 programme overview highlighting MSCA as a highly competitive and prestigious European programme built around research excellence, mobility and collaboration.

## Key novelties and updates in MSCA 2026-2027



The session was delivered by **Dr. Robin Gadbled**, Policy Officer at the European Commission, DG EAC, Unit C2: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, and was followed by Q&A.

| Key topic                       | Main points highlighted  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Bottom-up approach              | The programme allows researchers to develop projects based on their own scientific ideas, curiosity and research interests   |
| Collaboration dimensions        | All MSCA actions include strong international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral dimensions  |
| Main MSCA actions               | The presentation covered Doctoral Networks, Postdoctoral Fellowships, Staff Exchanges, COFUND and the new Choose Europe for Science pilot  |
| Staff Exchanges simplifications | Presented as an accessible entry point into MSCA, supporting collaborative projects through staff secondments; recent simplifications were introduced to make the action more attractive and easier to implement |
| Choose Europe for Science       | Presented as a new initiative supporting the attraction and retention of excellent research talent in Europe   |

Moreover, the presentation underlined the importance of stable career perspectives, transparent recruitment and strong institutional support for researchers.

**Marie  
Skłodowska-Curie  
Actions**



**30**  
years

*Curiosity that changes  
the world*

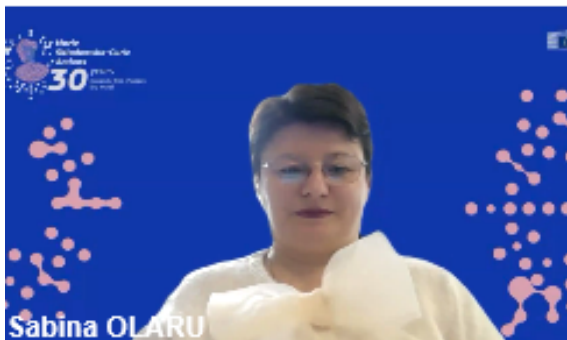


**04**

# Romanian participation in MSCA at a glance

# Key highlights

The session was delivered by **Dr. Sabina Olaru, Adriana Rotar** and **Dr. Corina Barna**.



## Programme evolution

The session highlighted the Marie Curie/MSCA programme evolution from its launch in 1996 to its current role under Horizon Europe



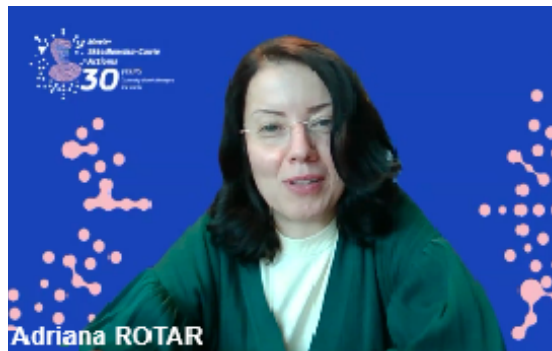
## European research integration

It underlined the programme's growing importance in the EU research landscape and Romania's gradual integration into the ERA



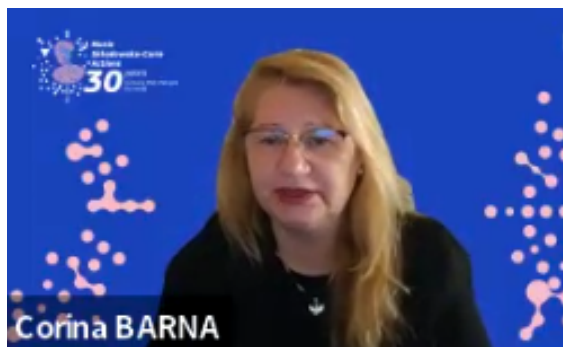
## Romania's participation profile

Romania's involvement increased across successive Framework Programmes, both as partner and coordinator



## Strengths and challenges

Stronger results were noted in SE and DN, while PF and the attraction of researchers remain areas for further improvement



**As a concluding point, Romania's performance appears to vary according to the complexity of each MSCA instrument and the level of institutional capacity it requires.**

**Marie  
Skłodowska-Curie  
Actions**



**30**  
years

*Curiosity that changes  
the world*



**05**

**Roundtable  
discussion &  
interactive poll**

# Roundtable discussion: From Romania to Europe and beyond - Building research careers with MSCA

The roundtable discussion brought to the forefront concrete experiences and personal reflections on how participation in MSCA projects contributes to the development of research careers, the expansion of international collaborations, and the strengthening of institutional capacity.

The roundtable was organised around **four thematic clusters**. The format encouraged complementary interventions, enabling each speaker to contribute a distinct perspective to the discussion.



## Thematic cluster 1 - Motivation and expectations

MSCA experience met or exceeded expectations for researcher career development.



## Thematic cluster 2 - Professional and institutional impact

Lasting impact of MSCA participation at personal, professional and institutional level



## Thematic cluster 3 - Particularities of the MSCA experience

MSCA experiences as a catalyst for collaboration, supervision and career development



## Thematic cluster 4 - Competences and final message

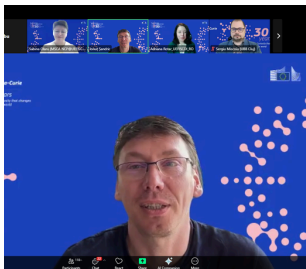
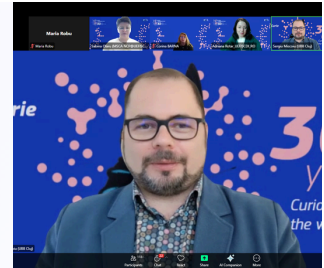
Competences strengthened through MSCA and the reasons to engage

# Thematic cluster 1 - Motivation and expectations

**Adriana Rotar**, MSCA NCP, UEFISCDI - Moderator

- **Dr. Sergiu Miscoiu**, Babeş-Bolyai University, MSCA DN projects supervisor and beneficiary
- **Dr. Ionut Sandric**, University of Bucharest, MSCA SE project beneficiary

*Sergiu Miscoiu underlined the contribution of MSCA projects to **strengthening institutional and managerial research capacity**, through the consolidation of epistemic and methodological communities, while **generating a multiplier effect across future generations**.*



*Ionuț Șandric highlighted the added value of MSCA Staff Exchanges in **building international and intersectoral networks** and in generating new partnerships, opening access to further Horizon Europe funding, and offering **valuable mobility and training opportunities for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers**.*

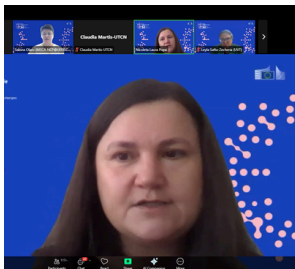
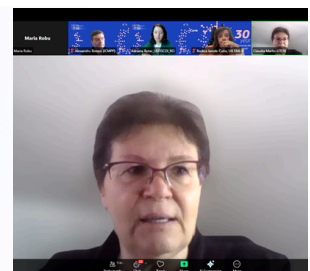
Both perspectives confirmed that MSCA creates value beyond the project itself, through stronger expertise, new collaborations and lasting professional impact.

## Thematic cluster 2 - Professional and institutional impact

Dr. Sabina Olaru, MSCA NCP, UEFISCDI - Moderator

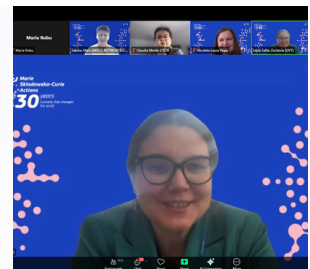
- **Dr. Claudia Martis**, Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, MC IAPP projects coordinator and MSCA ITN project supervisor and beneficiary
- **Dr. Nicoleta Laura Popa**, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, MSCA SE project coordinator
- **Dr. Leyla Safta-Zecheria**, West University of Timișoara, MSCA SE project coordinator
- **Dr. Cecilia Arsene**, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, MSCA IF and MC IRG projects beneficiary
- **Dr. Cătălin Negrea**, Institute of Space Science, MSCA IF project beneficiary

*Claudia Martis highlighted the value of MSCA industry-academia projects in **strengthening industry cooperation, opening new research directions and creating long-term partnerships**, while offering doctoral researchers valuable real-world research experience.*



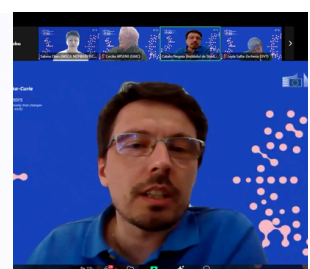
*Nicoleta Laura Popa underlined MSCA's role in **strengthening the international visibility** of Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, while offering young researchers access to interdisciplinary teams, research infrastructure, **intercultural learning and co-creation in mixed research teams**.*

*Leyla Safta-Zecheria described MSCA as a **transformative experience that can create unexpected long-term impacts**, acting as a catalyst for career development, interdisciplinary learning and transsectoral collaboration across disciplines, sectors and contexts.*



*Cecilia Arsene highlighted how her Marie Curie experience broadened her scientific horizons, **strengthened her professional maturity** and contributed to major institutional impact, including valuable research infrastructure and an integrated aerosol research centre in Romania.*

*Cătălin Negrea described MSCA as a valuable experience for focusing on quality research, gaining international recognition and **strengthening proposal-writing skills**, while encouraging future applicants not to be discouraged by previous unsuccessful funding attempts.*

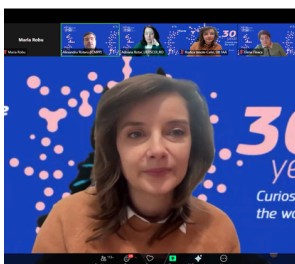
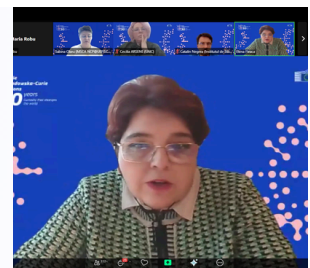


# Thematic cluster 3 - Particularities of the MSCA experience

**Adriana Rotar**, MSCA NCP, UEFISCDI - Moderator

- **Dr. Elena Fleaca**, National University of Science and Technology POLITEHNICA Bucharest, MSCA SE project coordinator
- **Dr. Rodica Ianole-Călin**, University of Bucharest, MSCA DN and MSCA SE projects supervisor and beneficiary
- **Dr. Alexandru Rotaru**, Petru Poni Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry, MSCA RISE and MSCA SE projects beneficiary
- **Dr. Claudia Martis**, Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, MC IAPP projects coordinator and MSCA ITN project supervisor and beneficiary
- **Dr. Leyla Safta-Zecheria**, West University of Timișoara, MSCA SE project coordinator
- **Dr. Ionut Sandric**, University of Bucharest, MSCA SE project beneficiary
- **Dr. Dan Vodnar**, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca, MSCA SE projects coordinator and beneficiary
- **Dr. Nicoleta Laura Popa**, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, MSCA SE project coordinator
- **Dr. Codruta Mare**, Babeș-Bolyai University, MSCA DN projects supervisor and beneficiary
- **Dr. Sergiu Miscoiu**, Babeș-Bolyai University, MSCA DN projects supervisor and beneficiary
- **Dr. Cătălin Negrea**, Institute of Space Science, MSCA IF project beneficiary
- **Dr. Cecilia Arsene**, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, MSCA IF and MC IRG projects beneficiary
- **Dr. Daniel Cruceriu**, Cancer Research Center of Lyon - France, MSCA PF project beneficiary

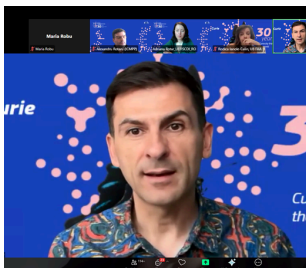
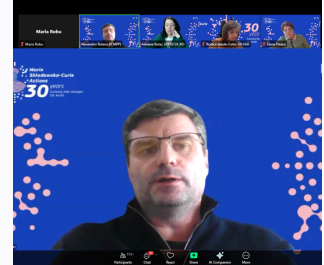
*Elena Fleacă highlighted MSCA Staff Exchanges as a valuable instrument for improving international collaboration and strengthening intersectoral links between academia and companies, while noting **challenges in company engagement**, secondment planning and interdisciplinarity.*



*Rodica Ianole-Călin described how MSCA projects **strengthen intersectoral learning** by shifting collaboration towards more concrete impact, faster working rhythms and a **more dynamic approach to career and mobility management**.*

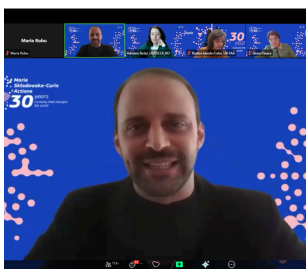
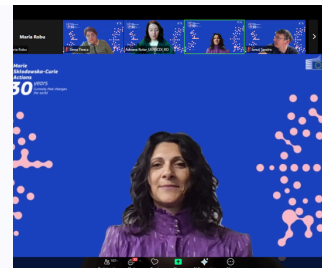
## Thematic cluster 3 - Particularities of the MSCA experience

Alexandru Rotaru referred to MSCA Staff Exchanges as a valuable framework for academia–industry collaboration, giving doctoral and postdoctoral researchers **direct exposure to applied research and broader career perspectives**.



Dan Vodnar highlighted MSCA's role in **building stronger working networks**, improving academia–industry communication and increasing methodological flexibility, while **creating trust-based relationships** that lead to new collaborations and follow-up projects.

Codruța Mare emphasised the role of MSCA Industrial Doctoral Networks in connecting doctoral researchers with the business sector, **providing structured access to industry** and generating benefits for doctoral candidates, supervisors and the wider doctoral school.



Daniel Cruceriu presented MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships as a valuable opportunity for early-career researchers to **focus on high-level research**, gain advanced training and European recognition, while opening paths to international collaboration and future funding.

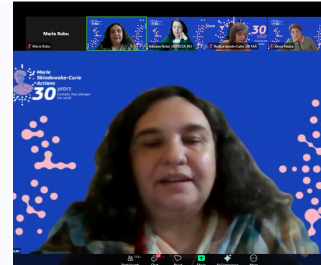
Overall, the discussion showed that MSCA projects create lasting value by strengthening international and intersectoral collaboration, developing researchers' skills and careers, and supporting more mature, connected and impactful research communities.

## Thematic cluster 4 - Competences and final message

**Dr. Sabina Olaru**, MSCA NCP, UEFISCDI - Moderator

- **Dr. Maria Boștenaru-Dan**, Ion Mincu University of Architecture and Urbanism, Founding chair of the Romanian chapter of the Marie Curie Alumni Association, MC doctoral fellow and MC EIF and MC ERG projects beneficiary
- **Dr. Codruta Mare**, Babeș-Bolyai University, MSCA DN projects supervisor and beneficiary
- **Dr. Alexandru Rotaru**, Petru Poni Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry, MSCA RISE and MSCA SE projects beneficiary
- **Dr. Cătălin Negrea**, Institute of Space Science, MSCA IF project beneficiary

*Maria Boștenaru Dan described MSCA as a lasting experience that **strengthened her project management, intercultural communication and networking skills**, while opening further opportunities in research, evaluation, science communication and international collaboration.*



The discussion showed that MSCA experiences strengthen key skills beyond research, including project management, multicultural leadership, intercultural communication, networking and resilience in complex international contexts. Participants also underlined that MSCA creates lasting opportunities, offering researchers the freedom to pursue high-quality research, build long-term collaborations and gain international recognition well beyond the project itself.



A total of 14 experts participated in the roundtable discussion, sharing diverse MSCA experiences as coordinators, beneficiaries, supervisors, fellows and researchers. The discussion confirmed that MSCA can significantly shape individual research careers, create long-term scientific and professional networks, and generate lasting effects at institutional level.

## Key takeaways from the roundtable

The roundtable highlighted **MSCA as a strong catalyst for career development**, international collaboration and institutional learning. Participants underlined that MSCA experiences go beyond mobility and funding, as they can significantly reshape individual research careers, generate long-term institutional effects, strengthen research networks, improve project management and leadership skills, and increase international visibility.

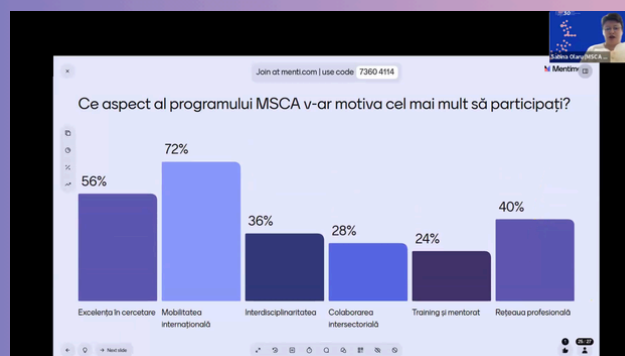
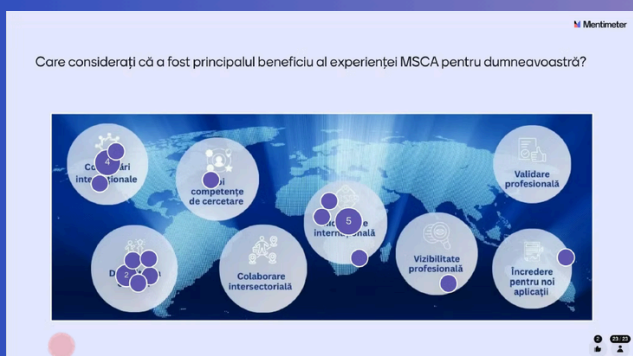
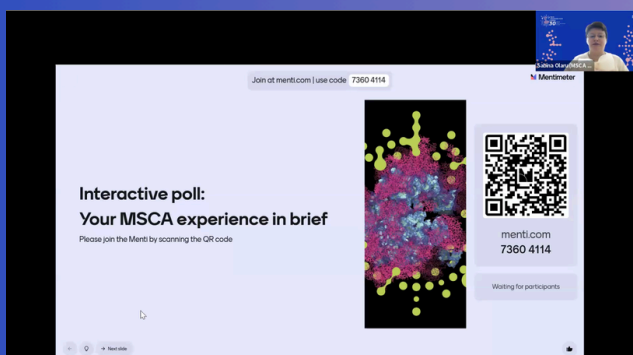
The discussion also pointed to MSCA's role in shaping new generations of researchers, particularly through doctoral and postdoctoral opportunities, secondments and exposure to interdisciplinary and intersectoral environments. While participants noted practical challenges, especially related to funding levels, coordination of secondments and the involvement of industry partners, the overall message was clear: **beyond the diversity of individual experiences, MSCA brings broader skills, stronger collaborations and lasting value for researchers, institutions and wider research ecosystems.**

# Interactive poll highlights

The event also included an interactive poll designed to actively involve participants and capture their immediate perceptions, expectations and experiences related to MSCA.

- “**Collaboration**” was the word most frequently associated with MSCA, followed by community, performance, mobility and career.
- The most visible benefits identified by participants were **career development, international mobility and new international collaborations**.
- Future applicants were among the most active respondents, showing a strong interest in MSCA opportunities.
- Participants identified **research excellence, professional networking and mobility** as key motivations for future involvement.

## Participants' views on MSCA



Overall, the poll reinforced the roundtable's key message: MSCA creates lasting value beyond funding, supporting researchers' careers, strengthening international and intersectoral collaboration, and contributing to institutional development.

**Marie  
Skłodowska-Curie  
Actions**



**30**  
years

*Curiosity that changes  
the world*

# 06 Short testimonials

# Short testimonials: My MSCA experience in 1 minute

The session featured short, personal and inspirational video testimonials from researchers involved in MSCA projects, allowing participants to hear directly how MSCA opportunities have shaped their career paths.

**Adriana Rotar**, MSCA NCP, UEFISCDI - Moderator

- **Dr. Adriana M. Soaita**, University of Bucharest, MSCA PF fellow
- **Dr. Andreea Nita**, University of Granada - Spain, MSCA PF fellow
- **Dr. Cristina Georgiana Bucur**, University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, MSCA DN fellow
- **Dr. Atena Ungureanu**, University of Oslo - Norway, MSCA PF fellow
- **Dr. Balázs Vass**, Babeş-Bolyai University, MSCA PF fellow
- **Dr. Simon Anghel**, LTE - Paris Observatory - France, MSCA PF fellow
- **Dr. Bianca-Rodica Pop (Ghinoiu)**, Institute of Solid Mechanics of the Romanian Academy, MSCA SE team member

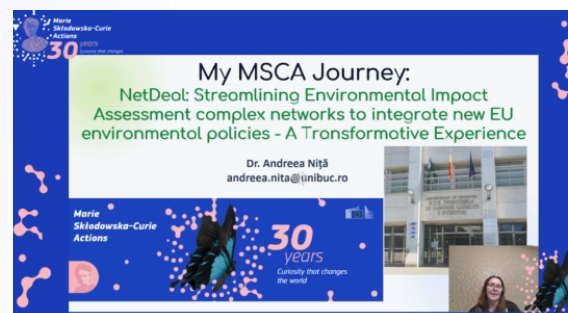
*"I love MSCA because it gives you the freedom to choose your topic, to follow your curiosity, to select your ideas and experiment new methods".*

**Dr. Adriana M. Soaita**  
MSCA PF fellow



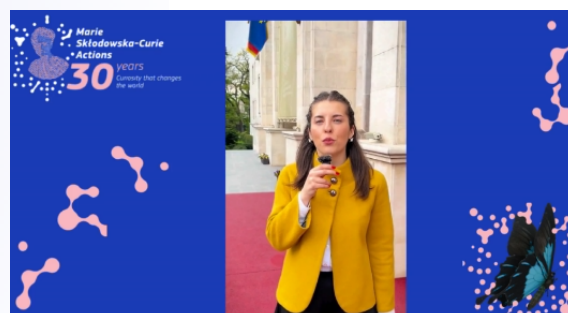
*"Most importantly, MSCA gave me the confidence to think bigger, act globally, and pursue research that truly matters".*

**Dr. Andreea Nita**  
MSCA PF fellow



*"This mobility offered me the opportunity to validate good practice models on a larger scale, as well as to gain consolidated experience and valuable insights".*

**Dr. Cristina Georgiana Bucur**  
MSCA DN fellow



# Short testimonials: My MSCA experience in 1 minute

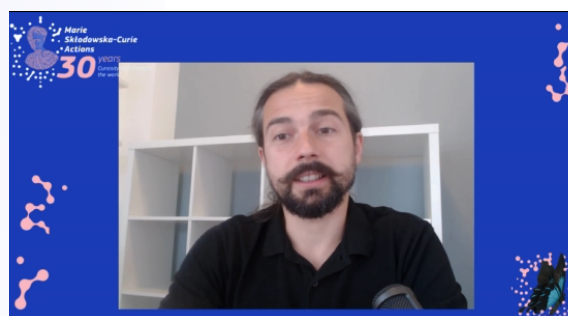
*"If I would share one message, it would be this don't do it alone. Start with a clear idea, but seek feedback early. And finally, read the guidelines very carefully".*

**Dr. Atena Ungureanu**  
MSCA PF fellow



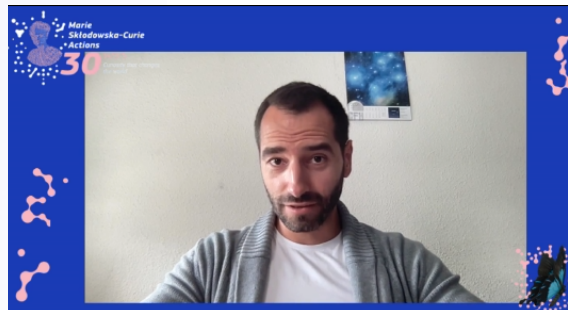
*"The MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship greatly helped me in securing the necessary conditions to continue my excellent research".*

**Dr. Balázs Vass**  
MSCA PF fellow



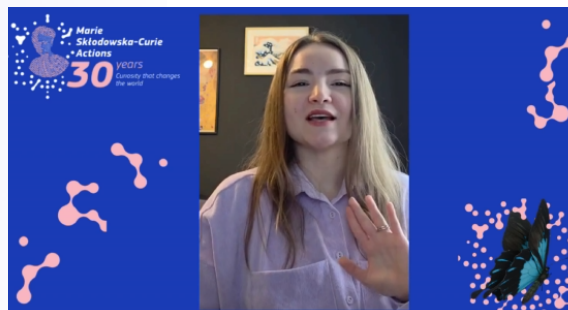
*"It helped me to develop both professionally and personally. And I really encourage you to participate and to submit your proposal."*

**Dr. Simon Anghel**  
MSCA PF fellow



*"This program can expand your perspective and connect your work to the real world, so don't miss it!"*

**Dr. Bianca-Rodica Pop (Ghinoiu)**  
MSCA SE team member



Across the testimonies, the main message was that MSCA opens doors: it supports return mobility, international and interdisciplinary collaboration, exposure to real-world research environments, stronger proposal-writing skills and long-term career development. The researchers also encouraged future applicants to seek feedback, work with others, be bold, and use **MSCA as an opportunity to connect their research with wider scientific and societal impact.**

**Marie  
Skłodowska-Curie  
Actions**



**30**  
years

*Curiosity that changes  
the world*



**07**

# Main insights & follow-up



The national event “**30 Years of MSCA: Inspiring Romanian Researchers**” successfully marked the 30-year anniversary of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions in Romania. By bringing together the European Commission, National Contact Points, researchers, alumni, supervisors, beneficiaries and coordinators, the event created a meaningful space for information exchange, dialogue and community building.

## Event insights: benefits of MSCA participation

Building on the main insights of the event, the discussions and video testimonials showed that MSCA creates value at several levels: for individual researchers, host institutions, supervisors, partners and the wider research and innovation ecosystem.

---

### For doctoral and postdoctoral researchers

Transformative opportunity offering mobility, time and resources for high-quality research, access to international and intersectoral environments, stronger skills, formal recognition and clearer future career paths.

---

### For organisations and host institutions

Contribution to stronger international visibility, increased research capacity and European project management expertise, while turning occasional collaborations into long-term international partnerships.

---

### For supervisors, coordinators and research teams

Development of leadership, mentoring, project and risk management, and intercultural communication skills, while requiring flexibility across institutions, sectors and disciplines.

---

### For non-academic partners

Connection between research and real-world needs supports applied solutions, knowledge transfer, public engagement and stronger links with users, communities and professional environments.

---

### For the wider research and innovation ecosystem

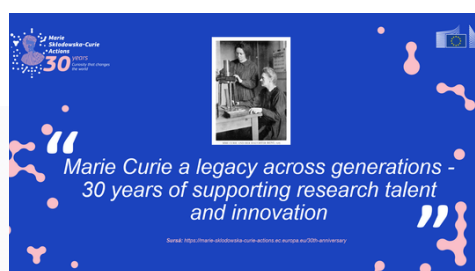
Bridge between academia, industry, NGOs and society, strengthening Romania’s international research networks.

# Follow-up actions and communication outputs

| Area                       | Follow-up / action   | Status               |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Participant follow-up      | Presentations and useful resources shared with registered participants   | Achieved             |
| Dedicated webpage          | Maintain and update the dedicated webpage created for the MSCA 30th anniversary in Romania: <a href="http://ncp.uefiscdi.ro/msca/30">ncp.uefiscdi.ro/msca/30</a> | Continuous           |
| Social media campaign      | Continue the campaign "Short testimonials: My MSCA experience in 1 minute"   | 1 video posted/ week |
| Social media communication | UEFISCDI LinkedIn and Facebook post shighlighting the main outcomes of the event   | Achieved             |
| Guidance materials         | Use the poll results and questions raised during the event to develop future guidance materials  | Continuous           |
| Community building         | Maintain contact with MSCA alumni, supervisors and beneficiaries as potential ambassadors or contributors to future events                                       | Continuous           |

## Final notes

Overall, the national event reinforced the importance of MSCA for Romania as a **driver of research talent, mobility, international visibility and integration into the European and international research area**. It also highlighted the need to continue supporting researchers and institutions in preparing for future MSCA opportunities.





# 30 Years of MSCA: Inspiring Romanian Researchers

22 April 2026 | 10:00 – 14.00  
(Bucharest time)  
**Online event** (in Romanian)

**Horizon Europe NCP Unit**  
UEFISCDI  
ncp@uefiscdi.ro  
[ncp.uefiscdi.ro](https://ncp.uefiscdi.ro)

## **Disclaimer:**

This report is intended for informational purposes only and provides examples and recommendations. This document was prepared by the Horizon Europe NCP Unit at UEFISCDI; however, it reflects only the views of the authors, and UEFISCDI cannot be held responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained herein. Unless otherwise stated, reuse of this document is authorised under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence (CC BY 4.0): <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

