



**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES-GENERAL
OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCILS OF THE EU**

**Turning geopolitical challenges into a European Union success story:
the contribution of organised civil society**

Bucharest, 9-10 November 2022

Hosted by the Romanian Economic and Social Council

Venue: [Hotel Novotel Bucharest City Centre](#) (Calea Victoriei 37B, Sector 1 - 010061 – Bucharest).

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 9 November 2022	
12:45 p.m.	<i>Welcome - Arrival and registration of participants</i>
1 – 2 p.m.	Light Buffet Lunch (at Novotel Hotel)
2 – 2:30 p.m.	<p>Opening of the meeting by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr Bogdan Simion, President of the Economic and Social Council, Romania ▪ Ms Christa Schweng, President of the European Economic and Social Committee
2:30 – tbc	<p>SESSION 1 - WELCOMING AND INTEGRATING IN THE EU THE PEOPLE FLEEING THE WAR IN UKRAINE</p> <p>Speakers to be confirmed</p> <p>General discussion on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the role of organised civil society in addressing the integration needs of people fleeing the war in Ukraine - good practices, challenges and perspectives¹

¹ See also [EESC web page dedicated to Ukraine](#)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> turning the rights given by the Temporary Protection Directive into reality (residence, access to housing, health care, education and work)
	<p>SESSION 2 – FOLLOW UP TO THE CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE</p> <p>General discussion on the outcome of the CoFoE, impact on the ESCs and related initiatives of ESCs</p>
	End of the first working day and departure for the cultural visit
7 p.m. (tbc)	Cultural programme
9:30 p.m. (tbc)	Dinner (venue to be confirmed)

Thursday, 10 November 2022	
9:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. <i>(incl. break)</i>	<p>SESSION 3 – THE PATH TOWARDS AN OPEN STRATEGIC AUTONOMY OF THE EU: THE VIEWS OF ESCs AND ORGANISED CIVIL SOCIETY</p> <p>Speaker to be confirmed</p> <p>General discussion, with the contributions of ESCs on strengthening EU's open strategic autonomy and addressing vulnerability and dependence, especially as regards energy and food</p>
12:15 – 12:40 p.m.	<p>Adoption of conclusions of the annual meeting</p> <p>Update on the ESCs "Erasmus" pilot project (Creating a network within organised civil societies in relation to the European Youth Year 2022)</p>
12:40 – 1 p.m.	<p>Concluding remarks by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Bogdan Simion, President of the Economic and Social Council, Romania Ms Christa Schweng, President of the European Economic and Social Committee
1– 2 p.m.	Lunch (at Novotel hotel)

Interpreting: from EN/FR/RO into EN/FR/RO