

Closing the Insurance Protection Gaps: From enhanced relevance to increased resilience

Speakers' bio (alphabetically)



Laszlo BORBELY

State Counselor, Government of Romania, Coordinator of the Department for Sustainable Development, Secretariat General of the Government

Prominent politician who has significantly contributed to the democratic development of Romanian society, both as one of the most well-known leaders of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania and through the different high ranking functions held in the Romanian Parliament and the Romanian Government in the field of International Affairs, Environment and Sustainable Development, Regional Development and Infrastructure, which he has fulfilled with a rigorous professionalism yielding important results. An outstanding political performance underpinned with a solid – two-decade long – support for cultural life in the city of Tîrgu Mures, in an attempt to bring reconciliation to its multi-ethnic community.



Mihaela CÎRCU

Secretary General, Association for Insurance Promotion in Romania, Asociatia pentru Promovarea Asigurarilor in Romania - ApPA

Mihaela CÎRCU is Secretary General of APPA – Association for Promoting Insurance – a Romanian NGO that developed the first national financial education campaigns for the insurance consumers. At the same time, she is Development Director of XPRIMM, a media group specialized in Central and Eastern European insurance industry. Mihaela has over 15 years of experience in insurance journalism specialized in the CEE markets. She has graduated the Economic Studies Academy from Bucharest, being CII – Chartered Insurance Institute certified.



Lionel CORRE

Director Insurance Department, Direction Générale du Trésor, French Ministry for the Economy and Finance

Lionel CORRE is Deputy Director at the French Treasury in charge of Insurance, since December 2017. His responsibilities include the preparation and implementation of the rules and regulations in the field of Insurance in France and the negotiation of the European framework. He is also member of the board of several public entities such as CCR (Caisse Centrale de Réassurance) or the FRR (French Reserve Fund for the Pension system).

Lionel CORRE was previously heading the CIRI, the Interministerial Committee for Industrial Restructuring, for the Treasury, and his responsibilities also included the supervision of Bpifrance and the financing of companies in general.

He has been previously Economic Counsellor at the French Embassy in Israel from 2012 to 2016, Counsellor at the Cabinet of the Minister of Energy from 2010 and 2012, portfolio manager at the French Government Shareholding Agency from 2008 and 2010. He started his carrier as an Insurance supervisor at the French prudential authority. Lionel CORRE is an Engineer graduated from Ecole polytechnique and Science-Po Paris. He was trained as an actuary at the French Institute of Actuaries and has been teaching non-life actuaries at CNAM.



Chloe DEMROVSKY

President & CEO, Disaster Recovery Institute International & Member of ARISE the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilience Societies of the United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

Chloe Demrovsky is an internationally recognized thought leader and keynote speaker on all things risk and resilience. She is a disaster management executive with more than a decade's experience collaborating with Fortune 100 and 500 leaders to facilitate global relations, business operations, and improve public perception. The youngest and first female Chief Executive to oversee and expand Disaster Recovery Institute's international network that spans across 100 countries. Proven diligence has led her to become a Senior Contributor at Forbes and an Adjunct Professor at New York University as well as various memberships in a diverse portfolio of global councils, organizations foundations, delegations, and affiliations including the UNDRR ARISE Global Board. Globally-recognized credibility as a thought leader frequently engages Chloe as a commentator and expert source for: BBC, CNBC, Bloomberg TV, Associated Press, ABC News, MSNBC, Newsmax, Fox, CGTN, New York Times, LA Times, Inc., Sky News, USA Today.



Bogdan J. DUMITRESCU

Founder & CEO, BJD Reinsurance Consulting, LLC – Organization in Consultative Status with ECOSOC and as an Ambassador of the International Insurance Society to Europe

Founder and CEO of BJD Reinsurance Consulting, LLC, a global risks financing and strategy advisory firm. The organization is benefiting the Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Member of ARISE, the Private Sector Alliance for Resilient Society of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Ambassador of the International Insurance Society to Europe and a Founding Board Member of the Romanian Insurance Policyholders Guarantee Fund.

With thirty years spent in finance, banking and insurance, is intensively collaborating with the risks protection industries, financial markets, regulators and international organizations on purposes of interest, mostly focused on underinsurance at all levels and closing the insurance protection, financing and investments gaps worldwide and actively advocating for the sustainable development goals and the 2030 agenda.

Graduated in Econometrics and Statistics applied to Economics and Finance from French universities.

As a citizen of the World, always present in a way in the US, in Europe or in Asia.



Selva EREN

General Manager, Türk Reasürans

Selva Eren is a graduate of the Istanbul University, Faculty of Economics, Department of Economics (2000) and of the San Diego State University (2001-2003).

She entered the insurance industry in 2009 and specialized in reinsurance. After a successful entrepreneurial experience within Renaissance Reinsurance and Insurance Broker, she became a member of the board of directors of the International Competition and Technology Association between 2016-2018. Selva is a founding partner of the Clean Energy Agency (2017) and served as a Board Member.

As of September 6, 2019, Selva Eren, was appointed as a Board Member and General Manager to Türk Reasürans.



Daniela GHETU

Editorial Director, The XPrimm Publications, President, PIA-Press International des Assurances

Daniela has been a part of XPRIMM's team since May 1999, being one of the architects of the company's editorial and research programs, currently coordinating the international section. Daniela has in-depth knowledge of the CEE insurance markets, having an extensive expertise in market analysis and consultancy, corporate partnership development, international markets, publishing and editorial management. Throughout the years, Daniela has published articles in several European industry magazines. She also has chaired several relevant European insurance conferences.



Valentin IONESCU

Director Strategy and Financial Stability Directorate at the Romanian Financial Supervisory Authority – ASF Romania

Valentin is the Director of Strategy and Financial Stability Directorate, having an extensive experience in financial markets, both local and international.

He graduated the Academy for Economic Studies in Bucharest and has an EMBA degree. He attended numerous courses in finance, including a long-term program in Georgetown University in the US.

Valentin is deeply involved in the financial innovation area, promoting and coordinating the ASF FinTech Hub, which creates the institutional framework for supporting the development of modern technologies in the financial market, while maintaining the confidence and level of protection appropriate to customers. He has good knowledge of the European experiences in this field and contributes actively to the work of ESMA Financial Innovation Standing Committee (FISC).

Valentin is also vice-president of the Institute of Financial Studies (IFS), which provides training and professional evaluation of the people working in the non-banking financial system.

Valentin has a vast experience in coordinating major projects within ASF, being the coordinator of the first balance sheet review (BSR) exercise in insurance sector in Romania (also first in EU) and project manager for the implementation (for the first time in EU) of a recovery and resolution mechanism in Romanian insurance sector.

Valentin is also involved in the EIOPA work, being an active member of the Project Group on Recovery and Resolution and following closely the activities of other working structures of the European Authority.

Valentin sustained in the past an intense activity in the field of financial services and products on both on sell side and buy side, holding different positions as: operation manager for a financial intermediary, sells manager for an investment bank, CEO of Bucharest Stock-Exchange, President of Central Depository and Board member/ member of an investment committee in a listed investment company. He was founder of the Capital Market Professionals Organization and also Vice-president of the organization.

He has had an active presence in the media in Romania through interviews and articles and he was quoted, also, by Financial Times and Bloomberg.



Masaaki NAGAMURA

Division Head of Corporate Social Responsibility, Corporate Planning Department Tokio Marine Holdings, Inc. / Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Masaaki Nagamura has been Division Head of Corporate Social Responsibility, Corporate Planning Department at both Tokio Marine Holdings, Inc. and Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., since August 2011.

He helped the launch of the Principles for Sustainable Insurance (PSI), an offspring of the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) in June 2012. Prior to assuming the current position, he was involved in international insurance regulatory issues, between 2004 and 2011, as Manager in charge of international issues at Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire's Corporate Planning Department. Between 1997 and 2004, he was stationed in Chicago, Illinois, as an insurance account executive serving commercial clients in the U.S. Midwest.



Makoto OKUBO

Director International Affairs, Nippon Life

Mack is assigned as General Manager, International Affairs, Nippon Life Insurance Company, based in New York and responsible for international regulatory, accounting and policy matters.

Among other global activities, he is currently serving as the Sherpa of the Asia Pacific Financial Forum (APFF) Insurance and Retirement Income Work Stream as well as ESG Working Group, promoting insurers and pension funds' roles to support sustainable, resilient and inclusive growth and development in the Asia-Pacific region. He is actively promoting SDGs in collaboration with United Nations, OECD, and APEC.

He is also known as multi-talented entertainer and has recently launched Music for SDGs Project to provide opportunities for general public to deepen understanding of SDGs through music events in collaboration with the Japanese government and United Nations, aiming to support G20 Japan 2019, Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic 2020, and Osaka Expo 2025.

Formerly, he was employed by the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) and served as a member of the IAIS Secretariat, sponsored by FSA Japan, responsible for standards implementation, including technical assistance and training of insurance supervisors over 150 countries. Prior to the BIS, he also spent 5 years in New York as a lead researcher at NLI Research Institute on insurance, banking, securities, and pension sectors in the US and Canada. His personal websites, Mackglobe.com and Insurance-Finance.Com, research portal sites are used by industry professionals, regulators, and researchers in over 90 countries.

He holds a bachelor of law from Kyoto University, and MBA/MS Finance from HEC School of Management, France. He speaks Japanese, English, French, Spanish and some German.



Cristina Maria Alina POPESCU

Minister Counselor, IIInd. Committee and ECOSOC Delegate, Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations

Cristina Popescu is currently working within the Permanent Mission of Romania to the UN, as delegate to the Second Committee (Economic and Financial) of the UN General Assembly and she is in charge of the development portfolio, ECOSOC coordination and the UN Funds and Programs active in the development field.

Her professional contribution is focused on bringing the national and the European vision to the current debate on supporting fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals globally. The UN has to deliver on the 2030 Agenda - the universal framework document setting up 17 SDGs and 169 targets - and the Member States and the UN bodies have to ensure that humanity fully engage on a sustainable and resilient path, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Cristina Popescu had previously worked within the Embassy of Romania to Italy and the Embassy of Romania to the Czech Republic, in charge with the European affairs portfolio, she worked in various political directorates of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania and as an expert within the Department of European Integration, the Government of Romania.

She holds a PhD in Ethics of Conflict Negotiation from the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Bucharest, a Diplôme d'études approfondies in European Studies from the European Institute of the University of Geneva and a Master in International Relations from the Faculty of Political and Administrative Sciences of the University of Bucharest. She has a diploma in Political Science from the Faculty of Political and Administrative Sciences of the University of Bucharest.