

GGN – National Network Annual Report 2024

1. IDENTITY / GGN NATIONAL NETWORK

National Network & Forum – Romania

Year of inscription: National Network 2024 / National Forum 2017

2. MEMBERS

Chair: Alexandru Andrasanu, Individual member / e-mail – mesajalex@yahoo.com

Members:

Hateg Country UGGp – <https://www.hateggeoparc.ro/new/>

Buzau Land UGGp - <https://buzauland.org/>

3. ACTIVE APPLICATIONS

- Oltenia de sub Munte aspiring Geopark

Florin Stoican - florinstoican@yahoo.com /

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GeoparcOlteniaDeSubMunte/>

Application sent in 2023 then postponed for 2027

- Carpaterra aspiring Geopark

Cătălin Cantor <http://www.carpaterra.org/>

Web site: <http://www.carpaterra.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Carpaterra/>

Letter of intention sent in 2025 then postponed for 2026

Territories that you are advising:

- Cimmerian Dobrogea Project / Advised since 2023

Dr Antoneta Seghedi – email: seghedi@geoecomar.ro

<https://dobrogea-chimerica.ro/>

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Dobrogea-Chimerica-61559680532048/>

- Gutâi – Maramureş Geopark Project

Dr. Marinel Kovacs email: marinelkovacs@yahoo.com

<https://www.facebook.com/geoparcMM>

4. ACTIVITIES

The network is composed of two UNESCO Global Geoparks (Țara Hațegului and Ținutul Buzăului), one UNESCO aspiring geopark (Oltenia de sub Munte), an advanced UNESCO geopark project (Carpaterra), and two additional initiatives (Dobrogea Chimerică and Gutâi–Maramureș).

- The network's inaugural meeting on 1–2 February 2024.
- Working on the development of the Strategy of the Romanian Geoparks Network.
- Organized the Romanian Geoparks Forum on 5 November 2024.

With the sponsorship of BRD Société Generale

- A dedicated promotion project for the geoparks was launched - includes the production of a documentary film and a photo album, both scheduled for completion in January 2025.
- The Young Geopark Ambassadors programme was expanded engaging young people from the communities of the four geoparks in the decision-making process, during a camp organized in Dobrogea. The young participants have already begun forming the Youth Forum for Geoparks, which will become an integral part of the European Forum.
 - Preparing a second camp for 2025 in the aspiring Carpaterra Geopark.
- Financial support for the organization of the 7th edition of Oak Day in the Carpaterra Geopark, held on 19 October 2024.
- two years of financial support for a human resources position in the Carpaterra Geopark (one employee),
- started to organize a series of network-wide events, including those marking 10 years of the UNESCO Geoparks Programme
- prepare the 20 years celebration of Hateg Country GGN membership. Scientific symposium dedicated to geodiversity and an event attended by policymakers will be organised. Additionally, we plan to design and develop visitor infrastructure specific to geoparks
- Common activities (meeting, training courses)

Education and public awareness

- The four geoparks are partners, through the University of Bucharest, in ReCoNnect European funded project. Common activities are organised: - the “Researchers’ Night in Geoparks,” the Science Summer School for students and STEAM teachers, online

and in-person scientific events for students from the four geoparks, as well as a science caravan in the Carpaterra Geopark. This initiative will continue in 2025 in all member territories

- Involvement of UNESCO Schools in common activities
- Preparation of several application dedicated to STEAM education

Cooperation with the National Commission for UNESCO and other UNESCO designations

- started to prepare the RGN strategy and Romanian Geoparks National Charta
- meeting of the national UNESCO programs working group
- initiatives in order to better define the status of the UNESCO Global Geoparks in Romania