



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLITEHNICA BUCHAREST



WHERE VISION MEETS LEGACY: CELEBRATING ARA AND THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION



The 46th Congress of the American Romanian Academy of Arts and Sciences (ARA), held in Lafayette, Louisiana, marked a celebration not only of the Academy's 50-year legacy, but of the enduring and future-forward partnership between Romania and the United States. As Rector of the National University of Science and Technology Politehnica Bucharest, I was deeply honored to witness such a moment of academic unity, cultural pride, and visionary dialogue.

ARA has played a crucial role in connecting Romanian researchers, educators, and innovators with global thought leaders—especially in the United States. The Congress served as a powerful platform where Romanian academic excellence met American leadership in technology, engineering, and the arts. The ideas exchanged here reaffirmed our belief in the power of cross-cultural collaboration to shape a more intelligent, innovative, and humane future.

More than two centuries ago, the Politehnica Bucharest was established to accelerate Romania's industrial revolution—a daring leap forward led by a group of visionaries who believed in openness, talent, and equality of opportunity. What followed was nothing short of transformative: a university that helped shape a country, redefine a region, and inspire a European movement for progress through innovation and creativity. Today, as we engage with global partners at ARA46, we are reminded that the values which animated our founders—ingenuity, collaboration, and faith in people—are the same forces that unite us across continents. In Lafayette, surrounded by scholars and leaders committed to science and culture, I saw a reflection of our university's DNA: an unrelenting drive to improve the world, not just through technology, but through the human spirit behind it.

The presence of Romanian scholars from around the world, unified by ARA's commitment to promoting Romanian intellectual capital abroad, brought clarity to a truth we know well: innovation flourishes when rooted in cultural identity and global cooperation. Our university is proud to stand alongside ARA in advancing these ideals.

As we return home inspired, we also carry with us the responsibility to further nurture this transatlantic bridge. We are prepared to strengthen a community of knowledge that transcends borders—and prepares us all for the opportunities and challenges of tomorrow.

In shared commitment,

**MIHNEA COSTOIU,
RECTOR**