

****Confindustria Romania: Overview and Structure****

****Establishment and Recognition****

Confindustria Romania was founded in July 2003 and officially recognized by the Romanian Government in July 2005 as a “patronage organization.” This status allows it to participate in negotiations with the government and trade unions on critical issues affecting businesses, such as labor laws, social dialogue, labor costs, and tax regulations. It defends the interests of its members, which include Romanian companies with partial or total Italian capital. Confindustria Romania serves as an association for Italian entrepreneurs operating in Romania.

As a recognized patronage organization, Confindustria Romania has full rights to represent its members in discussions with the Romanian government, trade unions, and other political and economic entities. It follows the model of Italian employer associations and is part of the broader Confindustria system, Italy’s largest organization for manufacturing and service enterprises and the largest of its kind in Europe by membership size.

Currently, Confindustria Romania has nearly 250 members, collectively employing over 30,000 people.

****Mission and Activities****

Confindustria Romania is committed to supporting, guiding, and defending the interests of Italian businesses in the Romanian market. Its primary activities include:

- Liaising with the Romanian government to advocate for Italian businesses.
- Promoting investments and facilitating commercial relationships.
- Participating in trade fairs and economic events.
- Organizing networking meetings.
- Providing information and consultancy on Romanian regulations and business opportunities.

Confindustria Romania also focuses on fostering innovation and technology adoption among its members, offering services such as market research, financial and commercial reporting, event organization, and assistance with fiscal, legal, and labor-related issues.

****President and Leadership****

The current President of Confindustria Romania is **Giulio Bertola**, who founded the association in 2003 and has served as President since 2020. Bertola is a prominent expert in the internationalization of Confindustria's systems in Eastern Europe. In addition to his presidency, Bertola serves as Vice President of Confindustria Eastern Europe, focusing on healthcare and the industrial health sector.

Bertola has been active in Romania for over 20 years and is highly regarded among Italian entrepreneurs. His leadership has significantly strengthened Confindustria Romania's role as the largest international representation of Confindustria in Eastern Europe. Bertola has been instrumental in the internationalization of major Italian multinationals in Romania in sectors such as energy, transport, automotive, industry, and healthcare.

Governance and Structure

Confindustria Romania's governance is overseen by a General Council of 35 members, making it the largest governing body among Confindustria's international branches.

Key Leadership Figures:

- **President**: Giulio Bertola
- **Vice Presidents**:
 - Davide Meda (Senior Vice President)
 - Luca Militello
 - Luca Meuli
 - Toni Pera
 - Giacomo Billi

Presidential Advisors:

- Roberto Falato
- Raluca Popescu
- Alessandro Romei
- Antonio Patané
- Paolo Vivona

- Alberto Morini
- Daniela Burca
- Andrea Allocco
- Mario Antico
- Mauro Gadaleta
- Fausto Mastrini
- Vincenzo Gaudino
- Fabrizio Catenacci
- Andrea Infriccioli
- Leonardo Rossi
- Andrea Conselvan
- Alfredo Tisocco

****Territorial Delegates:****

- Luca Rabbia (Pitești)
- Vincenzo Garza (Timișoara)
- Gianluca Zanellato (Cluj Napoca)
- Roberto Tomasi (Brașov)
- Marco Petriccione (Bucharest)
- Antonino Bicchieri (Iași)
- Matteo Baruzzi (Sibiu)

****Technical Groups:****

- Andrea Allocco (Digital Innovation)
- Marco Favino (Agroindustry & Tourism)
- Luca Militello (Healthcare)
- Luca Meuli (Construction & Infrastructure)
- Giacomo Billi (Energy)

****Headquarters and Offices****

The main office of Confindustria Romania is in Bucharest, located at Strada Vasile Lascăr 78. Additionally, it operates regional branches in Timișoara, Brașov, Cluj Napoca, Iași, Craiova, Pitești, and Sibiu.

Confindustria Romania also has offices in Italy, including one in Treviso (Confindustria Veneto Est) and one in Siracusa (Confindustria Siracusa).

****Innovative Platforms****

Confindustria Romania is the first and only Confindustria branch globally to launch a platform in the Metaverse. This platform offers an immersive virtual experience, enabling Italian entrepreneurs to connect with Romania, attend virtual meetings, conferences, and consultations, and reduce the need for physical travel.

****Special Initiatives and Services****

1. **Romania Desks in Italy:**

Confindustria Romania has launched Romania Desks in collaboration with major Italian Confindustria offices. These desks facilitate economic cooperation and provide virtual connectivity between Italy and Romania through advanced Virtual Rooms.

2. **Labor Desk:**

This service helps member companies address labor shortages by assisting with personnel recruitment, financial arrangements, and logistical planning to establish balanced and mutually beneficial employment relationships.

3. **Techie Newsletter:**

The Techie Newsletter focuses on digital innovation, offering insights into artificial intelligence, machine learning, big data analysis, and the Metaverse. It aims to enhance members' knowledge of digital tools and technologies for business transformation.

4. **Other Services:**

- Institutional and governmental relations.
- Sector-specific market research.
- Financial and commercial reliability reports.
- Support for resolving fiscal, legal, and labor-related issues.
- Assistance with company establishment and site selection.

****Conclusion****

Confindustria Romania stands as a vital bridge between Italian businesses and the Romanian market, offering extensive services, innovative tools, and strong advocacy under the leadership of Giulio Bertola. With a comprehensive network and modern platforms, it has positioned itself as a key player in fostering Italian-Romanian economic cooperation.