

Issue 3/2017

March

InvestRomania Newsletter

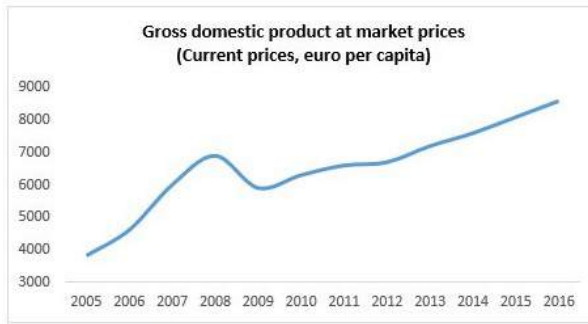


Macroeconomic outlook

Japanese rating agency JCR reconfirms Romania's rating

- JCR has maintained a stable outlook on Romania ([Read more](#))
- The National Institute of Statistics: How will Romania's economy develop over the next three months? ([Read more](#))
- Romanian industry turnover up by 9.1 pct in January 2017 y/y ([Read more](#))
- Income tax exemption for IT experts will be extended next year in Romania ([Read more](#))
- Romania registers the sixth world's largest growth among capital markets ([Read more](#))
- Romania's economy rises 4.7 pct y/y in Q4, consumption up 4.0 pct ([Read more](#))
- Deloitte: Romania is Central, East European champion at NPL sales in 2015, 2016 ([Read more](#))
- 140 M&A deals were announced last year, on the domestic market, amounting EUR 3.6 billion, up by 17% compared to 2015 ([Read more](#))

Macroeconomic indicators, March 2017



Macroeconomic indicators	Value	Period
GDP growth	4.8%	2016/2015
GDP per capita (EUR)	8600	2016
Monthly inflation rate	-0.1%	Feb. 2017
Annual inflation rate	0.5	Feb. 2017
Annual Exchange rate (RON/EUR)	aver: 4.5120 ecp: 4.6160	Feb. 2017
Unemployment rate	5.4%	Jan. 2017
Annual growth in labour cost	+12.3%	Q4 2016/Q4 2015
Gross average wage in the economy	702 €	Jan. 2016
Foreign Investments inflows	EUR 260 million	Jan. 2016

In the fourth quarter of 2016, the highest annual increases in hourly labour costs, in the EU28, for the whole economy were registered in Romania (+12.3%).



Foreign Investment News

”Trade Winds”: A major regional economic mission scheduled to be held in Bucharest in October

- More than 150 US companies will come to Romania in October, as part of a major economic mission ([Read more](#))

Selection

- Michelin group will invest EUR 60 million in its metallic cord plant in Zalau ([Read more](#))
- Spanish Gestamp, specialized in the design, development and manufacturing of components for the auto industry, is expanding on the Romanian market ([Read more](#))
- Tobacco giant BAT invests EUR 21 mln in Romania ([Read more](#))
- Sonaca to make Airbus aircraft parts in western Romania following EUR 11.8 mln investment ([Read more](#))
- Turkish group Arcelik announced that it will invest EUR 200 million in a new plant in Romania, in Ulmi Vilage ([Read more](#))
- Coface will open a new IT development center in Bucharest ([Read more](#))
- Faurecia invested EUR 8 million in a new plant in Romania ([Read more](#))

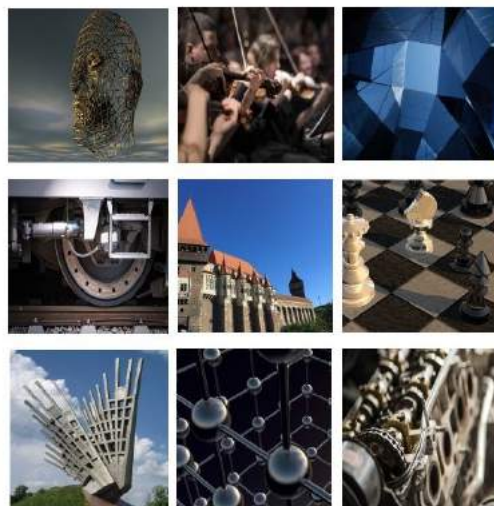


Life in Romania. Events & Achievements

- A biking route of 100 kilometers long was established from Viscri to Sighisoara, crossing eight villages and covering Transylvania's natural landscapes, culture and history. ([Read more](#))
- Why this Romanian village attracts so many British celebrities ([Read more](#))
- One city in Romania has more restaurants per 100,000 inhabitants than Amsterdam or Istanbul ([Read more](#))
- Paranormal Romania: Romania is not only a beautiful country with many places to visit and enjoy ([Read more](#))
- Jazz is all around in Bucharest in mid-May ([Read more](#))
- Planting trees, mandatory for those who want to get building permits in Romanian city ([Read more](#))
- Around 250 000 tourists and visitors from the U.S. and Canada are to come to Romania this year ([Read more](#))

Focus on InvestRomania

In April, InvestRomania will launch the up-dated version of the Foreign Investor's Guide, a tool created to support foreign investors navigate the Romanian business environment when opening a business.



Events

- On March 10th our team joined the Belgian company Sonaca at the official opening of its new plant built in Cluj County, an investment worth Euro 11.8 million, granted with Euro 5.4 million State aid provided by the Government. Currently, the plant has 30 employees and their number will increase to 200 in the coming years. InvestRomania has been accompanying Sonaca since the very beginning, guiding its steps through all the stages of the decisional process.
- On March 14th we took part in The New Market event, a new concept of the Capital Market Forum, organized by Wall-Street.ro. Investor's perspective on the local capital market and the emerging market status - double-edged sword were among the debates.
- "Invest in Romania" conference (2nd edition), organized by InvestRomania in partnership with the National Council of Private Small and Medium Enterprises from Romania, with the support of Galati County Council took place on March 16th in Galati city, gathering at the same table members of the Government, local authorities, international companies, foreign investors and embassies.
- On March 17th, our team attended the meeting between the BMW Group with the Romanian IT&C companies in order to identify cooperation opportunities between the two parties for providing software solutions for the German company.
- On March 23rd, InvestRomania took part in the 3rd edition of Romanian Outsourcing Summit, an event powered by Outsourcing-Today.ro and The Diplomat-Bucharest, offering insights on Romania's competitive advantages as an outsourcing destination within the plenary session: Outsourcing landscape, opportunities and challenges.
- We attended the "Cities of tomorrow #5" Conference of the AHK Romania (Romanian-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry) that took place on March 28th. This edition was about competitive regions, cities and communities, with topics like smart energy, smart cities, financing and EU Funds, mobility, reconversion & revitalization of industrial sites.
- On March 29th, our team actively participated in the 3rd edition in Romania of SEE Property Forum 2017, an event where investors from Western Europe met real estate executives from the domestic market and the SEE region. The main topics included the economic outlook for Romania (a view from London), market insights (office, retail, logistics, residential), secondary cities on the rise: Cluj, Iasi, Timisoara.
- Cluj Innovation Days 2017: InvestRomania attended the 5th edition of the annual conference organized by Cluj IT Cluster, on March 30th. The event aimed at strengthening IT sector and create new innovation based bridges among businesses, the academic and the public sector, with Digital Economy as the main topic.



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