

Issue 2/2018

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InvestRomania Newsletter



Macroeconomic outlook

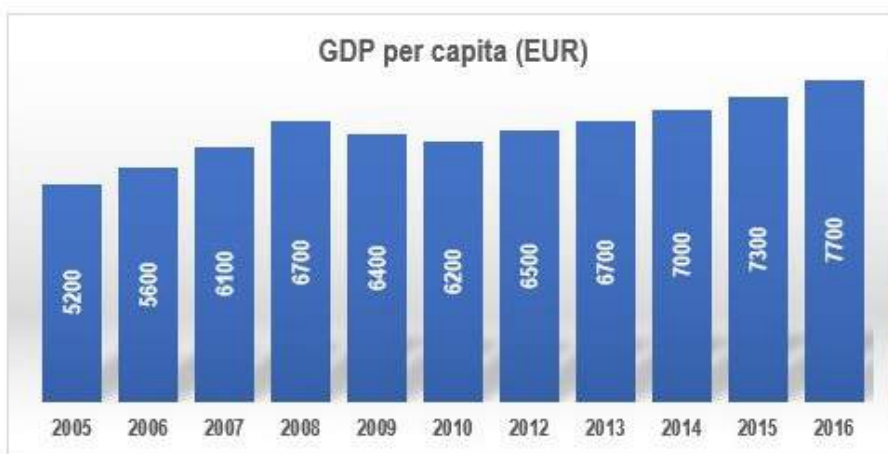
Record profit for the Romanian banking system in 2017

- Romanian banking sector ended last year with the best performance of all time, a net profit up by more than 30% compared to 2016 ([Read more](#))
- Romania's industrial turnover advanced by 11.7% in 2017 ([Read more](#))
- National Forecast Commission revises Romania's GDP growth to 6.1% ([Read more](#))
- Online stores in Romania among fastest growing in the European eCommerce market ([Read more](#))
- Half of the Romanian stock exchange indices have grown by more than 8% in 2018 ([Read more](#))
- Romanian industrial production up by 8.2% in 2017 ([Read more](#))

Macroeconomic indicators, February 2018

Macroeconomic indicators	Value	Period
GDP growth* (%)	7.0	Q4 2017/ Q4 2016
	0.6	Q4 2017/ Q3 2017
GDP per capita (EUR)	7700	2016
Annual inflation rate (%)	3.4	Jan 2018
Monthly inflation rate (%)	0.7	Jan 2018
Unemployment rates* (%)	4.6	Jan 2018
Unemployment (Number of persons)	424 000	Jan 2018
Exchange rate (RON/EUR)	aver: 4.6555	Feb 2018
Average monthly gross earnings	790 EUR (3662 RON)	Dec 2017
Growth rate of the average monthly net earnings (%)	11.7	Dec 2017/ Dec 2016
Industrial production growth (%)	3.8	Dec 2017/ Nov 2017
FDI flows (million EUR)	4,586	2017
FDI flows growth (%)	1.53	2017 / 2016

* seasonally adjusted series



Source: NIS, Eurostat, NBR



Foreign Investment News

Metair expands lithium-ion capabilities in Romania ([Read more](#))

Selection

- Unilever has agreed to acquire Romanian ice cream company Betty Ice ([Read more](#))
- Palumbo Group opened a new site in Constanta, Romania that will provide specialised services to the offshore and engineering sectors ([Read more](#))
- Lidl to open center of IT excellence Lidl Digital in Bucharest ([Read more](#))
- Gothaer celebrates 5 years in Romania ([Read more](#))



Life in Romania. Events & Achievements

Romanian rhapsody — exploring an unsung destination in Eastern Europe ([Read more](#))

- ClujHub becomes the largest space of cowork and events in the Eastern Europe ([Read more](#))
- Simona Halep was granted the Honorary citizen of Bucharest tile: Perhaps most important title of my career ([Read more](#))
- Airport-city centre shuttle bus service launches in Bucharest ([Read more](#))
- Brâncuși Day celebrated on February 19th. On this occasion, two books on the Romanian artist were released by courtesy of Doina Lemny, PhD in Art History, a Museum-Researcher at the National Museum of Modern Art, Pompidou Center in Paris ([Read more](#))

Focus on InvestRomania



Events

- On February 13th, Paula Pîrvănescu, Secretary of State InvestRomania, made the official opening of the Automotive & Aerospace Meetings Romania event organized by Advanced Business Events and presented Romania's positive economic path and

growing perspectives as well as the investment opportunities that our country has to offer. InvestRomania's team attended B2B meetings for convincing international players to consider our country for business development.

- On February 22th-23th, Paula Pîrvănescu, Secretary of State InvestRomania, attended the Ministerial Conference of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on SMEs and Entrepreneurship that took place in Ciudad de Mexico. The Romanian official reiterated Romania's commitment in obtaining OECD candidate status and presented the support and funding programs offered by the Romanian Government to small and medium-sized enterprises as well as to start-ups and entrepreneurs. During the visit, the Secretary of State met Juan Carlos Baker Pineda, Mexico's Undersecretary of Foreign Trade. On this occasion, the two officials reviewed our countries bilateral economic relations. The Romanian Secretary of State expressed her gratitude for Mexico's support to Romania in obtaining the status of OCDE candidate country and presented the possibility of organizing a new meeting for setting up an economic and trade Romanian-Mexican High Level Working Group.
- On February 27th, InvestRomania took part in the "Cities of Tomorrow #6" Conference of the AHK Romania (Romanian-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry). This edition was about urban regeneration in order to stimulate sustainable development of cities and regions in Romania, thus creating an attractive business environment for companies and their employees.



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