

**Constantin OSTAFICIUC**  
**President of Timiș County Council, Romania**  
**Vice-President of the CoR**  
**Member of the AER, candidate for AER presidency**

## **Declaration of interest and program platform For candidature to the position of AER President**

### **Personal motivation**

For several years I have occupied positions of public responsibility and I have been involved in remarkable events regarding the wide interests of regional communities – all these aspects allow me to want more in order to better serve the interests of these communities. In time, I have realized that nothing is impossible when you have all the necessary “ingredients” at your disposal: adequate level of representation, political and administrative power, resources, the necessary vision and determination. From this perspective, AER is a relevant organization, with a broad and diverse expertise in the field of regional development, with an adequate visibility, that can and should be used increasingly by the means and human resources at our disposal.

Obtaining the mandate of AER president is a great challenge for me, which I will meet with the adequate attention and honour. Besides, our experience and knowledge of the problems of east European regions is an advantage that we, the AER members, should use in order to bring new solutions for new times.

Thus, I am confident that you will support my candidature and that you will appreciate the platform that I propose for the following two years. My intention is to further develop this platform with your help. At the moment, it can be summarized through the following objectives and measures:

- To capitalize the diverse experience of the member regions in order to formulate appropriate solutions for current and future problems of the EU space regarding regional development in their competence and interest areas;
- To increase the role and recognition of AER as the main actor in formulating adequate solutions to regional development problems and in reducing development disparities between regions of EU and Europe in general;
- To promote the best policies and communication, cooperation and lobby channels in relation to advisory and decisional organisms of the EU;
- To strengthen the connection between the AER and the CoR as an efficient lobbying tool for AER ideas and solutions – *among the facilitating factors I would like to mention the advantage of holding the CoR vice-president position;*
- The AER Bureau should assume the integrating role for the initiatives, policies, experiences of the AER committees’ areas of interest, so that their messages to the Advisory Bodies of the EU, the European Commission and the European Parliament should hold the added value necessary for their process of consideration / adoption;
- To implement and put into operation the 5 major projects\* (ERTI, KEP, CRE, BDU, RPMU) planned to complement the work of committees and the AER strategic program, along with the promotion of new projects that will help achieve the mission and objectives of the organization.

## **BIOGRAPHY - CONSTANTIN OSTAFICIUC**

### **Personal details:**

- He was born in 1954, in Braşov. He is married. He has one daughter.
- Religion: Orthodox
- Education: Faculty Of Computer Science and Automation / Technical University of Timișoara, Engineer

### **Experience at Romanian national level:**

- President of Timiș County Council (second mandate)
- Working for Timiș County as high official: 1996-present
  - Deputy Prefect / Timiș Prefecture – Public Administration / Government Representative: 1996-2000
  - President of the West Regional Development Board (its role is to adopt the regional development policies and strategies): 2005-2006; Vice-President of the same body: 2006-2007.
- Vice-President of the National Union of Romanian County Councils
  - President of the Technical Committee for Decentralization of the National Union of Romanian County Councils
- First Vice-President of the Democrat-Liberal Party, Timiș County

### **His Commitment in Europe:**

- Member of the Institutional Committee of the Chamber of Regions CLRA: 2000-2006
- Chair of the Romanian Delegation to the Committee of Regions
- Vice-President of the Committee of Regions and member of its Bureau
- Vice-President of the European People's Party Group in the Committee of Regions
- Vice-President of the Assembly of European Regions and chair of its Committee for "Social Policy and Public Health"
- Direct promoter of active partnership at EU level: several projects developed under European programmes: Cross Border Cooperation, Interreg, Life, etc., as well as financed by Structural funds.
  - National coordinator of the Danube-Kris-Mureș-Tisa Euroregion 2002-2004
  - Acting president of the Danube-Kris-Mureș-Tisa Euroregion 2006-2007

### **Main achievements in the Assembly of Regions:**

- constant supporter of equality between women and men, social and ethnic inclusion - consolidation of the AER work in existing fields, launching of new initiatives;
- the first member to propose a two-year instead of a one-year approach of the activity planning to increase the efficiency; revised the structure of the Committee (2), focusing on thematic networks;
- initiative to create the E-health and Emergency Planning networks, E-health network successfully launching its activities in 2007, Emergency Planning being a completely new work area for the AER;
- organization of the AER Conference in Timișoara (October 2007) on equal opportunities between women and men; among the results of the conference: creation of an AER Observatory on Gender Issues on Migrant Women.

### **Foreign languages:**

- English – fluent ▪ French – fluent ▪ Italian – fluent ▪ German – conversational