

WELCOME TO IAȘI!

Romania's leading university city, Iași was also the first city to have an Emmaus community in Romania.

We are delighted to be able to discover the challenges and reality in Romania when attending our assembly, which will bring together representatives of all the Emmaus countries in Europe.

Together, we will review the past four years, but above all we will learn from each other, discuss, debate and build Emmaus' future in Europe: we can't wait to see you!



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OUR HOSTS

■ Emmaus Iași community. Inaugurated in 2001 by Abbé Pierre, the Emmaus Iași Foundation has been working for over 20 years with the homeless and vulnerable people in Iași. The outreach programme runs all year round but steps up in the winter months, and forms the foundation's core work. The homeless benefit from food aid, clothing and administrative support tailored to their needs.

The Emmaus Iași companions live in various community houses. In Iași, they work in the second-hand store and take part in the solidarity programmes. In Popești, they look after the shop, and the farm animals and crops, while some also do carpentry and weaving. Finally, the Belvédère plot is under development, and is focused on farming, with 20 hectares of cereals, an orchard, a market garden and small farm animals, as well as construction and carpentry workshops, and sales.

EMMAUS IN ROMANIA

■ There are three Emmaus groups in Romania: Iași is located in North-East Romania; Satu Mare, located in the North West, is a community of young care system leavers aged 18-25, and Târgu Jiu, located in the South West, helps integrate young adults. The groups are located quite far apart, and tend to meet up once a year, joining forces with partner groups from across Europe within the scope of the Romania Collective arranged by Emmaus Europe. In May 2023, Iași, Satu Mare and Târgu Jiu created the Emmaus Romania Federation (ERF).

PROGRAMME

MONDAY 23

10:00 > 18:00 / Participant registration session

We will be ready to welcome you so that you can sign in and pick up your ballot papers in the hotel lobby.

AFTERNOON

14:00 > 17:30 or 16:00 > 17:30

Visit to Emmaus Iași urban and rural sites

Please register in advance for these visits or alternatively for the Friday visits (which will be identical) by sending an email to: agee2023@emmaus-europe.org

EVENING

19h / Dinner

BINE AȚI VENIT !

TUESDAY 24

Workshop languages: English [EN], French [FR], Spanish [SP]

MORNING

9:00 / Opening session

- Carina Aaltonen, President of Emmaus Europe

9:15 / Welcome

- by local politicians and Gelu Nichitel, the founder of Emmaus Iași

9:30 / Keynote speech

“Romania yesterday and tomorrow - prejudices and reality”

10:30 / Break

11:00 / Testimonials

“For a free Ukraine!”

Life of an Emmaüs group in wartime

- Natalia Sanotska and Grigory Semenchuk

Emmaus Oselya, Ukraine

- Message from the Ukrainian writer Andrey Kurkov.

11:20 / Roundtable

“Pacifism, non-violence, and resistance: what action can we continue to take to bring about a peaceful Europe in times of war?”

Roundtable chaired by Carina Aaltonen, with:

- Tamara Zlobina, doctor of philosophy and editor-in-chief of the Ukrainian Gender in detail feminist media platform, signatory of the Ukraine peace appeal: <https://www.ukrainepeaceappeal2023.info/>
- Francesco Vignarca, coordinator of the Italian network for peace and disarmament

12:30 / Overview of the workshops

12:45 / Lunch

AFTERNOON

14:15 / Peace and love workshops

Training

1. **Non-violence as a means of peace-building**
by Francesco Vignarca [EN] [SP]
2. **The circle: a method from the North to develop democratic life, self-esteem and gender equality** [EN]

Exchanges of practice

3. **Coming together to foster peace – summer camps and work camps as the lever** [EN]
4. **How should we tackle discrimination in our provision?** [EN]
5. **How to integrate gender issues in our groups?** [FR] [SP]
6. **Quality and dignity of provision: what criteria today?** [EN] [FR]
7. **Love and sex in communities** [FR]
8. **How can we make our governance more democratic?** [FR]

Co-development

9. **Working together to develop our future awareness - raising campaigns about migrant reception, and how to go further than our poster campaign “It’s good to be human”?** [FR]

16:00 / Break

16:30 / Extraordinary general assembly **VOTE**

Proposed amendment of the statutes and the internal regulations to incorporate the changes made to the EI statutes at the last world assembly and facilitate usage.

18:00 / Candidacies

Presentation of the candidate standing for the presidency.

EVENING

19:00 / Dinner

20:30 > 22:00 / Historic and cultural city tour

Limited number of places, register when signing in on Monday.

SPEAKERS OF DAY



Carina Aaltonen



Gelu Nichitel



Natalia Sanotska



Grigory Semenchuk



Tamara Zlobina



Francesco Vignarca

WEDNESDAY 25

MORNING

9:00 / Candidacies

Presentation of the CEI candidacies.
Vote will be open from 11 am to 2:30 pm.

9:45 / Roundtable

“What are the new environmental challenges for Emmaus? Zero waste, post-growth economy”

Facilitator: Martha Hannus with:

- Jack McQuibban, Zero Waste Europe, Head of Local Implementation
- Eduardo Sanchez, coordinator at Emaús Fundación Social, Saint Sebastian

10:45 / Overview of the workshops

11:00 / Break and voting starts **VOTE**

11:30 / Green revolution workshops

Training

1. **Discover: Emmaus Åland's assessment undertaken to improve its climate impact** [EN]

Exchanges of practice

2. **New green activities: Building industry waste/construction** [FR]
3. **Repair more and throw away less, how should we do this in our groups?** [EN] [FR]
4. **Textiles: how to reuse more or recycle to limit final waste?** [FR]
5. **How can we improve our eco-practices (including energy and sorting) in our groups and overcome internal resistance?** [FR]
6. **New European regulations: how to keep a foothold in the local reuse sector? (EPR – extended producer responsibility, calls for tender, etc)** [SP] [FR]
7. **Activism and partnerships to scale up our advocacy impact: working with other networks, young people, environmental activists** [EN] [SP]
8. **Food self-sufficiency: how to decrease our dependence on agroindustry and food aid? How to eat better and generate solidarity with local farmers?** [FR]

Co-development

9. **Workshops to prepare campaigns on overproduction and overconsumption** [EN]
10. **Incorporating climate issues into our solidarity work + green transition fund: what initiatives should we support?** [FR]

13h / Lunch

Voting ends for the CEIs and the president at 14:30.

AFTERNOON

14:30 / Reports **VOTE**

Presentation of the president's report, financial and activity reports.

16:30 / Break

17:00 / Perspectives

“Emmaus International in 2024: a major year for advocacy and international initiatives”

18:00 / Announcement of the results of the elections (and show of appreciation for the outgoing elected representatives)

EVENING

19:00 / Dinner

SPEAKERS OF DAY



Jack McQuibban



Eduardo Sanchez

THURSDAY 26

MORNING

9:00 / Roundtable

“Who is suffering most nowadays? How is Emmaus’ provision being tailored to the people who need it most?”

Facilitator: Joël Isselé, with:

- Charlotte Talbott, Chief Executive of Emmaus UK, UK
- Anaïs Revollat-Veuillet, co-leader of Emmaus Toulouse, France
- Jean-Philippe Légaut, president of Emmaus Satu Mare, Romania

10:30 / Overview of the workshops

10:45 / Break

11:15 / Workshops on “Addressing poverty and its root causes in the future: new responses and new methods”

Training

1. Reintegrating prison leavers: the Emmaus farms [EN]
2. Fighting digital exclusion: Emmaüs Connect [EN]
3. Fighting crippling debt and financial exclusion: the SOS Familles and a French lobbying campaign [EN]

Exchanges of practice

4. Emmaus as a stepping stone: supporting companions who are wanting to leave/training companions [EN] [FR]
5. Addiction: the new group methods for coping with addictions [FR]
6. How culture can be a work tool in the groups, for community life... [FR]
7. Volunteer recruitment: what practices for what outcomes? [FR] [SP]
8. Recruiting new group members and leaders – sharing practices to develop over time (new target communities, context, organisation, values) [FR]

Co-development

9. New forms of solidarity: twinning, exchanges, internships, inter-Emmaus mobility/stumbling blocks and barriers [FR]
10. Work together to develop our advocacy messages for the 70th anniversary of the 1954 appeal [SP] [FR]

13:00 / Lunch

AFTERNOON

14:30 / Presentation of the Lucie Coutaz Prize

Prize created in 2015 to reward a European woman whose everyday work behind the scenes at Emmaus has enabled the Movement to make exceptional progress.

15:00 / Conférence

“European migration policy: review and resistance”

Presentation: Eve Poulteau, with:

- Loïc Le Dall, president of Emmaus la Roya, France

Sentenced for “helping a foreign national to illegally enter France”, as the French Appeal Court refused to take into consideration the humanitarian immunity granted since 2018 covering facilitation of residence and transit, Loïc has lodged an application with the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR).

16:00 / Break

16:30 / Presentation of the strategic plan **VOTE**

18:00 / Review and closing session

EVENING

19:00 / Dinner

21:00 / **Emmaus Eurovision**

Sing and dance to the most popular songs from each country of Europe and maybe get on stage to represent your country at the karaoke (sparkly dresses and feather boas recommended!)

SPEAKERS OF DAY



Charlotte Talbott



Anaïs Revollat-Veuillet



Jean-Philippe Légaut



Loïc Le Dall

FRIDAY 27

MORNING

9:00 > 10:30 or 9:00 > 12:30 / Visit to Emmaus Iași's urban and rural sites

Please register in advance for these visits by sending an email to: agee2023@emmaus-europe.org

9:00 > 13:00 / Meeting of the Regional Council of Emmaus Europe, solely for the elected representatives (incoming and outgoing)

In the plenary meeting room.

13:00 / Lunch



Exhibition of Abdul Saboor's photographs of exile, Hotel lobby

"We must show what is happening. If we don't talk about it, everyone turns a blind eye." Abdul Saboor fled Afghanistan in 2015 after being targeted by the Taliban. He somewhat unwillingly became a photojournalist and documented his journey into exile. Abdul Saboor is now a refugee in France and a photographer for Reuters. His images forcefully and poetically attest to the experience of those who leave everything behind.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

TRAVEL

Travelling to Romania by plane

- **You can take a taxi** (15–20-minute journey, 20–30 Romanian Lei (RON), roughly €5) **or a bus to travel to the city centre from Iași International Airport**. The buses leave every 30 minutes, including during the night. You can check out the timetable here: apd.li/nlFgC (on the far right).

- **Exit the airport and take the number 50 bus. Get off the bus on Piața Independenței**. Cross the street and then go down the big staircase. The hotel will be on your left. For the return trip, the bus stop is located on Piața Unirii, opposite the hotel. Tickets can be bought from the driver (please be aware that this is not the case for other bus services) for 3 Romanian Lei (€0.60) in cash or using a bankcard.

Arriving by bus/train

- **The bus station and railway station are in the same location, about 15 minutes on foot from the hotel (1km)**. From the station, take Strada Garii (opposite the station) and then the second road on the right (Strada Arcu). You will come to Piața Unirii around 400m further down the road on the left, level with the second road on the right. The hotel is located at the far end of the square.

- **You can also take public transport (trams 3,6 or 7, the number 50 bus)**– journey time roughly 15 minutes. Or you could take a taxi for a few Romanian Lei (under €1 for the journey).

Travelling by car

- **The hotel has a secure car park for guests**. You may park your vehicle free of charge in the car park throughout the assembly. Follow the directions from the hotel to the car park.

Public transport

- **The nearest public transport hub is Piața Unirii**: trams 1, 3, 6, 7,8, 9 and 13 call there, as do bus numbers 36 and 50. The Piața Independenței stop is located behind the hotel up the big stairway and buses 20, 28, 36, 41, 42, 43, 43c, 46 and 50 stop there.

Taxis

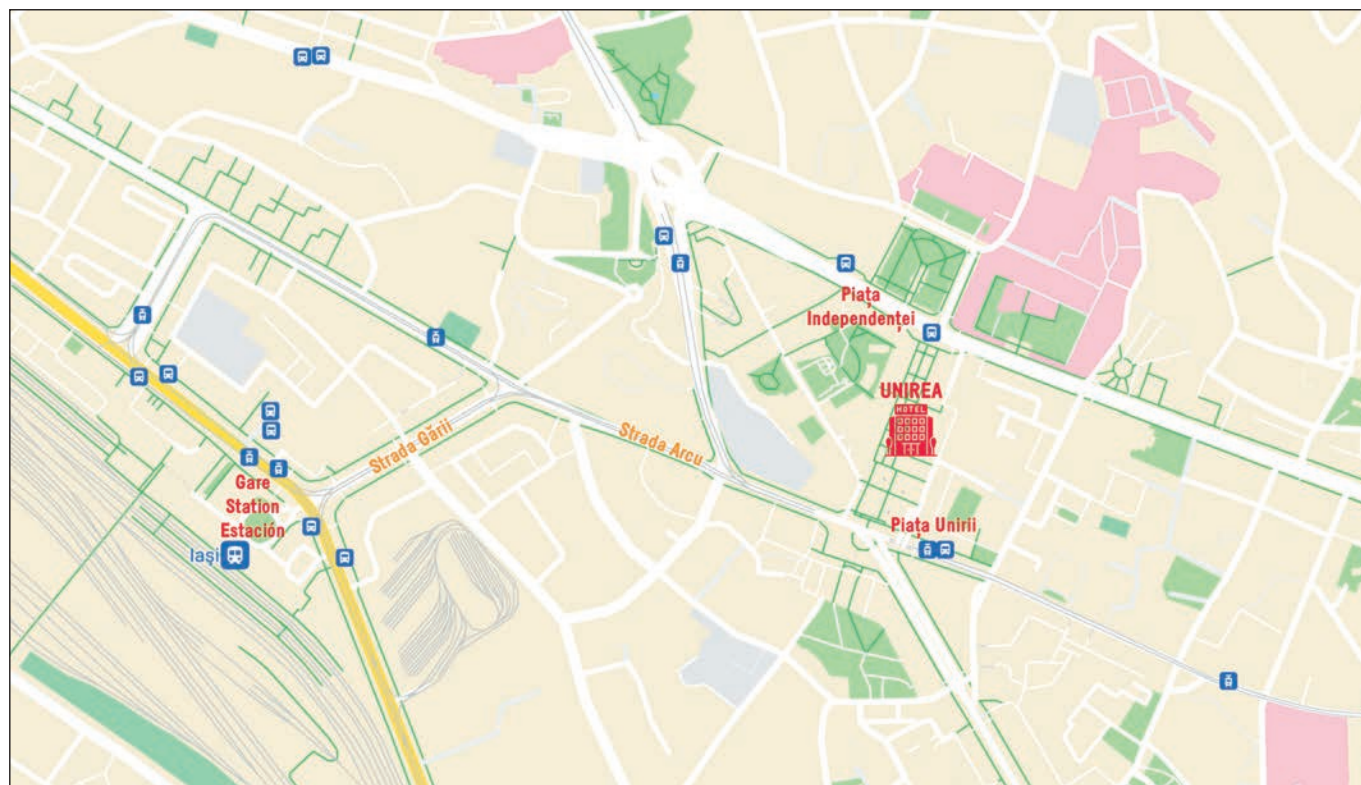
- **There are several taxi companies in Iași. Here a few numbers just in case:**

- **LuxTaxi**: +40 740 255 255 / +40 232 255 255 (mobile app: luxtaxi.ro/aplicatie).

- **EuroTaxi**: +40 740 217 217 / +40 232 217 217.

ou can say that you are at the Unirea Hotel or in Piața Unirii.

HOW TO FIND THE UNIREA HOTEL



ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS

Unirea Hotel

- **Accommodation is being provided at the Unirea Hotel.** The hotel is also the venue for all the meetings. Accommodation is in shared twin rooms.
- **Contact:** Piata Unirii nr 5, +40 232 205 000, hotelunirea.ro/en
- **24-hour reception** (check in: 14:00 / check out: 12:00)
- **Room facilities:** towels, soap, shampoo, hairdryer, WIFI, safe. Free access to the spa (NB: a swimming cap must be worn and they are not sold at the hotel).
- **Emmaus Europe has arranged accommodation but solely for the RAEE period, i.e., from 23-27 October.** Please make your own accommodation arrangements outside of these dates.

Catering

- **All the meals will be served at the hotel,** in the ground floor restaurant. They will take the form of a buffet, with varied options to suit the different dietary requirements. You will need to show your assembly badge in order to get served.
- **Breakfast starts at 7:00.** Coffee will be served near the plenary meeting room during coffee breaks.

CURRENCY

- **The local currency is the Romanian Leu** (plural – lei/Symbol: RON). The exchange rate is roughly €1 = 5 Lei. It is easy to change or withdraw money at the airport and in the city, and to pay by bankcard (“card” in Romanian) in most places.

SAFETY

- **The European emergency number (112)** is free to call in Romania.

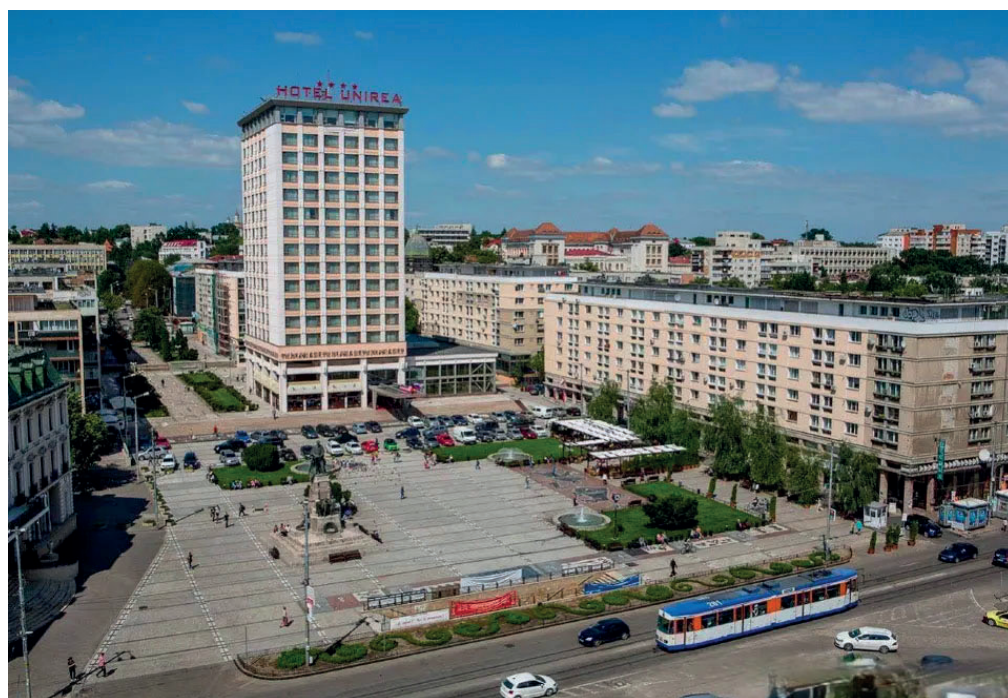
WORKING LANGUAGES

We have three working languages – French, English and Spanish – in the Emmaus Movement. A team of volunteer interpreters will be present throughout the assembly so that everyone can understand proceedings. Please always use a microphone when you wish to speak and do not speak too quickly or address several people at the same time in order to facilitate the interpreters’ work. Remember to pick up headphones so that you can listen to the meeting in the language of your choice.

- **You are responsible for your personal effects.** Each room has a safe, and we advise you to use it, particularly for your travel documents (passport, etc). Do not leave any valuable items in the communal rooms and ensure that you lock your room.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- **Plugs:** 220-240V / 50Hz, F-type plugs (European standard).
- **Time zone:** Eastern European Time Zone (GMT+2), summer-time until 29 October 2023.
- **Internet at the hotel:** Hotel WIFI “Unirea Hotel & Spa”, Password “unirea100”.
- **Documents: All the assembly working documents can be accessed at the following address:**
emmaus-europe.org/ag2023-en



The Unirea Hotel, right in the centre of the city, will host us but all also all our meetings!

© Hotel Unirea

A FEW WORDS OF VOCABULARY

ROMANIAN	FRENCH	ENGLISH	SPANISH
Bună ziua	Bonjour	Hello	Hola
Mă cheamă Miren	Je m'appelle Miren	My name is Miren	Me llamo Miren
La revedere	Au revoir	Goodbye	Adios
Pe mâine	A demain	See you tomorrow	Hasta mañana
Vă rog	S'il vous plait	Please	Por favor
Pardon	Pardon	Sorry	Perdón
Mulțumesc / Mersi	Merci	Thank you	Gracias
Cu placere	De rien	You're welcome	De nada
Da	Oui	Yes	Si
Nu	Non	No	No
Bine ați venit	Bienvenue	Welcome	Bienvenido(s)
Hotel	Hôtel	Hotel	Hotel
Universitate	Université	University	Universidad
Stație de autobuz	Arrêt de bus	Bus stop	Parada de autobús
Farmacie	Pharmacie	Pharmacy	Farmacia
Buna ziua, aş vrea	Bonjour, je voudrais	Hello, I would like	Buenos días, quería
Cameră	Chambre	Room	Habitación
Pat	Lit	Bed	Cama
Toaletă	Toilettes, W.C.	Toilet	Servicio
Cheie	Clé	Key	Llave
Micul dejun	Petit-déjeuner	Breakfast	Desayuno
Prânz	Déjeuner	Lunch	Almuerzo
Cină	Dîner	Dinner	Cena
Cafea	Café	Coffee	Café
Apă	Eau	Water	Agua

■ Théo Robin

Events officer

+33 (0)6 52 30 67 65

theo.robin@emmaus-europe.org

■ Eve Poulteau

Chief Executive

+33 (0)6 47 52 21 21

eve.poulteau@emmaus-europe.org

■ Véronica Acevedo Caro

Admin-finance assistant

veronica.acevedo@emmaus-europe.org

■ Manon Gaham

Awareness raising and advocacy officer

manon.gaham@emmaus-europe.org

■ Emmanuel Rabourdin

Solidarity coordinator

emmanuel.rabourdin@emmaus-europe.org

■ Marie Tixier

Events coordinator

marie.tixier@emmaus-europe.org

EMMAUS EUROPE TEAM

The team is available to answer your questions throughout the assembly, as are the lași volunteers.



Théo Robin



Eve Poulteau



Veronica Acevedo Caro



Manon Gaham



Emmanuel Rabourdin



Marie Tixier



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EUROPE