



Aviation-Event 2026 CLJ

20 MARCH 2026

Host: Cluj International Airport



www.airportcluj.ro

www.aviation-event.de

MODERATOR OF THE DAY

Alexander Bogoyavlensky,
A220 Pilot and Journalist, Bloomberg TV Bulgaria

OPENING WELCOME SESSION

Time: 09:00

Alin Tișe, President, Cluj County

Maria Forna, Cluj County Governor

Emil Boc, Mayor, Cluj-Napoca City *

Viorel Federiga, President of the Board, Cluj International Airport*

Moderator: **José Ramón Bauzá**, Former Balearic Islands President, Former MEP (Aviation-Event Supervisory Board Member)

OPENING KEYNOTE

Time: 09:30

David Ciceo, CEO, Cluj Avram Iancu International Airport (CLJ)

Moderator: **Miquel Ros**, Aviation Journalist, AeroTime, allplane

KEYNOTE INTERVIEW – INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Time: 09:50

Matthew Cornelius

Executive Vice President

Airports Council International - North America

Moderator: **Marcel Riwaltsky**, CEO, Aviation-Event

KEYNOTE INTERVENTION - LEADERSHIP STORYLINE

Time: 10:40

Ian Malin, CCO, Wizz Air

Moderator:

Rüdiger Kiani-Kreß, Aviation and Defense Journalist, Wirtschaftswoche
Member Aviation-Event Supervisory Board

COFFEE BREAK 11:20 – 11:45

PANEL 1 - INVESTMENT & GOVERNANCE

Time: 11:45

Bettina Ganghofer, CEO, Salzburg Airport (SZG), Member Aviation-Event Supervisory Board

Riivo Tuvike, CEO of Tallinn Airport (TLL), Board Member ACI Europe

Askin Demir, CEO, Aéroport International Blaise Diagne (DSS), Member Aviation-Event Supervisory Board

Annabelle Lepièce, Partner & Head of Competition, CMS Belgium

Jakub Malecki, General Manager for Romania and Republic of Moldova

Moderator: **Margarida Pereira-Müller**, Journalist

LUNCH 12:30 – 14:15

PANEL 2: INNOVATION & SUSTAINABILITY

Time: 14:15

Thomas Dworschak, CEO, Košice Airport (KSC) and Innovation Manager Vienna Airport Group

Gert Taeymans, EVP Europe, ADB SAFEGATE

Iustinian Șovrea, Business Operations Head, GlobalLogic Romania

Sofia Mari, Supervisor, Stakeholder Management, Airport Expansion Program (AEP), Athens International Airport (ATH)

Sorin Zaharia, University Professor, Faculty of Aerospace Engineering, National University of Science and Technology 'Politehnica' Bucharest

Moderator: **Luc Citrinot**, Journalist, Voyages d'Affaires

PANEL 3: AVIATION NATIONAL FOCUS

Time: 15:15

Bogdan Costas, CEO, TAROM*

Cristian Paris, VP Balkans, Menzies Aviation

Marius Pandel, CEO, Animawings

Marius Văcălău, CEO, Lagardère Travel Retail Romania

Romeo Vatră, General Manager, Iași International Airport (IAS)

Mihai Pătrașcu, General Manager, Satu Mare Airport (SUJ)

Moderator: **Michael Eggenschwiler,** ex-CEO Hamburg Airport (HAM),
Senior Aviation Expert, Member Aviation-Event Supervisory Board

Note: * - To be confirmed

WRAP UP OF THE DAY

Time: 16:15

Peter Baumgartner, CEO, Bluearbre Ltd.
President Aviation-Event Supervisory Board

CLOSING OF THE DAY

Time: 16:25

David Ciceo,
CEO, Cluj Avram Iancu International Airport (CLJ)

19 March 2026 | Thursday Gala Dinner

Time: 19:00 – 23:00 | Dress Code: Smart Casual / Evening Cocktail Outfit

 **Radisson Blu Hotel, Ballroom**



20 March 2026 | Friday



Aviation-Event 2026 CLJ Conference Day

Time: 09:00 – 16:30 | Dress Code: Business Attire / Business Casual



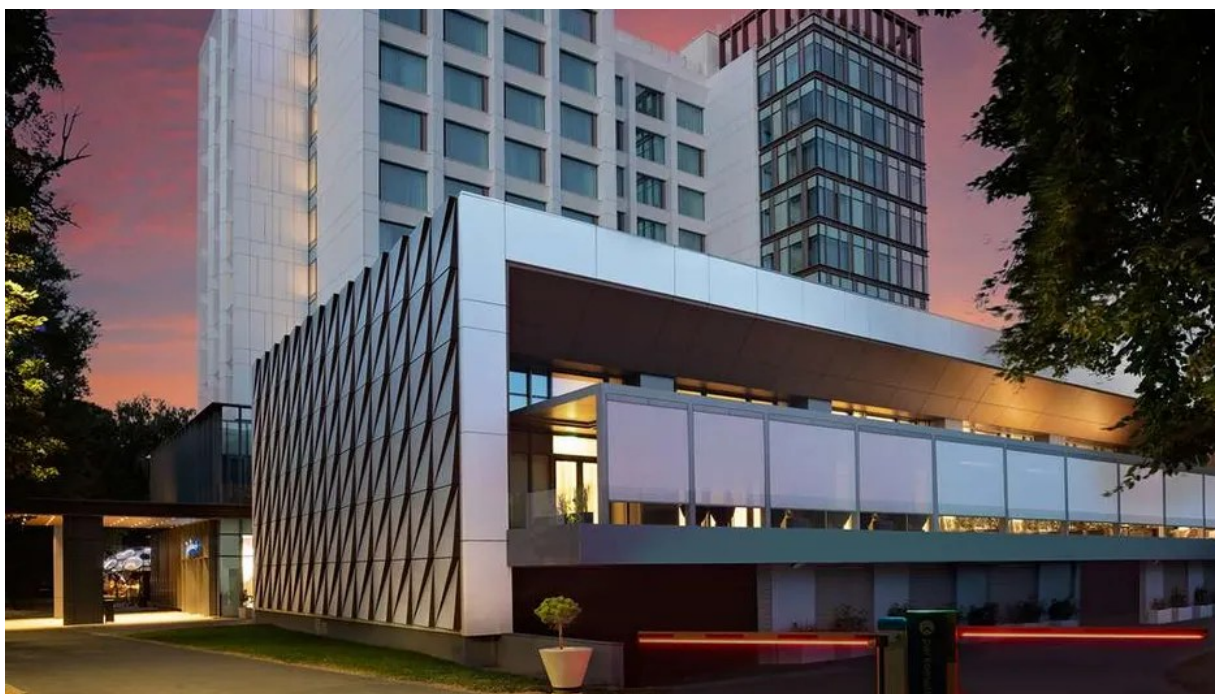
Radisson Blu Hotel, Stadionului Street, no. 1, Cluj-Napoca



Accommodation - Partner Hotel



 **Radisson Blu Hotel, Stadionului street, no. 1, Cluj-Napoca, 400375, Romania**



For accessing the **preferential rates**, please send an e-mail the promotional code **AE2026** for reservation request at reservations.cluj@radissonblu.com

- static offer, single use, bed and breakfast, promotional code valid for the dates 18 - 22 March 2026, please note that the city tax will be added to this static rate

★ CLUJ-NAPOCA CITY TOUR

Dress Code: Casual

19 March 2026 | 16:00-18:00

21 March 2026 | 09:30 – 11:30

Start & end tour location: Radisson Blu Hotel, Cluj-Napoca



Executive Supervisory Board Presidents

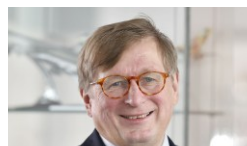


Ioanna Papadopoulou
Director of Communications &
Marketing, Athens International Airport



Peter Baumgartner
Former CEO Etihad Airways and
Chairman Blueair Ltd.

Executive Supervisory Board



Michael Kerkloh
Member of Supervisory Board,
Lufthansa



Karsten Benz
Prof. University of Worms



Raphael von Heereman
Prof. University of Antwerp



Rafael Schwartzman
RVP Europe, IATA



Martin Isler
Luxair



Julian Jäger
COO & Joint CEO, Vienna Airport



Markus Kopp
Senior Aviation Consultant



Michael Garvens
Managing Director, TUIfly GmbH



Peter Oncken
Managing Partner, INTRO Aviation



Nazareno Ventola
CEO, Bologna Airport



David Cioico
CEO, Cluj Airport



Ioanna Papadopoulou
Director of Communications &
Marketing, Athens International Airport



Peter Baumgartner
Former CEO Etihad Airways and
Chairman Blueair Ltd.



Rüdiger Kiani-Kreß
Aviation Journalist,
Wirtschaftswoche



Frédéric Chevallier
Deputy Chief Executive Officer,
Lagardère Travel Retail



Ivan Bessato
Chief Aviation Officer, ADR



Daniel Burkard
Director External Relations &
Business Development



Bettina Ganghofer
CEO, Salzburg Airport



Anton Önnik
Independent Aviation Consultant



Michael Eggenschwiler
Senior Aviation Executive, Board
Member, Mentor



José Ramón Bauzá
Former Balearic Islands President, MEP TRAN
Coordinator, Tourism Task Force Chair



Marian-Jean Marinescu
Former MEP



Candace McGraw
Chair of ACI World Governing Board, CEO,
Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport
(CVG)

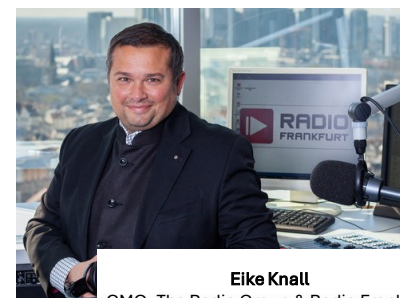
Media Task Force



Peter Baumgartner
Former CEO Etihad Airways and
Chairman Blueair Ltd.



Rüdiger Kiani-Kreß
Aviation Journalist, Wirtschaftswoche



Eike Knall
CMO, The Radio Group & Radio Frankfurt



Sven Klawunder
CEO, Flying Media



Marina Papageorgiou,
Head Press Office,
Athens International Airport



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20 March 2026

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Aviation-Event 2026 CLJ
20 March 2026

 Cluj International Airport | Romania

Organizer of the conference



DA! GmbH from Darmstadt specializes in high-quality business events – from 20 to 1,000 participants. DA! takes care of all the details – from planning and issuing the invitations to the organization of special locations and the program.

Conferences, networking events, fireside chats, industry events? Get together with decision-makers and much more are all part of DA! GmbH's portfolio.

The Aviation-Event, one of the leading events in the aviation industry, and the Economic Summit on Germany involving decision-makers from the world of business, politics, society and administration, are two events that are known well beyond the borders of Germany that were held in recent years.

Marcel Riwalsky, Managing Director of DA! GmbH,

holds a Master of Business Administration degree and Certificat d'Etudes Supérieures and has organized many high profile events in the past decade. As the initiator of Aviation-Event, he comes up with ideas for the event that goes by the same name as well as the concept for Aviation-Event Special. In the meantime, over 100 top speakers and discussion participants have been on stage in front of over 600 guests from politics and all sectors of business.

www.facebook.com/marcel.riwalsky www.linkedin.com/in/marcelriwalsky/

https://www.instagram.com/marcel_riwalsky/



Host of the conference



PhD. Eng. David CICEO
CEO, Cluj International Airport



Aviation-Event once again reveals to the world the true Gateway to Transylvania!

Cluj International Airport, the main gateway to the north-western region of Romania, is proud to host the 5th edition of Aviation-Event. This prestigious gathering marks the fourth time Aviation-Event has chosen Cluj-Napoca, further solidifying the region's importance on the global aviation map.

Strategically located in one of the country's most dynamic economic areas, Cluj International Airport has become a benchmark for growth and innovation in the aviation sector. Over the past decade, the airport has consistently demonstrated its capacity to leverage the full potential of its catchment area, transforming itself into a key destination for both business and leisure travelers.

The journey of Cluj International Airport is one of ambition and vision. From serving 36,000 passengers annually in 1996 to exceeding 3.58 million passengers in 2025, this milestone is a testament to the airport's strategic investments in infrastructure and its commitment to delivering exceptional services. As a model of best practices, the airport is now regarded as a leading example in South-Eastern Europe for its forward-thinking approach and significant achievements.

Aviation-Event 2026 CLJ will be held in Cluj-Napoca, a city known as the "Heart of Transylvania," that highlights the region's unique combination of heritage and innovation. As a multicultural and academic hub, Cluj-Napoca is a vibrant city that plays a vital role in Romania's cultural, economic, and industrial landscape. It stands as the ideal location for high-level discussions and collaborations that will shape the future of aviation.

Cluj International Airport is honored to welcome aviation leaders and professionals to this landmark event, fostering an environment where ideas, experiences, and solutions come together to drive progress in the global aviation industry.