OPENING ADDRESS

Dear participants to the 10^{-th} International Conference on Thermal Equipment, Renewable Energy and Rural Development (TE-RE-RD 2021).

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, allow me to welcome you to this event, organized each year by a consortium of University, Research Institute and NGO.

Ten years ago we join our forces and resources in order to transform a National Conference into an International one. Each year we changed the location attracting new co-organizers, we welcomed new participants who remained in our community as authors or reviewers, and we improved the scientific level of the papers and provided conditions for networking and cooperation.

This year, the host of the event should be University Politehnica of Bucharest. But we had to consider sanitary restrictions and special conditions associated to the COVID-19 pandemic, to eliminate the possibility of infecting any participant. For the second year consecutively, we took the hard decision to move the event online.

Thus, we use today four parallel channels of Microsoft Teams, corresponding to the four Conference Tracks, and I hope that the connections will keep stable and will allow the voice and image streaming during all the presentations.

Ladies and gentlemen, dear colleagues and friends

In this edition of our Conference, we will maintain the agreement signed with the prestigious Publishing House - E3S Web of Conferences, stipulating that accepted and presented papers will be published and indexed in Clarivate Analytics Web of Sciences, Scopus and other important international scientific databases.

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to all participants to the Conference for their contribution to the event's success, and especially to the members of the Scientific and Organizing Committees, who worked hard to make it possible.

I also hope that we will be able to organize the 2022 edition in the "face-to-face" format.

Prof. Lucian Mihăescu

Chairman of TE-RE-RD 2021