

# COUNTRY PRAYER FOCUS

MAKING "...RIVERS IN THE DESERT."  
Isaiah 43:19

momentum > europe

April 2017

## Prayer Focus: Romania



**Location:** On the Black Sea between Ukraine and Bulgaria  
**Capital City:** Bucharest  
**Government:** Semi-presidential Republic  
**Population:** 21,599,736 (July 2016)  
**Major People Groups:** 83% Romanian, 6% Hungarian, 3% Roma  
**Religion:** 87% Eastern Orthodox, 6% Protestant, 5% Roman Catholic

**Spiritual Climate:** After 40 years of Communism there is openness to spiritual things but the need for spiritual leaders and models is great. Most Romanians consider themselves Christians by tradition but not in a personal way. There is the feeling that the church is responsible for a person's salvation as long as one does their duty (by being baptized as a child, confess sins once/year and get married in the church). A lack of jobs causes young people (over 4 million) to go outside the country to find work, and family ties and traditions can be strained.

**From Ionel Zahari, Country Director:** We have 5 staff teams working to reach the one million Romanian college students. Also, there are teams working to reach business and professionals, families, those on the internet and teams working in church planting. God is using the void of meaningful spiritual lives to create new avenues for us to introduce people to Christ, help them grow in faith, and then learn to reach others.

**From Elvis Filote, LEAD Impact Ministry Director:** Bucharest is the capital of Romania and the leading business center in our country. Most business leaders live and work here and although this segment of society is one of the most influential, there are very few initiatives that focus on sharing the Gospel with them. In 2012 we started the LEAD Impact ministry with the vision of "...developing a network of influential leaders who reach their peers and help transform society..." We have seen God raise up the strategies and tools to begin connecting with this influential group and lives are being changed as they begin to understand God's love for them. Some who came to faith as high school and university students are now business leaders who are helping reach their peers through LEAD Impact.

### Prayer Requests

\* Working with leaders things move fast. Pray for our team that our focus will be on Jesus, making the most of the opportunities that He opens for us, as we pray, worship and wait for Him to direct.

\* Pray that the Lord will guide us in opening a new LEAD Impact center in Cluj-Napoca, considered nationally the 'number one' area in IT services exports and the most important development center in Romania, second only to Bucharest. Please, pray for key local business people and entrepreneurs who will partner with us and take ownership for impacting their community and sharing the gospel.

\* Pray that the Lord will mobilize 200 leaders for the evangelistic event with Doug Pollock (May 28<sup>th</sup>) so that they will equip many others in sharing the Good News in natural contexts.

\* For a God-created movement among the leaders in Romania, that the Lord will use to produce transformation in all areas of the society.

\* Romania is part of the European Union and has the largest number of evangelical believers in Eastern Europe. Please pray for these believers to be mobilized with a Great Commission mindset, trained to share their faith effectively, and help reach their peers and society for Jesus.

\* Give all the Romanian staff strength and encouragement to continue reaching out to others in whatever segment of society they are working.

