



## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

National University of Science and Technology

POLITEHNICA Bucharest

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Bucharest, August 5th, 2025

### Letter of Support

**To: CESAER General Assembly**

Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the National University of Science and Technology POLITEHNICA Bucharest, I am honored to express my full support for the candidacy of Professor Dr. Hasan Mandal, Rector of Istanbul Technical University (ITU), for a position on the CESAER Board of Directors.

Our universities share a strong academic collaboration that has flourished over many years, grounded in mutual respect and a shared vision for advancing of science and technology. This partnership has been further consolidated through our joint membership in the EELISA Alliance, where we work closely to promote excellence in engineering, research, and societal impact at the European level.

Professor Hasan Mandal has consistently demonstrated a strategic perspective that aligns with the core mission and long-term objectives of CESAER. He brings an exceptional blend of academic distinction, scientific expertise, and innovation-driven leadership. With a distinguished background in materials science and extensive contributions to science and technology policy, he has held numerous key national and international roles, including:

- Acting Chair of the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Board under the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye;
- President of the World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations (WAITRO);
- Chair of the Council of the United Nations Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries;
- Former President of TÜBİTAK and Sabancı University.

Professor Hasan Mandal's proven ability to lead institutions and international consortia with strategic vision and scientific integrity make him a highly valuable addition to the Board. I am confident that his election would contribute meaningfully to advancing CESAER's leadership in promoting excellence in science, technology, and higher education across Europe.

For all these reasons, I am pleased to endorse his candidacy and extend our institutional support.

Yours sincerely,

**Mihnea Costoiu**

**Rector**