

Opening address

The 22nd edition of the *Innovative Manufacturing Engineering & Energy international Conference – IManE&E 2018* took place in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova from 31th May till 2nd of June 2018.

The conference's proceedings have been divided into nine sections as follows:

- Advanced Machining and Surface Engineering;
- Assembling Technologies, Forming Technologies, Additive Manufacturing;
- Non-Conventional Technologies in Manufacture and Industry, Welding Technologies;
- Advanced Materials;
- Design and Analysis, CAD/CAM/CAE/CAX Technologies, Flexible Manufacturing, Automation and Robotics in Technological Processes;
- Mechanical and Manufacturing Equipment Devices and Instrumentation;
- Innovation, Creativity, Learning and Education in Engineering;
- Industrial And Product Management, Quality And Evaluation;
- Energy (Smart Grids, Energy Efficiency in Buildings, Energy systems and energy management, Energy policies, Environmental technologies and studies, Renewable energy technologies and energy saving materials).

Here are some raw numbers which complete the image of the amplitude of this year's event: people from over 21 countries were involved as authors or co-authors; more than 150 authors and co-authors have attended the conference's proceedings; over 240 abstracts submitted on the online web platform provided by EasyChair (www.easychair.org), 227 works were received and 155 paperwork were accepted to be presented in the conference's proceedings; there were 7 papers in plenary session and over 150 in sections of the conference. Each paper has been reviewed by two, three or even four reviewers. The conference has benefited of support of more than 77 reviewers in the evaluation of its scientific level with an acceptance rate of approximately 68%. We had peer reviewers with different academic or professional backgrounds which helped us find the most suitable papers related to our conference topics and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them once more for their unseen contribution in becoming what we are today. Meanwhile, the Scientific Program Committee and Scientific Advisory Group of IManE&E 2018 worked hard to develop an excellent multidisciplinary component for the scientific program which will also be highlighted in several joint sessions with dedicated speakers. Topics were widely spread in an array of ideas, concepts and result based conclusions or confirmations which make up an undeniable source of valuable scientific content for all researchers, students, teachers or any type of entrepreneurs at the present moment.

As the case with previous editions IManE&E 2018 offered the participants the possibility to exchange contact details among others or have access to a unified database. This helped in particular new comers to integrate in our community as it enables them to meet young colleagues, share common interests, network and start to build their own collaborative projects at an international level. These events turned into great occasions for researchers to bring their ideas together and join efforts aimed at progress in science, energy and manufacturing technologies! We hope that this year edition has continued this wonderful

tradition and represents a step further in the development of our conference with benefits for everyone involved! The IManE&E annual meetings are successful scientific events due to the multitude of contributions and contributors coming via abstract submissions.

We hope that in this year also the plenary debates and those from each section have constituted a solid ground for excellent exchange of ideas which will pave the way for new collaborations between specialists. The organizing committee would like to take the opportunity to thank all our collaborators, reviewers, authors and especially participants for their extraordinary contribution brought to the increase of the scientific level of the 22nd edition of the conference. The organizing committee wishes all the participants to be successful and expresses conviction that we will have the opportunity to meet again at future IManE&E conference editions.

The level of the scientific content presented at this conference oblige us to step up and find new ways to improve our organizational skills at all levels thus providing a solid ground for significant content to be drawn towards us in order for it to be displayed, well known and spread by researchers from all over the world.

The conference's official website is www.imane.ro and the participants as well as the organizers have enjoyed the benefits of the online platform provided by EasyChair (www.easychair.org) for their paper submissions, reviews, comments, acceptance or rejections and other publishing related issues.

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