

The Hague, 6 December 2016

The Hon. Dacian Cioloş
Prime Minister of Romania

Re: Roşia Montană mining cultural landscape

Dear Prime Minister,

I write to you on behalf of Europa Nostra, the pan-European federation of heritage organisations of which I have the honour to be the President. We wish to convey our sincere congratulations to the Romanian government for its new vision and strategy towards the future of the historic mining site and landscape of Roşia Montană. We are particularly pleased to hear that this new strategy of integrated sustainable development for the entire area will culminate on 9 December with the planned submission to UNESCO of the World Heritage nomination file for Roşia Montană. Europa Nostra wishes to commend and endorse this important new nomination.

As you know, we, at Europa Nostra, have been awaiting such good news on Roşia Montană for over a decade now. Working in close consultation and cooperation with our member organisations in Romania led by Pro Patrimonio and ARA, we have consistently urged the Romanian government to abandon the short-term approach to economic development through open cast mining, and to formulate an alternative long-term version of sustainable development based on the outstanding universal value of heritage in Roşia Montană, both cultural and natural.

Today, we are therefore delighted to witness such a positive policy development by the Romanian Government under your leadership. This positive development which started last February with the inscription of the Roşia Montană mining cultural landscape on Romania's Tentative List for World Heritage will be made even more visible with the forthcoming submission of the nomination file to UNESCO. All these recent developments which have been applauded by the Europa Nostra Council and Board during their recent meetings in Leipzig, give us full confidence that a wise, long-term integrated plan of sustainable development of Rosia Montana – with its heritage and its community representing the core value and the main beneficiaries of such a plan – will be implemented in a near future. We very much hope that your Government will be successful in attracting due support by the structural funds of the European Union.

Europa Nostra and I will continue to closely follow any future developments and can assure you of our continuous support.

Yours faithfully,



Plácido Domingo



**The Voice of
Cultural Heritage
in Europe**

**La Voix du
patrimoine culturel
en Europe**

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Background information:

Europa Nostra has been a long-time campaigner for the preservation of Roşia Montană, issuing the first warning messages more than a decade ago, in 2004, and designating the site as one of the most endangered sites and monuments in Europe, in the first edition of the advocacy and rescue programme “7 Most Endangered”, in 2013. Consequently, Europa Nostra has organised two missions to Romania, one in Bucharest (in late 2013), and another one in Cluj-Napoca, Roşia Montană and Bucharest, in summer 2014. Ever since 2004, Europa Nostra has constantly informed its member organisations and partners, as well as the public, about the on-going public debate and campaign to save the outstanding heritage of Roşia Montană.

7 Most Endangered – Roşia Montană:

<http://7mostendangered.eu/2013/06/12/rosia-montana-mining-landscape-in-transylvania-romania/>

Copy: Corina Şuteu, Minister of Culture, cabinet.ministru@cultura.ro

