

*A word from our Editor-in-Chief*

**NEW CHALLENGES ON THE HORIZON**

As we are getting ready to begin a new academic year, we took the time to look ahead on the many challenges that have mounted throughout this year. Although many of them are not scientific in nature, it is obvious that the impact of economic and societal changes in the post-COVID era, compounded by the reality of a cruel war on the European continent, will impact the way in which education in research are being performed and the problems academia is called to answer.

In our field of nonconventional technologies, the digital transformation and Industry 4.0 are becoming common place, as the manufacturing industry is evolving even further in the realm of artificial intelligence and carbon neutrality. Some already proven manufacturing methods are being joined by new developments in the area of 3D printing to support companies in delivering ever more complex products that are successful on the market and environmentally friendly. Researchers continue to play a key role, in tandem with development engineers, and their results are an important source of competitive advantage.

The Nonconventional Technologies Review is striving to be a relevant part of this effort to promote and reinforce the contributions made by specialists in our field to engineering innovation and economic development.

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***Professor Mihai DRAGOMIR***

***Editor***

***Professor Aurel Mihail TITU***

***Editor – in – Chief***

***Nonconventional Technologies Review***