MLI Locations Map

MAP OF ROMANIA

2025



MISSIO LINK INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION
22 I. BARAC, 300151 TIMISOARA, ROMANIA
office@mli.ro
www.mli.ro
Fundația Missio Link International
Alpinis - Fundația Missio Link International
SPeR - Fundația Missio Link International

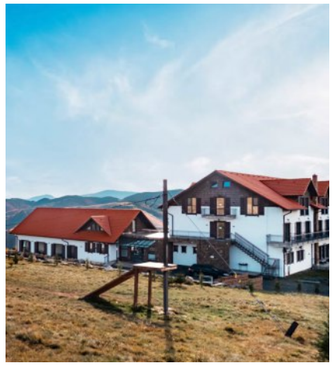
MissioInternational
Facilitating Ministry in Romania
P.O. Box 124
Zionsville, IN 46077
info@missiointernational.org
www.missiointernational.org
www.facebook.com/MissioInternational

missiolinkinternational

Partnering Christians in Witness and Action

since 2001

MLI 25+ SINCE 2001 Years of service













ANNUAL REPORT 2025

missiolinkinternațional
Partnering Christians in Witness and Action
since 2001

Church in Mission

Equip · Renew · Connect

MLI equips and enables local churches in their mission through two programs:
- Church Partnering
- Leadership Development

Alpiniș Leadership Center

Leadership · Outdoors · Spiritual Formation

The ALC embodies our vision to facilitate the formation of Christian values and character and to equip the younger generation in Romania through outdoor and leadership development programs.

ALC programs:
- Alpiniș Youth Programs, camps & outdoors
- The Păltiniș Leadership Institute, training & mentoring

CAR - Children/Youth At Risk

Rescue · Nurture · Launch

The Children at Risk programs address the physical and spiritual needs of the most disadvantaged category in Romania. The programs naturally fit into these categories:
- Prevention: **Back to School**
- Rescue and Healing: **Deborah House**
- Providing a future: **Aspirations** and **Harmony**

OUR MISSION

Missio is a Latin word used to speak of the ***"mission of God"***, that is, ***missio Dei***. As a name, ***Missio Link International*** reflects the calling and vision of the MLI team to take part in that mission.



Pastor Eugen Groza (1954-2018) and a group of capable Romanian leaders who worked together for over 25 years, formed MLI in 2001 to address the material and spiritual needs of the Romanian people through a variety of successful ministry initiatives, including Church in Mission, Alpinis Leadership Center, and Children at Risk.

We equip, resource, and enable leadership and ministry in local churches and through the Alpiniș Leadership Center. We act in prevention and assistance for girls who are survivors of severe abuse and trafficking, and for disadvantaged children in Romania. With a common bond of Christian values, we partner with churches, organizations, and individuals from Romania, the USA, and Europe. Our partnerships are based on relationships of trust and accountability, sharing resources, prayer, and work in Christian witness and action.



CHURCH IN MISSION

Inside Out

We desire to see transformation in churches and communities.

Today, we are observing an awareness, a complementary focus in many churches that includes a commitment to spiritual formation and an appreciation for community transformation. We call this initiative **INSIDE OUT**!

Healthy churches honor God by calibrating themselves to look inward and outward. **Inward** refers to Spiritual Formation, the disciplined development of Christian character. **Outward** reflects Community Transformation, the missional engagement of neighbors and neighborhoods.



CHURCH PARTNERING

31 pastors from Romania serving in almost **70** churches in partnership with eight churches/partners from the USA.



Washington Avenue Baptist Church, Cookeville, TN, with pastor Mark Gaw and Mike Stubblefield visited church partners western Romania.

Partnerships and projects:





- We continue to be a key partner of **Reaching Hands**, a ministry led by Adrian Popa in providing resources to support **Ukrainian refugees in the Tulcea area**, eastern Romania. Refugees benefit from assistance with integration, daily needs and gospel programs.
- In the first half of 2025, the churches in the Faget area experienced **a period of revival** with a baptism, an evangelistic event and Easter services taking place in different small towns. We organized a regional training to equip participants for personal evangelism and mission in the Faget area, in partnership with **Evangelism Explosion**.
- **Prison Ministry in partnership with Pastor Viorel Sintoiu** leading prison ministry, evangelism and discipleship, using the Kairos material. Viorel and his team serve about 600 inmates in Codlea; 1500 in Rahova, and 1400 in Giurgiu penitentiary. They also visit and set up events in nine prisons in various places in Romania: Rahova, Codlea, Margineni, Gaiesti, Giurgiu, Craiova, Slobozia, Braila and Poarta Alba.
- Vacation Bible School continues to be a valuable way of sharing the gospel. We organized an **evangelistic event in Carpinis**, a VBS for children: *Cinema on Wheels*. About 70 children took part in singing, games, and activities while also hearing the gospel. This was the fourth edition of this annual event. In partnership with WABC, we hosted a **VBS for children in Pestere** — the first such event to take place in the area in many years.

- **March 23 - 30, Taylor Sounds Choir from Taylor University, IN**, shared the message of the gospel of Christ through high-quality music performing six concerts in the partnering churches from Giurgiu, Alexandria, Bucharest, Sibiu, and Cluj, as well as in local music schools.
- We continued to focus on the Tulcea area, by partnering with local churches in Babadag, Cataloi and the Danube Delta. We reached out to **Ukrainian refugees**, served the elderly in care centers, and reached out with the gospel through youth camps, community events, and celebrated the first baptism in Surduc.







A new strategic ministry opportunity in Romania: **outreach to migrant workers**. We appreciate the partnership with Bethel International Fellowship Church in Timisoara and a new partnership with Holy Trinity Baptist Church in Timisoara focusing on ministry to immigrants. The latter runs a Romanian language course for both French and English-speaking migrants from countries such as Benin, Kenya, Ethiopia.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

24 active leadership centers | **350** participants

Giurgiu Mission, Southern Romania and Roma Communities in Bulgaria – We partner with pastor Nicu Bragadireanu, leading the Sola Scriptura Biblical College in Giurgiu to support ministry among Roma communities, equipping ministers in Pietrișu and in Prundu, extending ministry into Bulgaria.

Training & Conferences

The agenda for 2025 includes regional training events, intensive training sessions, the mission conference and the MLI Pastors Conference in September.





- **February 8 – "Go" Mission and Evangelism**, Cluj, Conference.
- **February 25-28 – Regional Training** with our church partner from Campina, led by Pastor Emanuel Vasile.
- **April 4-6 – Regional Conference at Alexandria** led by Rev. Stan Johnson, ZPC.
- **April 7-10 – Mission Conference at Alpiniș** led by Rev. Stan Johnson and Rev. Jerry Deck, with Lisa Prince, Betty Sue, and Brendon Saget, ZPC.
- **April 30 – May 4 - Intensive Training on church worship, at Alpiniș**, led by Richard Mauney from the Jubilate Foundation Romania.
- **May 15-18 – Regional Training in Campina** led by Rev. Emil Bartos.
- **May 26-30 – Intensive Training at Alpiniș** led by Carl and Lori Leap, International Theological Education Ministry, St. Louis, MO (ITEM).
- **September 1-5 – Pastoral Conference at Alpiniș** with Sam and Susan Polson, West Park Baptist Church, Knoxville, TN.
- **October 20-23 – Trauma Healing** intensive training with Stephanie Moore (American Bible Society) and Corneliu Boingeanu (Societatea Biblică Interconfesională din România).
- **November 3-7** – Pilot edition of the **Theology Workshops**, led by Prof. Dr. Radu Gheorghiță (Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, MO).
- **November 17-20 – Intensive training at Alpiniș** with Carl and Lori Leap, ITEM.

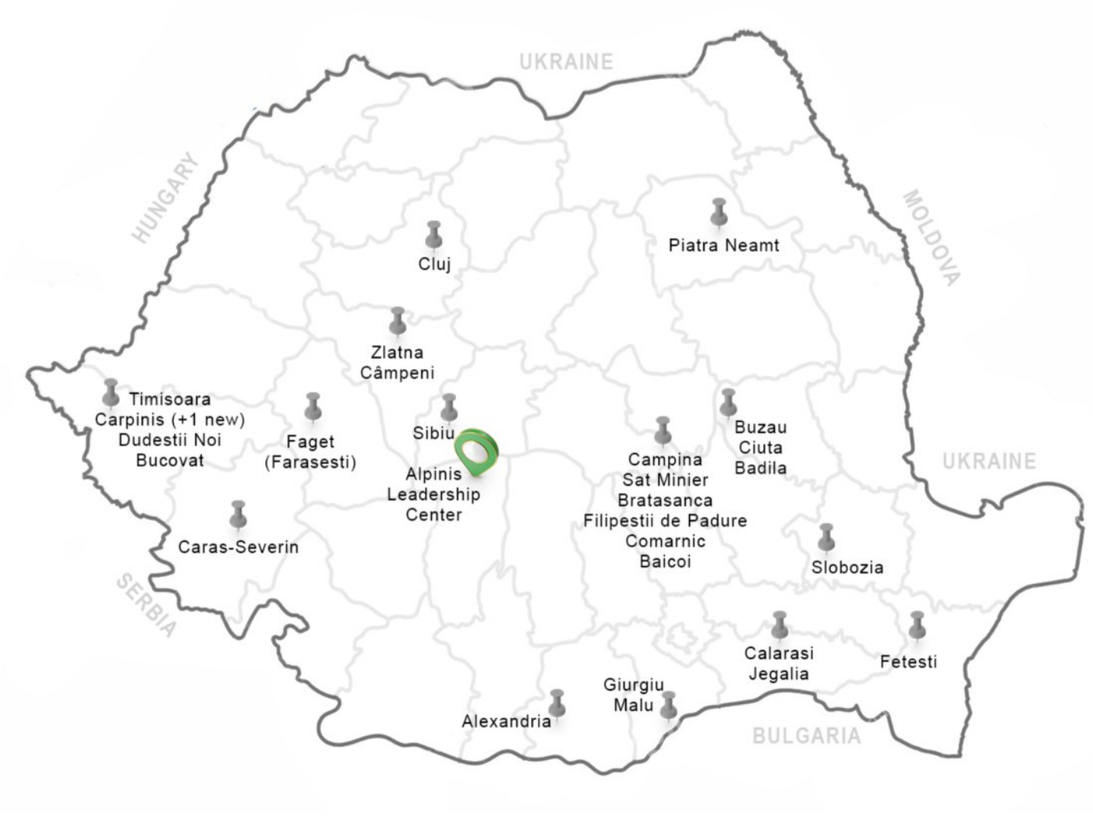




MLI Leadership Development Areas

Romanian Map

2025



Annual Pastors' Conference
September 1–5

An interactive gathering focused on renewal, learning, and fellowship. Missio Link International hosted the Annual Pastors' Conference at the Alpiniș Leadership Center.



- **Approximately 95 participants** – pastors and their families from across the country.
- **Pastor Sam Polson** addressed the conference theme, **Reverence for God in Ministry.**
- **Susan Polson** led a practical workshop on **Prayer in Ministry.**
- **Pastor Daniel Bulzan** led a session on **The Lord's Supper.**
- **Pastor Florin Iosub** spoke on **The Dynamics of Family Life and Ministry.**





Trauma Healing Training

October 20–23: Training led by facilitators Stephanie Moore, representing the American Bible Society, and Cornel Boingeanu, representing the Romanian Interconfessional Bible Society. Eighteen participants attended: 10 completed the initial course and became facilitators for trauma healing groups, while **8 people completed the advanced course and became trainers** responsible for equipping new group facilitators.





ALPINIȘ LEADERSHIP CENTER (ALC)

Alpiniș is being intensely used for MLI programs - ALC camps, Leadership Development, and Păltiniș Leadership Institute - as well as for other groups for spiritual retreats, teambuilding and conferences.

We are growing into an established location and ministry, blending the two aspects of **Christian hospitality** and **ministry** together into the ***Alpiniș Experience***.

2378 people served in **49** groups,
268 more than the previous year

ALC Team

Valeria (Vali) Giurgiu joined the team in September and helps ensure the smooth running of reception, welcoming and hosting groups throughout their stay, as well as supporting activities in the dining hall.

ALC Volunteers

Petru, a student at the University of Physical Education and Sports in Sibiu. He contributed to the upkeep of the property and was involved in various outdoor projects and activities.





ALPINIȘ LEADERSHIP CENTER (ALC)



ALPINIȘ LEADERSHIP CENTER (ALC)

Projects completed in 2025

- Additional **bunk beds** increased capacity from 72 to 82
- **Container for tools and equipment**
- **66Kw power generator unit**
- Additional **outdoor illumination and surveillance**
- Planted **100 fir trees and added paths**
- Launched **The Alpiniș House** company







ALC

Alpiniș Outdoors and Youth programs

ALC CAMPS, samples of an adventure with purpose:

- **Evangelistic ski camps** – the demand for ski camps is very high.
- In the summertime we had **10 consecutive** weeks of children and youth camps.
- We hosted the Church in Mission/Leadership Development **training** and **conference** programs, **retreats** and **courses** on a weekly basis.
- Other groups, such as: Taylor Sounds Choir from Taylor University, IN, Jubilate – Christian Music ministry, Christian Motorcyclists Association, Alpha Retreat Romania – discipleship ministry, and various churches and Christian groups.
- **family camps: Ski, Mountains, Parenting and the Gospel**

This year, we once again hosted a camp for families with children under 12. The camp serves as an evangelistic tool while also helping families apply biblical principles to parenting.







Along with a team from Zionsville Presbyterian Church, IN, we organized a camp for youth from the churches ZPC is partnering with in ministry: Giurgiu, Fetesti & Calarasi. The theme of the camp, **"Navigating through life"**, was a life changing experience both for the Romanian and the American students.

"Faith That Moves Mountains" Camp brought together the girls and part of the Deborah House team, a short term mission team from our partner Christ Church in Oak Brook, IL, and children from Children's Home in Lupeni, a ministry of Holy Trinity Baptist Church in Lupeni, with whom we share a long-standing.







PĂLTINIȘ LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (PLI)

February 13:

Webinar with over 70 participants with Alan Barnhart,GROVE Group, Memphis, TN, a Christian entrepreneur and CEO.

March 28-30:

Project Management training with Adrian Hudulin at ALC. The training represented a strategic investment in strengthening MLI's and its partners' capacity to implement meaningful initiatives.

We welcomed Daniel Bulzan on our team and renewed the vision and mission of the Paltinis Leadership Institute.







Our vision is to contribute to the formation of generations of leaders in society and in the church using the resources of Christian thought and ethics.

Our mission is to provide flexible training programs in management, leadership, and communication, rooted in Christian values, designed for pastors and church leaders, business professionals and entrepreneurs, as well as staff members of non-governmental organizations.



CAR

CHILDREN AT RISK

400
children and youth and
60
families served in 2025

SOCIAL CONTEXT
- Demographic Data

As of December 31, 2025, Romania's resident population was 21.6462 million, a 0.5% decrease from December 31, 2024, according to data published by the National Institute of Statistics (INS).

CHILD PROTECTION

Below are the latest statistics published by Romanian authorities, comparing 2024 and 2025.

Overview of the special child protection system

YEAR	Total number of children in the protection system	Children in the public/private foster care system	Relatives 4th grade	Children in the family, relatives, and other family systems	Children in the public residential system
2024	35,912	9,579	9,255	2,554	7,765
2025	33,420	8,908	8,695	2,533	7,308

The number of children who were victims of abuse, sexual exploitation, and neglect in 2025, by age group, was:

Under 1 year	Between 1-2 years	Between 3-6 years	Between 7-9 years	Between 10-13 years	Between 14-17 years
1,120	1,557	3,026	2,911	4,757	7,032



CHILD ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION IN 2024 AND 2025

YEAR	Total	Emotional abuse	Physical abuse	Sexual abuse	Exploitation for committing offenses	Work exploitation	Sexual exploitation	Neglect
2024	20,216	2,817	2,413	1,865	99	216	66	12,740
2025	20,403	2,977	2,542	1,712	117	181	72	12,802

The situation in Timis County

According to the statistics published, the number of the children in the child protection system, in Timiș county, decreased in 2025 compared to 2024.

Timis county situation

YEAR	Children in family-type services			Children in public residential services	Children in private residential services	TOTAL	Child victims of abuse	Children who committed criminal acts
	In professional foster care	To relatives up to grade IV	To other families					
2024	606	249	72	209	141	1,277	949	0
2025	512	231	101	195	131	1,170	883	0

HUMAN TRAFFICKING 2025

Distribution of identified victims of trafficking in the West area (Timis, Arad, and Caras-Severin counties) by gender and age:

Total	Men	Women	Girls	Boys	Minors
25 victims	4	3	11	7	18 (72%)

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

According to the **National Agency for the Protection of Children's Rights and Adoption (NAPCRA)** report, in 2025:

- 931 minors committed crimes for which they are not criminally liable.
- 1,476 minors committed crimes for which they are criminally liable.
- In Timiș County, **there were no crimes committed by minors in 2025**.

According to the report of the National Administration of Penitentiaries within the Ministry of Justice, the recidivism rate in 2025 remained below 37% for the fourth consecutive year.



DEBORAH HOUSE

RESCUE *and* HEALING

CASE STATISTICS 2025

Year	Girls at the end of the previous year	Girls coming in the current year	Girls out of service/program			Girls in service in the reported period
			Reintegrated into the family	Transferred to other MLI programs	Social Integrated	
2024	20	2	0	1	4	17
2025	17	0	0	0	0	14 (13 in house + 1 reintegration process)

EDUCATION STATISTICS

Year	Grades I-IV	Grades V-VIII	High-school	Vocational training
2024	1	10	4	7
2025	0	7	2	4

Projects and Activity Development

- Four girls graduated from the Deborah House program.
- In 2025, we had four sets of sisters living across the two Deborah Houses.
- *In accordance with the National Strategy Against Human Trafficking for 2024–2028, MLI became a member of the interinstitutional working group established to facilitate cooperation in the prevention and combating of human trafficking at the Timiș County level. The group was established by the Prefectural Order at the beginning of 2025.*















Partners visiting Deborah House

We are grateful for the **STM teams and friends that visited the CAR programs in 2025**:

- First Baptist Church Clinton, MS, USA
- Mt. Bethel Church, Marietta, GA, USA
- Serve Youth, Northern Ireland, UK
- Hebron Free Presbyterian Church, Northern Ireland, UK
- West End Assembly of God, VA, USA
- The Refinery Church, Phoenix, AZ
- Living Hope Church, Memphis, TN
- First Baptist Church, Oxford, MS
- Christ Church of Oak Brook, IL

New Partners

- First Baptist Church, Oxford, MS, USA
- Everseen Limited S.R.L., RO










August summer camp at Alpiniș

This year, our partners from Christ Church in Oak Brook, IL, once again made it possible for the girls in the Deborah House program to participate in the annual camp at Alpiniș. The camp was held together with children from the Children's Home/Holy Trinity Baptist Church in Lupeni, whose participation was sponsored by an anonymous partner, as in previous years.



Deborah House staff changes:

- Daniel Reid, member of the Northern Ireland organization, Serve Youth, served for six months alongside Deborah House staff
- We have a new social mother

Events and Projects:

- The renovation of the bathrooms at both Deborah Houses was made possible through the generosity of **Rotary Club Perrysburg, OH, USA**.
- The renovation of the bedrooms at Deborah House 2.
- Mirela, one of our CAR Program Ambassadors, visited MLI friends and partners in the U.S. in the spring.
- This year, the **Alec & Patti Woodhull Scholarship**, awarded annually by the board of Missio International (MI) in Knoxville, TN, USA, was awarded to Theodor Șocâte.
- The girls in the Deborah House program who attend Giarmata Middle School participated in the Summer School activities organized by **Teach for Romania**.
- Young people from **Rotaract Club Timișoara** visited the girls in the Deborah House program, where they discussed traditions and customs in European countries.
- Deborah House participated in the National Food Drive organized by **Timișoara Food Bank** around Easter and Christmas.
- The girls in the Deborah House program were treated to gifts and a festive dinner provided by **Dental Art Clinic**, a long-standing MLI partner.






ASPIRATIONS

PROVIDING *a* FUTURE

After 17 years of operation, and in response to changes in society, the **Aspirations Program** has been redesigned to meet the current needs of girls transitioning from the Deborah House program. Through this program, we continue to support young women as they begin independent lives by providing temporary financial assistance with rent and access to psychological counseling.







BACK TO SCHOOL

PREVENTION

The situation of students enrolled in the last two school years at CSEICP Recaș is as follows:

School Year	Students enrolled
2024-2025	280
2025-2026	267

The partnership with the Center for Inclusive Education "Constantin Paunescu" from Recas continues after 20 years.

Projects and activities

- In 2025, approximately 60 families received food supplies and hygiene products every two months, based on the number of school-aged children in each family.
- We provide 16 hours of weekly Bible lessons throughout the school year, divided over two days.
- ***The Six Keys to Success***, a project of Equip Romania and John C. Maxwell. Twelve children from the *Back to School* program participated in the twelve lessons, with each lesson focusing on a different moral value. Our colleague, Daniel Toma, who joined the MLI team in January 2025, coordinates this project.
- At Easter and Christmas, approximately **100 children from the Recaș** area were invited to special events organized by Betel Baptist Church in Timișoara, a tradition that has continued since December 1990.











HARMONY

A statistic of young people incarcerated at the Buzias Educational Center in 2024 and 2025:

Year	Total number	Boys	Girls	Offenders who attend MLI activities	Persons released /transferred to other center
2024	160	141	19	Approx. 70	34
2025	71	64	7	71	



According to annual reports published by the Public Prosecutor's Office, the number of crimes committed by juveniles in 2025 compared to 2024:

Year	Juvenile defendants on trial
2024	3,208
2025	3,196



Our partnership with the Buzias Educational Center continues very well, primarily through these programs:

- ***Exploring Life***, an MLI Christian moral education program.
- ***Choices for Freedom***, a project where youth in rehabilitation learn about themselves and how to make wise decisions based on God's Word.
- ***Wise Decisions,*** an MLI Christian moral education program.
- ***Healthy Cooking***, a program designed for girls that combines basic cooking lessons with small-group mentoring.

NETWORKING AND ADVOCACY

- Working meeting between nongovernmental organizations and the vice-director of the **National Prison Administration**.
- **National Conference for Social Workers** organized by the Christian Federation for Education and Social Assistance (CFESA).
- **Sexual Abuse and Sexual Addiction Conference**, organized by the Evangelical (Lutheran) Church in Romania, took place in Sibiu. We had the chance to attend the conference alongside teachers and psychologists, from our partners Constantin Păunescu School Center for Inclusive Education in Recaș and the Child Protection Directorate of Timișoara.
- **Equip Leadership** conference in Cluj.
- In partnership with **Timisoara Food Bank** and the **Christian Federation for Education and Social Assistance (CFESA)**, notebooks were sent to thousands of other disadvantaged children in Timis County and neighboring counties.
- The **Project Management training**, organized by the Păltiniș Leadership Institute, provided an opportunity for professional growth for the social worker of Deborah House and specialists from the Timiș County Child Protection Department.
- MLI received a donation of hygiene products from **Everseen Limited**, a local company in Timișoara. Part of the products were distributed to the girls in the Deborah House program and youth from the Buziaș Educational Center, our partner.
- The **Interinstitutional Working Group for Cooperation in Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking in Timiș County** was officially established.



Actions undertaken by the ProTECT platform:

MLI has been involved in the development of two important documents that will influence work with victims of human trafficking: **the GUIDE TO Engage Experts with Lived Experience in Policy Making** and the **Standards for Day and Residential Centers for Victims of Trafficking.**

NATIONAL CONTEXT:

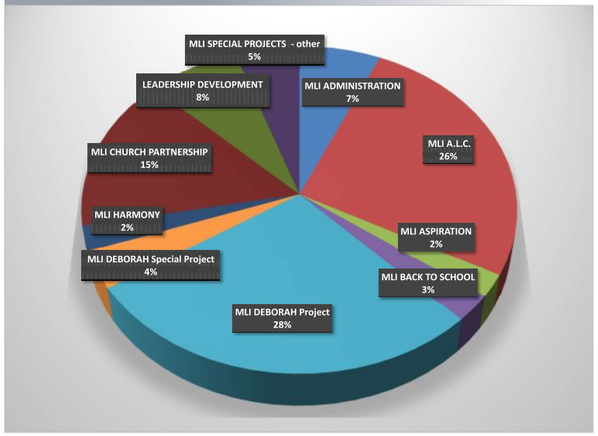
At the end of the year, the Romanian Parliament adopted 580 laws. This number does not include the number of normative acts issued by the Romanian Government.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF MLI-CAR 2025 REPORT

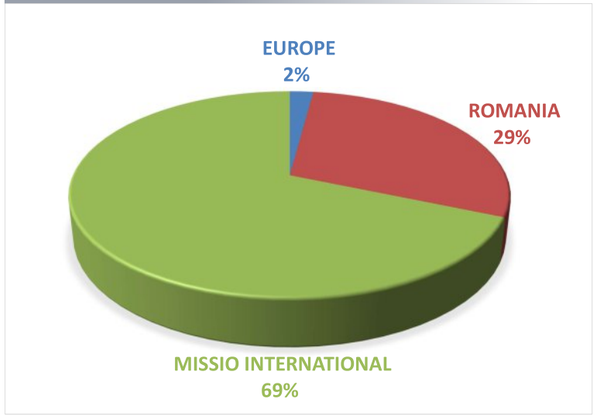


2025 MLI Financial Report

MLI 2025 Operational Expenses Distribution per Projects



MLI 2025 Operational Income by Sources



The Audit Opinion

Independent Auditor's Report

In our opinion, the Foundation's individual annual financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and financial performance of the Foundation as at 31 December 2025, in accordance with the provisions of Accounting Law No. 82/1991, republished, as subsequently amended and supplemented, Order of the Minister of Public Finance No. 1802/2014 approving the Accounting Regulations regarding individual annual financial statements and consolidated financial statements, as subsequently amended and supplemented, Government Ordinance No. 26/2000, republished, regarding associations and foundations, and Order of the Minister of Public Finance No. 3103/2017.

Based on the matters described above, the auditor's opinion is unmodified.

According to the Board of Directors' report, it is evident that the Foundation will continue its activities and that there is an **insignificant degree of uncertainty** regarding the risk of going concern.

Date: April 15, 2026

HIRȘOVEANU VIOLETA
Financial Auditor registered with the Chamber of Financial Auditors of Romania under No. 828/2001



MLI

2025 Calendar



Winter Break (CAR)



Back to School and Harmony (CAR)



Planning Meeting with the MLI Team



Mission Teams visiting CAR ministries



Pastors' Conference at Alpiniș



Hike at Alpiniș

JANUARY | FEBRUARY | MARCH | APRIL | MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUGUST | SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER



Ski Camps (ALC)



Mission Conference (CiM)



Deborah House



Summer Camps (ALC)



Leadership Development (CiM)



Christmas at Bethel Baptist Church (CAR)



MLI
Board Members

- **Petru Bulica**
- **Lauren Clevenger**
- **Matt Gall**
- **Daniel Martinescu**
- **Alex Neagoe**
- **Jeff Normand**
- **Cristi Pop**
- **Emil Toader,** President Missio Link International (MLI)
- **Kenny Woodhull,** President Missio International (MI)

With loving memory we mention former board members,
***MLI founder Pastor Eugen Groza**, and co-founders*
***Alec & Pati Woodhull**, Knoxville, TN, USA.*

MLI
Executive Committee

- **Emil Toader** – President
- **Lorena Rusovan** – Executive Director
- **Ionuț Pătlăgescu** – Financial Director
- **Fivi Dănălache** – Children at Risk (CAR) Coordonator
- **Florin Iosub** – Church in Mission (CiM) Coordonator
- **Lori Erbatu** – Alpiniș Leadership Center (ALC) Manager

MLI
Organizational Chart

2025

