

# Open World Alumni

## ALIN POPA

Head of Training Service in Emergency  
Medicine, Disaster Medicine

Emergency Situations Department,  
Bucharest

Disaster Response  
Huntsville, AL  
November 2022

Alin is a specialist doctor in emergency medicine and has been practicing this profession for 10 years. For 8 years Alin worked in a large emergency medicine department in Bucharest and for 6 years he worked as a doctor on a mobile intensive therapy ambulance. For the past 2 years Alin has been the head of the emergency medical, qualified first aid and disaster medicine training service within the department of emergencies in the ministry of internal affairs. His activity is to coordinate and develop training programs for resident doctors in the specialty of emergency medicine all over Romania, nurses from ambulance services and emergency departments, paramedics and operators from the 112 dispatch centers.

"There would be so much to say. I don't even know where to start... Participating in this program was a unique, long-awaited experience. Everything was organized as I imagined. I have no regrets and I can say that indeed Open World, open worlds! Only in this way you can truly understand the details that make us special as people, cultures, systems. Thank you all for this opportunity!"



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## CĂTĂLIN ȘAMȘODAN

### Specialist Officer II

#### General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, Bucharest

#### Disaster Response Huntsville, AL November 2022

Since 2014, Cătălin is an employee of the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations. The activities he carries out include participation in the planning, conducting and evaluating regional, national and international exercises.

The exercises aim at consolidating, developing and integrating operational capacities, collective knowledge, capabilities and resources of the authorities, institutions and organizations that make up the National System for the Management of Emergency Situations (SNMSU) at national, regional and local level, as well as testing the information flow - decision-making at national / regional / local and international level, with the participation of the authorities responsible for ensuring the management of the emergency situations produced.

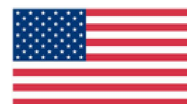
"I feel honored that I had the opportunity to participate in this program. The people met during the meetings presented very comprehensively their field of activity, also describing the management system of emergency situations and medical emergencies in the state of Alabama. I am convinced that this auspicious activity will positively impact the Romanian-American collaboration. The visit to the NASA Training Center (US Rocket & Space Center), was for me a unique moment so far, since, like the Romanian astronaut Dumitru Prunariu, I wish I could fly to Space when I was a kid. The Open World program is truly an opener of horizons."



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## ȘTEFAN GERU

**Doctor & Coordinator Emergency  
Response Units Bucharest**

**Emergency Situations Department,  
Bucharest**

**Disaster Response  
Huntsville, AL  
November 2022**



Starting with April 2020, being an employee of the public health directorate of Bucharest, he served as coordinating physician of the Covid-19 communication and reporting center, carrying out an intense activity aimed at combating the pandemic, by conducting epidemiological investigations of patients confirmed positive with the virus and applying restriction measures, in order to limit the spread of the Sars-Cov-2 virus.

Since the beginning of the anti-virus vaccination campaign, he was part of the coordination committee on vaccination against Covid-19, having the responsibility to provide logistical and medical support for the vaccination centers.

Currently, he monitors and coordinates the activity of the emergency response structures within the health units in the public sector, the mobile services, reanimation and extraction from a medical point of view.



"Regarding this program as a whole, I can only say that it was extraordinary. Everything was organized exemplarily by the representatives of OPEN WORLD. It was a beneficial experience for everyone, with many locations visited, where I met special and cheerful people. Practically, every day on American soil, we can consider it a unique and special experience. Congratulations to the OPEN WORLD team!"



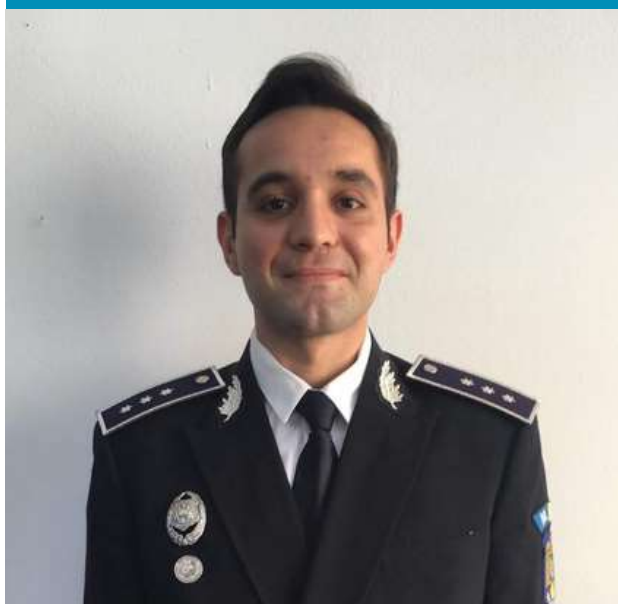
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## CĂTĂLIN IVAN

**Head of the EU-NATO Policies and Strategic Partnerships in the Field of Civil Protection**

**Emergency Situations Department, Bucharest**

**Disaster Response  
Huntsville, AL  
November 2022**



Cătălin's main objective is to coordinate developing international policy proposals and to develop strategic partnerships with international structures and organizations with responsibilities in the field of civil protection.

Specific activities include participation in the working formats in the field of civil protection at EU, NATO level, as well as in other international bodies and organizations, respectively in bilateral format, in order to improve cooperation in the field.



"Open World is a program that has the ability to train future leaders, regardless of the field of activity. Inspirational meetings and the mentality of employees in the US public administration system can do nothing but improve services and bring positive changes in the Romanian system. A life experience that can fundamentally change the perception of the world and how it should work in terms of interpersonal relationships."



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## CLAUDIU ZAMFIR

### Head of Directorate

#### General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, Bucharest

#### Disaster Response Huntsville, AL November 2022



Claudiu is currently director at the national Inspectorate of Emergency Situations and is in charge of developing the institution to the latest European standards. His line of work is mainly focused on the preparedness of the integrated management of emergency situations and disasters at regional and national level. In this sense, Claudiu considers it very important to early prepare the population, professionals, volunteers, NGOs and authorities in case of emergencies or disasters, the contribution and cooperation between all of them being essential for the efficient management of response actions.

"The experience of the Open World Program was wonderful! I met extraordinary people, both Romanian and American, who changed my perspective of seeing and understanding American Civilization. I went into this project with many goals - focused especially on my professional field and I can say that in the end, the experiences] gained was much larger - the people, the places, the customs and the American Civilization making an obviously positive impression on me both professionally, personally and emotionally. I can say that I gained a lot, a special admiration for the way the American system is built, and last but not least, new friends with whom I hope to meet again in the not-too-distant future. I also hope to identify opportunities to participate in OPEN WORLD projects in the future."



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