**Cluj-Napoca (Romania)**

**Brief presentation**

Cluj-Napoca, in common Romanian Cluj is a Transylvanian city in northwestern Romania founded in 1213, located in the Someșul Mic valley, 440 kilometres northwest of Bucharest (the country's capital). It was in 1974, as part of Nicolae Ceaușescu's protochronistic policy, that the city received by decree its second name of Napoca, which is the name of the ancient Roman camp under the present city centre, from the local Dacian tribe of the Napaei, whose name is reminiscent of the Greek νάπος: "woody". However, Romanians still call the city by its original name of Cluj; Hungarians call it Kolozsvár, Germans Klausenburg, in Yiddish its name is קלויזנבורג, and in Latin Claudiopolis.

The city was for periods the capital of the Principality of Transylvania; it is currently the capital of the județ of the same name and of the North-Western Development Region. It is the third largest city in the country in terms of population (the municipality had 324,576 inhabitants in 2011) and is the main economic hub of the northwest. The city is characterised by a highly diversified secondary sector and a tertiary sector mainly focused on information and communication technologies, financial activities, education and research. The city and its region also live from tourism thanks to its architectural heritage and the Romanian Western Carpathians that surround it.

Cluj is not only one of the most important cultural centres in the country with numerous institutions (theatres, libraries, festivals, concerts...) that play a leading role at the national level, but also, given its two large Romanian and Hungarian speaking communities, a deeply bicultural city and the most important cultural centre of the Hungarian community in Romania. While the Orthodox Church is in the majority, with one in four Clujians being of Hungarian descent, (representing a community of about 50,000 in 2011), two-thirds are Protestant, with Calvinists, Unitarians and Lutherans. The city's Reformed community is the largest in the country because these forms of Christianity, which appeared in the 16th century, were the subject of an edict of tolerance by the principality of Transylvania in 1568, becoming official religions on a par with Catholicism. Cluj is therefore an ecumenical city due to the multiplicity of Christian denominations that maintain good relations with each other.

Cluj is also the oldest (1581) and the second most important university centre in the country, but the first in Transylvania. The city's universities and schools provide a high level of education in the three historical languages of Transylvania (Romanian, Hungarian and German), as well as in French and English. As a result, the number of foreign students, both European and non-EU, is constantly increasing.