

## Ecosystem development in Romania must be key to overall economic development (EconMin)

**Ecosystem development in Romania must be the key to overall economic development, Economy Minister Florin Spataru said on Tuesday at the "Romanian Industry: Investing for a Green Future" event.**

Spataru added that investments can be made in energy production which, in turn, "will lead to the added value we want".

"Despite all the messages that have been conveyed for years, more than 30 years, that Romania is 'a pile of scrap metal', we can presently take the step towards a sustainable economy. How? By investing in this green energy. If we look around Europe, we will see that there are not many countries that have developed in such a direction, and then there is this horizon of opportunity. We can make the right investments in energy production that will further lead to the added value we want because, in the end, these basic elements are not an end in themselves. Why do we produce steel? We produce steel so that we can generate output, so that we can generate more value further in the value chain. This is the essential element that we must keep in mind. Yes, we have the National Resilience Plan. Personally I am telling you that I would have expected Romania's industry or economy to have a much higher share in that in that Resilience Plan, something that didn't happen, but there's still time. We have other financial sources that we could attract to be able to develop these ecosystems: I mean the metallurgical industry, you were saying very well about the chemical industry, we are talking about the automotive industry. All these elements are based on resources that we need to attract, that we need to unite, to put them in a sustainable programmatic document and this can only be carried out through industrial policies, which is what we want to do with the Economy Ministry," Florin Spataru also said.

He stressed that Romania is competitive in the steel industry, but the basis of competitiveness must be shifted to innovation and digitization.

Minister Spataru added that because Romania has mineral resources, the National Geological Plan for their identification was initiated by the Ministry of Economy, so that Romania can become the preferred supplier for the European economy in terms of several key segments.