**Brief Presentation**

**Mission**

WEPA's mission is to promote excellence throughout the wine industry of Romania and help it express its identity and tap its potential, as a valued member of the world-wide wine community.

In fact, WEPA was established with the declared purpose to become its members' most authorized Voice and, thus, be able to help Romanian Wine Industry tap its growth potential by promoting excellence in the wine sector as its top priority. To compete, survive and succeed in an increasingly demanding business arena, the Romanian wine community needs the ability to build its distinct, clear and coherent Voice to speak up for its interests and show the importance of wine industry as an image vector of Romania.

**Legal Basis**

WEPA was set up as a non-profit legal entity of private law, meant to represent, defend and promote its members’ rights, both locally and internationally. It operates within the legal framework established by Government Ordinance (GO) 26/2000 with regard to Foundations and Associations, and by GO 55/2000 with regard to interprofessional organisations on food and agricultural products.

**Objectives**

WEPA's main objectives are the following:

- Support the Romanian winemaking, through specific actions, in preparing itself for accession to the European Union (e.g. approximation of Romanian legislation, adoption of best oenological practices and techniques, promotion of high-quality wines with denominations of origin, etc.).
- Help the Romanian wine producers and exporters develop and reach the highest EU and international quality standards to withstand the competition pressure of EU and world markets.
- Carry out specific research on domestic and international markets and organise lobbying, advocacy and promotion campaigns in favour of Romanian wine industry.
- Facilitate networking and communication among its members and other renown wine associations of producers and exporters in the EU and in the world.
- Initiate local and international projects with multiple dimensions in art, culture, tourism, etc.
- Develop international co-operation and attract foreign direct and portfolio investment in the field.

**Activity**

WEPA's activity is carried out by a Secretariat under the Executive Director's leadership and the Steering Council's coordination.

**Members**

- Carl Reh Winery Bucuresti
- Carpathian Winery, The
- Cotnari Iasi
- Edelweiss Bacau
- Prahova Wine Cellars
- Provinum Bucuresti
- S.E.R.V.E Bucuresti
- Vie-Vin Murfatlar Constantza
- Vie-Vin Vinju Mare
- Vincon Vrancea Focsani
- Vinterra International Bucuresti

**Contacts**

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**How to contact us**

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>WEPA E-mail</td>
<td><a href="mailto:apev@fx.ro">apev@fx.ro</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>WEPA website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wineromania.com">www.wineromania.com</a> (under construction)</td>
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Romania – A God-Blessed Wine Country

**Terroir**

Romania is a major wine country in Europe with rich historical and cultural traditions. Today it undergoes profound changes and aspires to become a valued member of the world wine community as a producer and exporter of highly praised quality wines. The total vineyard area devoted to wine-grape production is spread throughout the country, as shown in the above map.

The continental climate, with hot summers and cold winters, is moderated by such local factors as the Black Sea, the Danube and the height of the Carpathian Mountains. The climate, soil and sun exposure and, last but not least, the Romanian human soul are the key factors determining the quality of wines.

**Grape Varieties**

The main noble wines of Western European origin, with renown oenological characteristics, have been successfully acclimatized in Romania since over two millennia, as follows:

- Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir as reds
- Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Gris and Muscat Ottonel, as whites

Worth mentioning are also several extremely valuable native varieties, such as:

- Babeasca and Feteasca Neagra as reds
- Feteasca Regala, Francusa, Grasa, Galbena, Busuioc and Tamaioasa as whites

**Main Wine Regions**

Main areas of production (% of vineyard area):

- Moldova 34.0
- Muntenia 28.0
- Oltenia 17.0
- Dobrogea 10.0
- Crisana-Maramures 4.6
- Transylvania 4.5

The most known vineyards of Romania are:
Cotnari, Panciu, Odobesti, Vrancea, Cotesti, Tarnave, Jidvei, Dealu Mare, Ceptura, Valea Calugareasca, Tohani, Pietroasa, Murlatlar, Medgidia, Vanju Mare, Minis, Recas, Dragasani, and the list may well continue.

**The Status of Romanian Viticulture and Wine Industry**

In year 2000 the total vineyard area was 264,000 ha, of which 145,000 ha planted with noble grapes.

The area of vineyards in production was 247,500 ha, of which 17,600 ha planted with table grapes and 229,900 ha with wine grapes.

The total production of grapes was 1,290,300 tons, of which 117,900 tons were table grapes and 1,172,400 tons were wine grapes.

The total production of wine was 5,455,000 hl, of which 3,247,000 hl from noble wine grapes.

This last quantity was spread, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>3,247,000 hl</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>of which:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Table wines</td>
<td>1,628,000 hl</td>
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<tr>
<td>Superior wines</td>
<td>1,168,000 hl</td>
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<tr>
<td>D.O.C. wines</td>
<td>451,000 hl</td>
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<tr>
<td>White wines</td>
<td>2,537,000 hl</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red wines</td>
<td>710,000 hl</td>
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</table>

Average production in the previous five years:
6,288,000 hl (Split 72.5% white, 27.5% red)