June 28<sup>th</sup> 2021 Craiova, Romania

It is with great pride and optimism that I announce that Alexandra Marinela Popescu was awarded the top mediation memorandum prize in the International Mediation Writing Competition organized in Romania by the Weinstein International Foundation ("Foundation") for Romanian students from the prestigious network Hexagon composed of the six most renowned Romanian state law faculties. In my capacity as WIF Senior Fellow who led this initiative on behalf of the Foundation in Romania, I would like to thank and acknowledge the support of the co-sponsoring law firm, "Săuleanu și Asociații" for matching the 500\$ prize offered by the Foundation and of the partnering faculty, Craiova Faculty of Law, University of Craiova, for engaging the academic legal community in this project. I am extremely grateful to Bogdan Tene, partner at "Săuleanu și Asociații", for the tremendous organizational support and to the competition judges, Alina Leoveanu (Mayer Brown Paris), Judge Sanda Elena Lungu, Andra Ionescu and Bogdan Matei for their hard work throughout the competition. Massive thank you to Jay Welsh, WIF Board Member and competition chair, Ellen Bass, WIF Executive Director and to the Senior Fellows Ximena Bustamante (Ecuador), Eleni Charalambidou (Cyprus), Sherif Elnegahy (Egypt), Tat Lim (Singapore), Ruslan Mirzayev (Azerbaijan), Fernando Navarro Sanchez (Mexico), Nudrat Ejaz Piracha (Pakistan), and Giorgi Tsertsvadze (Republic of Georgia) for their support and, above all, for making this event possible. Last but not least, the most important word of appreciation goes to all of the participating students for their hard work to prepare, draft and submit their mediation memoranda on behalf of their clients. Congratulations to all of them.

I look forward to welcoming you all to the next edition of the International Mediation Writing Competition next year, hopefully in person.

Warm regards,

<u>Constantin-Adi Gavrilă</u> <u>Senior Fellow, Weinstein International Foundation</u>



Screenshot during Global Awards Ceremony with Jay Welsh, WIF Board Member and Competition Chair, Constantin-Adi Gavrilă, WIF Senior Fellow in Romania and Alexandra Marinela Popescu, the competition winner in Romania.



Picture taken at the local award ceremony. From left to right **Lucian Săuleanu**, Managing Partner of "Săuleanu și Asociații", **Alexandra Marinela Popescu**, the competition winner in Romania, Professor **Gabriel Olteanu**, Dean of Craiova Faculty of Law and **Constantin-Adi Gavrilă**, WIF Senior Fellow in Romania.