



ALINA PORUMB

Strategic Designer



Dr Alina Porumb is a strategic designer, advisor, and leader with over 25 years of experience within civil society and philanthropy development initiatives in Romania and internationally. Since 2018, she is the President of the Association for the Practice of Transformation and director of its Inspire program, supporting thoughtful, courageous, and creative leaders in Africa, Europe & Latin America to develop new community philanthropy architecture at the local, country, and regional levels.

The program facilitates stimulative and caring spaces for reflection, mutual support and innovative strategy and practice, through international online conferences, workshops, study visits, coaching, advice, support for experimentation. In this role, she also authored a series of Knowledge Capsules with a focus on strategies and practices of community foundations and their supporters.



Since 2020, she is a board member of WINGS, the leading organization supporting philanthropy globally. There, she is chairing the program committee and co-leads the Lift Up Philanthropy workgroup to support strategic thinking, impact assessment and communication for philanthropy infrastructure organizations. She was a member of the Philanthropy Transformation and WINGS Forum 2023 advisory groups, fostering global conversations on the future of philanthropy.

Also within WINGS, but previous to her board member position, she co-developed the 4C framework for strategic thinking & impact mapping of philanthropy infrastructure. In the work with INSPIRE, she adapted it to include a central catalyst role and continues to be its ambassador globally.



In Europe, since 2020, she actively contributes to PEX community – an exchange space for philanthropy support organizations hosted by Philea (now, previously Dafne), where she co-leads conversations on the catalyst role of the philanthropy infrastructure. Since 2023, she is also a member of Philea advisory committee, contributing to strategy for the philanthropy infrastructure organizations members of Philea.



In Romania, between 2005-2017, she was the development and programs director of the Association of Community Relations where she facilitated its strategy design, evaluation and led two programs: building community foundations in Romania and Initiative for Strategic Philanthropy in Central and Eastern Europe, focused on philanthropic advisory practice and connecting infrastructure organizations.

She accompanied the development of the Romanian CF movement in different stages, supporting local leaders to start organizations and position them in the local and national ecosystems, with the focus on building innovative programs around assets and potential, experiment in practice and grow based on community response.

AWARDS

For this role, in 2015, she received the Olga Alexeeva Memorial prize for 'remarkable leadership, creativity and results in developing philanthropy for progressive social change in an emerging market country', being nominated by the Romanian Federation for Community Foundations.

STUDIES

Alina holds a PhD in Sociology (Babes-Bolyai University) with a thesis on innovation & institutionalization in development organizations, a post-graduate diploma in social development practice (London Metropolitan University) and a Senior Fellowship at the Center for Civil Society and Philanthropy (City University of New York). She also attended professional opportunities offered by UK Community Foundations Network and the Institute for Philanthropy on strategic philanthropy advice practice.

PUBLICATIONS

Her research focused on various aspects of institutional philanthropy, with a focus on context, strategy and practice mapping, including: Intelligent Money Report (Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation, 2008), Corporate Community Engagement Report (ARC, 2006), Ten Years of Grantmakers East Group (EFC, 2006), Ten Years of Grantmaking support to the Romanian NGO sector (Romanian Donors Forum, 2001).