

Luminița-Teodora Odobescu

Presidential Adviser - Department of European Affairs

Luminița-Teodora Odobescu (born 1969, Reghin, Mureș) holds a PhD in International Economic Relations at the Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest, a degree obtained in 2003. In 1992, she graduated from the Faculty of Commerce at the Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest.

A career diplomat, Luminița-Teodora Odobescu was the Permanent Representative of Romania to the European Union between September 2015 and November 2021, successfully managing, in this capacity, the first Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU (the first semester of 2019).

She was State Counsellor, adviser on European Affairs and External Relations to the Romanian Prime Minister, between November 2012 and August 2015. In December 2014, she was granted the rank of Ambassador. Between February and November 2012, she was State Secretary on European Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and between June 2008 and February 2012 she was Director General of the European Union Department within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, coordinating the EU Affairs and the bilateral political dialogue with the EU Member States, the acceding states to the EU (including Turkey), as well as the EFTA countries.

Between 2002 and 2007, she held various positions in the Permanent Representation of Romania to the European Union in Brussels, being responsible

for several chapters of negotiation in the context of Romania's accession to the EU (energy, economic and monetary union, taxation, trade). Moreover, she was in charge with the trade relations and trade defence measures between Romania and the EU.

Following the signing of Romania's Accession Treaty to the EU, Luminița Odobescu took responsibility for coordinating and preparing the meetings of the EU's Committee of Deputy Permanent Representatives (COREPER I), while also participating to several working groups of the EU Council and the European Commission.

Luminița-Teodora Odobescu was head of unit within the Department of Foreign Trade between 1999 and 2002, being responsible for the management of trade relations between Romania and the European Communities, in the framework of the European Association Agreement. From 1995 to 1999, she held various positions in the European Union division of the same Department.

She was one of the first Romanian interns at the European Commission in Brussels. She also completed an internship program at the Geneva-based World Trade Organization and a study course on EU affairs at the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium).

In 2007 she was conferred the “Order of Diplomatic Merit” in the rank of Officer for the contribution to the process of Romania's accession to the European Union. In 2015 she was conferred the French National Order of the Legion of Honour in the rank of Knight.

In November 2019, Luminița-Teodora Odobescu was awarded the National Order "Star of Romania" in the rank of Knight for her significant contribution to the success of the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the first semester of 2019.

Luminița-Teodora Odobescu was appointed Presidential Adviser on 30 November 2021.