

**LUMINIȚA POPA**  
**Managing Partner, Suciu Popa**

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**Practice Areas**

International Arbitration  
Energy & Natural Resources  
Infrastructure & PPP/Public Procurement  
Mergers & Acquisitions/Privatisation  
International Trade



Luminița Popa focuses on international dispute resolution in a variety of business sectors, including energy, natural resources, infrastructure, construction and engineering, mergers and acquisitions, partnership & corporate governance. She acts as both counsel and arbitrator in numerous proceedings under the rules of the main arbitration institutions and dispute resolution bodies.

Luminița is recognized by Who's Who Legal - Arbitration and is recommended in Legal 500 EMEA for Dispute Resolution, Energy & Natural Resources, PPP and procurement. She is also ranked for Disputes, Energy & Infrastructure and PPP/PFI in IFLR 1000 and for Energy & Natural Resources in Chambers Europe. Starting with 2017, Luminița was included every year in Who's Who Legal: Arbitration - Future Leaders. Since 2018, Luminita is a Court Member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration.

**Selected relevant experience**

- Acted as arbitrator in domestic and international arbitrations concerning energy & natural resources, infrastructure & construction, commercial agreements, mergers & acquisitions.
- Representing one of the largest international energy companies in ICC arbitration concerning claims arising from a privatization agreement (place of arbitration Paris). Value in dispute exceeding USD 1.2 billion.
- Assisting one of the largest international energy companies in ICC arbitration (place of arbitration Paris). Value in dispute exceeding USD 600 million.
- Coordinating the legal team who acted as lead counsel to one of the largest international energy companies, in an ICC arbitration arisen from a privatization agreement with claims amounting over EUR 130 million arising from disputes involving complex issues pertaining to corporate law, regulatory and financial matters.
- Representing a world leader in the construction field in several ICC arbitrations (place of arbitration Geneva) regarding major infrastructure projects. Aggregate value in dispute exceeding USD 95 million.
- Representing a leading European utility company in ICC arbitration (place of arbitration Paris). Value in dispute exceeding USD 59 million.
- Representing a rail infrastructure construction company in several ICC arbitration disputes (place of arbitration Bucharest). Aggregate claims in excess of EUR 14 million.

- Representing a leading gas and refining company on investment protection matters related to breaches of bilateral investment treaties concluded between Romania and The Netherlands, involving damages in excess of EUR 500 million.
- Representing a large FMCG group in an ICSID arbitration, with aggregate claims in excess of EUR 450 million.
- Representing as lead legal counsel one of the largest property developers in Europe, in a complex ICC arbitration proceeding (place of arbitration Paris) arising from a share purchase agreement. Value in dispute exceeding USD 70 million.
- Representing the largest Austrian construction company and one of the largest contractors in Europe, in multiple arbitration ICC proceedings for disputes with a total value exceeding EUR 30 million.
- Representing the Romanian subsidiary of an important international group of companies active in the field of energy and natural resources in multiple arbitration proceedings under the ICC Rules regarding petroleum agreements and joint operating agreements involving claims over EUR 22 million.
- Representing an internationally active Italian contractor in arbitration proceedings under the UNCITRAL Rules, in connection with multiple claims arising from FIDIC contracts for the rehabilitation of the road infrastructure in the Republic of Moldova with aggregate claims exceeding EUR 5,5 million.
- Representing a Greece based civil engineering and general construction company, during pre-arbitral proceedings against the National Romanian Company for Road Infrastructure Administration (amount in dispute exceeding EUR 12 million).
- Representing the sole public supplier of natural gas on the territory of Bulgaria, as counsel in an arbitration case before the Court of International Commercial Arbitration in Bucharest regarding claims arising out of a long-term gas transit agreement.

### **Work experience**

- Managing Partner, Suciu Popa, 2016 - present
- Partner, Muşat & Asociații, 2005 - 2016
- Associate, Muşat & Asociații, 2001 - 2005

### **Academic degrees**

- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration (2010)
- King's College, London, Postgraduate Diploma in European Union Law (2008)
- Romanian-American University in Bucharest, Law Degree (2000)

### **Professional bodies**

- Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCI Arb)
- Listed arbitrator of the Court of International Commercial Arbitration attached to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania

- Listed arbitrator of the Court of Arbitration of the Romanian-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Member of the ICC Institute of World Business Law
- Member of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration
- Admitted to the bar in 2001

## **Publications**

- Allegations and investigations on corruption in commercial arbitration and investment (Romanian Arbitration Journal, February 2017)
- Investment Treaty Arbitration in light of the European Union's Competence over foreign direct investments (Romanian Arbitration Journal, July - September 2014)
- New Provisions of French Law on International Arbitration (Romanian Arbitration Journal, July - September 2012)
- Enforceability of Provisional Measures in International Commercial Arbitration (Legal Force of Arbitral Awards, University Publishing House, Bucharest 2012)
- Oil and Gas - A Comparative Guide to the Regulation of Oil and Gas Projects, Romania Chapter, Thomson Reuters, First Edition 2012
- Arbitration News: Romania - is arbitration still an option for public contracts – related disputes? (Newsletter of International Bar Association Legal Practice Division, 2011)
- International Project Finance and Public-Private Partnerships: A Legal Guide to Key Growth Markets (Kluwer Law International, 2010)
- Contributor to yearbooks and weekly newsletters for various directories and law guides

## **Distinctions and citations**

- Luminița Popa is hailed by clients as "a great strategist" and "the best in Romania for international arbitration." Sources: Legal 500, 2019
- Luminita Popa is "a well-reputed counsel and arbitrator recognised for her complex work in the energy sector", who "brings a really straightforward approach to cases". Source: Who's Who Legal: Arbitration, 2021
- Luminița Popa is described by clients as "very experienced in arbitrations." Source: Chambers and Europe, 2020
- Clients highlight that Luminita is "extremely involved and hands-on" adding that "her attention to detail and capacity to see the overall picture make her a great strategist." Source: Chambers Europe, 2020