



Dumitru Preda, PhD, is a **Minister-Counsellor**, Director of the DOR-MAE (Direction for the Romanians Origin, **Department for the Relations with the Romanians living abroad**); former Deputy Permanent Delegate of Romania to UNESCO (Paris) from 2002; Chargé d'Affaires a.i. in 2004 and 2006.

Chief of his 1974 promotion – Faculty of History (Bucharest University), from 1974 to 1977, he was senior archivist followed by scientific researcher, senior scientific researcher (1977-1997) at the Center of Studies and Research on Military History and Theory, after 1991 the Institute for Military History and Theory, Bucharest.

He received the degree of **Doctor in History** with his thesis *Romania's Political and Military Relations with the Entente 1914-1918*, from the University of Bucharest (1999).

First diplomatic Secretary (1997), then a diplomatic Counsellor (1999), Minister-counsellor (2002), he was head of the Historical Archive, MFA (1997-1998), **director of the Diplomatic Archives, Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Romania (1999-2002) and editor-in-chief of the Romanian Collection of Diplomatic Documents (1999-2004)**.

In addition, he also holds the title of **Professor in history and political sciences (2001)**; lecturer, and honorary Dean of the University of Banat, Timisoara (2000-2002); he is also a former professor to the Military Academy of Bucharest (1980-1985) and other military schools, to the Polytechnic University (1987-1989) and the University of Bucharest (1990-1992) etc. From 2006 he is **Associate Professor** (International Relations) within the “**Ovidius**” **University of Constanta** (Romania).

Prof. Preda is a **Fulbright alumnus** (the **Georgetown University, Washington DC**) and he was *invited professor* by the Loyala University (New Orleans). He holds membership in various professional organizations which include Board of *Commission d'Histoire des Relations Internationales* (2006), *Bibliographic Committee* (from 1990, re-elected in 1995, 2000, 2005) and *Comité des Archives Militaires (International Commission of Comparative Military History, Romanian Commission of Military History* (former Board member till 2003), *Romanian Committee of Military Archives* (former vice-president till 2003), *Comité d'histoire et stratégie balkaniques* (founder, vice-president, 2000), *Association Internationale d'Histoire Contemporaine de l'Europe* (1995).

Founder member of *World Association of Bioinformatics and BioTechnology – WABIT* (Swiss WABT House).

He is the author, co-author and/or editor of about 40 volumes and 150 studies and articles published in Romania and other 10 countries; articles in the Romanian central and local press, and frequent contributions to radio and TV scientific debates.

He has been a participant in international congresses on history (1980-Bucharest, 1990 - Madrid, 1995 - Montreal, 2000 - Oslo, 2005 - Sydney) and approximately fifty scientific colloquiums and conferences in Italy, France, Canada, Spain, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Bulgaria, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Lithuania, Republic of South-Africa and the USA.

In 1998 Dr Preda has initiated a significant archives' reform improving a high technological program (about 800 000 USD, with the Italian Government's financial aid) to preserve the national diplomatic thesaurus and then he has developed an extensive international cooperation in the field; in May-June 2002 he organized the first *South-East Europe Conference of the diplomatic archives*.

In recognition for his achievements, Dumitru Preda received the **Romanian Academy Prize "Mihail Kogalniceanu" for History** (1994), the Great Prize of the *Romanian Review of Military History* (1992, 1994, 1996), the "N. Iorga" Prize (1998), the "Dimitrie Onciul" Prize of the *Magazin Istoric Foundation* and review (1999) etc.

In 2002 he received the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs **Diploma of Merit** for his "**outstanding contribution to the diplomatic activity**".

As Romania's Deputy Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, he was member of the Executive Board (2002-2003), participating to an important number of working groups on the geographical distribution of personnel, the relations between the three organs of UNESCO etc.; he contributed to Romania's presidency of the Second Electoral Group (2003, 2007), of the *Groupe francophone* (2006, treasurer between January 2003-March 2005), *Latin Union* (Romania's membership of the Board, and as vice-chairman of the Executive Board 2006-2007) etc. He also was vice-chairman, rapporteur (Nominations Committee) and teller for elections during the 34th session of the General Conference.

Prof. Dr Preda actively contributed to the elaboration and adoption by State-members and then by Romanian authorities of several important normative instruments (Romania was the first European country that signed the 2005 *Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions*, the first in South-Eastern Europe to accept the *Anti-Doping Convention* and recently has adopted the *Convention on the Protection of the Underwater World Heritage* - the 15th country). He was much involved in promotion of the *Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible World Heritage* and in the works of its first Intergovernmental Committee. He prepared and supported the *Calus's* inscription as one of the *Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity* (2005) and also the Romanian dossiers for the Anniversaries which UNESCO was associated (2003-2009). He prepared the dossier of Mariana Nicolescu's nomination as *UNESCO Artist for Peace* (2005) and Romania's participation to the *UNESCO Goodwill Ambassadors* activities. As Minister-Counsellor, he promoted the development of UNESCO partnership with Parliamentarians and in this context the initiative to create for the first time a Romanian Permanent Parliamentary Commission for UNESCO activities (2007).

He was one of the main organizers of the 50th anniversary of Romania's association to UNESCO and of other cultural and scientific events, contributing also to the visit of President Traian Băsescu at UNESCO.