



Natalia-Elena INTOTERO was appointed Minister for Romanians Abroad on January 29, 2018. She was born on January 14, 1976, in Brad, Hunedoara County, and since 2012 she has been a member of the Parliament of Romania in the Foreign Policy Committee. Between 2002-2006, Natalia Intotero studied at the Faculty of Romanian Language and Literature, and between 2003 and 2007, she graduated in International Relations and European Studies of "Spiru Haret" University of

Bucharest. At the same time, she served as Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, coordinating the Department for Romanians Abroad.

*It is a challenge for me to take over this portfolio in the Year of the Centenary. Why? Because I understand that Romania is in every place where a Romanian citizen lives. Now, more than ever, we are obliged to make each Romanian an ambassador of our country, no matter where he chooses to work, study and live. Therefore, I put forward the necessity to be close to all those who live outside the borders of the country through the policies, strategies and projects that we assume to carry out.*

**Natalia-Elena Intotero, Minister for Romanians Abroad**



## MINISTRY FOR ROMANIANS ABROAD (presentation)

- Founded in January 2017.
- The creation of the Ministry for Romanians Abroad (MRP) reflects the concerns of the Romanian State and its acknowledgement of the **critical role played by our diaspora and historical communities in defining the Romanian foreign policy.**
- Romanians abroad are an **integral part of the Romanian spirituality** and our Ministry focuses on building up a **strong partnership between our institution and the Romanians in the neighboring countries and emigration**, in accordance with international norms and regulations.
- **The situation of people living and working abroad represents a key priority on our ministry's agenda**, as a newly formed ministry. The **protection of the rights and freedoms** of Romanians abroad is of utmost importance to us.
- We offer non-refundable funds and grants, according to the Romanian laws (L. 321/2006, L. 299/2007), that contribute to the efforts that the Romanian community abroad is putting into **maintaining their national identity**. We have an **open session**, where everybody can apply at any time of the year.
- One of the main objectives of the Ministry for Romanians Abroad is to **augment the public campaigns that are designed to inform, prevent and combat the risk factors which lead to work abuse cases, sexual abuse cases, begging cases or any other difficult situations** in which Romanians can find themselves while being abroad.
- We aim to **better inform our citizens concerning their rights, liberties and responsibilities** as citizens of Europe, of the world.
- In addition, the role of the Ministry for Romanians abroad will be strengthened by **having representatives working in the local consular offices and diplomatic missions.**
- We are planning to **send our experts in states with significant Romanian communities**. We would like to start with the communities in the **UK, Italy and Spain, where we have the most significant Romanian communities**. Our diaspora attachés will be dealing with the diverse aspects of the local community, including the problem of forced labor.