

# Claudia Badulescu

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Department of Political and Social Sciences  
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Nationality: Romanian

## CURRENT POSITION

2018-current PhD Researcher, Department of Political and Social Sciences (SPS Department), EUI

Thesis Title: *The Europeanisation of post-communist administrations: The Commission as a driver?*

Supervisor: Prof. Emeritus Brigid Laffan

Brief synopsis of PhD thesis: This research project seeks to analyse and evaluate the role played by the European Commission in supporting administrative reform in post-communist administrations in Central and Eastern Europe, the Western Balkans, and in the EU Neighbourhood, with a focus on Romania, Serbia and Moldova respectively. The study is based on a qualitative and quantitative analysis of over 700 official communications pertaining to the implementation of EU-funded projects in each case between 2000 to 2020, as well as on over fifty elite interviews with key officials at the national level and European level.

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Public Administration Reform, Differentiated Integration in the EU, Theories of European Integration, Comparative Politics, Eastern Europe since 1989, Rule of Law Oversight in the EU, Politics of Institutional Change, Qualitative Research Methods (Elite Interviews, Path Dependency and Process Tracing, Qualitative Comparative Analysis), Quantitative Research Methods (STATA, Quantitative Text Analysis through MAXQDA), Research Design.

## PRINCIPAL REFERENCES

Prof. Emeritus **Brigid Laffan**, former Director of the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, EUI: [Brigid.Laffan@eui.eu](mailto:Brigid.Laffan@eui.eu) .

Prof. **Fabrice Larat**, Director of Research, École Nationale d'Administration (ENA, France): [Fabrice.Larat@ena.fr](mailto:Fabrice.Larat@ena.fr) / [Fabrice.Larat@insp.gouv.fr](mailto:Fabrice.Larat@insp.gouv.fr) .

Michael Smeltzer, Senior Research Analyst, Europe and Eurasia, Freedom House: [smeltzer@freedomhouse.org](mailto:smeltzer@freedomhouse.org)

## EDUCATION

- 2018-current **PhD in Political and Social Sciences, EUI**
- Key workshops & seminars:** (E. Immergut) The Politics of Institutional Change. The New Party Politics of Policy Recalibration; (H. Kriesi) Public opinion and political behaviour; (H. Gabor, D. Bohle, T. Junes) Eastern Europe since 1989; (H. Gabor & C. Closa) Rule of law oversight; (P. Genschel) EU Integration theory; (A. Hemerijck) The Nested Politics of Structural Reform; (E. Dinas & A. Hemerijck) Introduction to Research Design; (J. Harkonen & E. Dinas) Introduction to Quantitative Methods; (D. Bohle & E. Immergut) Qualitative Research Methods; (C. Wagmann & D. Bohle) Qualitative Comparative Analysis; (I. Sagarzazu, E. Immergut & E. Dinas) Introduction to Quantitative Text Analysis; (S. Bartolini & A. Hemerijck) Path Dependency and Process Tracing in the Social Sciences; (T. Bourke) Research Data Management; (M. Fraile) Course on STATA and Data Analysis; (H. Adzakpa) MAXQDA starter workshop.
- 09/22-03/23 **Visiting Scholar at the School of Politics and International Relations (SPIRe), University College Dublin (UCD), Ireland**
- 2018-2019 **Master of Research (MRes), EUI**
- 2013-2014 **Master's Degree in Advanced European and International Studies, Centre International de Formation Européenne (CIFE – Nice, France)**
- Key modules:** Conflict and Cooperation in the International System, European Integration and External Action, Federalism, Multi-Level Governance and Conflict Resolution, Economic Globalisation and Sustainable Development, Professional Skills Workshops (Project cycle management, Intercultural communication, International mediation and negotiation, Drafting of position papers and policy recommendations). As part of this programme I undertook studies in Berlin, Istanbul and Nice.
- 2012-2013 **Bachelor's L3 in Administration and International Affairs (Erasmus), Université Paris XII Est-Créteil, France**
- 2010 – 2013 **Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Transylvania University, Romania**
- Additional training**
- Sept 2021 CIVICA Doctoral Training Summer School on: "*European integration in historical and contemporary perspective. New approaches and findings*", EUI
- Jan 2021 Project Management for PhD students, LSE PhD Academy
- Jan 2021 ECPR Winter School on Political Parties & Democracy, ECPR – OSCE/ ODHIR
- Dec 2020 Executive Training Seminar "*Responsible Negotiations Across Nations*", School of Transnational Governance (STG), EUI
- Dec 2019 Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Certification, EUI
- Jan 2019 Workshop on Public Speaking Skills - Elia Nichols, EUI

## RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2021-2023 **Country Expert on Romania, Freedom House, USA**
- Drafted the country report for Romania's democracy-related developments between 2021 – 2023 and assigned numerical ratings to Romania using the organisation's [Nations in Transit](#) (NIT) indicators and methodology.
- Reference:* Michael Smeltzer, Senior Research Analyst, Europe and Eurasia, Freedom House, [smeltzer@freedomhouse.org](mailto:smeltzer@freedomhouse.org) / Alexandra Karppi, Research Analyst, Nations in Transit – Freedom House, [karppi@freedomhouse.org](mailto:karppi@freedomhouse.org) .
- 2022-2023 **Guest Lecturer at the Department of Political Science, University of Lucerne, Switzerland**
- Taught a block seminar on the “*Politics, Parties and Power in Central and Eastern Europe since 1989*” and supervised two master-seminar papers. The seminar explored the political dynamics in Central and Eastern Europe since the fall of communism in 1989, by looking at the main challenges pertaining to the transition to democracy, at the particularities of party politics in the region and at the role played by international actors in the past, present and future development of the region.
- Reference:* Prof. Joachim Blatter, Head of the Department of Political Science; Professor of Political Science and Political Theory, [joachim.blatter@unilu.ch](mailto:joachim.blatter@unilu.ch) .
- 2020-2021 **Research Assistant & Country Expert on Romania, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies/RSCAS – EUI)**
- Main tasks: (1) Drafted the country report for Romania within the framework of the Horizon 2020-funded research project “*Integrating Diversity in the European Union*” ([InDivEU](#)), Work Package “*The Politics of Differentiated Integration: What do Citizens, Parties, and Governments want?*”; (2) Built a database on differentiated integration (DI) positions for the 27 InDivEU Member State Reports and systematised the findings to facilitate comparison across the case studies.
- Reference:* Stefan Telle, Research Associate [Stefan.Telle@eui.eu](mailto:Stefan.Telle@eui.eu) ; Brigid Laffan, former Director of the RSCAS and Scientific Coordinator of the InDivEU project, [Brigid.Laffan@eui.eu](mailto:Brigid.Laffan@eui.eu) .
- 2020 **Research Assistant & Country Expert on France, SPS Department – EUI**
- Main Tasks: Contributed to the ERC Synergy “*Policy crisis and crisis politics, sovereignty, solidarity and identity in the EU post 2008*” ([SOLID](#)) programme by coding France's policy responses to the refugee crisis in the EU post-2015, and drawing a brief report on the main findings regarding five key episodes during the crisis.
- Reference:* Abel Bojar, Research Associate, [Abel.Bojar@eui.eu](mailto:Abel.Bojar@eui.eu) ; Prof. Hanspeter Kriesi, Principal Investigator of the ERC-funded SOLID project, [Hanspeter.Kriesi@eui.eu](mailto:Hanspeter.Kriesi@eui.eu)

- 2019; 2023     **Research Assistant & Country Expert on Romania, SPS Department – EUI**
- Main Tasks: Contributed to the "*Political Conflict in Europe in the Shadow of the Great Recession*" ([POLCON](#)) project by coding Romanian electoral campaigns based on the analysis of political contestation in the electoral arena and in issue specific public interactions.
- Reference:* Argyrios Altiparmakis, Research Associate, [argyrios.altiparmakis@eui.eu](mailto:argyrios.altiparmakis@eui.eu) ; Prof. Hanspeter Kriesi, Director of the POLCON project, [Hanspeter.Kriesi@eui.eu](mailto:Hanspeter.Kriesi@eui.eu).
- Jun 2019       **Researcher, Delegations for Dialogue, UK**
- Main tasks: Undertook a field mission to Moldova and to its separatist region, Transnistria, to undertake fieldwork and to produce a report on the political, economic and cultural developments within the post-Soviet conflict zone, and to analyse ongoing initiatives and prospects for a thawing the Transnistrian 'frozen conflict'.
- Reference:* Alan Gregory, Founder of Delegations for Dialogue, [alan@delegations.org](mailto:alan@delegations.org) .
- Apr 2019       **Short-term Expert, École Nationale d'Administration (ENA<sup>1</sup>), France**
- Main tasks: (1) Undertook a field mission to Bucharest to investigate the state of play of public administration research and training of civil servants in Romania; (2) Interviewed key representatives from government, civil service, academia and other relevant stakeholders; (3) Wrote an analytical report with recommendations for the development of research activities for the Romanian National Institute of Administration (Institutul National de Administratie/ INA), by identifying key areas for the future development of the institute's research activities.
- Reference:* Fabrice Larat, Director of the Centre of Administrative Research and Expertise, [Fabrice.Larat@ena.fr](mailto:Fabrice.Larat@ena.fr) / [Fabrice.Larat@insp.gouv.fr](mailto:Fabrice.Larat@insp.gouv.fr).
- Mar 2019       **Research Assistant, Country Expert on Romania & Team Leader, RSCAS – EUI**
- Main tasks: Contributed to the Voting Advice Application (VAA) developed within the framework of the [euandi2019](#) project for the 2019 European Parliament elections, by coding the positions of Romanian parties on policy statements covering a wide range of policy issues and political values, coordinating a team of 5 members for Romania, collaborating with 26 other teams, coding the results for the other EU countries, building a database, and uploading the data on a CMS platform so as to provide citizens with a clearer view of the nature of the European election campaign.
- Reference:* Lorenzo Cicchi, Coordinator, European Governance and Politics Programme [Lorenzo.Cicchi@eui.eu](mailto:Lorenzo.Cicchi@eui.eu) .

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<sup>1</sup> The French National School of Administration (ENA) was officially abolished on 31 December 2021 and was replaced by the Institut national du service public (INSP) on 01 January 2022, see [www.insp.gouv.fr](http://www.insp.gouv.fr).

2018-2019 **Research Assistant, Policy Network, UK & Das Progressive Zentrum, Germany**

Main tasks: Contributed to the drafting of a comprehensive study on "[\*Measuring tomorrow's work and economy\*](#)" by undertaking an in-depth field analysis to gain insights into the nature of the digital economy in France, Germany and the UK, including through undertaking qualitative expert interviews in French and English.

*Reference:* Dr Barry Colfer, Director of Research at the Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA), Ireland, [Barry.Colfer@iiea.org](mailto:Barry.Colfer@iiea.org) .

2014-2018 **Senior Project Manager, Department of International Relations, ENA, France**

Main tasks: Drafted project proposals and managed the implementation of projects in the field of public administration reform funded by the EU and by national governments.

*Example of projects managed:*

*Implementation of the Master's in Public Management (MPM) Programme, at the Bahraini Institute of Public Administration, in partnership with the Institute of Public Management and Territorial Governance from Aix-Marseille University.*

*Budget: EUR 1,5 million*

Main tasks: conducted the feasibility study for opening the Master's programme, drafted the project's technical and financial offer, drafted the academic curricula, organised the academic implementation of the programme, managed the budget and the e-learning platform.

Prof. Fabrice Larat, Director of Research: [Fabrice.Larat@ena.fr](mailto:Fabrice.Larat@ena.fr) / [Fabrice.Larat@insp.gouv.fr](mailto:Fabrice.Larat@insp.gouv.fr) .

*EU funded project: Support to Public Administration Reform and Local Development in Egypt (PARLOD), implemented in partnership with the Association of Netherlands Municipalities ((Vereniging van Nederlandse Gemeenten, VNG);*

*Budget: EUR 4,2 million.*

Main tasks: overall financial management of the project, planned and organised expert missions to Egypt; drafted inception, interim and final technical and financial reports; managed human resources, including the identification and recruitment of experts; organised study visits and high-level conferences for Egyptian governors, developed a database for training civil servants including by articulating manuals, best practices and benchmark studies aimed at supporting public administration reform and local development in Egypt; managed a team of two project managers and one intern; represented ENA at stakeholder meetings and managed relations with consortium partners, the European Commission, the Ministry for Local Development in Egypt, the French Embassy in Egypt etc.

*Reference:* Mr. Jérôme Guyon, Deputy Director of International Relations, [Jerome.Guyon@ena.fr](mailto:Jerome.Guyon@ena.fr) / [Jerome.Guyon@insp.gouv.fr](mailto:Jerome.Guyon@insp.gouv.fr)

2012-2013 **Marketing Officer, Alliance People (Paris, France)**

- 2012 **Internship: Manager Assistant, Argetalia Sociedad Limitada (Valencia, Spain)**
- 2012 **Internship: Project Assistant, International Network for Educational Exchange (INEX), (Vienna, Austria) – project Summer University: Green Building Solutions.**

## PUBLICATIONS

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- 2023 BADULESCU, Claudia. "Nations in Transit 2023 Country Report – Romania", *Freedom House*, USA. <https://freedomhouse.org/country/romania/nations-transit/2023> .
- 2022 Telle, S., Badulescu, C. & Fernandes, D. Attitudes of national decision-makers towards differentiated integration in the European Union. *Comparative European Politics*. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41295-022-00303-7> .
- 2022 BADULESCU, Claudia. "Nations in Transit 2022 Country Report – Romania", *Freedom House*, USA. <https://freedomhouse.org/country/romania/nations-transit/2022> .
- 2021 BADULESCU, Claudia. "Differentiated Integration or Discriminatory Integration? Romania's view on DI in the EU." *Australian and New Zealand Journal of European Studies* 13, no. 3 (2021). <https://openjournals.library.usyd.edu.au/index.php/ANZJES/article/viewFile/15740/13812> .
- 2020 BADULESCU, Claudia, *Integrating diversity or fostering cleavages? Differentiated integration in the EU : a view from Romania*, IFAIR, 2020, EU & Europe Available on Cadmus, European University Institute Research Repository, at: <https://hdl.handle.net/1814/68355> .
- 2019 BADULESCU, Claudia, *"Transnistria: A Wedge Between Russia and the European Union. A Dialogue in 'Frozen' Conflicts"* (November 29, 2019). Delegates for Dialogue, 2019, Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3691469> .

### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 BADULESCU, Claudia, *The politics of differentiated integration : what do governments want? Country report - Romania*, EUI RSC, 2021/44, Integrating Diversity in the European Union (InDivEU) Available on Cadmus, European University Institute Research Repository, at: <https://hdl.handle.net/1814/70622> .
- BADULESCU, Claudia, TELLE, Stefan, *Differentiated integration and the EU member states: salience and governmental positions*, EUI Research Data, 2021, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies Available on Cadmus, European University Institute Research Repository, at: <https://hdl.handle.net/1814/70895> .

TELLE, Stefan, BADULESCU, Claudia, FERNANDES, Daniel, *Differentiated integration in the EU : what do the member states 'think' about it?*, EUI RSC, 2021/50, Integrating Diversity in the European Union (InDivEU) Available on Cadmus, European University Institute Research Repository, at: <https://hdl.handle.net/1814/71002>.

2019 BADULESCU, Claudia, *"The collapse of Romania's social democratic government– civil society strikes back"*, co-authored with Dr Barry Colfer, Head of Research, Policy Network, October 2019, Available at: <https://policynetwork.org/opinions/blogs/the-collapse-of-romanias-social-democratic-government/>.

BADULESCU, Claudia, *"EU and I: How can you find out which party best reflects your views on the European elections?"* (original title in Romanian: UE și EU : Cum poti să afli ce partid reflectă cel mai bine opiniile tale pentru alegerile Europarlamentare?), Ziarul Tricolorul, Romania; May 2019, Available at: <http://www.ziarultricolorul.ro/ue-si-eu-cum-poti-sa-afli-ce-partid-reflecta-cel-mai-bine-opiniile-tale-pentru-alegerile-europarlamentare/>.

2014 BADULESCU, Claudia, *"The paradox of Europe's borders: Romania's state of play in the Schengen accession process"*, Master's thesis, Centre International de Formation Européenne (CIFE), Available at [https://www.ie-ei.eu/Ressources/file/memoires/2014/BADULESCU\\_Claudia.pdf](https://www.ie-ei.eu/Ressources/file/memoires/2014/BADULESCU_Claudia.pdf) June 2014.

#### WORKING PAPERS

2020 BADULESCU, Claudia, *"Resisting the democratic backslide in the EU: A case study of Romania's civil society's retaliation against illiberal politics"*, EUI Term Paper May 2020.

2019 BADULESCU, Claudia; EYMERI-DOUZANS, Jean-Michel; LARAT, Fabrice: *"Developing applied research and expertise activities at the Romanian National Institute of Administration"*, Report co-authored with Prof. Dr. Jean-Michel EYMERI-DOUZANS, ScPo Toulouse, ENA-EGPA, Dr. Fabrice LARAT, Deputy Director of training in charge of research and Director of the Centre of Administrative Research and Expertise, ENA, in the framework of the SRSS project S2018/056 "Support to the National Institute of Administration in Romania" funded by the European Commission. June 2019.

BADULESCU, Claudia, *"Respect the Rule of Law, for EU's sake!"*, EUI Response paper, Rule of Law workshop, November 2019.

BADULESCU, Claudia, *"Overcoming dysfunctional integration through administrative capacity building: a new approach to Europeanisation"*, EUI Term Paper May 2019.

BADULESCU, Claudia, *"Concept paper – Research and development activity at the National Institute of Administration (INA)"*, translated into Romanian language for INA's Department of Communication, Projects, Cooperation and External Relations (DCPCRE) in the framework of the SRSS project S2018/056 "Support to the National



Institute of Administration in Romania” funded by the European Commission. April 2019.

BADULESCU, Claudia, *“Too quiet to be strong? The EU’s tactics for advancing good governance at the domestic level”* – EUI Term Paper, January 2019.

2014 BADULESCU, Claudia, *“Romania – To be or not to be in the Eurozone?”* – Policy paper, Economics, Centre International de Formation Européenne (CIFE) 2014.

2013 BADULESCU, Claudia, *“Corporate Social Responsibility: Between Ethics and Profit”*, Bachelor’s thesis, Transylvania University, 2013.

2012 BADULESCU, Claudia, *“Opinions, attitudes and intentions of the Transylvania University’s students regarding the Erasmus scholarships”* – Quantitative research study, Transylvania University, 2012.

BADULESCU, Claudia, *“The Foreign Trade Impact on the Romanian Gross Capital formation during 1990 – 2006”* – Econometrics, Transylvania University, 2012.

2011 BADULESCU, Claudia, *“The Eurozone in the current crisis: The Unemployment Challenge”* – International Business Law, Transylvania University, 2011.

#### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

2022 ECPR General Conference, University of Innsbruck – Austria.

2021 CIVICA Summer School for doctoral researchers: *“European integration in historical and contemporary perspective. New approaches and findings”*, EUI, Florence – Italy.

European Governance and Politics Programme (EGPP) Seminar Series, RSCAS – EUI, Florence – Italy.

ECPR Winter School on Political Parties & Democracy, ECPR – OSCE/ ODHIR, Online.

ECPR General Conference, Online.

American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) Conference, Online.

2020 NISPACEE Conference for PhD Students, Online.

European Union Studies Working Group, EUI, Florence – Italy.

2015 Council for European Studies (CES) Conference, Paris – France.

#### **OTHER**

2022 Member of the [European Strategy and Policy Analysis System](#) (ESPAS) community of “future scanners”, run by [JRC Competence Centre on Foresight](#) and [European Parliamentary Research Service](#).

2014-2018 Member of the *Committee for Pedagogical Innovation* of the *École Nationale d’Administration (ENA)*, Strasbourg, France



2012-2022 Academic and professional experience in intercultural contexts, including field experience in: Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Egypt, France, Germany, Italy, Kuwait, Moldova, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, the Netherlands.

Languages: *Romanian* (native), *English* (fluent/C2), *French* (fluent/C2), *Italian* (fluent/C1), *Spanish* (intermediate/B1), *Turkish* (basic/A2), *Arabic* (basic/A2).

Last updated: 25 May 2023