

## **Her Majesty Margareta, Custodian of the Crown of Romania**

Her Majesty Margareta, Custodian of the Crown of Romania is the eldest daughter of King Michael I and Queen Anne of Romania. She was designated Crown Princess in 1997 and Custodian of the Crown of Romania in 2007.

Succeeding His Late Majesty King Michael I, she became the Head of the House of Romania on December 5, 2017.

The Custodian of the Crown is the Sovereign of the Royal House of Romania and the Sovereign of the Dynastic Orders of Romania.

Her Majesty Margareta was born in Lausanne, Switzerland on 26<sup>th</sup> March 1949 and was educated in Italy, England, Scotland and Geneva, where she completed the French Baccalaureate at a French High School. She is married to HRH Prince Radu of Romania.

In 1974, she graduated from Edinburgh University with a Master of Arts (MA) Honours degree in Sociology, Political Science and Public International Law. Following university, Her Majesty Margareta worked for a number of British universities, specialising in medical and public health policy. From 1977 to the late eighties, she joined the United Nations System, where she focused on developing health policy recommendations and preventive policy projects. She worked at WHO, UNFPA, FAO and the IFAD.

With the demise of the communist regime in 1989, she travelled to Romania for the first time in January 1990 to devote herself to the plight of its people. Since then, she has been involved in a series of public, international and official events. In 1990, together with King Michael I, she founded the Princess Margareta of Romania Foundation to help and support members of community in greatest need. The charity and its work has been her prime focus.

She is Grand Master of the Order of Carol I (Collar and Grand Cross), Grand Master of the Order of the Crown of Romania (Grand Cross). She holds Knight of the French Legion d'Honneur (2009), Dame Grand Cross of the Sovereign Order of Malta (2003) and the Grand Cross of the Royal Order of Saint Isabel in Portugal (2012).

After the return of the Royal Family to Elisabeta Palace in Bucharest in 2001, Her Majesty Margareta and Prince Radu represent the Royal Family of Romania on hundreds of annual engagements in the country and abroad.

Her Majesty Margareta was granted Honorary Doctorates by the University in Pitesti (Romania), the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova (Republic of Moldova) and the University of Agriculture in Timisoara (Romania).

Her Majesty Margareta is President of the Romanian Red Cross; President of the "Princess Margareta of Romania Foundation"; President of the "Association for Sustainable Development of Savarsin"; Honorary President of the "Romanian Athletic Foundation".

Her Majesty Margareta is Patron of National Council of Pupils, of 17<sup>th</sup> Mechanised Brigade of the Republic of Poland, of "George Enescu Society" in London, of "Built Heritage Conservation Training Centre Banffy Castle" (Romania), of "Transylvania Fest" (Romania), "Roşia Montană" Cultural Foundation, of "Mark Twain Theatre Festival for Children and Teenagers" (Bucharest), of "Sighişoara Medieval Festival", of "We plant good deeds in Romania" Association (Kangaroo Contest), of "Calea Victoriei" Festival, of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Romania, of Bulandra Theatre "Night Laboratory", of "Transylvania College" in Cluj and of the "People of the Time" Annual Gala in Iasi.

Together with HRH Prince Radu, Her Majesty Margareta is Patron of the National Competition "Queen Marie's Fairy tales" and of EUROPAfest (Jeuneses Musicales), organized by Jeunesse Musicales Romania.

In June 2005, a school in Bucharest took the name of "Margareta of Romania Secondary School".