



Curriculum vitae Europass



Personal Information

Surname / First name **TOMA PAULA-SORINA**

Professional Profile Researcher specializing in China studies and international relations, with experience in analyzing China's foreign policy, translating and interpreting Chinese-language primary sources, and coordinating academic projects focused on Asia. Areas of interest include China–European Union relations, China–United States relations, the Indo-Pacific region, Chinese diplomacy in the Middle East, international security, and public and digital diplomacy.

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Nationality Romanian

Professional and Research Experience

Period **July 2021 – present**

Position **SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ASSISTANT**

Main activities and responsibilities

- Participation in ISPRI's collective research projects and programs, contributing to China studies and contemporary international relations through articles, studies, and other scholarly outputs.
- Coordination of the "China la zi" ("China Today") project, dedicated to the translation, analysis, and use of Chinese-language primary sources concerning international political, economic, and geopolitical developments.
- Involvement in organizing and coordinating conferences, debates, and academic events devoted to China and international relations.
- Delivery of academic presentations and institutional representation at scholarly events and public diplomacy events.
- Coordination, in 2024, of student internships for the Chinese Language program at the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures, University of Bucharest, hosted by the Center for Sino-Russian Studies.

Employer "Ion I.C. Brătianu" Institute of Political Sciences and International Relations of the Romanian Academy (ISPRI), Bucharest

Period **2021 – present**

Position **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Main activities and responsibilities

- Coordination of academic activities and projects focused on China and international relations in the Eurasian space.
- Organization of conferences, debates, and academic cooperation activities.

Institution Center for Sino-Russian Studies (CSSR), Black Sea University Foundation

Period **October 2018 – July 2021**

Position **LEAD CHINESE LANGUAGE TEACHER**

Main activities Teaching Chinese to children and organizing workshops on Chinese culture and civilization.

Employer Lexigo Language Boutique, Bucharest

Period **November 2020 – February 2021**

Position **HR SPECIALIST – Internship**

Main activities Translation of documents and internal correspondence from Chinese into Romanian and English; support for the recruitment process and document management.

Employer Huawei Technologies SRL, Bucharest

Education and Training

Period **2019 – 2026**

Qualification / Diploma awarded **MASTER'S DEGREE IN EAST ASIAN STUDIES**

Institution University of Bucharest, Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures

Period **2019 – 2023**

Qualification / Diploma awarded **MASTER'S DEGREE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Institution China University of Political Science and Law (CUPL), Beijing, People's Republic of China

Details Program taught entirely in Chinese; scholarship awarded by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

Period **2016 – 2018**

Qualification / Diploma awarded **ADVANCED LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL TRAINING PROGRAM**

Institution Shanghai International Studies University (SISU), Shanghai, People's Republic of China

Details Intensive courses in Chinese language, translation, culture, listening, reading, and media; government scholarship.

Period **2014 – 2019**

Qualification / Diploma awarded **BACHELOR'S DEGREE – CHINESE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE / FRENCH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**

Institution University of Bucharest, Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures

Period **2010 – 2014**

Qualification / Diploma awarded **BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA – PEDAGOGICAL PROFILE, PRESCHOOL AND PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION**

Institution "Spiru Haret" National Pedagogical College, Buzău

Additional Training Teacher Training Module – Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Bucharest.

Areas of Expertise

China's foreign policy; China–European Union relations; China–United States relations; the Indo-Pacific region; Chinese diplomacy and foreign policy; the Middle East; public and digital diplomacy; analysis and translation of Chinese primary sources; international academic cooperation.

Selected Academic Publications

Toma, Paula-Sorina, "China's Diplomacy in the Middle East under Xi Jinping: Between Economic Pragmatism and Geopolitical Assertion," in: Științe Politice și Relații Internaționale, Vol. XXIII, No. 1/2026, ISPRI, Romanian Academy.

Toma, Paula-Sorina, "Romania as a Strategic Bridge between Europe and Asia," in: The EU and Asian States: Towards a Sustainable Cooperation. Opportunities for Romania, Working Paper No. 60, European Institute of Romania, Bucharest, April 2026, 2.5 pp.

Toma, Paula-Sorina, "Înțelegerea Chinei contemporane prin surse primare: dialog cu Ioan Budura despre seria «Xi Jinping. Să vorbim despre buna guvernare a Chinei»," in: Științe Politice și Relații Internaționale, Vol. XXIV, No. 3/2026, ISPRI, Romanian Academy, 26 pp.

Toma, Paula-Sorina, "An Overview of China's Development in Cyberspace," International Journal of Cyber Diplomacy, Vol. 5, 2024, ISSN 2668-8662.

Book Reviews Toma, Paula-Sorina, review of Alexandru Grumaz, “Marea aventură diplomatică. China. Jurnal de consul”, Editura Integral, Bucharest, 2025, 460 pp., in: Științe Politice și Relații Internaționale, Vol. XXIII, No. 1/2026, ISPRI, Romanian Academy.
Toma, Paula-Sorina, review of Michael Tai, “China and Her Neighbours: Asian Diplomacy from Ancient History to the Present”, Zed Books, London, 2024, 312 pp., in: Științe Politice și Relații Internaționale, Vol. XXIV, No. 2/2026, ISPRI, Romanian Academy.
Toma, Paula-Sorina, review of Viorel Isticioaia-Budura and Tatiana Isticioaia-Budura, “Brățara de lac roșu. Indiscrețiile unui cuplu de diplomați despre anii petrecuți în China”, Cartea Românească Educational, Iași, 2026, 571 pp., in: Științe Politice și Relații Internaționale, Vol. XXIV, No. 3/2026, ISPRI, Romanian Academy.

Conference and Symposium Presentations

2026 – “China and the Maritime Space: Between Intellectual Tradition and Contemporary Geopolitical Projection,” International Symposium “Confucius and the Emergence of Contemporary China,” “Ștefan cel Mare” University of Suceava, 18–21 March 2026.
2026 – “China–Saudi Arabia Relations in a Multipolar Context: Technological Interdependence and Strategic Hedging,” conference held at the Palace of Parliament, Bucharest, 24 February 2026.
2024 – “Challenges and Prospects of Sinology in the Balkans – Case Study: Romania,” 2nd International Sino-Balkanika Conference, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski,” Sofia, 7–9 November 2024.
2022 – “China in 2022 – From the End of Illusions to Adaptation,” debate organized by the Romanian Diplomatic Institute – speaker.
2022 – “CEE Countries Are Rethinking Their Relationship with China: Pros and Cons,” international online seminar “The Impact of Global Value Chain Development Trends on the World Economy and China-EU Relations,” organized by the China-CEE Institute in partnership with the Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade (IFAT), Bulgaria.

Academic Peer-Review Activity

2024 – Peer reviewer for Relaciones Internacionales (ISSN 1699-3950), published by Grupo de Estudios de Relaciones Internacionales (GERI), Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, as part of its double-blind peer-review process.

Academic Programs and Research Visits in China

11–31 October 2023 – “2023 Youth Sinologist Training Program,” Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, People’s Republic of China; international program bringing together 22 young sinologists from 21 countries, aimed at deepening knowledge of contemporary Chinese society, culture, and development.
26 June–5 July 2024 – participation, as part of a Romanian delegation, in a research visit to Xiong’an New Area and Shandong focused on urban and regional development and contemporary socioeconomic realities in China.

Translation and Interpreting

Profile Professional translation and interpreting activity from 2016 to the present, including published translations and interpreting in academic, cultural, and economic settings.

Published Translations Cai Fang (ed.), “Dezvoltarea economică a Chinei și implicațiile ei în lume” (中国经济发展的世界意义), Ideea Europeană, 2022.
Zhang Chu, “Acolo unde cad norii” (在云落), collection of three short stories, Ideea Europeană, 2022.
“Manual de protecție împotriva noului coronavirus” (COVID-19), collective volume, Ideea Europeană, 2020.
Episodes of the Chinese television series “Oda Bucuriei” (欢乐颂), 2018; episodes of the animated series “Vată de zahăr” (棉花糖), 2018.

Selected Interpreting Assignments 2025 – Chinese–Romanian / Romanian–Chinese interpreting at the National Museum of Art of Romania on the occasion of the International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations, “Conversation and Connection – Music Unites the World.”
 2025 – Chinese–Romanian / Romanian–Chinese interpreting at the Chinese Cultural Center on the occasion of the International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations.
 2021 – Chinese–Romanian / Romanian–Chinese interpreting at the Liaoning–Central and Eastern Europe Economic and Trade Exchange Conference, online.
 2019–2020 – Chinese–Romanian, Romanian–Chinese, Chinese–Spanish, and Spanish–Chinese interpreting for the Beijing Organizing Committee for Chinese and Foreign Cultural Memory Activities.

Translation Internships Woordor Technologies Company, Shanghai (April–July 2018); Radio Romania International, Chinese Language Department (March–May 2016).

Language Skills

Mother tongue Romanian

Foreign languages **Levels according to the Europass / CEFR scale**

Language	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	Writing
Chinese	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
French	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
Spanish	C1	B2	B2	B2	B1

Chinese: HSK Level 6 certificate.

Certifications, Awards and Distinctions

Certificate as an authorized translator in the legal field, Chinese–Romanian – final grade: 9.70/10.
 HSK Level 6 Chinese language proficiency certificate.
 2019 – Grand Prize, Romanian national round of the International “Chinese Bridge” Competition.
 2019–2022 – Government Scholarship of the People’s Republic of China, awarded under the bilateral agreement with Romania, for master’s studies.
 2016–2018 – Government scholarship for advanced language and cultural training in China.