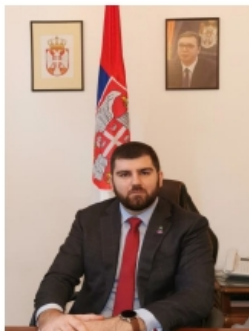


Serbian – Romanian bilateral relations

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Romania and Serbia enjoy excellent bilateral political and economic cooperation stemming from a long tradition of exemplary good neighbourly relations. The growing trend of bilateral cooperation between the two countries in all fields includes also growth of economic cooperation. As Serbia's largest neighbouring country, Romania is a significant foreign trade partner. Bilateral trade is carried out according to the Interim Agreement on Trade and Trade-related Matters between the European Community and the Republic of Serbia

Serbia became a candidate for European Union membership in 2012. As Romania continuously supports Serbia's aspirations to become an EU member, both politically and practically, Romania gives Serbia its highly relevant expertise acquired during its own European Accession Process. Our two countries have cooperation in regional formats as well, which offer opportunities of the culture of

multilateralism development, by identifying and following common interests. There is a variety of regional formats, starting with the Danube Commission, the South East Europe Cooperation Process and the Regional Cooperation Council, the Central European Initiative, and Black Sea Economic Cooperation, up to the newer formats as on the Danube Regional Strategy and quadrilateral format with Bulgaria and Greece. All these forms of cooperation are very important for the economic cooperation between Serbia and Romania taking into account that the level of economic cooperation is still not in accordance with the economic and natural resources potentials of the two countries.

One of the key objectives of the new Government of the Republic of Serbia is strengthening of the economic power of Serbia. Economic measures taken in recent years by Serbian authorities have led to



Ambassador Stefan Tomasevic gave an interview for the December issue of the Commercial Diplomacy Journal, published by the Union of Bilateral Chambers of Commerce from Romania. In the interview, the Ambassador talked about the high level of bilateral political and economic relations between Serbia and Romania. He pointed out the support extended by Romania to Serbia on its European integration path, stressing the importance of cooperation in regional formats.

Discussing economic cooperation, Ambassador Tomasevic emphasized that the trade in goods with Romania in 2019 amounted to EUR 1.7 billion and that Romania was eight top foreign trade partner of Serbia. He presented the cooperation areas existing between the two countries, while pointing out that there is ample room to deepen the economic cooperation, particularly in trade, energy, transport, tourism and cross-border cooperation.

The Ambassador emphasized in the end that one of the key goals during his term of duty in Romania will be to promote economic cooperation by increasing trade in goods and ensuring better conditions for investments to both sides.