

**Valentin Stroia** is a specialist in regional development, cross-border cooperation, and European integration, with a career of more than two decades dedicated to strengthening local communities and supporting the Romanian minority in Southern Bessarabia.

He is the founder and leader of the youth organization New European Generation in Izmail and Reni, Odesa region, where he has coordinated numerous projects funded by the European Union, Romania, Sweden, the United States, and other international partners. His work has focused on promoting Romanian cultural identity, preserving traditional heritage, encouraging youth participation and volunteering, and developing initiatives in entrepreneurship and social innovation. Among his notable projects are Through the Traditions to the Future, The Traditional Costume: Coherence and Diversity in the Lower Danube Euroregion, As Different as We Are – a 7 Ethnia Project at the Black Sea, EU4Youth – Social Innovation Impact, and SNCS – Strengthening Networks & Competences for Social Innovation.

He has held leadership positions in local and regional institutions, including Director of the Investment Support Office of the Izmail City Council, expert at the Agency for Sustainable Development and European Integration “Lower Danube Euroregion,” and project manager within the Izmail City Council. He has contributed to the implementation of major infrastructure and environmental projects such as Clean River, and actively participated in PHARE CBC, TACIS CBC, and JOP Romania–Ukraine–Moldova programs, helping strengthen institutional partnerships between communities on both sides of the Danube.

Since May 2025, he has served as Representative of the Romania–Ukraine Bilateral Chamber of Commerce for the Odesa region, where he contributes to strengthening bilateral economic relations, promoting business cooperation, and advancing Romanian-Ukrainian collaboration.

Throughout his career, Valentin Stroia has stood out as a strong advocate of interethnic dialogue, institutional cooperation, and sustainable development, making a lasting contribution to promoting cultural identity, public visibility, and the interests of the Romanian community in the Odesa region.