

Mr. Valentin Lazea**Chief Economist – National Bank of Romania (BNR)**

Valentin Lazea is the Chief Economist of the National Bank of Romania (BNR), where he plays a key role in shaping monetary policy and conducting economic analyses critical to the country's financial stability. With extensive experience in economics and financial analysis, Mr. Lazea has significantly contributed to the evaluation and forecasting of economic indicators, influencing Romania's monetary policy decisions.

He graduated from the Faculty of Management at the Bucharest University of Economic Studies (ASE) and later completed a one-year postgraduate program in Economics at the University of Sussex in Brighton. He also undertook advanced training in banking (Milan) and financial programming (Washington, D.C.). He previously held the position of Secretary of State (Deputy Minister) at the Romanian Ministry of Finance.

Mr. Lazea is a founding member of the Romanian Center for Economic Policies (CEROPE) and served as Chairman of the Board at TRANSFOND, the company responsible for processing electronic payments for Romanian banks. He was also a member of the Advisory Scientific Council of the European Institute of Romania.

Since 1999, he has authored or co-authored numerous studies and specialized books, contributing to the field of economics both nationally and internationally.