

PERSONAL INFORMATION **Iustina POPESCU**

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Gender Female | Date of birth 11/09/1986 | Nationality Romanian

WORK EXPERIENCE

June 2024- onwards	Scientific Director, Senior Scientific Researcher (II)
	Geological Institute of Romania - IGR
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic scientific lead, spreading science vision and leadership to employees and enhancing communication with other research entities, stakeholders, and public authorities. - Providing management oversight to many scientists from a variety of academic disciplines. - Participating as a member of the management team, making program-level decisions regarding policy, staffing, funding, and science directions. - Research in geochemistry, environmental protection, sustainable development, and circular economy.
December 2020 - June 2024	Head of Sustainable Development Department, Senior Scientific Researcher (II)
	Geological Institute of Romania - IGR
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Led the Sustainable Development Department, overseeing multidisciplinary research projects focused on geochemistry, environmental protection, and sustainable resource management. - Designed and coordinated studies on soil, sediment, and water quality, evaluating the environmental impact of industrial and mining activities, and proposing science-based mitigation strategies. - Directed applied research in the field of circular economy, contributing to national and European strategies for resource efficiency and waste reduction. - Integrated principles of sustainable development into geological and environmental research, aligning with EU Green Deal goals and SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). - Managed collaborations with academic institutions, governmental bodies, and international organizations, including proposal writing, project reporting, and stakeholder engagement. - Supervised and mentored early-career researchers, fostering scientific excellence and interdisciplinary approaches. - Contributed to public policy recommendations through scientific findings, supporting environmental legislation and land-use planning.
March 2021 - onwards	Associated Professor
	University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, Department for Didactic Personnel Training

	Teaching - The didactics of technical specialties (Chemistry)
September 2022 - onwards	Consultant - Member of “A Soil Deal for Europe” Horizon Europe Mission
	European Commission - Research Executive Agency
	Consultancy in the implementation of the UE research and innovation programs and politics in the “A Soil Deal for Europe” Mission
April 2018 - October 2020	Senior Scientific Researcher (II)
	National Institute for Research and Development in Environmental Protection - INCDPM Bucharest
	Research in the environmental protection field
June 2013 - April 2018	Scientific Researcher (III)
	National Institute for Research and Development in Environmental Protection - INCDPM Bucharest
	Research in the environmental protection field
January 2013 - June 2013	Junior Scientific Researcher
	National Institute for Research and Development in Environmental Protection - INCDPM Bucharest
	Research in the environmental protection field
January 2012 - January 2013	Scientific Research Assistant
	Geological Institute of Romania
	Research in geochemistry and environmental protection fields
07.2012 - 11.2012	Secretary of State Counselor
	Ministry of Environment and Forests
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultancy on environmental problems - Informing and helping to improve activities that are held in subordinate and coordinate units

EDUCATION

October 2022 - June 2024	Master in Management of Public Administration	ISCED 7
	Faculty of Public Administration, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA) - Romania	
	Management of Public funding, Effective public administration, E-governance VALEDICTORIAN Dissertation exam mark: 10	
13-14 September 2022	Training course/ Participation Certificate	
	GTK - Geological Survey of Finland	
	Current approaches of mining waste management	
22 September 2021	Training course/ Participation Certificate	
	RemTech EUROPE	
	Current Approaches for Vapor Intrusion Site Investigation and Mitigation	
20 September 2021	Training course/ Participation Certificate	
	RemTech EUROPE	
	PFAS: characterization, environmental impact and remediation strategies	
03-06 March 2014	Training course/ Participation Certificate	
	Michigan State University, Institute of International Health and Fogarty International Center Program on Environmental Health in the Balkans	

	Solving Contaminant Problems for a Sustainable Environment through Application of Environmental Engineering and Science Concepts II, Edition 2014	
2009-2012	PhD in Chemical Engineering University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, Doctoral school of the Faculty of Applied Chemistry and Materials Science	ISCED 8
	The main factors that influence heavy metals speciation in soil; Best available technique for heavy metals polluted soils according to their speciation; Risk assessment of human health in heavy metals polluted areas.	
15-19 May 2012	Training course/ Participation Certificate Environmental audit SC Auditeco Ges SRL	
05-08 March 2012	Training course/ Participation Certificate Michigan State University, Institute of International Health and Fogarty International Center Program on Environmental Health in the Balkans	
	▪ Solving Contaminant Problems for a Sustainable Environment through Application of Environmental Engineering and Science Concepts, Edition 2012	
15 February 2012	Training course/ Participation Certificate University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, dr. Claudio DONDI, Scierter, Italy	
	The Management of European Funded Research Programs	
26-27 October 2011	Training course/ Participation Certificate Doctorate In Universities of Excellence - Research Assessment And Support For Scientific Publishing	
	National Program of Training on Scientific Publishing	
November 2010- April 2011	PhD fellowship University of Torino, Italy, Department of Valorization and Protection of Agroforestry Resources	ISCED 8
	The main factors which influence heavy metals speciation in soil; Best available technique for heavy metals polluted soils according to their speciation; Risk assessment of human health in heavy metals polluted areas	
2009 - 2011	Master in Chemical Engineering University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, Faculty of Applied Chemistry and Materials Science, Department of Analytical Chemistry and Environmental Engineering	ISCED 7
	Analytical Control of Environment Quality And Remediation Techniques * Dissertation exam mark: 10	
29 November- 8 December 2010	International Winter School University of Nova Gorica, Slovenia	ISCED 7
	Monitoring, Fate and Toxicity Of Toxic Compounds In The Terrestrial Environment	
29-27 septembrie 2010	Training course/ Participation Certificate European Institute of Romania	
	Integrated Waste Management Systems in The Context of European Law	
9-12 March 2010	Training course/ Participation Certificate Michigan State University, Institute of International Health and Fogarty International Center Program on Environmental Health in the Balkans	
	Fate of Contaminants in Natural and Engineered Systems	
October 2004 - July	Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering	ISCED 6

2009	University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, Faculty of Applied Chemistry and Materials Science	
	Mathematics, Analytical Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, Physics, Electrochemistry, Environmental Chemistry, Ecotoxicology, Chemical Engineering, Biochemistry, Environmental Legislation, Wastewater Treatment, Waste Management Field: Environmental Protection and Engineering in Chemical and Petrochemical Industry VALEDICTORIAN	
17 March 2009	Training course/ Participation Certificate	
	ABL&E-Jasco Romania	
	Laboratory workshop on Chromatography, Laboratories Accreditation	
13-14 November 2008	Training course/ Participation Certificate	
	European Institute of Romania	
	The Environmental Policy of the European Union	
25-26 octombrie 2007	Training course/ Participation Certificate	
	University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, CEEX RIWATECH Project	
	Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control - Advanced Wastewater Treatment In Pulp And Paper Industry	

Mother tongue(s)	Romanian				
Other language(s)	UNDERSTANDING			SPEAKING	WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
Italian	B1	B1	A1	A1	A1
	Levels: A1/A2: Elementary user - B1/B2: Independent user - C1/C2: Experienced user European common frame for foreign languages				
Communication competences	Very good skills in communication applied in the dissemination of the scientific results at international events. A high capacity of presenting information and teaching the technical disciplines (Certificate of accomplishment of the Didactics and Pedagogy module - University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest)				

PERSONAL COMPETENCES

Organizational/Managerial skills and competences

- Member of the Organizing Committee, Romanian International Conference on Chemistry and Chemical Engineering (RICCCE 17) - 2011
Contributed to the planning and execution of a major national scientific conference, facilitating coordination among academic and industry stakeholders.
- Organizer, Training Courses on Environmental Engineering and Science - 2012 & 2014
Coordinated international training events titled “Solving Problems for Contaminant Sustainable Environment through the Application of Environmental Engineering and Science Concepts”, in collaboration with experts from Michigan State University.
- Member of the Organizing Committee, International Conference on Aquatic Resources - AQUALIRES 2014. Scientific coordination of the conference “New Tools for Sustainable Management of Aquatic Living Resources” in partnership with the Romanian Academy, Balkan Environmental Association, and the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean.
- Organizing Committee Member, REMTECH Europe International Conference - 2023, 2024, 2025. Actively involved in the multi-year organization of this leading international event focused on remediation technologies and environmental sustainability.

Social skills and competencies

- Effective Communication: Demonstrates clarity and confidence in both verbal and written interactions. I am skilled at presenting ideas, listening actively, and adapting my communication style to different audiences.
- Empathy and Emotional Intelligence: Show genuine interest in others' perspectives and emotions. Build strong interpersonal relationships through understanding and compassion.
- Team Collaboration: I work well in diverse group settings, encourage mutual respect, and contribute positively to shared goals. I foster an inclusive and cooperative environment.
- Conflict Resolution: Handle disagreements with professionalism and diplomacy. I use problem-solving techniques to reach constructive outcomes.
- Adaptability and Open-mindedness: I welcome change and feedback, adjusting my approach as needed. I welcome new ideas and diverse viewpoints.
- Cultural Awareness and Sensitivity: I respect and value cultural differences, promoting inclusive dialogue and collaboration across varied backgrounds.
- Networking and Relationship Building: I am striving to establish and nurture productive professional relationships. Connect easily with colleagues, stakeholders, and peers.
- Leadership Presence: I intend to inspire and motivate others, take the initiative, and lead by example. I encourage a collaborative and high-performance team culture.

Digital competences

AUTOEVALUATION				
Information processing	Communication	Content creation	Security	Problems solving
Experienced user	Experienced user	Experienced user	Independent user	Independent user

Levels: Elementary user - Independent user - Experienced user

Computer Operator certificate, 2004

Experienced user of the software: Microsoft Office, Origin, JMP, CSOIL

- Other skills and competences
- Expert in the elaboration of environmental studies certified by the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests
 - Technical expert - RENAR
 - CNCAN certification for using the equipment with ionizing radiation
 - Member of the **Marine Geology** Expert Group - **EuroGeoSurveys**
 - Member of the Technical Working Group on **Soil pollution** - **EU Soil Observatory**
 - Member of the Technical Working Group on **Soil data integration** - **EU Soil Observatory**
 - Member of the **American Association for Science and Technology**
 - Member of the **Asian Council of Science Editors**
 - Reviewer for the international journals, such as:
 - **Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety,**
 - **Chemosphere,**
 - **Environmental Research,**
 - **Minerals,**
 - **Science of Total Environment,**
 - **Ecology of Fresh Water and Fish,**
 - **Merit Research Journal of Environmental Sciences,**
 - **International Journal of Applied Agricultural Research,**
 - **International Journal of Engineering Science Invention,**
 - **Studies in Natural Products Chemistry,**
 - **American Journal of Environmental Engineering and Science.**
 - Editorial board member of the **American Journal of Environmental Engineering and Science**
 - Scientific Committee member of **ICES 2014 - 3rd ScienceOne International Conference on Environmental Sciences**, 21-23 January 2014, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
 - Scientific Committee member of **SEEE2015 - International Conference on Sustainable Energy and Environmental Engineering**, 26-27 July 2015, Phuket, Thailand
 - Expert of the Water and Land Group from **IMPEL - European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law** from 2021
 - Member of the Technical Program Committee of **EDEP 2021 - 4th International Conference on Energy Development and Environmental Protection**, 23-25 July 2021, Guiyang, China
 - Member of the Scientific Committee of **REMTECH Europe International Conference**, Ferrara, Italy in 2023, 2024, 2025
 - Organizer and Member of the Scientific Committee of **REMTECH Europe International Conference**, Ferrara, Italy in 2024
 - Member in the Advisory Board for **Soil Pollution and Restoration Think Tank of the SOLO EU Horizon project**
 - Editor for the **Special Issue** of Applied Sciences Journal “Innovative and Sustainable Approaches for Enhancing Soil Health and Mitigating Land Degradation”
(https://www.mdpi.com/journal/applsci/special_issues/Soil_Land)

Driving license B Category (since 2005)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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- **Lecturer in the training courses** “Solving Contaminant Problems for a Sustainable Environment through Application of Environmental Engineering and Science Concepts” , 2012 and 2014 Editions
 - **Gold Medal** for the presentation “Remediation of lead-polluted soil with fish bones” at The 4th National Congress of Research and Inventors - with international participation, May 23-26, 2012
 - Invited expert at The Scientific Support to the Danube Strategy - Danube Land and Soil Nexus, Ispra, Italy, March 21-22, 2013
 - Invited expert at The Scientific Support to the Danube Strategy - Workshop on the Danube Innovation Partnership, June 23-25, 2013

