



***Ambassador Romana Vlahutin***

*Government of Croatia Special Envoy of Strategic Connectivity  
National Coordinator for Three Seas Initiative*



**Professional experience:**

Ambassador Vlahutin has been appointed by the Croatian Government as Special Envoy for Strategic Connectivity and National Coordinator for the Three Seas Initiative.

Prior to that, her most recent diplomatic service was as Ambassador at Large - EU Special Envoy for Connectivity at the European External Action Service (2018-2022), where she spearheaded the EU connectivity strategy (Global Gateway) and led work on the geopolitical aspects of strategic infrastructure, and was chief negotiator for the EU-Japan and EU-India Connectivity Partnerships.

From 2014 to 2018, she served as EU Ambassador to Albania where she led EU support for Albania's comprehensive reform process, including a historic justice reform.

From 2010 to 2014, Ambassador Vlahutin served as Foreign Policy Advisor to the President of the Republic of Croatia. She also held senior diplomatic posts at the Embassy in Washington, D.C. (Head of Political Section) and the Embassy in Belgrade (Deputy Ambassador), and served as Director of Strategic Analysis and Policy Planning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2000-2004.

Ambassador Vlahutin was a Distinguished Fellow for Geostrategy at GMF and published extensively on issues of connectivity, EU foreign policy, and enlargement. She also served as Political Director of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and as Analyst at the UN ICTY in The Hague. Earlier in her career, she worked as Policy Assistant at the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington, D.C., as well as RAND.

Ambassador Vlahutin is a member of the European Council for foreign relations (ECFR). She is a holder of the Order of Stjepan Radić, awarded for meritorious service in advancing and promoting the interests of the Republic of Croatia.

**Education:** Ambassador Vlahutin holds degrees from the University of Zagreb and Harvard University.