

Luminița Bălan is a professor of Chinese language at the University of Bucharest. She graduated from the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures of this university in 1987, where she studied Chinese and English. She also studied Chinese at Beijing Language University (1992- 1993) and along the years also attended several training courses for the teachers of Chinese language in Beijing Language University and Beijing Normal University.

In 1997, she obtained the Ph.D. title, her area of research being Chinese sociolinguistics. Professor Luminița Bălan has been teaching Chinese at the University of Bucharest since 1990. She is the author of several books, such as « Contemporary Chinese Lexicology », « Chinese Linguistics », « The Standardization of the Chinese Language and Writing », « Practical Chinese – Textbook », « Chinese Grammar. Morphology » (co-author).

Luminița Bălan has also had a prolific activity as a translator. She translated the works of Zhuangzi and Xunzi, along with works concerning Chinese education. On the other hand, for the last few years professor Luminița Bălan has published various literary works, such as: « Garlic Ballads », « The Republic of Wine » and two volumes of short stories by Mo Yan, « The Three Kings » by Ah Cheng, « Chronicle of the Blood Merchant » and « The Seventh Day » by Yu Hua , as well as Liu Zhenyun's « I Didn't Kill My Husband » and Can Xue's « Love in the New Millenium ».

Professor Luminița Bălan has published 35 academic papers and has attended numerous conferences and academic events. She has been the Romanian director of the Confucius Institute in the University of Bucharest since 2013. In this position, she has had a large contribution to the introduction of Chinese language in the National Education Curriculum, as well as to the development of sinology in Romania.

Due to the outstanding results in her activity as a sinologist and as a translator of Chinese literature, she received the Chinese Government Friendship Award (2019), the Individual Performance Excellence Award as a Director of Confucius Institute (2016), and the Prize for the Best Translation of the Year, awarded by the Romanian Writers' Union (2018).