

Bestowal of British Knighthood on the first Romanian citizen by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Embassy of Romania – London/ On December 31, 2011, with the occasion of the New Year, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland bestowed distinctions and honorary titles to a list of British personalities who made themselves renowned during the 2011.

Among them was honoured Mr George Iacobescu CBE, Romanian engineer and business man, CEO and Chairman of Canary Wharf Group, the second financial centre of London. He was bestowed the rank of Knight Bachelor for services to Charity, Community and the Financial Services Industry, becoming the first Romanian awarded by Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.



George Iacobescu is one of the most successful Romanian born business leaders in the world. He was born in Romania in 1945, only few months after the end of the WWII in a family of a haematologist doctor. He studied at School of Tunari. In 1975 he emigrated in Canada where he worked on landmark buildings throughout North America, for two years as an engineer at Homeco Investments in Montreal, subsequently in Toronto, for the Olympia & York company and Neiman Marcus Building (a 64 floors skyscraper) in Chicago, as well as for few other important projects in Dallas, Boston and Houston.

In 1983, he moved to New York contributing to the erection of the World Financial Centre becoming the Vice-president of the construction company which finalized the project.

In 1987, following the decision of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher a project for reconversion and rehabilitation of the London Docklands entitled “Canary Wharf” was initiated and overseen by the construction company for which George Iacobescu was working at the time.

In 1994, he was promoted as a member of the Administration Council of Canary Wharf Holdings Limited as Deputy Chief executive and Chief Executive in March 1997 of a company with assets of over 5 billions pounds sterling.

Mr George Iacobescu was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2003 Birthday Honours for services to regeneration and inward investment and in 2007 became a member of the Board of Trustees of the British Museum.

As the official representative of all Romanian citizens living in the United Kingdom, The Embassy of Romania would like to congratulate Sir George Iacobescu for his outstanding accomplishments. We are proud of all Romanians who represent our nation with integrity through their work, true character, honesty and distinction. Mr George Iacobescu is one of the most distinguished members of the Romanian community in United Kingdom. A sincerely Thank you, Sir George Iacobescu!

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