



**TERESA LIZARANZU**  
Ambassador of Spain to Ireland

Born in Madrid in 1968, she qualified with a Law degree from Universidad Complutense (Madrid) and followed this with a Master's degree in European Community Law from Université Libre de Bruxelles.

She joined the Spanish Foreign Ministry as a career diplomat in 1997 and, since then, she has had a very wide range of diplomatic experience, particularly in European, Middle Eastern and cultural affairs.

Prior to the appointment in Dublin, Ms. Lizaranzu served from 2021 until 2024 as Ambassador of Spain to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Her experience in Europe had previously included periods as Counsellor at the Permanent Representation of Spain to the EU in Brussels, and postings at the Embassies of Spain in Germany and Finland.

Ambassador Lizaranzu developed a particular expertise in Middle Eastern affairs during her term as Deputy Director General for Maghreb and Middle East and posting as Deputy Consul General in Jerusalem. She has also worked in the Office of the Undersecretary and in the Deputy Director General Department for Justice and Internal Affairs.

Various assignments dealing with cultural affairs loom large in her career. Her term as General Director for Culture Policies and Strategies from 2012 to 2015 and simultaneously President of the State Society for Spanish Cultural Action (AC/E) was followed by her appointment as Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Spain to UNESCO (2015-2018). While at UNESCO, she was elected President of the Finance and Administrative Affairs Committee of the Executive Board and Vice-President of the APX Committee and she was head of the Spanish Delegation at the World Heritage Committee. Prior to her appointment in Ireland, she coordinated cultural projects at the Direction for Cultural and Scientific Relations in the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID).

#### *Languages*

English, French, German

#### *Interests*

Arts and Culture, hiking, skiing

#### *Awards*

Cruz de la Orden de Isabel La Católica, 2003

Oficial de la Orden del Mérito Civil, 2011

Encomienda con placa de la Orden de Alfonso X El Sabio, 2016