

# Oana Popescu-Zamfir Reflects on the Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall

**Bucharest**

**Director, Globalfocus Center**

*In 1989, Oana Popescu-Zamfir was 11 years old.*

## **OANA POPESCU-ZAMFIR:**

The psychological impact of '89 is still underestimated, both in Romania in the East and in the West. What happened in '89 was completely disruptive—positively disruptive, but it was still disruption. And I think all of us have been living with the subliminal idea that something that looks perfectly stable today can fall to pieces tomorrow in a completely unexpected and unpredictable way.

We have this keen awareness of the fact that life can change tomorrow with no advance notice. And I think that influences, in a major way, people's choices—people's political choices, for instance. They have gotten used to the idea that life offers no guarantees and that you are alone and everyone fend for themselves.



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