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Violeta Ciurel is General Manager European and International Affairs in ING Group. Her previous position was General Manager Global Retirement Services ING Group in Amsterdam since November 2004. She works for ING Group since 1997 when she started as a marketing and training sales force manager in the green-field life insurance operations that started in Romania. During January 1st, 2000 and October 2004 she held the position of CEO of the ING Life Insurance and Executive Director, Retail Distribution and Insurance ING in Romania.

Violeta graduated International Business and Economics - Academy of Economic Studies Bucharest, Romania, she got Ph.D. in Economics in 1992; she also followed the Program for Management Development in Harvard Business School in 1994 and had different other studies and researches in Durham Business School and University of Reading in Great Britain. Also she got the LLIF designation - LIMRA Leadership Institute in US and followed several business courses on management, finance, leadership in ING Business School.

The academic activity was started in 1984 and presently she is full Professor at the Academy of Economic Studies, Department of International Business and Economics, where she coordinates the Ph.D. candidates.

Violeta performed consulting activities for international organizations and companies, research, author and co-author of 11 economic and business books, over 220 articles published in Romania, United States, Switzerland, Greece, Austria, Netherlands, Korea, significant participation at conferences and seminars in Romania and abroad; she was Secretary General and President of the Union of Insurance and Reinsurance Companies from Romania since 1995 until she moved to Amsterdam in 2004. During 2003-2004 she was the chairperson LIMRA Geographic Committee for Romania; she is a member of the Professional Women Network and Women International Network –Europe, Amsterdam division.