



European Table Tennis Union

EUROPE
TOP 16 CUP | 中国建设银行
MONTREUX (SWITZERLAND)



中国建设银行
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Elizabeta Samara

AGE

36

EU RANKING

6

NATION

ROMANIAN

PLAYING STYLE

OFFENSIVE

PLAYING HAND

LEFT

CLUB

CSA STEAUÀ BUCURESTI (ROMANIA)

DATE OF BIRTH

15 APRIL 1989

HEIGHT

171 CM

PLACE OF BIRTH

CONSTANTA, ROMANIA

GRIP STYLE

SHAKEHAND

COACH

VLADISLAV CVETKOVIC

WORLD RANKING

26

CLUBS AS THE ACTIVE PLAYER(S)

CSA STEAUÀ BUCURESTI (ROMANIA)

MEDALS AND TITLES

World Cup

- 2012 Huangshi, Silver medal – second place, Singles

World Championships

- 2024 Busan, Bronze medal – third place, Team

European Games

- 2023 Kraków-Małopolska, Gold medal – first place, Team
- 2023 Kraków-Małopolska, Bronze medal – third place, Singles
- 2019 Minsk, Silver medal – second place, Team

European Championships

- 2025 Zadar, Silver medal – second place, Team
- 2023 Malmö, Silver medal – second place, Team
- 2022 Munich, Silver medal – second place, Doubles
- 2021 Cluj-Napoca, Silver medal – second place, Team
- 2020 Warsaw, Bronze medal – third place, Singles
- 2019 Nantes, Gold medal – first place, Team
- 2017 Luxembourg City, Gold medal – first place, Team
- 2016 Budapest, Bronze medal – third place, Singles
- 2016 Budapest, Bronze medal – third place, Doubles
- 2015 Yekaterinburg, Gold medal – first place, Singles
- 2015 Yekaterinburg, Silver medal – second place, Doubles
- 2015 Yekaterinburg, Silver medal – second place, Team
- 2013 Schwechat, Silver medal – second place, Team
- 2012 Herning, Gold medal – first place, Doubles
- 2012 Buzău, Gold medal – first place, Mixed Doubles
- 2011 Istanbul, Gold medal – first place, Mixed Doubles
- 2011 Gdańsk-Sopot, Silver medal – second place, Team
- 2011 Gdańsk-Sopot, Silver medal – second place, Doubles

- 2010 Ostrava, Silver medal – second place, Team
- 2010 Ostrava, Bronze medal – third place, Doubles
- 2009 Stuttgart, Gold medal – first place, Doubles
- 2009 Subotica, Bronze medal – third place, Mixed Doubles
- 2008 St. Petersburg, Bronze medal – third place, Team

Europe Top-16 Cup

- 2018 Montreux, Bronze medal – third place, Singles

Junior & Youth Career – Major Titles (Highlights)

- 2007 European Youth Championships – Gold medal – first place, Singles / Doubles / Mixed Doubles
- 2006 European Youth Championships – Silver medal – second place, Singles / Doubles / Mixed Doubles
- 2005 European Youth Championships – Silver medal – second place, Singles; Gold medal – first place, Doubles
- 2004 European Youth Championships – Gold medal – first place, Cadet Doubles
- 2003 European Youth Championships – Gold medal – first place, Cadet Doubles
- 2002 European Youth Championships – Silver medal – second place, Cadet Doubles

World Junior Circuit (Highlights)

- 2007 multiple events – Gold medal – first place, Singles (French / Spanish / Doha / Swedish / Bahrain / Tunisia Junior Open)
- 2006 multiple events – Gold medal – first place, Singles (Algerian, Spanish Junior Open)
- 2005 World Junior Circuit Finals – Gold medal – first place, Singles

PLAYING STYLE AND PERSONALITY

Left-handed shakehand attacker with a controlled, tactical offensive style built around strong forehand topspin, strategic point construction, and consistency in rallies. Particularly effective in team competitions due to her adaptability and match management under pressure. On court, she is composed and resilient, known for stepping up in decisive moments. Off the table, she is regarded as a veteran leader within the Romanian national team, respected for her professionalism, sportsmanship, and commitment to promoting the sport in Romania.

BREAKTHROUGH MOMENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

2025

European Team Championships, Zadar

- Contributed to Romania's silver medal finish, reinforcing her ongoing relevance within elite European competition.

WTT International Circuit

- Consistent presence across Champions and Star Contender events, including match wins over top opponents such as Mima Ito, demonstrating sustained competitiveness on the world tour.

2024

Olympic Games, Paris

- Reached the Round of 32 in women's singles; her fifth Olympic participation, reflecting longevity and enduring competitive level at the sport's highest stage.

2023

European Games, Kraków-Małopolska

- Bronze medal in women's singles and gold in the team event, confirming her status as a leading figure in Romanian table tennis.

2021

European Team Championships, Cluj-Napoca

- Instrumental in Romania's title run on home soil, reinforcing her leadership role in the national squad.

2015

European Championships, Yekaterinburg

- Won the women's singles title and multiple podium results across ITTF World Tour events, peaking with a career-high world ranking of No. 13.

2012

ITTF World Cup

- Earned a bronze medal in Women's Singles, marking her as a global contender.

CAREER

Elizabeta Samara began her table tennis journey in Constanța, Romania, showing early promise in junior competitions. Her transition to senior-level play was marked by significant achievements, including multiple European titles and consistent representation of Romania in international tournaments. Samara's career is distinguished by her versatility in singles, doubles, and team events, as well as her participation in five Summer Olympic Games.

As of 2025, she remains a key member of the Romanian national team and an active competitor on the WTT circuit, maintaining top-level performance into her mid-30s while contributing to Romania's international results, including a team silver medal at the 2025 European Championships.

LEGACY AND FUTURE GOALS

Samara's legacy is defined by her longevity, European Championship success, and sustained representation of Romania at the highest levels of competition. A central figure in Romanian table tennis for over a decade, she has elevated the nation's visibility internationally and inspired future generations through her results and leadership.

Looking forward, she aims to continue competing internationally through upcoming competition cycles (2026-27), with ambitions for deeper runs in WTT events and a continued role for Romania in major team championships. A progressive transition toward mentorship and support of younger Romanian players appears likely as an extension of her career trajectory and leadership within the national team.

SOCIAL MEDIA

- Instagram: @elizabeta_samara