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Monthly Digital Report

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Executive summary

In **February**, Romania advanced key digital and telecom initiatives. ADR proposed a **Registry of Qualified and Non-Qualified Trust Service Providers**, requiring electronic signature and trust service providers to register and maintain updated information for EU eIDAS compliance. At the same time, ANCOM introduced **fast-track rules for radio equipment in crises**, allowing priority conformity assessment and temporary market access during officially declared emergencies.

Instead, the Government adopted and sent to the Parliament a new bill tightening **E-Waste rules**, making producers fully responsible for collection, recycling, and disposal of electronic and telecom equipment, with mandatory DEEE marking and registration in the national producer registry. The Senate also approved the **National Platform for Public Digital Infrastructure (PNIDP)**, centralizing all public digital resources and imposing technical, security, and interoperability standards.

Subsequently, several senators proposed bills for **social media restrictions for minors**, requiring age verification, content moderation, and parental oversight, though the proposals have low chances of passing.

Looking ahead to **March**, the Senate may adopt a bill granting **digital postal services legal recognition** through the **RNDC**, requiring secure electronic transmission and integration by IT and telecom providers.

The Government is expected to strengthen **consumer protection for online and sustainable products**, covering transparency, labeling, software updates, durability, and environmental claims.

At the same time, senators may also adopt a bill standardizing **digital identity across public platforms** via **ROeID**, requiring full integration, technical compliance, and interoperability with the European Digital Identity Wallet. Finally, a proposed **2% digital intermediation levy** on large platforms is likely to be rejected by the Senate.

Highlights of the previous month

(1) Registry for Qualified and Non-Qualified Trust Service Providers.

The Romanian Digitalization Authority (ADR) has issued a **draft decision** to create **the Registry of Qualified and Non-Qualified Trust Service Providers**, in line with Law 214/2024 and EU eIDAS regulations. The registry will list qualified trust service providers based in Romania, non-qualified providers issuing **advanced electronic signature certificates**, audited non-qualified providers, and other non-qualified trust service providers. It will be publicly accessible online, using standardized, secure, and interoperable formats, and will include information such as provider status, services offered, certifications, audit results, and relevant links. After the public consultation, the decision will be signed and published in the Official Gazette.

Impact: Companies providing trust services, digital signatures, or related solutions will need to register and maintain updated information in the ADR registry to remain compliant. Public visibility of certified providers may influence partnerships, client trust, and procurement eligibility, while interoperability with EU standards will be essential for cross-border services.

(2) Interior Ministry proposes Critical Entities Resilience Strategy.

Last month, Romania's Ministry of Interior issued a **draft government decision** approving the **National Strategy on Critical Entities Resilience**. The strategy aims to **protect essential services, including digital infrastructure, against physical, cyber, natural, or hybrid threats**, ensuring continuity of critical services. Digital and telecom operators identified as critical entities will be required to implement resilience measures, assess risks, prepare detailed continuity plans, and report incidents and progress to authorities. Cybersecurity agencies will coordinate monitoring and information sharing, while the National Committee for Critical Entities Protection (CNCPIC) and Sectoral Competent Authorities oversee compliance and alignment with EU resilience standards. After public debate, the Executive is expected to adopt the Decision.

Impact: The strategy introduces stricter obligations for critical operators, including enhanced risk management, mandatory incident reporting, and reinforced business continuity planning. Companies may face additional operational and compliance costs to meet EU-aligned resilience standards, while failure to comply could increase scrutiny and operational risk.

(3) Fast-Track Rules for Radio Equipment in Crisis Situations.

In February, ANCOM proposed **new rules** allowing **faster and more flexible authorization of radio equipment deemed essential in crisis situations**. The draft Government Decision also transposes Directive (EU) 2024/2749, part of a broader EU framework designed to ensure

the availability of critical goods during emergencies. The rules apply only when an internal market emergency is formally activated and introduce priority conformity assessments, capped costs for manufacturers, and the possibility to temporarily place certain products on the market before completing standard procedures, provided key safety requirements are met. They also introduce simplified compliance via predefined technical standards, strengthen market surveillance, and repeal outdated national legislation. The new rules shall enter into force on 30 May 2026. For now, the Government is expected to soon adopt the decision.

Impact: Manufacturers and distributors of radio equipment will benefit from priority conformity assessment and temporary market access during officially declared emergencies. They must still meet essential safety requirements and complete full compliance procedures once the emergency ends.

(4) Stricter E-Waste Rules and Producer Responsibility in Romania.

Instead, the Government has adopted and submitted to Parliament a **new bill** tightening the rules on **waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)**, with a clear focus on **producer obligations**. Now, **producers must fully finance the collection, treatment, recycling, and disposal of waste from their products**, with responsibilities differentiated based on when products were placed on the market. The bill also introduces **stricter requirements on product marking** (WEEE symbol), **traceability, and mandatory registration in a national registry**, including for online sellers and foreign companies (through authorized representatives). The proposal fully transposes Directive (EU) 2024/884, following a ruling by the Court of Justice of the European Union (case C-181/20). The bill is currently in the debate of the Senate (first chamber), where the report of the committees is expected to be issued in the coming days.

Impact: Manufacturers and distributors of electronic and telecom equipment will now bear full responsibility for financing the management of WEEE from their products, including historical waste in some cases. Compliance requires visible DEEE marking, registration in the national producer registry, and potential designation of authorized representatives for companies not established in Romania.

(5) National Registry for Public Digital Infrastructure Moves Forward.

Romania could soon have a **National Platform for Public Digital Infrastructure (PNIDP)**, after the Senate, acting as the first chamber, approved a **bill** by USB. The platform is designed as a **single registry of all digital resources used by public institutions**, including domains, websites, applications, software licenses, IT equipment, and publicly funded projects. Public institutions will have six months to register all resources, with sanctions for non-compliance. The law is expected to enter into force six months after publication, with implementation norms to follow within 60 days. The bill is now in the debate of the Chamber of Deputies, where the referred committees shall issue a final report by March 24.

Impact: Public and private companies supplying digital infrastructure, software, and IT equipment to public institutions must ensure products comply with registry requirements, technical standards, traceability, and interoperability. Non-compliance may block their products from being used or funded by public institutions.

(6) USR Propose Unified Framework for Public Digital Infrastructure.

USR MPs have proposed a new **legislative initiative** to establish the **National Platform of Public Digital Infrastructure (PNIDP)**, creating the **first unified legal framework for managing, monitoring, and securing all public digital resources**. The platform will register domains, websites, applications, software licenses, IT equipment, and publicly funded projects, with unique persistent codes assigned to each resource and institution. Managed by the Authority for the Digitalization of Romania (ADR), with technical support from STS and security oversight by DNSC, PNIDP enforces standardized digital infrastructure practices, mandates the appointment of a “digital responsible” in every public institution, and sets minimum technical standards including MFA, TLS encryption, DNSSEC, WCAG compliance, and backup/patch management. Institutions must register their digital assets within six months, with sanctions for non-compliance and restrictions on unregistered resources. The platform also ensures interoperability, prevents duplicate data requests, and allows redistribution and reuse of publicly funded digital resources.

Impact: The PNIDP will enhance security, transparency, and operational efficiency across Romania’s public digital infrastructure. For the digital and telecom sectors, this law encourages standardized resource management, improves cybersecurity practices, and facilitates integration with government systems, potentially influencing project planning, software procurement, and collaboration with public institutions.

(7) Romanian MPs Consider Restricting Social Media for Minors.

Romanian senators are proposing **legislation to limit social media access for minors**, following similar measures in France, Spain, Portugal, Denmark, the UK, and Norway. Under the **first proposal** (minimum age 16, basic protection measures), platforms must implement age verification, restrict content and commercial profiling for minors, and cooperate with authorities and schools. The **second proposal** (minimum age 16, enhanced data protection and transparency) adds stricter requirements on data protection, limiting social features for minors, minimizing data collection, and maintaining transparency about compliance. The **third proposal** (minimum age 15) would require platforms to delete accounts of users under 15, enforce age verification, and restrict mobile and online access during school hours where applicable. Laws would enter into force six months after publication, with implementing regulations issued within 90 days. However, as the initiators are all from the opposition, we do consider the proposals to have low chances of passing the vote of the MPs.

Impact: *Social media platforms and online service providers operating in Romania would be required to implement robust age verification systems, restrict social features and targeted advertising for minors, limit data collection to what is strictly necessary, and enforce content protections. Platforms*

could also need to integrate mechanisms for parental oversight and comply with coordination requirements with schools and authorities. Noncompliance could lead to sanctions or restrictions on service availability for minors.

What to expect this month

(1) Digital Postal Services could gain Legal Recognition in Romania.

In March, Romanian senators (first chamber) may adopt a **legislative initiative**, supported by PSD, PNL, USR, and UDMR, **allowing authorized postal service providers to receive, digitize, certify, and transmit documents electronically to public institutions**, giving them **the same legal value as physical submissions**. The bill also establishes a National Registry of Contact Data (RNDC) to ensure efficient, up-to-date communication between providers and authorities, with full interoperability. Providers will apply qualified electronic seals to digitized documents, users will confirm correspondence with originals, and public institutions must accept and process the electronic submissions. Providers can collect payments on behalf of the state and remit them to the Treasury. The General Secretariat of the Government (SGG) will operationalize the RNDC within 30 days of adoption, while ANCOM will issue implementing norms within the same timeframe. This has high chances of passing the Senate and, after a final debate, the Chamber of Deputies, given that it was initiated by the Governing Coalition MPs.

Impact: Digital and telecom companies providing IT, cloud, or secure communications solutions to public institutions may need to integrate with the RNDC, support secure transmission of digitized documents, and implement qualified electronic seals or certification tools. They may also be involved in developing or maintaining the interoperability, data synchronization, and secure storage systems required for these legally recognized electronic submissions. Noncompliance or technical issues could prevent institutions from accepting digital documents, affecting service reliability.

(2) The Gov, expected to strengthen consumer protection for Online and Sustainable Products

Likewise, the Government could adopt this month an older **emergency ordinance** transposing two EU Directives and **reinforcing consumer protection for online financial services and sustainable digital products**. The provisions aim to harmonize information, labeling, and digital identification practices, reducing administrative fragmentation and improving citizen access. Key provisions include the right of withdrawal from distance contracts within 14 days, transparent cost and contract information, prohibitions on misleading environmental claims, obligations for software and product updates, standardized labeling, and rules on reparability and durability of goods. Entry into force and application dates vary between 27 March 2026 and 19 June 2026, at which point the current Ordinance 85/2004 will be repealed.

Impact: Digital, telecom, and online service providers must ensure full compliance with consumer protection rules for distance contracts, including clear and transparent disclosure of costs, contract terms, and environmental or durability claims. Platforms must implement mechanisms to inform consumers about software updates affecting product functionality, provide standardized labels, and avoid false

sustainability claims or unverified durability statements. Noncompliance may result in fines, sanctions, and reputational risk, while companies must also track and document repairability and durability features to meet EU-aligned standards.

(3) Senators could adopt Bill to Standardize Digital Identity Across Public Platforms.

At the same time, Romanian senators may adopt a **legislative initiative** by Coalition MPs **mandating the use of the national digital identity system ROeID across all public administration digital platforms**. The law requires public institutions to implement ROeID or another accredited electronic identification system within 12 months of entry into force and ensures **voluntary citizen enrollment. ROeID must comply with technical standards aligned with the European Digital Identity Wallet within 18 months**, with ADR providing guidance, technical support, and a registry of institutional implementation. New digital platforms must be designed from the outset to support ROeID, and noncompliant institutions may face fines between 5,000 and 10,000 lei. The law enters into force 12 months after publication, with implementing regulations issued within 60 days. The bill has already received an admission report from the Senate's reporting committees, so it has high chances of passing the vote of the senators and move forward to the Chamber of Deputies.

Impact: Digital and telecom companies providing platforms, authentication solutions, or IT infrastructure to public institutions must ensure **full integration with ROeID**, comply with technical standards for electronic identification, support citizen enrollment, and maintain interoperability with the European Digital Identity framework. Companies involved in developing or maintaining public sector digital services may also need to update existing systems to meet security, validation, and operational requirements defined by ADR. Noncompliance could result in fines for the institutions and affect service deployment or usability.

(4) Senate Likely to Reject Proposed Digital Intermediation Levy.

Finally, the Romanian Senate is expected to reject a **legislative proposal** by independent deputy Andrușcă Lucian-Nicolae, which would have imposed **a temporary 2% contribution on digital intermediation revenues** generated in Romania by large digital platforms, regardless of their legal form or tax residence. The proposal targeted platforms with global revenues above €750 million and Romanian intermediation income, aiming to correct the absence of a specific fiscal framework and align contributions across business models. The contribution would have applied to gross commission revenues, could not be passed on to users or service providers, and required quarterly declarations and payments. Non-resident platforms would need a fiscal representative in Romania. The law would have entered into force nine months after publication, but given that the initiator comes from the opposition, the chances of this bill to become law are too low.

***Impact:** Large digital platforms operating in Romania would have been required to **calculate, declare, and pay a 2% levy on intermediation revenues**, maintain a fiscal representative if non-resident, and ensure compliance with anti-avoidance rules. Transactions could not shift the cost to consumers or local service providers. Platforms already taxed in Romania under equivalent regimes would be exempt to prevent double taxation. Given the proposal's likely rejection, these obligations are not expected to take effect.*