

Weekly Report - NRRP and EC Priorities

Report prepared by C. Petrescu, A.M. Anghel, E. Aignătoaei, E. Stamate



National Recovery and Resilience Plan

EC Priorities. Priority 1: Prosperity & competitiveness

Priority 2: Defence & Security

Priority 3: Social rights

Priority 4: Life quality

Priority 5: Democratic Europe

Priority 6: Foreign affairs

National Recovery and Resilience Plan

C1. Water management

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C2. Forests and biodiversity protection

Reforms

REFORM 1, M24 - AMENDMENT OF THE FORESTRY FRAMEWORK. The draft bill, approving the ordinance which updates and streamlines the forestry framework under **NRRP Component C2, Reform 1, Milestone 24**, was sent to the responsible committees of the Senate to issue a report by 03.12.2025. The ordinance updates the framework for reorganising Romsilva and modernising forest governance to avoid the estimated EUR 770 million penalty. The ordinance introduces competitive selection for management positions, annual performance-based evaluation, changes to the rules on forest management plans, and new digital tools for operational oversight. It also amends Law 331/2024 and OUG 59/2000 by defining the rules for management contracts, the structure of the selection process, the regulation of additional economic activities, the transition to the twenty-year forest management cycle starting in 2028, fleet monitoring rules, and updated procedures for control activities.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C3. Waste management

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C4. Sustainable transport

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

INVESTMENT 3, T84 - A7 MOTORWAY: TWO SECTIONS MOVE FORWARD. Romania adds new progress on the A7 with both construction and early openings contributing to **Target 84, Investment 3 under Component C4**. Traffic opened on the 14 kilometre Pietroasele - Buzău section, allowing uninterrupted motorway travel from Bucharest to Focșani. The project, financed through the NRRP with about RON 1 billion, was delivered within the planned 20 month period and raises the national network to 1,367 kilometres of motorways and express roads.

In parallel, Lot 2 of the Focșani - Bacău section has reached a physical progress of 90 % on the 38.78 kilometre stretch between Domnești Târg and Răcăciuni. Works continue on asphalt layers, earthworks, slope shaping, noise barrier foundations, hydro-insulation, lighting, utility relocations, forest belts and the Adjud junction. The 17 kilometre segment up to Adjud is at around 95 % and could open to traffic in 2025 depending on weather and site conditions.

C5. The Renovation Wave

Reforms

REFORM 1, T92 - CUTTING CONSTRUCTION PERMITTING TIME BY 50 PERCENT. The Ministry of Economy has published the draft Government Decision revising the methodology for approving urban planning and technical documentation in tourism areas. The measure puts into practice the provisions of Emergency Ordinance 31 from 2025, which contributed to meeting **Target 92 under Reform R1 of Component C5 of the NRRP**, requiring a reduction of at least 50 % in construction permitting times compared with 2020. The draft decision introduces fixed deadlines for analysing documentation, issuing approvals, and requesting clarifications. It also sets a maximum response time for applicants and requires urgent handling of documentation related to NRRP funded investments.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C6. Energy

Reforms

REFORM 1, M. 117-118 - NEW DNSH REQUIREMENTS FOR CFD CONTRACTS. The Government adopted last week the decision amending Government Decision 318 from 2024 on Contracts for Difference. The act introduces mandatory compliance with the Do No Significant Harm principle throughout the entire duration of the CfD and requires annual reporting to the CfD Counterparty and the Ministry of Energy. It also adds the Direct Agreement template governing the relationship between the producer, the CfD Counterparty, and lenders. Several definitions are updated, together with the rules for the performance bond, the indexation mechanism, and the references to excess profit provisions and bilateral contracts. Existing CfD contracts must be updated within 30 days through additional acts. The measure supports the fulfilment of **Milestones 117 and 118 under Reform R1, Component C6 of the NRRP** and is relevant for the use of the Modernisation Fund and complementary NRRP financing.

REFORM 1, M121 - DELAYED APPOINTMENTS IN ENERGY COMPANIES. Romania is approaching the 28 November deadline for Milestone 121, which requires appointing new management in state owned energy companies. The procedures are still incomplete and the risk of losing part of the EUR 227 million allocation remains real, despite the Energy Minister's estimate that at least 90 percent can still be secured. Hidroelectrica is now the main point of failure. On 26 November, the Supervisory Board officially announced that the CEO selection produced no suitable candidate and will be restarted. The CFO procedure also failed. With both processes relaunched, the company cannot meet the NRRP deadline and becomes the largest source of potential losses. The milestone covers appointments in several companies, including CE Oltenia, Nuclearelectrica, Romgaz, Conpet, Oil Terminal, Electrocentrale Craiova, Midia Green Energy, CNCIR, Eurotest, and others.

REFORM 6, M128 - DECARBONISATION OF THE HEATING AND COOLING SECTOR. The legislative proposal which establishes a national framework for the decarbonisation of heating and cooling systems, in line with **NRRP Component C6, Reform 6, Milestone 128**, was sent to the responsible committees of the Chamber of Deputies to issue a report by 16.12.2025. The initiative defines a governance structure between the Ministry of Energy and local authorities, aiming to reduce the use of inefficient biomass and dependence on fossil fuels. The proposal also introduces mandatory local heating and cooling plans from 2026 for municipalities with more than 20,000 inhabitants.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C7. Digital transformation

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

I9 – NGO DIGITALIZATION, EXTENDED. The Ministry of Investments and European Projects announced the possibility of extending the implementation period of projects submitted under **Component 7, Investment 9 of the NRRP**, for the digitalization of NGOs, until 30.04.2026, according to MIPE Order No. 5774/2025 .

C8. Tax reform and pension reform

Reforms

R6, M215 – CHANGES TO THE SPECIAL PENSIONS LAW. After the decision issued last month by the Constitutional Court, the Parliament rejected in re-examination the law which aims to fulfill **Milestone 215, related to Component 8, Reform 6 of the NRRP** and modify judges' and prosecutors' pensions by setting the retirement age in line with the public pension system and requiring a minimum of 35 years of service, with the possibility of early retirement subject to penalties. Pensions were calculated at 55% of the average salary and bonuses from the last 60 months, with a cap of 70% of the net monthly income, and bonuses are granted only to those who meet the eligibility conditions. The legislative process came to an end for this law.

R6, M215 – NEW DRAFT BILL ON THE SPECIAL PENSIONS LAW The judges of the Bucharest Court of Appeal have adopted, by majority, a point of view rejecting the draft bill on the reform of magistrates' pensions, for the implementation of **Milestone 215, Reform 6, Component 8 of the NRRP**. The decision was taken during the General Assembly, and out of the 243 judges, 216 were present, 215 voting for rejection. Also, the General Assemblies of several courts in the country announced that they do not agree with the draft bill.

Deputy Prime Minister Tanczos Barna claims, in this regard, that he expects a negative opinion from the Supreme Council of Magistracy (CSM), adding that there is a real danger that Romania will lose the amount of approximately 230 million euros in European funding, because there is no chance that the legislative process will be fully finalized by Friday.

We remind you that the Government intends to assume this week the responsibility for this draft bill in Parliament, if it obtains the approval of the Supreme Council of Magistracy (SCM).

R1 – NAFA DIGITALIZATION. The Minister of Finance, Alexandru Nazare, stated that, by the end of 2026, the digitalization process of ANAF, related to **Reform 1, Component 8 of the NRRP**, will be completed. He also claims that the Agency has achieved its revenue objectives in the third quarter of this year. According to him, there are over 80 digitalization projects in ANAF, there is software that connects 11 databases, including artificial intelligence, which has been put into use and is yielding the first results, and from next year there will be a single pre-filled declaration. A monitoring system for these projects has also been put into operation.

R4, M205, M207, M237 - TAX REFORM. The AUR parliamentary group filed a complaint of unconstitutionality on the law from the 2nd Package of fiscal-budgetary measures introducing extensive amendments to the Fiscal Code, the Fiscal Procedure Code and other normative acts, aiming at strengthening financial discipline and modernizing the administration, which is correlated with the commitments in the **NRRP, namely Milestone 205 (analysis of the fiscal system), Milestone 207 (amendments to the Fiscal Code for the simplification and expansion of ecological taxation) and Milestone 237 (information system for automatic property valuation)**. Among the measures are the taxation of large assets, stricter rules for companies (share capital, insolvency, dividends), the digitalization of fiscal procedures and the expansion of electronic payments. The Constitutional Court announced that it would debate the law on December 10, 2025.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C9. Support for the private sector, research, development, and innovation

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C10. The local fund

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C11. Tourism and culture

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C12. Health

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

I2, T375 - "DR. CAROL DAVILA" CLINICAL HOSPITAL FOR NEPHROLOGY. The Minister of Health, Alexandru Rogobete, announced that a new project, financed through **NRRP - Component 12, Investment 2**, worth over RON 15 million, was successfully completed at the "Dr. Carol Davila" Clinical Hospital for Nephrology. The main goal of the investments is to reduce hospital-acquired infections and increase patient safety, thus contributing to achieving **Target 375**, according to which at least 25 public hospitals must be equipped in this manner.

C13. Social reforms

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C14. Good governance

Reforms

REFORM 1, T403 - ROMANIA LAUNCHES ENVIRONMENT BUDGET REFORM. This week, the Environment Ministry opened a public consultation on a **draft order implementing obligations from the Memorandum approving the Analysis and Optimization of Public Expenditure in the Environment Sector**, part of **Component 14, Reform R1, Target 403 of the NRRP**, which requires ministries to adopt program-based budgeting. The draft order approves seven implementation plans covering forest regeneration, strategic planning, EU reporting, modernization of the National Air Quality Monitoring Network, strengthening international reporting, updating forestry legislation, and improving mechanisms to prevent illegal logging. Designated officials must provide the Ministry of Finance with data to monitor these measures, while the technical secretariat of the Monitoring Commission coordinates information collection and communication with the Ministry's departments. After public consultation, the order will be signed by the Minister and published in the Official Gazette.

REFORM 7, M432 - ETHICS CODES FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS, UPDATED. This week, the General Secretariat of the Government and the Ministry of Development (MDLPA), issued a **draft order** approving **revised ethics and conduct codes for government members and other high-level public officials, in line with GRECO recommendations** and addressing **Milestone 432 of the NRRP (Component 14, Reform 7)**. The updated guidelines introduce stricter rules on gifts, require officials to declare and, where appropriate, hand over gifts based on value thresholds, and prohibit gifts from entities with direct institutional interests. Officials must recuse themselves from decision-making

when personal interests could affect impartiality, with recusal notices published online. The guidelines mandate use of the Unified Register of Interest Transparency (RUTI) for reporting meetings aimed at influencing policy, require annual ethics training, provide confidential ethics counseling, and establish mechanisms to ensure proper use of public resources. Institutions must implement internal monitoring and reporting, with non-compliance subject to administrative or disciplinary sanctions. In this case as well, it shall soon be signed by the two institutions and published in the Official Gazette.

REFORM 9 - NEW MEASURES FOR STATE COMPANY GOVERNANCE. The General Secretariat of the Government has issued a **draft emergency ordinance** to support **milestones and investments of Reform 9, Component 14 of the NRRP**, requiring supervisory authorities to **complete ongoing selection procedures for board members and appoint new administrators by March 31, 2026**, in accordance with legal provisions. AMEPIP will be responsible for auditing these selection processes, identifying those at fault, and imposing fines. Additionally, if management duties have been delegated to directors and positions remain vacant, boards of directors may appoint interim directors until the new directors are formally selected, but no later than May 31, 2026, when current mandates legally expire. In this case, after the public consultation, the ordinance shall be adopted by the Government.

REFORM 9, M440 – NEW AMEPIP LEADERSHIP APPOINTED. Following the SGG-led selection process for the management of the **Agency for Monitoring and Evaluating the Performance of Public Enterprises (AMEPIP)**, the **president and vice presidents have been appointed for four-year terms**. **Anișoara Ulcelușe** will serve as president, while **Nicolae-Bogdan-Codruț Stănescu** and **Oana Mihaela Petrescu** were named vice presidents. These appointments are essential for fulfilling **Milestone 440, Reform 9, Component 14 of the NRRP**, and all three decisions have been published in the Official Gazette.

REFORM 9, T442-443, M440 – GOV ADVANCES STATE-OWNED COMPANY REFORM. Deputy Prime minister Oana Gheorghiu presented this week the **proposed reform plan at the newly operational National Committee for State-Owned Company Reform**, aligned with **Component 14, Reform 9 of the NRRP**. The plan focuses on two main goals: eliminating interim management across all state-owned companies (reducing them by 50% to meet **Target 442**) and restructuring at least three state-owned companies (to achieve **Target 443**). The process will begin by testing workflows in 10 selected companies (four under the Ministry of Energy and six under the Ministry of Transport). The committee also discussed creating a national sectoral map to guide future analysis and restructuring decisions, and Gheorghiu emphasized implementing a unified registry of state-owned companies to complement the AMEPIP agency dashboard, supporting **Milestone 440**.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C15. Education

Reforms

REFORM 1, M452 - EXPANSION OF TEACHER SECONDMENT LAW. The legislative proposal **expanding the scope of persons and institutions eligible for secondment of teaching and auxiliary staff in the interest of education**, including DJIP/DMBIP and the Ministry of Education and Research, has reached the Senate for final debate. The amendment affects Law no. 198/2023 on Pre-university Education, which previously implemented **Milestone 452 (Reform 1, Component 15) of the NRRP**. Relevant committees have until December 16 to review the measures and issue their report.

REFORM 1, M452 - CONTROVERSIAL ANTHEM AND PRAYER PROPOSAL. After being rejected by the Senate, the AUR-backed legislative proposal **allowing state and private pre-university schools to start the daily program with the Romanian national anthem and the “Our Father” prayer** has been registered in the Chamber of Deputies for final debate. The proposal amends Law no. 198/2023 on Pre-university Education, which previously implemented **Milestone 452 (Reform 1, Component 15) of the NRRP**. Relevant committees are expected to issue their report by December 15.

REFORM 1, M452 - EXTENSION OF DOCTORAL STUDIES DURING PARENTAL LEAVE. The Senate, as the decision-making body, has approved a new law allowing the **extension of doctoral programs during parental or adaptation leave**. The measure applies to children up to 2 years old (3 years for children with disabilities) and covers successive leave periods, each triggering an interruption and corresponding extension of doctoral studies. The law amends Education Laws no. 198/2023 and 199/2023, which previously implemented **Milestone 452, Reform 1 – Component 15 of the NRRP** and clarifies that parental leave rights apply not only to mothers but also to adoptive parents, guardians, or persons with custody or emergency placement. Within 90 days of the law’s entry into force, the Ministry of Education will update Order no. 5561/2011 on continuous training for pre-university staff. The law will soon be signed by the President and published in the Official Gazette.

REFORM 1, M452 - NONVIOLENCE AND NATURE CURRICULUM PROPOSALS. The Senate, acting as the decision-making body, has definitively rejected two legislative proposals amending education laws that previously implemented **Milestone 452 (Component 15,**

Reform 1) of the NRRP. The first proposal sought to introduce a **mandatory middle-school subject titled “Education for Nonviolence and Healthy Relationships,”** while the second aimed to add an **optional subject, “Nature Hour,” in middle and high school curricula,** featuring interactive lessons in physics, chemistry, biology, and geography in fully equipped modern laboratories. With the Senate’s final rejection, the legislative procedures for both initiatives are now concluded.

REFORM 1, M452 - FREE TRANSPORT FOR SENIOR STUDENTS. The Education Committee of the Chamber of Deputies has issued a favorable report on a bill initiated by UDMR MPs, which amends the Pre-university Education Law no. 198/2023, which previously implemented **Milestone 452 (Reform 1, Component 15) of the NRRP.** The bill introduces measures to ensure **free transport for students in final-year cycles (XII grade, XIII evening classes, and reduced attendance),** including during the national baccalaureate exams, even if they take place after regular classes end. As the decision-making chamber, the Chamber of Deputies is expected to adopt the bill soon.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C16. RepowerEU

Reforms

MINISTER OF EUROPEAN PROJECTS ON REPOWER IMPLEMENTATION. At the ROINVEST conference, the Minister of European Projects stated that renewable energy investments financed under the RePower programme can still be completed by the 31 August 2026 deadline despite the initial delays in contract signing. According to the minister, many projects are already above 95 % progress and can be finalised on time, while others are catching up after the contracting phase was extended into next year. He underlined that payment delays are no longer a risk, since the coordination between MIPE and the Ministry of Finance has stabilised. The main concern at this stage relates to equipment procurement, where the market has seen an influx of low quality products from companies entering the sector opportunistically.

Investments

No relevant updates.

General News

PAYMENT REQUEST NUMBER 4, READY BY MID-DECEMBER. The Minister of Investments and European Projects, Dragoș Pîslaru, announced that Romania will submit, most likely in mid-December (around the 15th), the payment request number 4 within the NRRP, this being the one submitted in the shortest time. The minister specifies that the grant of EUR 2.62 billion is expected to be transferred in February. Regarding payment request number 3, in which payments of hundreds of millions of euros are suspended due to Romania's failure to meet certain milestones, including the reform of magistrates' service pensions, the minister admits that there is "a significant risk" regarding some of the related amounts.

MIPE LAUNCHED THE NRRP DASHBOARD. MIPE has launched the Dashboard showing the status of projects financed through the NRRP. This is an interactive platform, published on the Ministry's website, which allows all interested parties, e.g. citizens, local authorities, journalists, the business environment or European partners, to see real-time information about the implementation of the Program. Also, an important element is the interactive map of projects, which provides a detailed geographical image of investments at county and locality level. Through it, any visitor can find out the number of projects financed in each county and the value of the investments, identify specific projects in their locality, respectively filter projects by component, type of beneficiary or type of investment (national/local) or follow the physical and financial progress of each project.

EC Priorities. Priority 1: Prosperity & competitiveness

A Clean Industrial Deal

FINANCING AGREEMENT FOR A1 MOTORWAY APPROVAL. The draft bill approving the EUR 500 million financing agreement between Romania and the European Investment Bank (EIB) for the co-financing of the A1 Sibiu - Pitești Motorway received an admission report from the responsible committees of the Chamber of Deputies. The project, part of the TEN-T Core Network, spans 122 km across five sections and is co-funded through the 2014–2020 Large Infrastructure Operational Programme (POIM) and the 2021–2027 Transport Programme, with total non-reimbursable EU support of around RON 9.27 billion. Next, the draft bill will be debated and voted in the Chamber of Deputies plenary.

CISC PROGRESSES TOWARD 2025 PRIORITIES. The Interministerial Committee on Climate Change reported a completion rate of 69 percent for its 2025 priority plan. The update was presented at the meeting held on 24 November at the Government, where institutions responsible for climate and energy policy reviewed progress and the steps needed to accelerate implementation under the revised NECP 2021–2030. Authorities aim to approach a 90 percent fulfilment rate by the end of the year, reflecting the continued role of the committee as part of the PNRR framework. Discussions also covered the finalisation of draft legislation relevant to industry and energy, the status of secondary legislation on carbon management including CCUS and CO2 transport rules, the upcoming act on biomethane as a strategic renewable source, and the national implementation of Regulation 2024/1787 on methane emissions. The Ministry of Environment provided updates from COP30 negotiations in Belem. Institutions have until 10 December to propose their priority actions for 2026, which will be evaluated using the World Bank methodology before inclusion in next year's plan.

Business & Economy

DIRECTIVE (EU) 2024/2994, CCPs. This draft bill which amends Law No. 236/2022 to align the national framework with the new European provisions on **concentration risk arising from exposures to central counterparties (CCPs)** and with the prudential supervision requirements provided for by **Directive (EU) 2024/2994**, was adopted by the Senate and then registered to the Chamber of Deputies for a final debate and vote.

Commercial agreements

No relevant updates.

Digital tech, research and innovation

SNCE. E new legislative proposal, signed by USR parliamentarians, that establishes the unitary legal framework for the establishment of **the National Electronic Communication Service (SNCE)**, the official digital infrastructure through which public authorities and institutions will communicate with each other, as well as with citizens, was registered at the Senat for debate.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC AUTHORITIES. The Ministry of Economy published a draft ordinance that provides for the extension of **the National Program for the Digital Transformation of Local Public Authorities by 1 year, until the end of 2026.** The measure will ensure the continuity of support for local public authorities in the process of transforming into more efficient, transparent and accessible public administrations to citizens, in a unified manner and compatible with the Government Cloud project. Next, the draft normative act will be most likely adopted in a future Government meeting.

PNIDP. Another new legislative initiative, signed by USR MPs, proposes **the first unitary legal framework** for the recording, administration and security of public digital infrastructure, was registered at the Senate. The project provides for the creation of **the National Platform of Public Digital Infrastructure (PNIDP)** – a single registry of all digital resources used by public institutions: domains, websites, applications, software licenses, IT equipment and projects financed from public funds.

Health Union

ROMANIA UPDATES ECHR MENTAL HEALTH ACTION PLAN WITH DEJ SUPPORT. On November 25, 2025, DEJ representatives met with Romania's Interministerial Committee on the 2025–2029 mental health Action Plan, coordinated by the Prime Minister's Chancellery. The discussion focused on **priority measures identified in the CM-DH evaluations and the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture report**, as well as progress and delays in implementing the Action Plan, which has been updated with new administrative solutions and is currently under interministerial review. **A results-oriented approach was adopted, establishing working groups for specific issues**

(legislative changes, funding needs, best practices) and preparing quarterly progress reports for submission to DEJ and civil society. DEJ welcomed this coordination, reiterated its technical support, and recommended presenting progress at Committee of Ministers meetings, emphasizing the involvement of civil society in the implementation process.

Priority 2: Defence & Security

The European Defence Union

CSAT APPROVES ROMANIA'S SAFE INDUSTRY PLAN. On November 24, 2025, the Supreme Council of National Defense (CSAT), chaired by President Nicușor Dan, endorsed the 2026 Risk and Threat Assessment, Strategic Defense Analysis, reports on anti-drug operations, and Romania's participation in NATO's CMX-25 exercise. A key focus was the national defense industry investment plan under the EU SAFE mechanism, requesting EUR16.68 billion, 75% for military equipment, public order, and civil defense, and 25% for dual-use infrastructure, with minimum 50–100% domestic production to ensure strategic independence. Following European Commission approval, a government web platform will connect Romanian companies with European defense manufacturers to expand production capacity, contributing to national security and the European defense industry, with all programs to be completed by 2030.

Borders and migration

ESC STUDY ON MIGRATION. The Economic and Social Council (ESC) launched on 25 November, at the headquarters of the Romanian Government, the study “Migration of third-country nationals in Romania: Integration into the labour market and the risks of labour exploitation”. Noting that **Romania is becoming an emerging destination for migrant workers, especially from South and South-East Asia**, the ESC draws attention to the fact that, although this workforce alleviates an acute structural deficit, the phenomenon is accompanied by significant vulnerabilities related to labour exploitation and precarious integration. The study reflects the balanced perspective of the three parties represented in the ESC Plenary – employers, trade unions and non-governmental civil society organisations – and highlights both the problems identified by them and the possible solutions. Among the main challenges reported are the **risks of xenophobia and discrimination, non-compliance with labour legislation and international standards on the protection of workers, as well as difficulties related to professional training and retention of foreign labour**, despite the high costs involved. In terms of solutions, measures are proposed such as supporting counseling centers, cultural mediation and legal assistance for migrant workers, intensifying control actions and improving inter-institutional cooperation, digitalizing the entire labor recruitment process, multilingual information campaigns and creating secure and confidential channels for reporting abuses, and concluding agreements between Romania and the countries of origin of workers.

Security & crisis management

PARLIAMENT APPROVES 2025-2030 NATIONAL DEFENSE STRATEGY. On November 26, the Romanian Parliament adopted President Nicușor Dan's **2025–2030 National Defense Strategy**, emphasizing **citizen protection and core public institution duties** under the **principle of “solidary independence,”** balancing cooperation with allies and independent decision-making. The strategy aims to modernize security forces, gradually raise defense spending to 5% of GDP, strengthen civil protection and infrastructure resilience, combat corruption, and support social cohesion. Economic, education, and health measures target competitiveness, equitable services, and research promotion. Foreign policy priorities include NATO and EU integration, regional stability, Black Sea security, and OECD accession. Following adoption, President Dan stated that **an implementation plan with clear deadlines and indicators will be developed** to ensure all institutions translate the strategy into tangible benefits for Romanian citizens.

NEW LAW ENHANCING CRIMINAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE. The law introducing new provisions on **criminal information exchange, transposing EU Directive 2023/2123** into Law no. 535/2004 on preventing and combating terrorism, has been published in the Official Gazette following parliamentary adoption. The measures aim to ensure efficient, rapid, and secure information sharing between EU member states, particularly for cross-border terrorism cases. It also mandates transmission of relevant data to Europol. The law establishes strict personal data protection guarantees, limiting processing to terrorism prevention and investigation purposes, and precisely defines the types of shareable information.

DEPUTIES APPROVE COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL DEFENSE BILL. The Chamber of Deputies has adopted the government's bill defining **Romania's national defense**, now sent to the Senate for final debate. It covers all measures, military, diplomatic, economic, and legal, to ensure sovereignty and territorial integrity, making defense obligations mandatory for citizens, institutions, and key economic operators. The law outlines armed and protection forces, mobilization procedures, requisitioning of resources, and responsibilities of the government, Ministry of Defense, and local authorities. It also provides for population and economic preparedness. The law enters into force 30 days after publication, repealing Law no. 45/1994.

DEPUTIES APPROVE LAW ALIGNING ROMANIA WITH EU SANCTIONS DIRECTIVE. The Chamber of Deputies, as the decision-making body, has adopted the government-proposed law **harmonizing national legislation with EU Directive 2024/1226**. The law introduces a **chapter on offenses with severe penalties for violating international sanctions in trade, finance, and cryptoassets**, assigns DIICOT competence for related investigations, and extends extraterritorial application to Romanian citizens and entities. Additionally, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs must submit annual statistics to the European Commission and publish a summary every three years.

MPs APPROVE STRICTER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROTECTION LAW. The Chamber of Deputies, as the decision-making body, has also

adopted a law introducing **stronger measures to prevent domestic violence and protect victims**. Key provisions include automatic extension of provisional protection orders until a judge rule on a permanent order, expanded eligibility to request new protection orders (including relatives, local authorities, and accredited social service providers, with the victim's consent), and mandatory judicial evaluation of risk, especially for offenders not under probation supervision. Offenders may also be required to wear electronic monitoring bracelets. The law responds to recent high-profile domestic violence cases and data showing over 40,000 police interventions and nearly 8,000 protection orders in early 2025, with more than 1,900 violations. Next, the law shall soon be signed by the President and published in the Official Gazette.

DEPUTIES TO REVIEW AUR PROPOSAL ON PROTECTION ORDER MONITORING. The Senate has rejected and forwarded to the Chamber of Deputies for final debate a legislative initiative by AUR MPs aimed at improving electronic monitoring of protection orders. The proposal introduces **technical features enabling real-time sharing of the monitored person's approximate location** (within ~1 km) with the protected individual and sets rules for adapting or acquiring monitoring devices. Now, the referred committees shall issue a report by December 15.

DEPUTIES TO REVIEW EARTHQUAKE ALERT SYSTEM PROPOSAL. The Senate has rejected a legislative initiative, proposed by AUR MPs, to **implement the "Earthquake Alert" System**, which would provide **early warnings to the public during seismic events via SMS, the RO-ALERT system, and radio/TV broadcasts**, based on data from the National Institute for Earth Physics (INCDP). Alerts are generated through an IT application developed by the Special Telecommunications Service (STS) and transmitted by electronic communications operators, following regulations set by ANCOM and CNA. Territorial dissemination rules are adapted for the RO-ALERT system. The proposal now moves to the Chamber of Deputies for final debate, with committees required to issue a report by December 17.

Priority 3: Social rights

Social fairness

DEPUTIES REJECT PROPOSAL FOR NATIONAL DISABILITY CARD. The committees of the Chamber of Deputies have issued a negative report on a legislative proposal to create a **National Mobility and Assistance Card (CNMA) for persons with disabilities**, to be issued by the National Agency for Payments and Social Inspection (ANPIS). The CNMA **would have replaced multiple existing documents**, granting automatic access to free or reduced transport, public parking, local tax benefits, and social, medical, and rehabilitation services. Available in both physical and digital formats, the card would feature a QR code for rapid verification and automatic renewal linked to updated medical certificates. The proposal is expected to be definitively rejected by the deputies, the decision-making chamber.

Young people & equality

DEPUTIES TO DEBATE POT PROPOSAL SUPPORTING YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP. Rejected by the Senate, the legislative initiative by POT MPs aiming to **support youth entrepreneurship** has reached the Chamber of Deputies for final debate, with committees required to issue a report by December 15. The proposal includes income or profit tax exemption for three years for a young person's first business, creation of the "First Business" program guaranteeing up to 80% of a loan of €100,000, exclusions for certain sectors (gambling, speculative real estate, tobacco, alcohol, arms, and other regulated areas), and clear eligibility conditions such as no prior business ownership or tax debts. The law would enter into force 30 days after publication in the Official Gazette.

Priority 4: Life quality

Agriculture & biodiversity

NATURA 2000 NETWORK EXPANSION. The Ministry of Environment has published a new draft Government Decision amending GD 685/2022 to designate an additional 27 Sites of Community Importance as Special Areas of Conservation. The measure continues the process launched earlier this month through GD 984/2025, which designated 19 new sites. The normative act supports Romania's compliance with the Habitats Directive and the ongoing infringement procedure 2020/2238 concerning delays in site designation. As such, the proposal formalises the protected status of these 27 sites by adding them to GD 685/2022. All selected sites already have approved management plans and conservation measures, which remain the basis for regulating activities within these areas.

Climate change

MODERNIZING GAS NETWORKS. The draft bill on the approval of the ordinance which proposes amendments to legislation concerning the Environmental Fund received an admission report from the responsible committees of the Chamber of Deputies. The ordinance aims to modernize and expand natural gas transportation and distribution networks to integrate low-carbon gases. Next, the draft bill will be debated and voted in the Chamber of Deputies plenary.

Priority 5: Democratic Europe

Democracy

OFFICIAL GUIDE FOR LOCAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN FINANCING. The Permanent Electoral Authority has adopted and published in the Official Gazette the **Guide on campaign financing for the December 7 Bucharest election**. The guide sets maximum contribution limits per county based on candidacies and the national minimum gross salary. Contributions may come from parties, alliances, or minority organizations via membership fees, donations, own revenues, state subsidies, or loans, while candidates or their financial representatives may contribute personal funds, donations from individuals, or loans. Individual donations cannot exceed RON 810,000, with formal documentation required for amounts over RON 25,000 and bank-only transfers above RON 40,500. Public authorities, state-owned companies, unions, religious institutions, and foreign individuals or entities are prohibited from financing campaigns, and only monetary contributions are permitted services or in-kind donations are not allowed.

Rule of law

PROPOSAL TO WITHDRAW SPECIAL PENSIONS FOR CORRUPTION CONVICTIONS. The committees of the Chamber of Deputies have issued a negative report on a legislative initiative aiming to **revoke special pensions and certain social rights for persons definitively convicted of corruption**, while promoting integrity in public office. Convicted individuals would instead receive a contributory-based pension, with the loss of special benefits reversed if acquitted. Certain categories of contributory pensions are exempt. The law also proposed creating a Single National Register of Records to track such convictions. The initiative is expected to be rejected by the Chamber of Deputies and then sent to the Senate for final debate.

DEPUTIES APPROVE LAW EXPANDING COMPENSATION FOR PERSONAL INJURIES. The Chamber of Deputies, as the decision-making body, has adopted a law **allowing victims of physical injury or health damage to receive compensation not only for direct suffering but also for the loss of a normal family or social life**. Close family members can also claim compensation for indirect suffering resulting from the incident. Judges will consider the severity and permanence of the injury, as well as the closeness of the relationship between the victim and the claimant, when determining the compensation. Now, the law shall soon be signed by the President and published in the Official Gazette.

Civil society

No relevant updates.

Priority 6: Foreign affairs

Enlargement and wider neighbourhood

MUTUAL HELP AGREEMENT RO-UKR. The Committee for Defence of the Senate issued an admission report for the draft bill ratifying the agreement signed on October 18, 2024 by **Romania and Ukraine on mutual assistance in the event of the imminence or occurrence of an emergency the effects of which could not be eliminated by the efforts** and means of the state whose territory is threatened or affected. The assistance may be provided by making available to the Requesting Party aid teams, equipment, assistance and information, as well as any kind of response actions, expertise, search and rescue operations, which aim to save human lives, protect public health, limit material damage and cultural values, as well as secondary effects, recognized by the Parties, in the event of the imminence/occurrence of an emergency situation. Next, the draft bill is going to be adopted by the plenary of the Senate and registered for debate at the Chamber of Deputies.

RO-SRB COOPERATION. The Ministry of Internal Affairs published this week a draft bill which ratifies **the Romania - Serbia Agreement for cooperation in the field of prevention, limitation and elimination of the effects of disasters (Belgrade, 03.10.2025)**, which establishes a Joint Commission for planning, monitoring and optimizing cooperation. The two states will provide mutual assistance in disaster situations that exceed national capacities and will collaborate on the development of equipment and materials necessary for training and intervention. Next, the draft bill is going to be adopted by the Government and registered at the Parliament for debate.

A new economic foreign policy

INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has launched for public consultation a draft GEO aimed at providing the Government with the necessary tools to manage the impact of U.S. sanctions on Lukoil's assets. The proposal introduces an **enhanced supervision mechanism**, enabling the Government to intervene directly in the operations of companies in Romania that are affected by such sanctions.

Reforming the international system

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has also published for public debate two draft Government Decisions. The first draft aims to revise and modernize the entire national system for international development cooperation and humanitarian assistance, in the context of growing global needs, Romania's new commitments, and the strengthened role of the MFA as a donor state. The second draft Government Decision approves the strategy that sets the operational framework through which Romania seeks to modernize, integrate, and streamline the national system for international development cooperation and humanitarian assistance, in line with the 2030 Agenda, EU policies, and OECD recommendations, translating into concrete actions the directions set out in the Public Policy Proposal and the 2024–2027 Multiannual Strategic Program.