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Weekly Report - NRRP and EC Priorities

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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

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C3. Waste management

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C4. Sustainable transport

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C5. The Renovation Wave

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C6. Energy

Reforms

REFORM 1, T119 - UPDATED DECARBONISATION CALENDAR. The draft bill approving the ordinance which amends GEO No. 108/2022 to reflect the revised decarbonisation schedule agreed with the European Commission was adopted by the Senate. The ordinance introduces new provisions under **Target 119 under NRRP Component C6, Reform 1**, setting updated deadlines for the gradual withdrawal of coal-based generation capacity and allowing the Government to adjust these deadlines, subject to Commission approval. The draft bill will next be sent to the Chamber of Deputies, which will be the decisional chamber.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C7. Digital transformation

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C8. Tax reform and pension reform

Reforms

REFORM 6, M215 – SPECIAL PENSIONS. The Constitutional Court postponed again for February 18 the debate on the law regulating the special pensions of magistrates and auxiliary personnel in the judiciary, in accordance with the need to fulfill **Milestone 215, Reform 6, Component 8 of the NRRP**. This law proposes to gradually increase the retirement age and introduce a minimum length of service of 35 years for judicial personnel, in line with the public pension system. At the same time, the method of calculating the pension is modified (55% of the average gross income of the last 60 months, with a ceiling of 70% of the net income) and assimilated seniority is gradually eliminated. The measures aim to standardize regulations and ensure fair treatment for all categories in the field of justice.

REFORM 6, M213 – INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE 2ND PILLAR. The Senate tacitly adopted the draft bill aiming to increase the contribution rate to privately managed pension funds in Pillar 2 by 0.5 percentage points, from January 1, 2026, to reach the rate of 5.25%, and by 0.75 percentage points from January 1, 2027, to reach the rate of 6%. The amendment impacts **Milestone 213, of Reform 6 of Component 8 of the NRRP** which has already been fulfilled and provides for changes to the regulatory framework to ensure the sustainability of Pillar 2 pensions through an increase in contributions in accordance with the provisions of the Fiscal-Budgetary Strategy. The draft bill was also registered with the Chamber of Deputies for final debate and sent to the Committee for Labour which should issue a report by February 26.

Investments

No relevant updates.

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

Reforms

R1, T245 - LEGISLATIVE ACTS/AMENDMENTS RELATING TO SMES TO WHICH THE TEST WAS APPLIED. The draft bill approving GEO No. 75/2025, which provides for the obligation of the initiator of a normative act with an impact on small and medium-sized enterprises or on the business environment to request, prior to adoption by the Government, the opinion of the central public authority with responsibilities in the field of SMEs or the business environment (MEDAT), was registered with the Chamber of Deputies for final debate and sent for report to the specialized committees. The measure contributes to the implementation **of Target 245 of the NRRP (Component 9, Reform 1) – "Legislative acts/amendments relating to SMEs to which the test was applied"**.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C10. The local fund

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C11. Tourism and culture

Reforms

R1 - OPERATIONALIZATION OF DESTINATION MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONS (OMD). The Ministry of Economy has published for public consultation the updated version of the Specific Guide for the call for investment projects under **Reform 1 – Operationalization of Destination Management Organizations (OMD)**. The updated guide introduces the obligation to conclude a partnership agreement between the applicant administrative-territorial unit and the OMD of which it belongs, prior to submitting the funding application. Through this agreement, the administrative-territorial unit undertakes to allocate at least 20% of the total amount of funding requested for actions that directly contribute to the operationalization of the OMD. These include: digital solutions, visitor management systems, and integrated tourism promotion and marketing tools at the destination level.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C12. Health

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C13. Social reforms

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C14. Good governance

Reforms

REFORM 3, M418-419 - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REFORM. Romania is taking another key step toward meeting **NRRP Milestones 418 and 419 under Component 14, Reform 3**, by republishing the **draft bill on public administration reform**, part of Package 3 promoted by the Bolojan government aimed at reducing the national excessive deficit. The law also addresses Milestone 310 (Component 10, Reform

3) through rules on funding administrative consortia. According to the government, finalizing the current operational competency framework for public staff is essential, as previous acts did not fully meet these milestones. The bill streamlines decentralization, introduces competency-based performance evaluations for civil servants, limits temporary leadership appointments, cuts advisory staff and reduces personnel spending by 10% across central institutions. It also strengthens transparency in public finances by expanding the publication of tax debtors, tightens property taxation rules for unauthorized or incomplete buildings using modern inspection tools, and improves cooperation between urban planning and fiscal authorities. After another session of public debate, the bill shall be adopted by the Executive.

REFORM 9 – BOARD APPOINTMENTS DEADLINE. The bill approving GEO No. 69/2025, which supports **Reform 9 under Component 14 of the NRRP**, has passed the Senate and is now at the Chamber of Deputies for final debate, with relevant committees set to issue their report by February 26. The legislation requires **public authorities currently running selection processes for board members to complete these procedures by March 31, 2026, and appoint new administrators** according to the law. Additionally, AMEPIP will oversee the processes, identify responsible parties, and impose fines if necessary. The bill also allows boards to appoint interim directors for public enterprises if director positions remain vacant, but no later than May 31, 2026.

REFORM 9 T443-444, M441 - PUBLIC COMPANIES' GOVERNANCE REFORM. The interministerial committee led by Deputy Prime Minister Oana Gheorghiu reviewed progress on **Reform 9, Component 14 of the nrrp**, focused on **improving corporate governance in public enterprises**, as well as targets and milestones linked to payment requests 3, 4, and 5. Ministers reported on the start of selection processes for executive boards in the first phase of the reform (**Target 443**), covering energy and transport companies. Progress updates or explanations for delays must be sent to AMEPIP by the end of this week. The committee also assessed interim mandates on boards and executive management, aiming to reduce by 10% the number of public enterprises with provisional management (**Target 444**). For payment request 4, the government committed to Milestone 441: a functional dashboard standardizing public enterprise data, now available on AMEPIP's website.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C15. Education

Reforms

REFORM 1, M452 - TEACHERS' UNION ROLES. The Chamber of Deputies, acting as the first chamber, rejected a legislative proposal by USR MPs to **align education laws with the Labour Code and the Social Dialogue Law to prevent overlaps and abuses in school union activities**. The proposal would have clarified that paid union leaders cannot simultaneously hold active teaching positions, with their employment contracts automatically suspended during full-time union service. Voluntary participation in activities such as monitoring education quality would only be allowed if the contract is suspended. This follows previous education laws, including Law 198/2023, which previously implemented **Milestone 452 of the NRRP (Component 15, Reform 1)**. The initiative will soon reach the Senate for a final debate.

REFORM 1, M452 - MORNING CLASSES FOR 8TH GRADERS. The Senate, acting as the first chamber, tacitly adopted and sent to the Chamber of Deputies a bill amending the Pre-university Education Law 198/2023, which had implemented **Milestone 452 (Reform 1, Component 15) of the NRRP**. The amendment requires **all 8th-grade students to attend school exclusively in the morning, removing the previous provision that schools could start morning classes only from 2030**. Lawmakers say the change aims to eliminate discrimination and inequities caused by shift schedules, which impact student health and performance. The bill is now under committee review in the Chamber of Deputies, with a report expected by February 26.

REFORM 1, M452 - SCHOOL TRANSPORT AND STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS. Instead, the deputies rejected a legislative proposal amending Law 198/2023, which implemented **Milestone 452 (Reform 1, Component 15) of the NRRP**. The proposal would have **provided free school transport in geographically or linguistically isolated communities**, additional funds to maintain separate classes, incentives for teachers, and **allowed multi-grade classes only in exceptional cases for a maximum of one school year with annual reevaluation**. It also introduced **performance scholarships for students excelling in national and international competitions**, specifying that these grants should not reduce or affect other social benefits for students. The proposal has now been registered with the Senate for final debate, with the committee report expected by March 3.

REFORM 1, M452 - ADJUSTING TEACHER TRAINING AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS. Finally, the Education Committee of the Chamber of Deputies (first chamber) issued an admission report on the bill approving GEO 1/2026, which amends Education Laws 198/2023 and 199/2023, **updating the legal framework for teacher training and the functioning of educational institutions**. These laws had previously implemented **Milestone 452 (Reform 1, Component 15) of the NRRP**. Key provisions include simplifying evaluation of the “Pedagogy in Primary Education” program, extending the deadline for the didactic master’s program to 2027 - 2028, allowing small technological and dual-track high schools to operate with fewer students, automatic provisional authorization for schools offering certain vocational qualifications in 2025 - 2026, extending accreditation for vocational pedagogical programs, and suspending the “Cultural

Vouchers for Students” program until 2027–2028. The bill now moves to the plenary of the Chamber for adoption before being sent to the Senate for final debate.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C16. RepowerEU

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

INVESTMENT 5, M522 - LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR USING OPTICAL FIBRE. The draft bill approving the ordinance regulating the use of optical fibre embedded in the electricity transmission grid operated by Transelectrica was adopted by the Senate. The ordinance establishes the legal basis for exploiting available fibre capacity, while preserving its primary role in ensuring the safe operation of the National Power System. The measure supports the implementation of NRRP **Component C16, Investment I5, Milestone 522**, which targets the operationalisation of the Teletrans data centre by Q1 2026. The draft bill will next be sent to the Chamber of Deputies, which will be the decisional chamber.

General News

EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF FUNDS. The draft bill that approves GEO No. 72/2025, which aims to ensure a coherent and operative legal framework for the efficient management and implementation of NRRP funds, in the context of fiscal risks and massive over-contracting identified in public investment projects, was registered with the Chamber of Deputies for final debate and sent for report to the specialized committees.

EC Priorities. Priority 1: Prosperity & competitiveness

A Clean Industrial Deal

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR ALTERNATIVE FUELS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION. The General Secretariat of the Government published a new draft Emergency Ordinance which establishes the national institutional framework for implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1804 on alternative fuels infrastructure, replacing the previous regime based on Directive 2014/94/EU and ensuring compliance with EU obligations across all transport modes. The act designates the Ministry of Energy as coordinating authority, in cooperation with the Ministry of Transport and other relevant bodies, sets national targets for electric recharging, hydrogen, LNG and shore-side electricity infrastructure, particularly along TEN-T and in urban nodes, and introduces monitoring and reporting obligations to the European Commission.

Business & Economy

ACCELERATING THE ABSORPTION OF EUROPEAN FUNDS. The draft bill which provides for increasing the administrative efficiency and accelerate the absorption of European funds, in accordance with the objectives assumed in the national strategies for 2025 and with the recommendations of the Report of the Senate Committee on European Affairs, prepared in May 2025, was registered with the Chamber of Deputies for final debate and sent for report to the specialized committees.

REDUCING THE RESIDUAL ERROR RATE TO BELOW 2%. The draft bill approving GEO no. 86/2025, which amends and supplements GEO no. 66/2011, explicitly regulating the mechanism for the definitive exclusion of the amounts necessary to reduce the total residual error rate to a maximum of 2% , in order to comply with Romania's obligations towards the European Commission regarding the transmission of annual accounts and the assurance package, was registered with the Chamber of Deputies for final debate and sent for report to the specialized committees.

TRANSPOSITION OF DAC8 AND REPORTING OF CRYPTOASSETS. The draft bill approving GEO no. 71/2025, which transposes Directive (EU) 2023/2226 (DAC8) into national legislation to extend the automatic exchange of tax information and regulate the reporting of crypto-assets, was registered with the Chamber of Deputies for final debate and sent for report to the specialized committees.

DISTINCT FINANCIAL REGIME FOR PROJECTS FINANCED FROM EXTERNAL NON-REIMBURSABLE FUNDS. The draft bill that brings a series of specific provisions aimed at creating a distinct and adapted financial regime for projects financed from non-reimbursable external funds, like making budgetary credit transfers more flexible within European projects, was registered with the Chamber of Deputies for final debate and sent for report to the specialized committees.

Commercial agreements

No relevant updates.

Digital tech, research and innovation

No relevant updates.

Health Union

No relevant updates.

Priority 2: Defence & Security

The European Defence Union

No relevant updates.

Borders and migration

No relevant updates.

Security & crisis management

MPs ADVANCE BILL AGAINST FEMICIDE. Already adopted by the senators, the **bill** backed by 273 MPs, which **introduces in Romanian law the legal notion of “femicide”**, has been registered at the Chamber of Deputies for final debate. The legislation responds to alarming statistics: nearly 50 femicides occurred in the first ten months of 2025, with a man attempting to kill a woman every three days. The bill distinguishes intimate femicide (by a family member), non-intimate femicide (by a third party), and indirect femicide (e.g., caused by domestic abuse or harmful practices), classifying all as aggravated homicide. Authorities will collect and report standardized data on domestic violence and femicide, coordinated by ORAPO, while risk-assessment tools will guide judicial intervention. The Ministry of Education will introduce gender equality and non-violence topics in schools. Penal and procedural codes will be amended to include harsher penalties, automatic investigations, and potential inheritance disqualification for perpetrators, aiming for faster protection of women and girls. With high chances of adoption, the bill will soon be debated in the Committees of the Chamber of Deputies, with the deadline for report set on March 3.

INTERIOR MINISTRY PROPOSES NATIONAL CRITICAL ENTITIES RESILIENCE STRATEGY. The Ministry of Interior has released a **draft government decision** approving **the National Strategy on the Resilience of Critical Entities**, along with an Action Plan, aimed at **safeguarding essential organizations and ensuring continuity of key services against physical, cyber, natural, or hybrid threats**. The strategy, applicable until 2031 with reviews at least every four years, targets authorities and critical entities in sectors such as energy,

transport, finance, health, water, digital infrastructure, public administration, space, and food. Its strategic goal is to enhance the resilience of essential services for citizens, businesses, and the state. Specific objectives include strengthening institutional capacity, international cooperation, risk prevention, response and continuity, and fostering a security-aware culture. Implementation responsibilities fall to CNCPIC, sectoral competent authorities, the inter-institutional working group GLIREC, critical entities themselves, and cybersecurity authorities, ensuring monitoring, reporting, and alignment with EU standards.

Priority 3: Social rights

Social fairness

HEALTH MINISTRY PROPOSES EXCEPTIONS FOR SICK PAY CUTS. The Ministry of Health has issued a **draft emergency ordinance** introducing **exceptions to the rule from GEO 91/2025 that the first day of sick leave is unpaid**. If multiple consecutive medical certificates cover the same illness episode, the one-day deduction applies only once. Reductions will not apply to maternal risk leave, maternity leave, sick leave under national health programs, or hospital stays. Implementation and control procedures will be set by regulations within 30 days. The measure aims to address issues caused by GEO 91/2025, which disrupted sick pay and social protection for patients, including pregnant women and those with chronic illnesses. After the public debate, the ordinance shall be adopted by the Executive.

SENATE COMMITTEE APPROVES STRICTER WORKPLACE VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT RULES. The Senate Labor Committee has approved, with amendments, the **government's bill** introducing **new employer obligations to prevent workplace violence and harassment**. Amendments expand the scope to include gender-based violence and sexual harassment, involve trade unions in identifying hazards and risks, and raise penalties for noncompliance from 10,000 RON to 30,000 RON. According to the initial version of the bill, **employers must adopt internal anti-violence and anti-harassment policies with confidential reporting systems**, include **clear rules in workplace regulations**, assess risks with employee representatives, and provide training on hazards, preventive measures, and employee rights and responsibilities. Violations of these obligations will carry fines of 3,500–7,000 RON, effective 90 days after publication in the Official Gazette. Next, we expect the bill to be soon adopted by the Senate's plenary and sent to the deputies for a final debate.

BILL EXPANDS LABOR INSPECTORS' ROLE IN WORKPLACE HARASSMENT CASES. The **government's bill** **extending the powers of labor inspectors to investigate workplace harassment** has received a favourable report. Under the proposal, when harassment claims are reported, inspectors can carry out necessary on-site checks at the complainant's workplace. With the prior consent of the reporting employee, inspectors are not required to keep the identity of the complainant confidential while conducting these verifications, aiming to ensure effective oversight of occupational health and safety.

SENATE APPROVES STRONGER WORKPLACE HARASSMENT RULES. The Senate Labor Committee has approved a third **government bill** **strengthening protections against workplace violence and harassment**. The law defines harassment across all work contexts and covers abuse by colleagues, supervisors, subordinates, or third parties. Employers must implement measures to protect victims and whistleblowers, with fines of 30,000–50,000 RON for violations. The Labor Inspectorate will monitor compliance, and specialized units

within national security institutions will carry out inspections. The law takes effect 60 days after publication in the Official Gazette. In this case as well, the next procedural step is the adoption by the Senate's plenary.

COALITION MPs PROPOSE LINKING MINIMUM WAGE TO DECENT LIVING BASKET. Senators from the governing coalition (PSD-PNL-USR-UDMR) have submitted a bill to the Senate to **use the value of the minimum consumption basket for a decent living as a reference indicator in setting the national gross minimum wage**. The measure complements Law 283/2024, which transposed EU Directive 2022/2041 recommending the use of a “basket of goods and services at actual prices” to assess the adequacy of the minimum wage. The bill also updates the legal framework for calculating the basket, enabling the National Institute of Statistics to apply it accurately by completing missing chapters and data in the annex to GEO 217/2000.

Young people & equality

SENATE COMMITTEE REJECTS BILL ON GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT SUBSIDIES. The Senate Labour Committee has rejected a **legislative initiative** proposed by AUR aimed at **optimizing subsidies for employers hiring recent graduates to encourage long-term job retention**. The proposal would have restructured the existing €2,250/month subsidy into a conditional mechanism: €1,250/month paid to the employer after 12 months if the graduate remains employed, and €1,000/month as a retention bonus for the young employee, forfeited in case of resignation or disciplinary dismissal. Next, the proposal shall be soon rejected by the plenary of the Senate and sent to the deputies for a final debate.

PSD SENATORS PROPOSE EXPANDING SOCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ADDRESS POOR HOUSING. PSD MPs have registered a legislative initiative in the Senate to amend the social assistance framework by **explicitly recognizing inadequate or overcrowded housing as a social vulnerability factor and extending protection to youth at risk of marginalization**. The bill aims to align social policies with housing realities and improve access to decent homes for low-income individuals. Key measures include broadening the definition of vulnerable groups to include those affected by poor housing, integrating housing into poverty-reduction strategies, expanding access to publicly owned housing where available, and ensuring young people at risk receive minimum social assistance, including housing, education, healthcare, and employment support. In the upcoming month, the proposal will be sent to the committees for the start of the debates.

Priority 4: Life quality

Agriculture & biodiversity

TRANSFER OF UNFINISHED PNDR PROJECTS TO THE CAP STRATEGIC PLAN. The draft bill approving the ordinance on establishing the legal framework for transferring unfinished projects and ongoing commitments from PNDR 2014–2020 to the CAP Strategic Plan 2023–2027 received an admission report from the responsible committees of the Senate. The measure aims to ensure continuity of implementation and avoid FEADR decommitment, setting rules on eligibility, guarantees for advances, the treatment of state aid and de minimis schemes, and transitional provisions subject to European Commission approval. Next, the draft bill will be debated and voted in the Senate plenary.

EMERGENCY STATE AID FOR ORCHARD SECTOR. The Government adopted last week and also published in the Official Gazette the decision establishing an emergency financial support scheme for orchard producers affected by the late spring frost in April-May 2025. The measure implements the exceptional EU support mechanism set out in Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/2061 and provides partial compensation for climate-related losses, within the limits established at EU level. The draft decision introduces a nationwide grant scheme of up to EUR 2,000 per hectare for producers with orchards affected by at least 30%.

Climate change

ROAD TEMPERATURE MONITORING AND FOREST SHELTERBELTS. The legislative proposal, initiated by AUR MPs, which amends GEO No. 43/1997 on road management and Law No. 289/2002 on forest shelterbelts was rejected by the Senate. The proposal introduces the obligation to install technical systems that measure and display road surface temperature and to establish forest shelterbelts along road sections frequently affected by high heat. The draft bill will next be sent to the Chamber of Deputies, which will be the decisional chamber.

Priority 5: Democratic Europe

Democracy

SENATORS PROPOSE RESTRICTING SOCIAL MEDIA FOR UNDER-16S. Two independent senators have submitted legislative initiatives to the Senate in order to **limit access to social media for minors under 16**, following similar moves in France, Spain, Portugal, Denmark, the UK, and Norway due to safety risks on platforms like TikTok. The **first proposal bans account creation and access for under-16s**, obliging platforms to verify age, protect children's interests, prevent profiling for commercial influence, and block content promoting drugs, violence, self-harm, or antisocial behavior. Authorities, including ANPDCA and ANSPDCP, would coordinate with platforms, schools, and NGOs, while parents face sanctions for noncompliance.

The **second proposal also sets 16 as the minimum age for social media use** and requires providers to implement effective, proportional, and non-discriminatory age verification, limit under-16s' access to social features, ensure transparency, and strictly protect personal data. Exemptions include private communications, purely educational platforms, non-social online games, and non-interactive video sharing. Age verification may use user declarations, technical indicators, or indirect confirmation, storing only a binary value to indicate age eligibility. The law would enter into force six months after publication, with implementing norms issued within 90 days.

Rule of law

DEPUTIES REJECT BILL ON AUTOMATIC TERMINATION FOR CORRUPTION CASES. The Chamber of Deputies has rejected a USR-initiated **bill** that would have **automatically ended the mandate of mayors, local or county councillors, or the employment of public officials if a final court decision grants a waiver or deferral of a sentence for a service- or corruption-related offence**. The bill is now at the Senate for final debate, with committees set to issue a report by March 3. The proposed legislation aimed to strengthen integrity and accountability among public officials, particularly those exercising state authority or holding public office, by reducing abuse risks and promoting lawful conduct.

DEPUTIES TO APPROVE TRANSITIONAL MEASURES FOR JUDICIAL SYSTEM. The Chamber of Deputies committees have approved, through a report, the **bill** for the approval of GEO 93/2025, introducing **transitional measures to ensure the balanced functioning of Romania's judiciary**. Key provisions include maintaining a two-year training period at the National Institute of Magistracy for justice

auditors admitted in 2026 and 2027, delaying the application of new rules on calculating magistrates' seniority until January 1, 2028, and extending the suspension of on-the-spot promotions until December 31, 2026. These measures aim to prevent administrative bottlenecks, stabilize staffing in courts and prosecutor offices, and ensure predictable career progression for judges and prosecutors. Next, the bill shall soon be adopted by the plenary and sent to the senators for a final debate.

Civil society

GOVERNMENT SENDS BILL TO PROTECT PUBLIC MOBILIZATION FROM ABUSIVE LAWSUITS. The government has sent to the Chamber of Deputies a **bill implementing EU Directive 2024/1069**, aimed at **shielding individuals involved in public mobilization from manifestly unfounded or abusive judicial proceedings**, both domestic and cross-border. The legislation defines public mobilization and matters of public interest, covers allegations of crimes or offenses, and protects democratic processes from unjust interference. It allows defendants to request rapid dismissal of clearly baseless claims, require security deposits, and impose fines of 10,000–100,000 RON plus legal costs on abusive plaintiffs. The law sets rules for recognizing foreign judgments, clarifies the role of the Ombudsman in providing support, awareness campaigns, and training for judges and prosecutors, and ensures information and remedies are available online.

SENATE RECEIVES BILL FOR NATIONAL TRANSPARENCY REGISTRY OF NGOs. A previously rejected Senate **initiative** proposing **the creation of a National Registry for the Financing and Transparency of Associations and Foundations** has been registered for final debate in the Chamber of Deputies, with committees to issue a report by February 26. Managed by the Ministry of Justice in collaboration with ANAF, the public online registry will provide annual key data for all NGOs in Romania. Associations and foundations must report total revenues, public and private funding over 10,000 RON, EU or public funds, and annual activity and audit reports by March 31. The Ministry will publish the registry by April 30, with noncompliance resulting in warnings, suspension of public funding, or activity suspension. The law is expected to take effect January 1, 2026, with implementing rules issued within 90 days.

DEPUTIES DEBATE MULTIYEAR FUNDING FOR NONPROFIT PROJECTS. The Chamber of Deputies is reviewing a **bill** establishing **multiyear funding for nonprofit projects, with clear rules on framework agreements, project selection, fund allocation, and annual reporting**. Key provisions include definitions for multiyear projects and funding, a single annual declaration per beneficiary, and framework agreements of up to four years specifying total funding, objectives, and monitoring conditions. Projects are selected once through a public procedure, with funds allocated annually according to the agreement and subcontracts. Beneficiaries must submit annual progress and financial reports by January 31, with continued funding contingent on their approval. The law would take effect 30 days after publication in the Official Gazette.

Priority 6: Foreign affairs

Enlargement and wider neighbourhood

MUTUAL HELP AGREEMENT RO-UKR. The Committee for Foreign Policy and the Committee for Defence have issued a joint 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 expected to be adopted by the Senate which is decisional chamber.

A new economic foreign policy

No relevant updates.

Reforming the international system

No relevant updates.