

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

INVESTMENT 2, T77 - NEW NRRP-FUNDED ROLLING STOCK MODERNISATION. GRAMPET announced new progress under **NRRP Component C4, Investment I2, Target 77**, covering the modernisation of railway rolling stock. The ELASMO 017 and 018 electric locomotives, modernised at RELOC Craiova, passed performance tests, while wagons 37, 38, 39 and 40, modernised at Electroputere VFU Pașcani, completed route tests and were delivered to the beneficiary. The projects cover 19 ELASMO locomotives, under a EUR 91.1 million contract, and 42 passenger wagons, under two contracts worth more than EUR 66 million. So far, 18 locomotives and 40 wagons have been modernised, with the remaining wagons expected to be completed in June 2026.

C5. The Renovation Wave

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C6. Energy

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C7. Digital transformation

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

INVESTMENT 2, T157 – DEROGATION FOR STS PURCHASES IN THE GOVERNMENT CLOUD. The draft bill approving the ordinance that introduces a derogation for **allowing the Special Telecommunications Service (STS) to conclude framework agreements and subsequent contracts before concluding government agreements for the licensing of the necessary software products** reached the Chamber of Deputies for a final debate, being sent to the resort Committees. The measure targets operating system and database licenses necessary for the operation of IT systems belonging to cloud service users in the internal cloud and **supports the implementation of Target 157 of the NRRP (Component C7, Investment 2)**, regarding the migration of government applications to IaaS/PaaS solutions.

INVESTMENT 3.2. – DIGITALIZATION OF PHARMACY SUPERVISION. A new legislative proposal amending Pharmacy Law no. 266/2008 to digitalize the **authorization and supervision of community pharmacies and drugstores** was registered at the Senate. It establishes the **mandatory use of a Ministry of Health platform** to manage licensing, data validation, and insurance fund contracts, thereby operationalizing the framework funded through **NRRP - Component 7, Investment 3.2**. The framework enables automatic data integration from state institutions and professional bodies, requires electronic document submissions, and enforces strict timelines, including up to 30 days for inspections and licensing, alongside a 15-working-day limit for correcting incomplete files. Being initiated by an UDMR senator, its chances to pass are medium.

INVESTMENT 4, M165 – CITIZENSHIP PROCEDURES DIGITALIZATION. The Chamber of Deputies (decisional chamber) adopted the law approving GEO 100/2024 to amend the Romanian Citizenship Law no. 21/1991 by introducing an **online applicant electronic file managed by the National Authority for Citizenship (ANC)**, creating the legal framework for the digitalization project funded through **NRRP - Component 7, Investment 4, Milestone 165**. The platform mandates individual account creation for citizenship requests, enables status tracking, electronic document submission, and exclusive electronic communication, where ANC notifications are legally considered served upon user access or 30 days post-upload. Operational provisions take effect on November 30, 2026, following a technical deployment dependent on the designated contractor by June 30, 2026, requiring inter-authority system interoperability and explicit enrolment windows of 90 days for consular applications and 180 days for pending cases. Additionally, the legislation replaces paper certificates with a highly secure biometric Electronic Citizenship Card, introduces mandatory biometric data collection (photos and

fingerprints) verified during the oath of allegiance and ID issuance, and implements administrative **safeguards alongside specialized biometric equipment procurement to support Romania's 2025 Visa Waiver Program accession.**

INVESTMENT 11, T178 – STATE AID SCHEME EXTENSION FOR BROADBAND IN WHITE AREAS. MEDAT published an order that amends the **State Aid Scheme "Supporting the use of communication services through various types of instruments for beneficiaries, with an emphasis on white areas"**, linked to **NRRP - Component 7, Investment 11, Target 178**, thereby extending the deadline for state aid payments to beneficiaries until August 31, 2026. This scheme is designed to ensure high-speed internet access coverage in geographical areas where the market cannot provide these services independently. The state aid is granted as a non-reimbursable subsidy (grant) under a financing contract, which is awarded based on the most economically advantageous tender.

INVESTMENT 19, T190 – MINIMIS AID SCHEME FOR DIGITAL SKILLS TRAINING. An order approving the **de minimis aid scheme for "Upskilling/Reskilling of employees in companies - Phase II"**, funded through **NRRP - Component 7, Investment 19, Target 190**, was published in the Official Gazette, having entered into force on June 5. It allows Romanian micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to access grants of up to **€17,000 per company** to train employees in advanced digital fields and emerging technologies such as **IoT, big data, cloud, machine learning, AI, RPA, blockchain, cyber-physical systems, or additive manufacturing**. Valid until June 30, 2026, with payments finalized by July 31, 2026, the scheme operates on a total budget of €1,700,000 to benefit a maximum of 100 SMEs, applying a standard de minimis ceiling of €300,000 over three years. Under this mechanism, the aid is delivered as a direct cost reduction on training fees paid by the SMEs to selected training partners, who are subsequently required to submit proof of course completion to cover eligible training expenses incurred after contract signature.

C8. Tax reform and pension reform

Reforms

REFORM 5, M209 – OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT BANK. The Chamber of Deputies adopted the draft bill approving the emergency ordinance that aims to operationalize the Investment and Development Bank (BID) by the fourth quarter of 2024. The normative act establishes the powers that BID will take over from Exim Banca Românească S.A. in investments in sectors such as infrastructure, agriculture, energy, health, environmental protection and regional development, as well as the role that Exim Banca Românească S.A. will continue to have it in the export sector, supporting the expansion of Romanian companies on foreign

markets. Next, the law is expected to be soon signed by the President and published in the Official Gazette.

REFORM 6, M214 – ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION PERIODS. The Senate rejected the legislative proposal aiming to amend and supplement Law No. 360/2023 on the public pension system, through which **Milestone 214 - Reform 6, Component 8 of the PNRR** was fulfilled, in order to **clarify the contributory nature and the mechanism for capitalizing in the calculation of the pension and of the contribution periods** related to activities carried out under special and exceptional working conditions. Thus, it is ensured that additional contribution periods recognized by law can produce real legal effects in determining pension rights, by capitalizing on them in the annual score and in granting stability points, explicit mentions introduced. Next, the proposal is expected to be soon registered at the Chamber of Deputies for the final debate.

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

INVESTMENT 2, T318 – NRRP HOUSING PROJECTS IN HUNEDOARA. Interim Prime Minister Ilie Bolojan visited multiple investment sites funded by the NRRP in Hunedoara County, emphasizing the critical role of European funds in driving local community development. In Hațeg, the head of the Executive **inspected the construction progress of two near-zero energy building (nZEB) housing projects for youth**, which receive funding under **NRRP - Component 10, Investment 2, Target 318** and operate under the coordination of the Ministry of Development. The first housing project, valued at 4.7 million RON, has reached a 75% completion rate, while the second initiative, valued at 17.2 million RON, has advanced to a 90% execution stage.

C11. Tourism and culture

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C12. Health

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

INVESTMENTS I1.3 & I2.4 – INSTRUCTION FOR FINALIZING NRRP HEALTHCARE PROJECTS. The Ministry of Health issued an instruction which outlines the mandatory rules for finalizing projects funded through **NRRP - Component 12, Specific Investment 1.3 (Outpatient Care Units) and Specific Investment 2.4 (Equipment and Materials for Reducing Nosocomial Infections)**, which operate under an overcontracting regime. Beneficiaries are strictly prohibited from financing any acquisition contracts concluded after the entry into force of this instruction using NRRP funds, forcing them to cover such expenses from their own budgets. Implementation extensions are granted exclusively to complete administrative closing procedures, such as submitting transfer requests, finalizing payments for ongoing contracts, and processing reporting obligations, without any possibility of initiating new activities or financial commitments. Beneficiaries must secure and submit all necessary operational authorizations before the implementation period expires, and they are required to upload updated project documentation via the dedicated online platform within 5 days of this instruction.

INVESTMENT 2, T377 – NEW MEDICAL UNITS FINANCED THROUGH NRRP. The Government published two new draft decisions approving the technical and economic indicators for the construction of a new medical centers financed through **NRRP - Component 12, Investment 2, Target 377**. They are to be adopted in a future Government meeting.

The first one extends the **Bistrița Clinical Emergency County Hospital** through the construction of a new building. With a total investment value of RON 668,491 thousand (and a remaining execution balance of 313,088 thousand RON), the project aims to consolidate fragmented medical activities, modernize infrastructure, and improve energy efficiency over a remaining execution period of 3 months out of a total 41-month duration. Additionally, the initiative integrates comprehensive medical equipping and advanced digital infrastructure, covering cybersecurity solutions, videoconferencing, critical patient monitoring, equipment management, and digital communication platforms for patients' relatives.

The second one establishes the constructing a new facility dedicated to the Mother and Child Health Department at the **"Sf. Apostol Andrei" Clinical Emergency County Hospital in Constanța**, with an updated total investment value of 1,217,997 thousand RON (including RON 426,617 thousand for construction and assembly). Initially categorized under **NRRP - Component 12, Investment 2**,

Target 377, the project was transferred following renegotiations to **Investment 3 "Public Hospitals", Milestone M533**, with funding for expenses incurred after August 31, 2026, ensured sequentially through the **Health Program 2021-2027** alongside local and state budgets via the Ministry of Health. The project establishes a new medical capacity of 350 beds (comprising 257 for continuous hospitalization, 29 for day hospitalization, and 64 for ICU) across specialized units like pediatrics, neonatology, pediatric surgery-orthopedics, and obstetrics-gynecology, supported by an operating block with 9 operating rooms and a delivery block with 6 delivery rooms. Furthermore, the initiative encompasses specialized multidisciplinary medical equipment and an integrated digital infrastructure featuring advanced connectivity, cybersecurity, videoconferencing, critical patient monitoring, equipment management, and digital communication tools for patients and their families.

Additionally, the interim Ministry of Health **has disbursed a new payment tranche totaling approximately RON 19.7 million from NRRP funds**, allocated directly to **accelerate and support ongoing medical infrastructure projects aimed at modernizing clinics and hospitals across the country**. To guarantee the continuity of these investments and prevent the loss of European funding, authorities signed 43 addenda in early June to extend existing financing contracts. These measures target both the physical modernization of the healthcare sector, specifically focusing on upgrading and equipping family medicine offices, reducing healthcare-associated infections in hospitals, and developing integrated community centers, and the digital transformation of medical services to cut bureaucracy and improve system efficiency.

C13. Social reforms

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C14. Good governance

Reforms

REFORM 4, M420 - JUDICIAL CLERKS' PROTESTS OVER PAY REFORM. Court and prosecution office clerks continue to protest against the draft public sector pay law, arguing that it is unfair and fails to reflect the responsibilities, complexity, and professional restrictions associated with judicial support staff. The National Union of Judicial Clerks (SNGJ) has maintained protest actions, including reduced working hours, with courts and prosecution offices handling only urgent cases between 08:00 and 12:00 and operating public services at limited capacity. While continuing to participate in consultations with the Ministry of Labour, the union is advocating for amendments to the draft law and warns that protests could escalate to a complete work stoppage. The Government has approximately three weeks to finalize the legislation in order to meet the 31 August 2026 deadline under **Milestone 420 (Component 14 – Reform 4)** of Romania's NRRP, a key commitment related to public administration reform.

REFORM 6, M430 - WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION AMENDMENT. A legislative proposal explicitly including judges and prosecutors among those protected as public-interest whistleblowers has reached the Chamber of Deputies for final debate after being rejected by the Senate. The draft is currently under review by the Legal Committee, which must issue its report by June 24. The proposal would amend Law No. 361/2022 on whistleblower protection, through which **Milestone 430 of NRRP (Component 14 – Reform 6)** was previously fulfilled.

REFORM 9 - STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISE GOVERNANCE RISKS. Last week, the Government reviewed a report highlighting governance risks in state-owned enterprises, identifying 33 companies under the supervision of 10 public authorities as being at high risk due to delays in appointing permanent management and the expiration of interim mandates. Of these, 20 face an immediate risk of decision-making paralysis due to expired mandates or board vacancies. According to AMEPIP, 65 board member selection procedures at the central level remain unfinished beyond legal deadlines. The Government stressed that accelerating these appointments is essential to comply with **Corporate Governance Reform 9 (Component 14)** under Romania's NRRP, which aims to professionalise management and reduce political influence in state-owned enterprises. The report also notes that 50 companies have executive directors with expired or soon-to-expire interim mandates and warns that continued delays could disrupt operations and jeopardize Romania's NRRP commitments.

REFORM 9, M439 - PUBLIC ENTERPRISE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE. The Chamber of Deputies, as the decision-making chamber, adopted the law approving **Emergency Ordinance No. 108/2024**, which removes exemptions from corporate governance rules,

including for the **State Protocol and Patrimony Administration Autonomous Regie (RA-APPS)**. This supports full implementation of **Milestone 439 (Component 14 – Reform 9)**. The law shall soon be signed by the President of Romania.

Investments

No relevant updates.

C15. Education

Reforms

No relevant updates.

Investments

INVESTMENT 1, T457 – 72ND BUILT NURSERY. Development Minister Cseke Attila inaugurated **a new nursery in Agnita**, the second facility completed in Sibiu County under the government’s “Sfânta Ana” program and **the 72nd nationwide**. Funded through Romania’s NRRP under Component 15, the project contributes to **Target 457 (Investment 1)**, which aims to build, equip, and operationalize 110 nurseries across the country. According to the minister, NRRP-funded investments have already created 4,390 nursery places nationwide, bringing Romania close to its target of 4,500 new places for early childhood education.

INVESTMENT 4, T468 / INVESTMENT 1, T457 - NRRP-FUNDED LOCAL INVESTMENTS. Interim Prime Minister Ilie Bolojan visited **several NRRP-funded projects in Hunedoara County**, highlighting the role of EU funds in local development. For example, he visited the “Ovid Densușianu” School, where a €7 million-equivalent renovation project funded through the NRRP is 90% complete and contributes to **Target 468 (Investment 4) under Component 15**. The Prime Minister later inaugurated a new nursery in Simeria, built through the government’s “Sfânta Ana” program and financed under Component 15. The facility, valued at RON 17.7 million, is the 73rd nursery

completed nationwide under the NRRP and supports **Target 457 (Investment 1)**, which aims to build, equip, and operationalize 110 nurseries across Romania. During the visit, Bolojan emphasized that investments in early childhood education infrastructure are essential for supporting families and strengthening local communities.

C16. REPowerEU

Reforms

REFORM 1, M509 - LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR RENEWABLE ACCELERATION ZONES. The legislative proposal amending Law No. 268/2001 to implement **NRRP Component C16, Reform 1, Milestone 509**, concerning the use of state-owned land administered by ADS for renewable energy acceleration zones, was registered and sent to the responsible committees of the Chamber of Deputies, to issue a report by 16.06.2026. The proposal covers class IV and V agricultural land, degraded or unproductive land and other eligible ADS land, while excluding Natura 2000 sites, protected areas and main migration routes.

Investments

No relevant updates.

General News

NRRP PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH THE NATIONAL INVESTMENT COMPANY. The Chamber of Deputies (decisional chamber) adopted the law approving GEO no. 42/2024 without amendments, establishing the legal framework for the preparation and execution of projects within **NRRP - Components 11, 12, 14, and 15**, while designating the **National Investment Company (CNI) as the implementing structure for a wide range of national investments**. Specifically, under **Component 11**, CNI will manage projects for **Target 337, Investment 2**, focusing on upgrading/creating museums and memorials, including the National Museum of Jewish History and the

Holocaust in Bucharest and the Râmnicu Sărat Silence Prison. Under **Component 12**, CNI will implement projects for **Targets 375 and 377, Investment 2** for public hospital infrastructure development (the "Prof. Dr. C.C. Iliescu" Emergency Institute for Cardiovascular Diseases in Bucharest and the Timișoara Regional Institute of Oncology), **Investment 1.3** for outpatient care units regarding an outpatient expansion with new MRI, SPA, and TIIP units, and **Reform 3** for health services management reform through 2 new competence development centers for public health system personnel. Under **Component 14**, CNI achieves implementation status for green-standard court construction under **Target 445, Investment 1**, covering new buildings for the Buzău Court, Galați Court, and Alba Tribunal, while under **Component 15**, it will oversee **Target 457, Investment 1** for building, operationalizing, and equipping 110 nurseries under the "Sfânta Ana Government Nurseries Construction Program." Additionally, the legislation refines the financial mechanisms and flows for NRRP structures to ensure the correct use of allocated European recovery funds, enabling CNI to submit funding requests and supporting documentation to fully state-funded public institution beneficiaries for payment transfers in accordance with GEO no. 124/2021.

EC Priorities. Priority 1: Prosperity & competitiveness

A Clean Industrial Deal

RED II TRANSPOSITION LAW ADVANCES IN RE-EXAMINATION. The draft bill approving GEO No. 163/2022, which transposes Directive (EU) 2018/2001 on the promotion of energy from renewable sources, has advanced in the re-examination procedure. The joint report of admission, with accepted amendments, was issued by the Environment Committee and the Industries Committee of the Chamber of Deputies. The report largely maintains the form adopted by the Senate and follows the President's re-examination request. The draft covers Romania's 2030 renewable energy objective, support schemes, permitting procedures, guarantees of origin, prosumers, renewable energy communities, heating and cooling, renewable energy in transport and sustainability criteria for biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels. The file remains under debate in the Chamber of Deputies.

REOPENING OF CLOSED INDUSTRIAL WASTE LANDFILLS FOR CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS. The legislative proposal amending OG No. 2/2021 on waste landfilling and GEO No. 61/2025 implementing the Critical Raw Materials Act (EU) 2024/1252 was adopted by the Senate. The initiative would allow the controlled reopening of closed industrial waste landfills to recover critical raw materials or other valuable materials. Next, the proposal will be sent to the Chamber of Deputies for final debate.

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR ALTERNATIVE FUELS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION. The law on approving the emergency ordinance establishing the national institutional framework for implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1804 on alternative fuels infrastructure (AFIR) was published in the Official Gazette. The ordinance replaces the previous regime based on Directive 2014/94/EU and ensures compliance with EU obligations across all transport modes.

SGR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR UNRETURNED PACKAGING. After almost two years in Parliament, the draft bill approving GEO No. 96/2023 has received a joint admission report from the Environment Committee and the Industries Committee of the Chamber of Deputies. The ordinance amends the Environmental Fund framework by introducing contributions owed by economic operators for SGR packaging for which the minimum annual return targets are not met. The contribution is set at RON 0.5 for each unreturned non-reusable metal packaging unit and RON 1 for each unreturned glass or plastic packaging unit. The draft also confirms the annual SGR return targets, namely 65% for 2024, 75% for glass and 80% for plastic and metal in 2025, and 85% for glass and 90% for plastic and metal from 2026. The resulting amounts will be used to finance waste management infrastructure, while the draft also allows Environmental Fund financing for the "Green Week" programme and updates the procedure for listing non-compliant landfills to be closed. Next, the draft bill will be debated and voted in the plenary.

INTERVENTION PROGRAMME FOR MINING SITES. The Government has published a draft decision approving an intervention programme for mining sites that were not included in formal mine closure programmes. The measure targets sites managed by companies that lack the resources needed to carry out works aimed at preventing or addressing alert or emergency situations. The programme will be administered by the Ministry of Economy, Digitalisation, Entrepreneurship and Tourism and implemented through Conversmin S.A. It covers interventions related to instability, pollution risks and potential impacts on nearby communities, with an annual budget of RON 2 million financed from the state budget.

CONVERSION OF PETROLEUM EXPLOITATION AGREEMENTS INTO GAS STORAGE AGREEMENTS. The draft bill which seeks to amend the Petroleum Law No. 238/2004 by introducing a mechanism allowing the conversion of existing petroleum exploitation agreements into agreements for underground natural gas storage was registered and sent to the responsible committees of the Chamber of Deputies, to issue a report by 24.06.2026. The proposal would allow the competent authority to approve the conversion at the request of the agreement holder, eliminating the need for abandonment procedures and a new public tender for a storage license.

Business & Economy

FDI SCREENING RULES EXPANDED. The Prime Minister's Chancellery published for public consultation a draft decision which approves the **new operating regulations of the CEISD and extends the analysis of investments to foreign direct investments**, new investments and investments from the European Union. Targeted investors must **submit the documentation electronically**, in Romanian and English, with a valid electronic signature, and **meet the CEISD requirements** within the established deadlines. For conditional authorizations, companies **must implement behavioral or structural commitments** and accept continuous monitoring by the authorities. The main impact is procedural and compliance, especially for transactions in sectors sensitive to national security, public order or relevant projects at EU level. After the period of public consultation, the decision is expected to be adopted by the Government.

Commercial agreements

No relevant updates.

Digital tech, research and innovation

FRAMEWORKS FOR CYBERSECURITY AND DIGITAL TECH ADOPTED BY THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES. The Chamber of Deputies (decisional chamber) adopted this week three laws advancing the digital framework developments in Romania. They now have to be signed by the President before entering into force.

The first one introduces **amendments to the Criminal Code to exempt good-faith actions from being classified as criminal offenses under Article 360 Paragraphs (1) and (3) regarding illegal access to a computer system, Article 361 regarding illegal interception of computer data transmissions, and Article 364 regarding unauthorized computer data transfers.** This exemption applies exclusively to individuals or legal entities that meet cumulative criteria for researching and reporting vulnerabilities in information and communication technology (ICT) products or services without causing harm or utilizing unauthorized access. To facilitate cooperation, analysis, and inter-authority communication in cybersecurity, the legislation establishes an inter-institutional committee coordinated by the National Cyber Security Directorate (DNSC).

The second one establishes the **first unitary legal framework for auditing, managing, and securing public digital infrastructure by creating the National Platform for Public Digital Infrastructure (PNIDP), a single registry of all digital resources used by public institutions, including domains, websites, applications, software licenses, IT equipment, and publicly funded projects.** Administered by the Authority for the Digitalization of Romania (ADR), with technical infrastructure from the Special Telecommunications Service (STS) and security standards from the National Cyber Security Directorate (DNSC), the platform excludes defense and security sectors and will enforce institutional cooperation mechanisms via a joint order within 90 days of enactment. The act mandates the appointment of a digital officer in each institution, enforces compliance with annual minimum technical and security standards (including MFA, TLS encryption, DNSSEC, WCAG 2.1 AA, backups, patch management, and Government Cloud usage), ensures interoperability with the National Interoperability Platform, and allows the redistribution of unused software licenses.

Finally, the third one provides for a **uniform procedure for selecting general directors at National Research and Development Institutes (INCD) through public competitions organized by their coordinating central public administration bodies** based on a specific methodology to be updated within 30 days of the law's publication. These selection procedures, which explicitly outline eligibility conditions, competition phases, and subsequent institutional obligations, must be publicly announced on the websites of the coordinating body, the respective INCD, and the European EURAXESS platform. This explicit recognition addresses previous regulatory uncertainties regarding funding, scientific result validation, and participation in national or European programs, allowing these specialized structures to operate on the basis of research and development projects approved by their internal leadership and financed through budgetary allocations or other legally constituted sources.

HEATED TOBACCO PRODUCTS REGULATION AND DIRECTIVE TRANSPOSITION. The law that approves GO 23/2023 to transpose Delegated Directive (EU) 2022/2100, establishing a **comprehensive regulatory and labeling framework for heated tobacco products** was signed by the President and published in the Official Gazette, entering into force on June 12. The legislation defines these items as **novel tobacco products that are heated to produce an inhalable emission containing nicotine and other chemicals, classifying them based on individual characteristics as either smokeless tobacco products or tobacco products for smoking**. To curb appeal, it strictly prohibits the marketing of heated tobacco products with characteristic flavors, components that alter smell, taste, or smoke intensity (such as treated filters, papers, packaging, or capsules), and any tobacco or nicotine integrated into filters, papers, or capsules. Furthermore, the framework mandates that each unit packet and outer packaging display combined health warnings alongside the informational message Tobacco smoke contains over 70 substances that cause cancer.

Priority 2: Defence & Security

The European Defence Union

SAFE-FINANCED AIRBUS HELICOPTERS FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE. Romania signed a EUR 280.88 million contract with Airbus Helicopters for 12 multi-role helicopters under the SAFE programme. The acquisition covers seven H160 and five H145 aircraft for missions carried out by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, including SMURD, rescue, civil protection and public order operations. The helicopters will be operated by the General Aviation Inspectorate under the coordination of DSU. The H160 fleet will support civil protection, disaster response, public order and tactical security missions, while the H145 helicopters will be allocated to SMURD and mountain rescue operations. According to the Government's previous SAFE update, maintenance and repairs for both helicopter types will be carried out at facilities in Romania.

Borders and migration

No relevant updates.

Security & crisis management

No relevant updates.

Priority 3: Social rights

Social fairness

No relevant updates.

Young people & equality

No relevant updates.

Priority 4: Life quality

Agriculture & biodiversity

TEMPORARY SUPPORT FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS. A new legislative proposal submitted by PSD parliamentarians introduces temporary support measures for agricultural producers affected by the economic crisis in 2025 and 2026. The initiative would allow the suspension, until 1 August 2027, of certain overdue payment obligations, loan and leasing instalments, enforcement procedures and insolvency requests related to debts falling due in 2026. The measure would apply to a broad range of agricultural producers and would also affect creditors, including banks, non-bank financial institutions, leasing companies, distributors and agricultural input suppliers. The proposal also provides that, during the suspension period, no interest, penalties or late payment increases would be charged, while the implementation procedure would be approved by Government decision within 30 days.

Climate change

AIR QUALITY FORECASTING SYSTEM. The legislative proposal submitted by AUR parliamentarians to amend the framework on ambient air quality and national emissions reduction has received a joint rejection report from the responsible Senate committees. The initiative would introduce a National Air Quality Forecasting and Warning System, based on short-term forecasts for 24, 48 and 72 hours, daily public bulletins and pollution alerts issued when exceedance risks are identified. The proposal would also require local authorities to inform the population and apply temporary response measures in case of forecasted pollution episodes. Next, the proposal will be debated and voted on in the Senate plenary.

Priority 5: Democratic Europe

Democracy

PRESIDENT DAN DESIGNATES EUGEN TOMAC AS ROMANIA'S NEXT PM. President Nicușor Dan designated **PMP leader and MEP Eugen Tomac as Romania's next prime minister**. The decision comes after almost a month of failed negotiations between the President and the parliamentary parties following the collapse of the governing coalition. Accepting the nomination, **Tomac pledged to seek parliamentary support for a technical government** composed of **specialists rather than party representatives**. He stated that his future cabinet would maintain Romania's pro-European and transatlantic orientation, continue efforts to join the OECD, safeguard public finances, and focus on restoring citizens' trust in state institutions.

The nomination of Eugen Tomac has **triggered mixed reactions across the parliamentary spectrum** and has further complicated efforts to secure a governing majority.

- **PSD has emerged as the only major parliamentary party openly willing to discuss support** for Tomac's cabinet. Both interim party leader Sorin Grindeanu and PSD Secretary-General Claudiu Manda stated that the party is prepared to negotiate with the Prime Minister-designate.
- **PNL announced that it will analyse Tomac's proposals** but reiterated that it will not support any government involving PSD, directly or indirectly. Party leader Ilie Bolojan also expressed **serious doubts that a technocratic government could govern effectively** without a stable parliamentary majority;
- **USR agreed to hold discussions with Tomac** but maintained its opposition to any governing formula involving PSD. Party leader Dominic Fritz argued that reforms require political accountability and warned that **a purely technocratic cabinet would face significant difficulties** in Parliament;
- **UDMR described the nomination as an emergency solution and questioned the logic** of appointing the leader of an extra-parliamentary party to head a technocratic government. Party leaders indicated they will only decide after reviewing Tomac's programme and ministerial team;
- **AUR immediately rejected the nomination**. Senior party figures argued that Tomac is neither independent nor a technocrat and reiterated

their preference for early elections.

As a result, **the chances of Tomac's government securing parliamentary approval currently appear weak.** Under the current parliamentary arithmetic, a successful investiture would likely require either defections from parts of PNL despite the party leadership's official position, or a highly controversial alignment between PSD and the nationalist and far-right opposition parties AUR, SOS Romania and POT. Such a scenario would mirror previous occasions when these parties voted alongside PSD on key parliamentary initiatives. For now, the presidential strategy of building a technocratic government remains politically fragile, and the outcome of the investiture vote remains highly uncertain.

Rule of law

ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE ACCESS FRAMEWORK. The Senate, as the first chamber, adopted a **government bill** establishing the **national framework for implementing EU Regulation 2023/154 on European Production and Preservation Orders for electronic evidence.** The legislation sets out procedures for issuing, transmitting, executing, and challenging orders to preserve or disclose electronic data in criminal investigations, criminal proceedings, and the enforcement of prison sentences. It designates prosecutors and courts as the competent authorities depending on the stage of the proceedings, establishes direct cooperation mechanisms with authorities in other EU Member States, and provides judicial safeguards, including the right of affected persons to challenge data requests. The bill also introduces strict response deadlines and allows sanctions of up to RON 100,000 or 2% of global turnover for service providers that fail to comply with orders. The bill will now move to the Chamber of Deputies for a final debate.

STRONGER CHILD PROTECTION PENALTIES. The Chamber of Deputies, as the decision-making chamber, adopted a **new law increasing prison sentences for parents or caregivers who seriously endanger a minor's physical, psychological, intellectual, or moral development through any form of harmful treatment or conduct.** The law raises the penalty to between five and ten years of imprisonment. Where the offender committed the act while under the influence of drugs or psychoactive substances, the punishment is further increased to a prison term of seven to twelve years. The President of Romania is expected to soon sign this law.

Civil society

MULTI-YEAR NGO FUNDING LAW. The law amending Law No. 350/2005 on non-reimbursable public funding for nonprofit activities of

general interest was published in the Official Gazette on 10 June 2026 and will enter into force on 10 July 2026. The law introduces a framework for multi-year funding of nonprofit projects, establishing clearer rules for framework agreements, project selection, budget allocation and annual reporting obligations. Framework agreements may be concluded for up to four years and will set the total value of funding, project objectives and monitoring conditions, while project selection will be carried out once through a public procedure. Financing is approved for the full duration of each project, with funds allocated annually under the framework agreement and subsequent contracts, subject to the approval of annual progress and financial reports.

Priority 6: Foreign affairs

Enlargement and wider neighbourhood

ROMANIA BACKS EU ENLARGEMENT PATH. Romania reaffirms its **political support for the enlargement of the European Union to the Western Balkans, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine**, presenting this process as a strategic investment in the security and prosperity of the continent. In the messages sent at the EU-Western Balkans Summit in Tivat, President Nicușor Dan supported the **continuation of structural reforms in the candidate countries**, especially in the area of the rule of law, as an essential element for advancing the accession negotiations. Romania links the enlargement of the EU to the stabilization of the Eastern and South-Eastern neighborhood, with an emphasis on strengthening regional security and reducing geopolitical vulnerabilities. At the same time, **Bucharest supports the rapprochement of the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to the Union**, in parallel with the European path of the Western Balkans, as part of the same European integration agenda. Romania's position indicates active support for maintaining EU enlargement as a political priority, provided that the candidate countries continue to implement reforms

A new foreign economic policy

No relevant updates.

Reforming the international system

No relevant updates.