



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE and CONSUMERS

Director-General

Brussels,

Dear Complainant,

Thank you for your letter concerning the difficulties encountered in voting at a Romanian consulate, which resulted in your not being able to vote in the 2019 elections to the European Parliament.

Please allow me to answer the concerns you raise on behalf of the service in charge of Union citizenship rights, including electoral rights of EU citizens.

The right to vote is a cornerstone of European democracy and elections in the EU must follow the highest democratic standards.

The European Commission does not have a general competence in electoral matters. It is observed that in accordance with the division of competence between the European Union and its Member States, matters regarding the application of electoral laws, are the responsibility of the Member State authorities, and it is for the competent national administrative and judicial authorities to ensure compliance with applicable EU law and relevant standards.

As regards the elections to the European Parliament, the attention of the Commission has been drawn to a number of problems encountered by Romanian citizens who turned up to vote at diplomatic and consular missions of Romania. The Commission has raised this matter with the Romanian authorities. The Commission will not hesitate to act in its role of the Guardian of the Treaties should it be required.

As it did for previous elections, the Commission will produce a report on the conduct of the 2019 elections to the European Parliament. The report will be published on our website.

I trust this information is of use to you.

Yours sincerely,

Tiina ASTOLA