

Annual Rule of Law Report - Council of Europe contribution



2026

Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law (DG I)

Romania

I Justice System

CEPEJ

The European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) regularly collects data on judicial systems concerning efficiency and quality of the justice system. In the framework of the CEPEJ Study for the EU Justice Scoreboard, CEPEJ prepares Country profiles annually, including [Romania](#).

The 2024 data have been collected, quality checked and sent to DG-JUST in the framework of the 2026 EU Justice Scoreboard. The publication of the country profiles based on 2024 data will depend on final acceptance of the CEPEJ Study by DG-JUST. The CEPEJ Secretariat (christel.schurrer@coe.int) remains at the disposal of European Commission for any question related to these data.

EXECUTION OF JUDGMENTS OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Official statistics on the execution of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights are published in the Committee of Ministers [Annual reports on the execution](#) (next edition to be published in March 2026). The Department for the Execution of Judgments can be consulted for any question on statistics: DGI-Execution@coe.int.

Length of proceedings

Vlad group (40756/06) (STAND): Excessive length of civil and criminal proceedings and the lack of an effective remedy in this respect. The Court encouraged the authorities either to amend the existing range of legal remedies or to add new legal remedies, such as a specific and clearly regulated compensatory remedy, in order to provide genuine and effective relief to those affected by this issue.

Latest updates: In September 2024, the Committee of Ministers welcomed the progress achieved in reducing the length of judicial proceedings in Romania, as a result of the wide-ranging general measures adopted by the authorities. Moreover, taking into account the available domestic remedies, the Committee of Ministers considered that no other measures were required in this respect. They decided the transfer of this group of cases to the standard procedure, inviting the Romanian authorities to continue to closely monitor the situation in order to adopt any additional corrective measures required and to provide updated statistical data.

Presentation on Hudoc-Exec: [Vlad](#)

Latest decision: [CM/Del/Dec\(2024\)1507/H46-25](#)

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2024\)856](#); [DH-DD\(2024\)894](#); [DH-DD\(2025\)43](#)

Freedom of expression of judges in matters of public interest on social media

[Danilet](#) (16915/21) (STAND): In its Grand Chamber judgment of 15 December 2025, the Court found a violation of Article 10 of the Convention following an interference with a judge's freedom of expression on account of a disciplinary sanction imposed by the National Judicial and Legal Service Commission for two Facebook posts on matters of public interest, the reasons for which were found not to be relevant and sufficient and consequently did not meet a "pressing social need".

Presentation on Hudoc-Exec: [Danilet](#)

Implementation by the public administration and state institutions of final court decisions

[Săcăleanu group](#) (73970/01) and [Polyinvest and Others](#) (20752/07) (enhanced supervision): long-standing structural problem of non-implementation or delayed implementation of final domestic court decisions delivered against the State or legal persons under the responsibility of the State.

Latest updates: The authorities reported progress in the execution of the individual measures in several cases, including in the case of Omegatech Enterprises Ltd, which led to the closure of the Committee of Ministers' supervision of the individual measures in the relevant judgment with respect to this application in March 2024.

Presentation on Hudoc-Exec: [Săcăleanu](#); [Polyinvest](#)

Latest decision: [CM/Del/Dec\(2023\)1483/H46-29](#); [CM/Del/Dec\(2024\)1492/H46-28](#)

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2024\)177](#); [DH-DD\(2024\)757](#); [DH-DD\(2024\)1154](#); [DH-DD\(2024\)1226](#)

Freedom of expression - protecting journalistic and other media activity

[Ghiulfer Predescu group](#) (29751/09) (STAND): Unjustified interferences with the freedom of expression as a result of court decisions delivered in 2008 and 2017 respectively holding the applicants liable in tort for defamation for statements made on matters of public interest.

Latest updates: In March 2025, the Department for the Execution of Judgments requested the authorities to keep the Committee of Ministers updated on the ongoing procedure of the transposition of the EU Anti-SLAPP Directive (2024/1069).

Presentation on Hudoc-Exec: [Ghiulfer Predescu](#)

Latest submissions: from authorities: [DH-DD\(2024\)898](#); [DH-DD\(2024\)899](#); from NGO: [DH-DD\(2024\)758](#)

Freedom of expression in public debate and protests

[Chitic](#) (6512/13) (standard supervision): Unjustified interference with the applicant's right to freedom of expression as a result of a domestic court's decision holding him liable for disturbing the public peace and order and imposing a fine for having chanted slogans against the political regime in a central location in Bucharest while a demonstration was taking place nearby (violation of Article 10). The European Court found it reasonable to assume that the applicant's intention in chanting the slogans was to support the public criticism of the political leaders running the country at the time and that his actions amounted to a form of political expression.

Latest updates: In their September 2025 submissions, the authorities provided statistics on the number of sanctions imposed for disturbing the public peace and order during public manifestations.

Presentation on Hudoc-Exec: [Chitic](#)

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2025\)1127](#)

II Anti-corruption framework

GRECO

[Addendum to the Second Compliance Report](#) (22 January 2026)

4th round: Prevention of corruption in respect of members of parliament, judges and prosecutors

[Compliance Report](#) (5 August 2025)

5th round: Preventing corruption and promoting integrity in central governments (top executive functions) and law enforcement agencies

III Media pluralism

N/A

IV Other institutional issues related to checks and balances

EXECUTION OF JUDGMENTS OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Electoral rights

Cegolea (25560/13) (enhanced supervision): Discrimination related to the right to stand in parliamentary election and lack of judicial review regarding the fulfilment of an eligibility requirement that disadvantages national minority organisations not yet represented in Parliament.

Recent updates: In June 2024, the Committee of Ministers noted that the government tabled in Parliament a bill aimed at remedying the flaws identified in the judgment in relation to the procedure and the safeguards attending the eligibility requirement in question and strongly urged the Romanian authorities to ensure adoption of the legislation without any further delay.

Presentation on Hudoc-Exec: [Cegolea](#)

Latest decision: [CM/Del/Dec\(2024\)1501/H46-42](#)

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2024\)1109](#)

Mironescu (17504/18) (standard supervision): Unjustified restriction on voting rights of applicant serving his prison sentence outside the electoral constituency of his place of residence.

Latest updates: In 2023, the authorities submitted that they opted for legislative measures to implement the Court's judgment and that they will keep the Committee of Ministers informed of any relevant developments.

Presentation on Hudoc-Exec: [Mironescu](#)

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2023\)1160](#), [DH-DD\(2022\)1409](#)

Inclusiveness, quality and transparency of law-making and the legislative process

Maria Atanasiu and Others group (57001/00) (ENHA) and *Văleanu and Others* (59012/17) (enhanced supervision): Systemic deficiencies in the mechanisms set up in Romania as of 1990 to afford restitution or compensation for properties nationalised during the communist period. The European Court found this to warrant examination under the pilot judgment procedure and delivered such a judgment in 2010. Among many others, the Court criticised the complexity of the relevant legislation and the frequent changes made to it which had resulted in inconsistent judicial practice and in a general lack of legal certainty as to the interpretation of the core concepts. In the judgment rendered in 2023 in the case of *Văleanu*, the Court concluded that there still exists a structural problem as the restitution mechanism continues to fall short of being comprehensively effective and convincingly consistent.

Latest updates: In December 2025, the Committee of Ministers took note of the information provided by the authorities on a number of remaining issues in these cases and in particular the adoption of legislative measures (Government Emergency Ordinance no. 38/2025) in response to the Court's findings in the *Văleanu and Others* judgments and the solutions envisaged to respond to them. However, the Committee expressed concern that the new provisions for restitution in kind, requiring a complex valuation of each property subject to a restitution

claim could undermine the requirement that the restitution process proceeds without unnecessary delay. The Committee called on the authorities to submit a comprehensive action plan by 30 June 2026 containing an in-depth analysis of the implementation of the newly adopted measures and information on other outstanding issues.

Presentation on Hudoc-Exec: [Maria Atanasiu and Others](#); [Văleanu](#)

Latest decision: [CM/Del/Dec\(2025\)1545/H46-33](#)

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2025\)1186](#)

Legislation on secret surveillance measures based on national security considerations

Bucur and Toma (40238/02) (enhanced supervision): Lack of safeguards in the legislation on secret surveillance measures based on national security considerations, including the absence of domestic remedies enabling individuals to challenge the intelligence services' retention of data on their private life and obtain the destruction of such data when unlawfully collected or no longer necessary to achieve the objective pursued.

Latest updates: In December 2024, with a view to ensuring that the measures adopted in the framework of the ongoing reform efforts would lead to a national security legislation fully and effectively complying with the requirements of Articles 8 and 13 of the Convention resulting from the Court's relevant judgments, the Committee of Ministers strongly encouraged the authorities to make full use of the expertise available from the Council of Europe and request the opinion of the Venice Commission on the draft legislation and any subsequent amendments thereto. In June 2025, the authorities reported on the legislative progress of the secret surveillance-safeguards bill.

Presentation on Hudoc-Exec: [Bucur and Toma](#)

Latest decision: [CM/Del/Dec\(2024\)1514/H46-32](#)

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2025\)772](#)

VENICE COMMISSION

[CDL-AD\(2025\)014](#)- Opinion on the Emergency Ordinance regarding the merger of the 2024 elections for the European Parliament and for the local authorities.