

# **COUNTRY FACT SHEET**

## **ROMANIA**

**July 2007**

Research Directorate  
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada

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## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

### Official name

Romania

### Geography

Romania is located in south eastern Europe. The region has a total area of 237,500 km<sup>2</sup> and is composed of mountains and plains. Romania shares borders with Ukraine to the north, Hungary to the northwest, Serbia to the southwest, Bulgaria to the south, and Moldova to the east. Its southeast coast meets the Black Sea. Romania has a moderate amount of precipitation, with cold winters and hot summers; however, to the far southeast, the climate is temperate.

### Population and density

Population: 22,276,056 (July 2007).

Density: 90.9 people per km<sup>2</sup> (mid-2004).

### Principal cities and populations (as of mid-2003)

Bucuresti (Bucharest, capital) 1,929,615; Iasi 313,444; Constanta 309,965; Timisoara 308,019; Craiova 300,843; Galati 300,211; Cluj-Napoca 294,906; Brasov 286,371; Ploiesti 236,724; Braila 221,369.

### Languages

Romanian is the official language. Other languages spoken are Hungarian and German.

### Religions

Eastern Orthodox 86.8%, Protestant 7.5%, Roman Catholic 4.7%, other (mostly Muslim) and unspecified 0.9%, none 0.1%.

### Ethnic groups

Romanian 89.5%, Hungarian 6.6%, Roma 2.5%, Ukrainian 0.3%, German 0.3%, Russian 0.2%, Turkish 0.2%, other 0.4%.

### Demographics (2007 estimate unless otherwise indicated)

Population growth rate: -0.127%.

Infant mortality rate: 24.6 deaths/1,000 live births.

Life expectancy at birth: 71.91 years.

Fertility rate: 1.38 children born/woman.

Literacy rate: 98.4% of people aged 15 and older can read and write (2003 estimate)

### Currency

Romanian New Lei (RON)<sup>i</sup>

RON 2.20 = CAD 1.00<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> The Romanian New Lei (RON) was introduced to replace the Romanian Lei (ROL) on 1 July 2005 (*PHW* 2007, 1006). 1.00 RON = 10,000.00 ROL (XE.com 10 July 2007)

**National holidays**

2006: 1-2 January (New Year), 6 January (Epiphany), 23-24 April (Orthodox Easter), 1 May (Labour Day), 1 December (National Day), 25-26 December (Christmas).

2007: 1-2 January (New Year), 6 January (Epiphany), 1 May (Labour Day), 8-9 April (Orthodox Easter), 1 December (National Day), 25-26 December (Christmas)

**Head of State:**

President Traian Basescu (since December 2004).

**Head of Government:**

Prime Minister Calin Popescu-Tariceanu (since December 2004).

**Form of government**

Romania is a republic. Its head of state is the president, who is directly elected through popular vote and can serve a maximum of two five-year terms. The president appoints the prime minister with the Parliament's approval. The prime minister then appoints the cabinet, or Council of Ministers.

**Legislative structure**

The federal legislature is bicameral. Members of the Senate (137 seats) and the Chamber of Deputies (332 seats) serve four-year terms. Seats are accorded by party representation in proportion to election results. There is a minimum threshold for individual parties to claim seats (for example, 5% for single parties and 8% for two-party alliances). In addition, there are 18 chamber seats reserved for minority groups who do not meet these minimum requirements.

**Administrative divisions**

Romania has forty-one counties and one municipality.

Counties: Alba, Arad, Arges, Bacau, Bihor, Bistrita-Nasaud, Botosani, Braila, Brasov, Buzau, Calarasi, Caras-Severin, Cluj, Constanta, Covasna, Dimbovita, Dolj, Galati, Gorj, Giurgiu, Harghita, Hunedoara, Ialomita, Iasi, Ilfov, Maramures, Mehedinti, Mures, Neamt, Olt, Prahova, Salaj, Satu Mare, Sibiu, Suceava, Teleorman, Timis, Tulcea, Vaslui, Vilcea, and Vrancea.

Municipality: Bucuresti (Bucharest).

**Judicial system**

The judiciary consists of a Constitutional Court, which addresses the constitutionality of laws, a lower court system of municipal and county courts, a court of appeals, and a High Court of Cassation and Justice.

The Constitutional Court comprises nine members, appointed by the president, the Senate, and the Chamber of Deputies who each choose three of the court members to serve nine-year terms. This judicial body makes decisions regarding the constitutionality

of laws, treaties and ordinances as well as validates elections and maintains parliamentary rules.

The High Court of Cassation and Justice has the responsibility of enforcing uniformity in interpretations of the law, and of enforcing decisions made by lower levels of courts. It is composed of eleven judges who are appointed by the president and the Superior Council of Magistrates (consisting of the minister of justice, the prosecutor general, two representatives appointed by the Senate, and fourteen peer-elected judges and prosecutors). Lower court judges are also chosen this way.

Juries do not pass judgment on legal trials in Romania. Judges are the sole decision makers in a court of law.

### **Elections**

To elect members to the Senate and Chamber of Deputies, Romania has universal suffrage for citizens 18 years and older. Out of 469 seats (Senate 137, Chamber of Deputies 332), there are 18 seats reserved for minority groups. The most recent elections were held 28 November 2004, with the following results:

Senate:

Seats by party: Social Democratic Party (Partidul Social Democrat, PSD) 44, National Liberal Party (Partidul National Liberal, PNL) 30, Democratic Party (Partidul Democrat, PD) 20, Greater Romania Party (Partidul Romania Mare, PRM) 20, Humanist Party of Romania (Partidul Umanist din Romania, PUR) 11, Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania (Uniunea Democrata a Maghiarilor din Romania, UDMR) 10, independents 2.

Chamber of Deputies:

Seats by party: Social Democratic Party (Partidul Social Democrat, PSD) 111, National Liberal Party (Partidul National Liberal, PNL) 66, Democratic Party (Partidul Democrat, PD) 45, Greater Romania Party (Partidul Romania Mare, PRM) 34, Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania (Uniunea Democrata a Maghiarilor din Romania, UDMR) 22, Humanist Party of Romania (Partidul Umanist din Romania, PUR) 20, ex-PRM (Ciontu Group) 12, National Initiative Party (Gusa Group) (Partidului Initiative Nationala, PIN) 3, independent 1, ethnic minorities 18.

Presidential and legislative elections are independent of one another, although they were held concurrently in 2004. The next legislative elections are scheduled for 28 November 2008; the next presidential (first round) elections will be held 28 November 2009.

### **Defence**

In October 2006, military service became voluntary. Service is conducted through contracts, beginning with a five-year term, followed by successive terms of three years. In November 2006, the active forces of Romania numbered 69,600:

Army: 41,300

Navy: 7,300

Air force: 10,500

In November 2006, Romania also had 22,900 border guards, and an estimated 57,000 gendarmes. In 2006, the projected defence budget for 2007 was US 2.8 billion (CAD 2.9 billion).<sup>2</sup>

### **Media**

Article 30 of the 8 December 1991 constitution (revised 29 October 2003) entitles citizens to freedom of expression and freedom of the press, but it also prohibits "defamation of the country."

Romania's principal news agencies are Mediafax (privately owned) and Rompres (Romanian National News Agency, government-controlled).

In 2003, there were 69 daily newspapers in Romania. Romanian-language newspapers with a wide circulation are: *Adevarul (The Truth)*, *Cotidianul (The Daily)*, *Evenimentul Zilei (The Event of the Day)*, *Libertatea (Freedom)*, *Romania Libera (Free Romania)*. In 2000, there were approximately 8.5 million television receivers. In 2004, there were approximately 4.4 million telephone lines in use, 10.2 million mobile cellular telephone subscribers, 4.5 million internet users, and 2.5 million personal computers.

### **United Nations Human Development Index (HDI) and Country Rank<sup>ii</sup>**

Value: 0.805/1 (2004).

Rank: 60 out of 177 countries (2004).

### **United Nations Gender-related Development Index (GDI) and Country Rank<sup>iii</sup>**

Value: 0.804/1 (2004).

Rank: 49 out of 136 countries (2004).

### **Population below the national poverty line**

25% (2005 estimate).

### **Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)<sup>iv</sup>**

Score: 3.1/10 (2006).

Rank: 84 out of 163 countries surveyed (2006).

### **Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer (GCB)<sup>v</sup>**

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<sup>ii</sup> The HDI is a composite measurement of human development in a country, based on life expectancy, levels of literacy and education, and standard of living. Values are: 0.800 and higher (high human development), 0.500-0.799 (medium human development) and 0.500 and under (low development index). Countries are ranked in descending order by their HDI value.

<sup>iii</sup> The GDI adjusts the rating of the HDI to reflect inequalities between men and women.

<sup>iv</sup> The Transparency International CPI is based on composite survey data from 16 polls and 10 independent institutions. The data reflects the perceptions of resident and non-resident business people and country analysts. Scores range from 0 (highly corrupt) to 10 (highly clean). According to their score, countries are ranked in order from least corrupt (1) to most corrupt (163).

<sup>v</sup> The Transparency International GCB is a public opinion survey used to gauge people's perceptions of corruption within their own state.

Political parties 4.1, Parliament/legislature 4.0, business/private sector 4.0, police 3.6, legal system/judiciary 3.9, media 2.9, tax revenue 2.2, medical services 3.8, education system 3.2, the military 2.5, utilities 2.3, registry and permit services 2.8, NGOs 2.9, religious bodies 2.3.

[Information compiled from: BBC 21 May 2007; *ibid.* 19 Apr. 2007a; *ibid.* 19 Apr. 2007b; Europa World online n.d.; *The Europa World Year Book 2006* 10 June 2006; IFES ElectionGuide n.d.; Mediafax 24 Oct. 2006; *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006; RFE/RL 23 Oct. 2006; Romania 29 Oct. 2003; Transparency International (TI) 7 Dec. 2006; *ibid.* 7 Nov. 2006; United Nations (UN) 2006; United States (US) 17 Apr. 2007; *ibid.* Dec. 2006]

## 2. POLITICAL BACKGROUND

In 1989, Romania experienced a revolution as three decades of communist rule were overthrown.<sup>3</sup> On December 22, the National Salvation Front (*Frontul Salvării Naționale*, FSN) formed a provisional government; however, following public criticism, it formed a coalition government with 29 other groups until elections were held in February 2000.<sup>4</sup> Romania moved towards political pluralism and a market economy.<sup>5</sup> Throughout the 1990s, Romania encountered economic difficulties, inflation, labour disturbances and ethnic unrest; moreover, as of October 2000, its government was characterized by "continued instability within the coalition (four prime ministers in four years), economic deterioration, and perceived ongoing corruption."<sup>6</sup>

A new constitution was approved and ratified in 1991.<sup>7</sup> Following the 2000 election, Romania's government experienced some stability and its economy appeared to improve.<sup>8</sup> In November 2002, Romania was formally invited to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) (admitted March 2004).<sup>9</sup> In October 2003, the constitution was amended to address the legal rights of ethnic minorities, assure property ownership, and curtail the power of the executive government--all in an effort to conform to the standards of the European Union (EU).<sup>10</sup>

A new coalition government was elected in 2004.<sup>11</sup> Together, the new president and prime minister, Traian Basescu and Calin Popescu-Tariceanu, vowed to implement the necessary changes for EU membership.<sup>12</sup> In particular, Basescu promised to make Romania "a democracy in real terms."<sup>13</sup> In 2005, judicial reforms were legislated, and in 2006, an anti-corruption campaign passed in the legislature which placed a number of politicians under investigation.<sup>14</sup> Despite some hesitation in the European community regarding Romania's progress in enacting judicial reform, fighting corruption, controlling organized crime and improving human rights, Romania became a member of the European Union in January 2007.<sup>15</sup>

Following its EU induction, Romania's minority government suffered from increased internal strife which "plunged the government into a crisis."<sup>16</sup> Party infighting resulted in party alliances breaking up, including that of the National Liberal Party (PNL) in December 2006.<sup>17</sup> After months of fighting between the president and the prime minister, President Basescu was suspended by parliament on 19 April 2007.<sup>18</sup> He was accused of

committing "grave infringements of the constitution," although the constitutional court did not find any significant infringements.<sup>19</sup> The President faced an impeachment referendum on 19 May 2007;<sup>20</sup> there was a 44 percent turnout, 74 percent of which voted against Basecu's impeachment.<sup>21</sup> The Romanian press interpreted this vote as popular support for Basecu's political reforms.<sup>22</sup>

### **3. POLITICAL PARTIES**

#### **Government Coalition:**

##### **Justice and Truth Alliance (Alianta Dreptate si Adevar, ADA)**

The ADA was established in November 2003, at which time it comprised the National Liberal Party (Partidul National Liberal, PNL) and the Democratic Party (Partidul Democrat, PD).<sup>23</sup> The ADA's candidate, Traian Basecu, was elected president in the 2004 presidential elections.<sup>24</sup>

In the concurrent 2004 legislative elections, the ADA received approximately 32 percent of the vote, placing it in second behind another alliance, the National Union (Uniunea Nationala, UN) at 37 percent.<sup>25</sup> Following the election, the Humanist Party of Romania (Partidul Uman din Romania, PUR) split from the UN<sup>26</sup> to join a government coalition with the ADA and the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania (Uniunea Democrata a Maghiarilor din Romania, UDMR).<sup>27</sup> Former National Liberal Party leader, Calin Popescu-Tariceanu, is the prime minister.<sup>28</sup>

#### **Members of the Government Coalition:**

##### **National Liberal Party (Partidul National Liberal, PNL)**

The PNL dates back to 1848, and was officially founded in 1875.<sup>29</sup> It was inactive during the Communist reign between 1947 and 1989, but re-emerged in 1990.<sup>30</sup> The PNL is a centre-right party which supports political, social, and economic freedom.<sup>31</sup> In 2002 and 2003, it merged with several different Liberal groups.<sup>32</sup> The PNL is the leading member of the ADA, and is currently part of the coalition government.<sup>33</sup> PNL leader, Calin Popescu-Tariceanu, became Romania's prime minister, but now sits as an independent as required by the constitution.<sup>34</sup> In the 2004 elections, the PNL won 28 seats in the Senate, and 64 seats in the Chamber of Deputies. (In total, the Justice and Truth Alliance won 49 seats in the Senate and 112 seats in the Chamber of Deputies).<sup>35</sup>

##### **Democratic Party (Partidul Democrat, PD)**

The PD was officially founded in 1993,<sup>36</sup> although it is a branch of the former National Salvation Front (FSN) which held power following Ceausescu's death.<sup>37</sup> The PD supports a market economy.<sup>38</sup> It has been a member of several coalition governments,<sup>39</sup> and since September 2003, has been a member of the ADA.<sup>40</sup> In the 2004 elections, the PD won 21 seats in the Senate, and 48 seats in the Chamber of Deputies. (In total, the Justice and Truth Alliance won 49 seats in the Senate and 112 seats in the Chamber of Deputies).<sup>41</sup> Its leader is Emil Boc.<sup>42</sup> Its former leader, Traian Basecu,<sup>43</sup> is the current president of Romania.<sup>44</sup>



**Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania (Partidul Umanist din Romani, PUR), also known as the Conservative Party (Partidul Conservator, PC):** The Humanist Party of Romania (Partidul Umanist din Romania, PUR) was founded in 1991.<sup>45</sup> Politically, the party identifies itself as between the Social Democratic Party (PSD) and the PNL.<sup>46</sup> In 2000, the party allied with the PSD.<sup>47</sup> It did so again in 2004 as part of the United Nations (UN); however, following the 2004 elections, PUR left the UN to join the ADA as part of the coalition government.<sup>48</sup> In the 2004 elections, PUR won 11 seats in the Senate, and 19 seats in the Chamber of Deputies.<sup>49</sup> In 2005, PUR changed its name to the Conservative Party (Partidul Conservator, PC).<sup>50</sup> The PC's leader is Dan Voiculescu.<sup>51</sup>

**Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania (Uniunea Democrata a Maghiarilor din Romania,<sup>52</sup> also Uniunea Democrata Maghiara din Romania,<sup>53</sup> UDMR):** The UDMR was founded in 1990 to further the rights of Romania's ethnic Hungarian minority.<sup>54</sup> It has faced severe opposition from the extreme-right wing Greater Romania Party (PRM), who have called for it to be prohibited.<sup>55</sup> The party is currently a member of the ADA's coalition government, and its leader is Bela Marko.<sup>56</sup> In the 2004 elections, the UDMR won 10 seats in the Senate, and 22 seats in the Chamber of Deputies.<sup>57</sup>

#### **Other Parties Represented in Parliament:**

##### **Social Democratic Party (Partidul Social Democrat, PSD)**

The PSD is a successor to the National Salvation Front (FSN), and was officially created when the Social Democracy Party of Romania (Partidul Democratiei Sociale din Romania, PDSR) and the Romanian Social Democratic Party (Partidul Social Democrat Roman, PSDR) merged in June 2001.<sup>58</sup> The PSD is a strong supporter of both industry privatization and EU membership.<sup>59</sup> It has been a "dominant force" in the political arena.<sup>60</sup> In the 2004 elections, the PSD was joined by PUR to form the UN.<sup>61</sup> However, following the elections, PUR left the UN to join the ADA coalition, which left the PSD in opposition.<sup>62</sup> In the 2004 presidential elections, the UN candidate (and former leader of the PSD), Adrian Nastase, was defeated by a small margin.<sup>63</sup> In the 2004 legislative elections, the PSD won 46 seats in the Senate, and 113 seats in the Chamber of Deputies.<sup>64</sup> The PSD's leader is Mircea Geoana.<sup>65</sup>

##### **Greater Romania Party (Partidul Romania Mare, PRM)**

The PRM is an "extreme nationalist" party, founded in 1991.<sup>66</sup> It opposes special rights for ethnic minorities (particularly Hungarians) and supports Romanian nationalist interests.<sup>67</sup> The PRM is often associated with anti-Semitism and its leader, Corneliu Vadim Tudor, has been accused of holding "extremist political views."<sup>68</sup> In the 2004 elections, the PRM won 21 seats in the Senate, and 48 seats in the Chamber of Deputies.<sup>69</sup> In 2005, there were indications that the party led by former deputy Corneliu Ciontu, was heading in a more moderate direction.<sup>70</sup> Tudor returned to his position as chair and forced Ciontu to leave.<sup>71</sup> Ciontu left with 16 PRM deputies to form a new party;<sup>72</sup> the Ciontu group has 12 seats in the Chamber of Deputies.<sup>73</sup>

**National Initiative Party (Partidului Initiativa Nationala, PIN):** This party is led by former Social Democratic Party (PSD) member, Cozmin Gusa.<sup>74</sup> The party currently holds 3 seats in the Chamber of Deputies.<sup>75</sup>

Information on which group or person holds the remaining two seats in the Chamber of Deputies was not found by the Research Directorate.

**Ethnic Minorities represented in the Chamber of Deputies:**

In the Chamber of Deputies, there are 18 seats reserved for ethnic minority groups who do not meet the minimum requirement for proportional representation.<sup>76</sup> Subsequent to the 2004 elections, the minority groups are represented by the following: The Association League of Albanians in Romania (ALAR), the Association of Macedonians in Romania (AMR), Community of Lipovan Russians in Romania (CRLR), Jew's Communities Federation in Romania (FCER), Democratic Forum of Germans in Romania (FDGR), The Social Democratic Romas' Party in Romania (PRSDR), the Association of Italians in Romania (RO.AS.IT), Armenians Union of Romania (UAR), Union of Bulgarians in Banat-Romania (UBBR), Union of Croatians in Romania (UCR), Cultural Union of Rutens in Romania (UCRR), Democratic Union of Slovaks and Czechs in Romania (UDSCR), Turkish Democratic Union of Romania (UDTR), Democratic Union of Turkish-Muslim Tartars in Romania (UDTTMR), Hellenic Union of Romania (UER), Union of Poles in Romania "Dom Polski" (UPR), Union of Serbs in Romania (USR), Union of Ukrainians in Romania (UUR).<sup>77</sup>

**Other Parties (who did not meet the requirement for legislative representation in the 2004 elections):**

**Romanian Socialist Party (Partidul Socialist Roman, PSR)**

The PSR claims to be a successor of old socialist parties.<sup>78</sup> It was officially founded in 1992, and became a parliamentary party in 2002.<sup>79</sup> The PSR's leader is Ion Ciuca.<sup>80</sup>

**Christian and Democratic National Peasants' Party (Partidul National Taranesc Crestin si Democrat, PNTCD)<sup>81</sup> also known as the National Peasant Party-Christian Democrat (Partidul National Taranesc-Cretin Democrat, PNT-CD):<sup>82</sup>**

The PNTCD is a successor to the National Peasant Party which was founded in 1869.<sup>83</sup> It was banned under the Communist regime in 1947, but remerged in 1989, at which time it refused to work with the National Salvation Front (FSN) due to the FSN's high concentration of former communists.<sup>84</sup> The PNTCD has undergone numerous splits and mergers.<sup>85</sup> Following poor results in the 2004 election, the PNTCD merged with the Union for Romanian Revival (Uniunea pentru Renasterea Romaniei, URR) and formed the Christian Democrat People's Party (Partidul Popular Crestin Democrat, PPCD) which promotes a centrist platform.<sup>86</sup> The party's leader is Marian Petre Milut.<sup>87</sup>

**Party of Romanian National Unity (Partidul Unitatii Natiunii Romane, PUNR):**

Formerly known as the Romanian National Unity Party (Partidul Unitatii Nationale Romane),<sup>88</sup> the PUNR was founded in 1990.<sup>89</sup> It is a "right-wing nationalist" group

which opposes special rights for the Hungarian minority.<sup>90</sup> The PUNR's leader is Mircea Chelaru.<sup>91</sup>

**Ecological Federation of Romania (Federatia Ecologista din Romania, FER)**

The FER was created before the 1996 elections.<sup>92</sup> This ecological party merged with the Ecologist Movement of Romania (Miscarea Ecologista din Romania, MER) in 1998.<sup>93</sup>

**Romanian Ecologist Party (Partidul Ecologist Roman, PER)**

The PER won seats in 1996 in the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies.<sup>94</sup> In 2003, the PER merged with the Green Alternative Party-Ecologists (Partidul Alternativa Verde-Ecologistii) and the Romanian Ecologist Convention Party (Partidul Conventia Ecologista din Romania).<sup>95</sup> The PER's leader is Corneliu Protopopescu.<sup>96</sup>

**Romanian Workers' Party (Partidul Muncitoresc Roman, PMR)**

The PMR was created by former communists in 1995.<sup>97</sup> Shortly thereafter, its request to change its name to the Romanian Communist Party (PCR) was rejected by the Romanian government.<sup>98</sup> In 2004, the PMR formed the United Left Party after aligning with the United Socialist Party (Partidul Socialist Unit, PSU).<sup>99</sup> The PMR's leader is Ilie Neacsu.<sup>100</sup>

**Roma Party (Partida Romilor, PR)**

The PR represents Romania's Roma minority, and it is led by Nicolae Paun.<sup>101</sup> In 2000, the PR held one minority seat in the Chamber of Deputies.<sup>102</sup>

**Popular Action (Actiunea Populara, AP)**

In 2003, supporters of the former president, Emil Constantinescu, created the AP.<sup>103</sup> The party was joined by the Popular Christian Party (Partidul Popular Crestin, PPC), a 2001 offshoot of the PNTCD.<sup>104</sup> The AP's leader is Emil Constantinescu.<sup>105</sup>

**Democratic Front of Romania Party (Partidul Frontul Democrat din Romania, PFDR)**

The former prime minister and former PD chair, Petre Roman, created the PFDR in 2003.<sup>106</sup>

**New Generation Party-Christian Democrat (Partidul Noua Generatie - Crestin Democrat, PNG-CD)**

The PNG-CD is a successor to the New Generation Party (Partidul Noua Generatie, PNG), which was formed in 2000.<sup>107</sup> The PNG-CD's leader is George Becali, the owner of a soccer club.<sup>108</sup> In 2006, the PNG changed its name to the PNG-CD.<sup>109</sup>

**Other Parties:**

Christian Democratic National Party (Partidul National Crestin Democrat, PNCD); National Peasant Party (Partidul National Taranesc, PNT); National Reconciliation Party (Partidul Reconcilierii National, PRN); Romanian Party of Pensioners (Partidul Pensionarilor din Romania, PPR); United Socialist Party (Partidul Socialist Unit).<sup>110</sup>

## **Banned Parties:**

Information not found among the sources consulted.

## **4. ARMED GROUPS AND OTHER NON-STATE ACTORS**

Information not found among the sources consulted.

## **5. FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS**

Although Basecu defeated the attempt to impeach him in 2007, he is challenged by the opposition who remain in control of the parliament.<sup>111</sup> He has called for their resignation; however, he has no legitimate means to force their departure.<sup>112</sup> The European Commission (EC) has expressed hope that Basecu's victory will allow for anti-corruption reforms to continue;<sup>113</sup> however, observers say that it will be difficult for Basecu to push forward within the confines of the existing "old-guard government."<sup>114</sup> Some critics have stated that the best way to solve the discord is to hold an early election, rather than wait until the one scheduled for autumn 2008.<sup>115</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> XE.Com 15 May 2007.

<sup>2</sup> Canada 9 July 2007.

<sup>3</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1007.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, 1007-1008.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, 1008.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 1010; *Europa 2006*, 3628.

<sup>7</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1009.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, 1010.

<sup>9</sup> BBC 19 Apr. 2007a; *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1010.

<sup>10</sup> BBC 19 Apr. 2007a; *Europa 2006*, 3627.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>12</sup> BBC 19 Apr. 2007a.

<sup>13</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1010-1011.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, 1011.

<sup>15</sup> *See News* 26 Sept. 2006; Union of Councils for Soviet Jews. 5 Jan. 2007.

<sup>16</sup> EIU 13 Apr. 2007.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.* 26 Feb. 2007.

<sup>18</sup> RFE/RL 19 Apr. 2007; BBC 14 May 2007.

<sup>19</sup> BBC 14 May 2007.

<sup>20</sup> *The Economist* 24 May 2007.

<sup>21</sup> BBC 20 May 2007b.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.* 20 May 2007a.

<sup>23</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1011-1012.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, 1011.

<sup>25</sup> US 17 Apr. 2007; *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1011.

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*, 1013.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, 1009, 1011.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, 1011.

<sup>29</sup> *Political Parties of the World*. 24 Jan. 2005, 492.

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>32</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1012.

<sup>33</sup> US 17 Apr. 2007.

<sup>34</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1006.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*, 1016.

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- <sup>36</sup> *Political Parties of the World*. 24 Jan. 2005, 490.  
<sup>37</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>38</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1013.  
<sup>39</sup> *Political Parties of the World*. 24 Jan. 2005, 490-491.  
<sup>40</sup> Ibid., 491.  
<sup>41</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1016.  
<sup>42</sup> Ibid., 1013.  
<sup>43</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>44</sup> BBC 19 Apr. 2007a.  
<sup>45</sup> *Political Parties of the World* 24 Jan. 2005, 491.  
<sup>46</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>47</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1013.  
<sup>48</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>49</sup> Ibid., 1016.  
<sup>50</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>51</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>52</sup> Ibid., 1013.  
<sup>53</sup> *Political Parties of the World* 24 Jan. 2005, 492.  
<sup>54</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>55</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>56</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1013.  
<sup>57</sup> Ibid., 1016.  
<sup>58</sup> Ibid., 1013.  
<sup>59</sup> *Political Parties of the World* 24 Jan. 2005, 494.  
<sup>60</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>61</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1014.  
<sup>62</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>63</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>64</sup> Ibid., 1016.  
<sup>65</sup> Ibid., 1014.  
<sup>66</sup> *Political Parties of the World* 24 Jan. 2005, 491.  
<sup>67</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>68</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>69</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1016.  
<sup>70</sup> Ibid. 1014.  
<sup>71</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>72</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>73</sup> US 17 Apr. 2007.  
<sup>74</sup> PIN n.d.  
<sup>75</sup> US 17 Apr. 2007  
<sup>76</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1016.  
<sup>77</sup> Romania n.d.  
<sup>78</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1014.  
<sup>79</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>80</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>81</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>82</sup> *Political Parties of the World* 24 Jan. 2005, 490.  
<sup>83</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1014-1015; *Political Parties of the World* 24 Jan. 2005, 490.  
<sup>84</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>85</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>86</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1015.  
<sup>87</sup> PNTCD 14 May 2007.  
<sup>88</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1015.  
<sup>89</sup> *Political Parties of the World* 24 Jan. 2005, 493.  
<sup>90</sup> Ibid.

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- <sup>91</sup> *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1016.  
<sup>92</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>93</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>94</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>95</sup> *Europa 2006*, 3639; *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1016.  
<sup>96</sup> *Europa 2006*, 3639; *PHW 2007* Oct. 2006, 1016.  
<sup>97</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>98</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>99</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>100</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>101</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>102</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>103</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>104</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>105</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>106</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>107</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>108</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>109</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>110</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>111</sup> BBC 20 May 2007b.  
<sup>112</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>113</sup> *The Financial Times* 21 May 2007.  
<sup>114</sup> *The Economist* 21 June 2007.  
<sup>115</sup> *Ibid.* 24 May 2007; BBC 20 May 2007b.

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