

Comparative Study of Electoral Systems
Module 3: Macro Report

June 05, 2006

Country: **ROMANIA**

Date of Election:

November 22nd, 2009 (First Round)

December 6th, 2009 (Second Round)

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Date of Preparation: **October 25th, 2012**

NOTES TO COLLABORATORS:

- The information provided in this report contributes to an important part of the CSES project. The information may be filled out by yourself, or by an expert or experts of your choice. Your efforts in providing these data are greatly appreciated! Any supplementary documents that you can provide (e.g., electoral legislation, party manifestos, electoral commission reports, media reports) are also appreciated, and may be made available on the CSES website.
- Answers should be as of the date of the election being studied.
- Where brackets [] appear, collaborators should answer by placing an “X” within the appropriate bracket or brackets. For example: [X]
- If more space is needed to answer any question, please lengthen the document as necessary.

Data Pertinent to the Election at which the Module was Administered

1a. Type of Election

- Parliamentary/Legislative
- Parliamentary/Legislative and Presidential
- Presidential
- Other; please specify: _____

1b. If the type of election in Question 1a included Parliamentary/Legislative, was the election for the Upper House, Lower House, or both?

- Upper House
- Lower House
- Both
- Other; please specify: _____

2a. What was the party of the president *prior* to the most recent election?

Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) *Party A*
Partidul Democrat-Liberal

Note: From a legal point of view, the president is not allowed to be a member of a political party during his term in office. However, he/she may be publically endorsed by a specific party. Traian Băsescu raced for his second term with the endorsement of the Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L), as he had been the head of the party (at that time Democrat Party - PD) before his first term in office.

2b. What was the party of the Prime Minister *prior* to the most recent election?

Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) *Party A*
Partidul Democrat-Liberal

2c. Report the number of cabinet ministers of each party or parties in cabinet, *prior* to the most recent election. (If one party holds all cabinet posts, simply write "all".) Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and who have Cabinet voting rights.

<u>Name of Political Party</u>	<u>Number of Cabinet Ministers</u>	<u>Number of Portfolios</u>
<i>Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L)</i> <i>Partidul Democrat-Liberal</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Independent</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>

Note: Democrat-Liberal Party was holding 19 out of 21 posts (including the prime minister) of the interim government. However, many ministers were in charge of two ministries. The remaining 2 posts were held by the same independent minister.

2d. What was the size of the cabinet *prior* to the election (total number of cabinet ministers detailed in 2c)? Please include only full ministers and the prime minister in the count. Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and who have Cabinet voting rights.

11 ministers (including the prime minister) holding 21 posts in an interim government.

3a. What was the party of the president *after* the most recent election?

Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) *Party A*
Partidul Democrat-Liberal

Note: Traian Băsescu has been re-elected, thus the party remains the same. Please note that formally, the Romanian president is not allowed to be a member of a political party during his term in office.

3b. What was the party of the Prime Minister *after* the most recent election?

Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) *Party A*
Partidul Democrat-Liberal

3c. Report the number of cabinet ministers of each party or parties in cabinet, *after* the most recent election. (If one party holds all cabinet posts, simply write "all"). Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and who have Cabinet voting rights.

<u>Name of Political Party</u>	<u>Number of Cabinet Ministers</u>
<i>Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) Partidul Democrat-Liberal</i>	9
<i>Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (UDMR) Uniunea Democrată a Maghiarilor din România</i>	4
<i>Independent</i>	4
<i>Group of 'independent' MPs resigned from the opposition parties</i>	1

Note: The group of 'independent' MPs resigned from the opposition parties later transformed into a new party: National Union for Romania's Progress (UNPR) / Uniunea Națională pentru Progresul României.

3d. What was the size of the cabinet *after* the election (total number of cabinet ministers detailed in 3c)? Please include only full ministers and the prime minister in the count. Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and who have Cabinet voting rights.

18 ministers (including the prime minister)

4a. How many political parties received votes in the election? In this answer, we want political parties, not merely alliances or coalitions of political parties. Please include all parties that received votes, but do not include independents. Where coalitions are present, please count all member parties separately – for instance, a coalition of three parties would count as three parties in your answer, not as one party.

This report refers to the Presidential Elections of 2009. 10 political parties (individually or as part of electoral alliances) were represented by candidates in the presidential elections.

The last parliamentary elections took place on November 30th, 2008. At that time, 12 political parties had candidates for the Parliament. Apart from that, 18 organisations of ethnic minorities had candidates for the special seats in the Lower House dedicated to minorities.

4b. Please provide a source of data and link to a website with official, detailed election results (votes and seats) for all parties participating in the election. If the data is not available electronically, please provide the information in paper format if possible.

For official results of the 2009 Presidential Election, please visit the dedicated webpage of the Permanent Electoral Authority:

<http://www.roaep.ro/ro/section.php?id=66&l2=73&l3=132&ids=50>

For official results of the last Parliamentary Elections in November 2008, please visit the dedicated webpage of the Permanent Electoral Authority:

<http://www.roaep.ro/ro/section.php?id=66&l2=72&l3=126&ids=43>

4c. Please list all parties who received at least 1% of the vote nationally, and the applicable electoral results for each, in the following table. Please indicate the source (even if the same as in Question 4b), and add additional rows to the table as necessary. Please provide party names both in English and in the original language, if applicable.

The CSES survey was conducted for the 2009 Presidential Election. Official results were as following:

First round:

Candidate	Party/Parties	Number of Votes	% of Vote
A. Traian Băsescu	Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) Partidul Democrat-Liberal	3,153,640	32.44%
B. Mircea Geoană	Social Democratic Party + Conservative Party Political Alliance (PSD+PC) Alianța Politică Partidul Social Democrat + Partidul Conservator (PSD+PC)	3,027,838	31.15%
C. Crin Antonescu	National Liberal Party (PNL) Partidul Național Liberal	1,945,831	20.02%
D. Corneliu Vadim Tudor	Greater Romania Party (PRM) Partidul România Mare	540,380	5.56%
E. Hunor Kelemen	Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (UDMR) Uniunea Democrată a Maghiarilor din România	372,764	3.83%

F. George Becali	New Generation Party - Christian Democrat (PNG-CD) Partidul Noua Generație - Creștin Democrat	186,390	1.91%
Total	Valid votes	9,718,840	100%

Sorin Oprescu (Leader G), an independent candidate, also received 309,764 votes, meaning 3.18%. All other presidential candidates received less than 1% of the votes.

Second round:

Candidate	Party/Parties	Number of Votes	% of Vote
A. Traian Băsescu	Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) Partidul Democrat-Liberal	5,275,808	50.33%
B. Mircea Geoană	Social Democratic Party + Conservative Party Political Alliance (PSD+PC) Alianța Politică Partidul Social Democrat + Partidul Conservator (PSD+PC)	5,205,760	49.67%
Total	Valid votes	10,481,568	100%

For the last Parliamentary Elections (November 30th, 2008), official results were as following:

Lower House (Chamber of Deputies):

Party Name	Number of Votes	% of Vote	Number of Seats	% of Seats
A. Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) Partidul Democrat-Liberal	2,228,860	32.36%	115	34.43%
B. Social Democratic Party + Conservative Party Political Alliance (PSD+PC) * Alianța Politică Partidul Social Democrat + Partidul Conservator (PSD+PC)	2,279,449	33.10%	114	34.13%
C. National Liberal Party (PNL) Partidul Național Liberal	1,279,063	18.57%	65	19.46%
D. Greater Romania Party (PRM) Partidul România Mare	217,595	3.16%	0	0.00%
E. Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (UDMR) Uniunea Democrată a Maghiarilor din România	425,008	6.17%	22	6.58%
F. New Generation Party - Christian Democrat (PNG-CD) Partidul Noua Generație - Creștin Democrat	156,900	2.28%	0	0.00%
Total	6,886,794	100.00%	334	100.00%

** PSD+PC was an electoral alliance of Social Democratic Party (PSD) and Conservative Party (PC). As the two parties did hold common candidates, their electoral results cannot be separated.*

Upper House (Senate):

Party Name	Number of Votes	% of Vote	Number of Seats	% of Seats
A. Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) Partidul Democrat-Liberal	2,312,358	33.57%	51	37.23%
B. Social Democratic Party + Conservative Party Political Alliance (PSD+PC) * Alianța Politică Partidul Social Democrat + Partidul Conservator (PSD+PC)	2,352,968	34.16%	49	35.77%
C. National Liberal Party (PNL) Partidul Național Liberal	1,291,029	18.74%	28	20.43%
D. Greater Romania Party (PRM) Partidul România Mare	245,930	3.57%	0	0.00%
E. Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (UDMR) Uniunea Democrată a Maghiarilor din România	440,449	6.39%	9	6.57%
F. New Generation Party - Christian Democrat (PNG-CD) Partidul Noua Generație - Creștin Democrat	174,519	2.53%	0	0.00%
Total	6,888,055	100.00%	137	100.00%

* PSD+PC was an electoral alliance of Social Democratic Party (PSD) and Conservative Party (PC). As the two parties did hold common candidates, their electoral results cannot be separated.

4d. What was the voter turnout in the election?

54.37% (first round)
58.02% (second round)

4e. Please provide the following six statistics for the country at the time of the election studied, so that we may calculate voter turnout in various ways. Some definitions, where provided, are based on those developed by International IDEA.

▪ Total Population:

Definition: The total population includes all inhabitants, of all ages, both citizens and non-citizens (including illegal aliens).

21,462,186 (on January 1st 2010, according to Eurostat)

▪ Total Number of Voting Age Citizens:

Definition: This number is meant to approximate the eligible voting population.

17,495,174 (on January 1st 2010, according to Eurostat)

Note: This measure is expected to cover poorly the Romanian citizens living and working abroad.

▪ Total Vote:

Definition: The total number of votes cast in the relevant election. Total vote includes valid and invalid votes, as well as blank votes in cases where these are separated from invalid votes.

9,946,748 (first round)
10,620,116 (second round)

▪ Total Number of Invalid and Blank Votes:

227,446 (first round)
138,476 (second round)

▪ Voting Age Population:

Definition: Includes all persons above the legal voting age.

17,495,174 (on January 1st 2010, according to Eurostat)

Note: This measure is expected to cover poorly the Romanian citizens living and working abroad.

▪ Number of Registered Voters:

Definition: The figure represents the number of names on the voters' register at the time that the registration process closes, as reported by the electoral management body.

18,293,277 (first round)
18,303,224 (second round)

Note: In Romania all voters are registered automatically. These numbers used by the Electoral Permanent Authority are supposed to include Romanian citizens living and working abroad. However, the electoral register is generally regarded as poorly updated by the authorities, holding many errors.

5. Ideological family of political parties. For this question, please use the same parties that were used in the CSES Module 3 respondent questionnaire, and label them the same way (A-I).

Party Name	Ideological Family
A. Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) Partidul Democrat-Liberal	Christian Democratic Parties
B. Social Democratic Party (PSD) Partidul Social Democrat	Social Democratic Parties
C. National Liberal Party (PNL) Partidul Național Liberal	Liberal Parties
D. Greater Romania Party (PRM) Partidul România Mare	Other: Nationalist Left
E. Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (UDMR) Uniunea Democrată a Maghiarilor din România	Ethnic Parties
F. New Generation Party - Christian Democrat (PNG-CD) Partidul Noua Generație - Creștin Democrat	Other: combines Christian and Nationalist values

Ideological Party Families: (These are suggestions only. If a party does not fit well into this classification scheme, please provide an alternative and some explanation.)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| (A) Ecology Parties | (F) Left Liberal Parties | (K) Independents |
| (B) Communist Parties | (G) Liberal Parties | (L) Agrarian Parties |
| (C) Socialist Parties | (H) Right Liberal Parties | (M) Ethnic Parties |
| (D) Social Democratic Parties | (I) Christian Democratic Parties | (N) Regional Parties |
| (E) Conservative Parties | (J) National Parties | (O) Other Parties |

6a. Ideological Positions of Parties:

Please indicate party positions on a left-right dimension (in the expert judgment of the CSES Collaborator). Please use the same parties that were used in the CSES Module 3 respondent questionnaire, and label them the same way (A-I).

Party Name	Left					Right					
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A. Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) Partidul Democrat-Liberal							X				
B. Social Democratic Party (PSD) Partidul Social Democrat					X						
C. National Liberal Party (PNL) Partidul Național Liberal						X					
D. Greater Romania Party (PRM) Partidul România Mare					X						
E. Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (UDMR) Uniunea Democrată a Maghiarilor din România											
F. New Generation Party - Christian Democrat (PNG-CD) Partidul Noua Generație - Creștin Democrat								X			
G. <i>Independent candidate</i> - Sorin Oprescu					X						

6b. If you have asked respondents to rank political parties on an alternative dimension, other than the left-right dimension, please also provide your own rankings of the parties on this dimension. Please use the same parties that were used in the CSES Module 3 respondent questionnaire, and label them the same way (A-I).

Name of dimension: --

Label for left hand position: --

Label for right hand position: --

Party Name	Left					Right					
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A.											
B.											
C.											
D.											
E.											
F.											
G.											
H.											
I.											

7. In your view, what are the five most salient factors that affected the outcome of the election (e.g. major scandals; economic events; the presence of an independent actor; specific issues)? Rank them according to their salience (1 = most salient).

1. Scandal: Public issue and broadcasting of a short film apparently showing president Traian Băsescu hitting a child during an electoral rally in 2004. Supporters of the president accused it to be a fake.

2. Political event: The vote of non-confidence for the Emil Boc government on October 13th, 2009, after the withdrawal of the Social Democrat Party (PSD) from the government coalition. The government crisis continued until the presidential elections, with Emil Boc's cabinet acting as interim government.

3. The economic crisis.

4. Scandal: Publication of a series of photos showing Mircea Geoană in a late-night visit at the house of Sorin Ovidiu Vântu, a highly controversial business man. It has been used during the final debate.

5. Issue: A severe outgrowth in the political discourse of a divisive perspective on employees in public sector vs. employees in private sector. It is particularly significant for the case of the acting president, Traian Băsescu.

8. Party Leaders and Presidential Candidates:

In the table below, report the leader(s) of each party. Please use the same parties that were used in the CSES Module 3 respondent questionnaire, and label them the same way (A-I). If candidates were endorsed by more than one party, please indicate this.

Party Name	Name of Presidential Candidate, if appropriate
A. Democrat-Liberal Party (PD-L) Partidul Democrat-Liberal	A. Traian Băsescu
B. Social Democratic Party + Conservative Party Political Alliance (PSD+PC) Alianța Politică Partidul Social Democrat + Partidul Conservator (PSD+PC)	B. Mircea Geoană
C. National Liberal Party (PNL) Partidul Național Liberal	C. Crin Antonescu
D. Greater Romania Party (PRM) Partidul România Mare	D. Corneliu Vadim Tudor
E. Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (UDMR) Uniunea Democrată a Maghiarilor din România	E. Hunor Kelemen
F. New Generation Party - Christian Democrat (PNG-CD) Partidul Noua Generație - Creștin Democrat	F. George Becali
G. <i>Independent candidate</i>	G. Sorin Oprescu

9a. Fairness of the Election

How impartial was the body that administered the election law?

- Very impartial
- Mostly impartial
- Not very impartial
- Not impartial at all

9b. Was there a formal complaint against the national level results?

- Yes
- No

9c. Were there irregularities reported by international election observers?

- Yes
- No
- No international election observers

9d. On what date was the election originally scheduled to be held?

November 22nd, 2009 (first round)

December 6th, 2009 (second round)

9e. On what date was the election actually held? If different from 1d, please explain why.

November 22nd, 2009 (first round)

December 6th, 2009 (second round)

10a. Election Violence

To what extent was there violence and voter or candidate intimidation during the election campaign and the election day?

- No violence at all
- Sporadic violence on the part of the government
- Sporadic violence on the part of opposition groups
- Sporadic violence on all sides
- Significant violence on the part of the government
- Significant violence on the part of opposition groups
- Significant violence of all sides

10b. If there was violence, was it geographically concentrated or national?

- Geographically concentrated
- National

10c. Post-Election (and election-related) Violence

To what extent was there violence following the election?

- No violence at all
- Sporadic violence on the part of the government
- Sporadic violence on the part of opposition groups
- Sporadic violence on all sides
- Significant violence on the part of the government
- Significant violence on the part of opposition groups
- Significant violence of all sides

10d. Post-Election (and election-related) Protest

To what extent was there protest following the election?

- No protest at all
- Sporadic protest
- Significant protest

Questions about the Possibilities of Electoral Alliance

Definitions: A joint list refers to one on which candidates of different parties run together. Apparentement refers to a legal agreement between two or more lists to pool their votes for the purposes of an initial seat allocation, with seats initially allocated to the alliance then reallocated to the lists in the alliance.

11. Joint Lists/Candidates

There are multiple types of electoral alliances/coalitions, but we are explicitly interested in those involving joint lists or candidates - i.e. those where parties compete as a unit during the election.

Is this type of electoral coalition legally allowable?

Yes

No

Note: The CSES survey was conducted for the 2009 Presidential Election. Joint candidates are allowed both in Parliamentary and Presidential elections. However, the alliance has to be legally registered.

Is this type of electoral coalition used in practice, even if not legally allowable?

Yes

No

If “Yes” was answered to either of the above questions, then please complete the following table for the election at which the Module was administered. Please mention only alliances that received at least 1% of the vote nationally. Add additional lines to the table as necessary.

Note: The CSES survey was conducted for the 2009 Presidential Election, thus alliances sharing a common presidential candidate are listed.

Alliance Name	Participating Parties (please indicate dominant members with an “*”)
Alliance 1: Social Democratic Party + Conservative Party Political Alliance (PSD+PC) Alianța Politică Partidul Social Democrat + Partidul Conservator (PSD+PC)	(1) Social Democratic Party (PSD)* (2) Conservative Party (PC)

12. If joint lists are possible, are they subject to different regulations than single-party lists? For example, higher thresholds, different numbers of candidates that may appear on the list, etc. (please mark all applicable responses)

The CSES survey was conducted for the 2009 Presidential Election, where joint candidates are not subject to different regulations.

For the last Parliamentary Elections in November 2008, in the case of alliances 3% was added to the normal 5% threshold for the second party and 1% for each additional party in the alliance. However, the requested threshold for alliances could not exceed 10%.

- Yes, joint party lists must satisfy higher thresholds
- Yes, joint party lists may present different numbers of candidates
- Yes, joint party lists are subject to other regulations that are different from the regulations governing independent parties; please specify: _____
- No, joint parties are governed by the same rules as the other parties
- Not applicable; no joint party lists are allowed

13a. Is there apparentement or linking of lists?

- Yes
- No

13b. If apparentement is possible, what lists can participate in such agreements:

- lists of the same party in the same constituency
- lists of the same party from different constituencies
- lists of different parties in the same constituency

14a. Can candidates run with the endorsement of more than one party?

- Yes
- No

Note: The only exception is the case of parties that form a registered electoral alliance and have joint candidates.

14b. If candidates can run with the endorsement of more than one party, is this reflected on the ballot?

- No
- No party endorsements are indicated on the ballot paper
- Yes, candidate's name appears once, together with the names of all supporting parties
- Yes, candidate's name appears as many times as there are different parties endorsing him/her, each time with the name of the endorsing party
- Yes, other; please explain: _____

Data on Electoral Institutions

Note: The CSES survey was conducted for the 2009 Presidential Election. All answers (Q15A to Q21d) refer to the last Parliamentary Election in November 2008.

If possible, please supplement this section with copies of the electoral law, voters' handbooks, electoral commission reports, and/or any other relevant materials.

Questions 15a through 21d must be repeated for each electoral tier (segment) of each directly elected house of the legislature.

Electoral Tier (Segment) and House

15a. In your answers for questions 15a through 21d, which electoral tier (segment) is being referred to? (Note: Countries with only one tier may skip this question.)

Voters cast a single vote for each Chamber of the Parliament, thus all answers refer to both tiers.

15b. In your answers for questions 15a through 21d, which house is being referred to (lower or upper)? (Note: Countries with only one tier may skip this question.)

Regulations are similar for the two Chambers of the Parliament. Wherever differences occur, they will be highlighted.

Questions about Voting

16a. How many votes do voters cast or can cast? In systems where voters rank order the candidates, if there are 10 candidates (for example), the response to this question should be 10.

One vote for the Senate

One vote for the Chamber of Deputies

16b. Do they vote for candidates (not party lists) or party lists? (Note: Collaborators may select multiple answers, if appropriate.)

(Definition: Party bloc voting is used in multi-member districts where voters cast a single party-centered vote for their party of choice; the party with the most votes wins all of the district seats.)

Senate:

- Candidates
- Party Lists
- Party Bloc Voting
- Other; please explain: _____

Chamber of Deputies:

- Candidates
- Party Lists
- Party Bloc Voting
- Other; please explain: _____

16c. How many rounds of voting are there?

Senate: One

Chamber of Deputies: One

16d. If there are lists, are they closed, open, flexible, or is there party bloc voting?

- Closed (order of candidates elected is determined by the party and voters are unable to express preference for a particular candidate)
- Open (voters can indicate their preferred party and their favored candidate within that party)
- Flexible (voters can allocate votes to candidates either within a single party list or across different party lists as they see fit)

17. Are the votes transferable?

(Definition: In systems with preferential voting, a voter can express a list of preferences. E.g., votes can be cast by putting a '1' in the column next to the voter's preferred candidate, a '2' beside their second favorite candidate and so on. Votes are counted according to the first preferences and any candidates who have achieved the predetermined quota are elected. To decide which of the remaining candidates are elected the votes are *transferred* from candidates who have more than the necessary number to achieve the quota and from the candidate with the least number of votes. An example of this is the election in Ireland in 2002.)

Senate:

- Yes
- No

Chamber of Deputies:

- Yes
- No

18. If more than one vote can be cast, can they be cumulated?

(Definition: Cumulative voting refers to systems in which voters are allowed to cast more than one vote for a single candidate.)

- Yes
- No

19. Is voting compulsory?

(Definition: Voting is compulsory if the law states that all those who have the right to vote are obliged to exercise that right.)

Senate:

- Yes; Strictly Enforced Sanctions
- Yes; Weakly Enforced Sanctions
- Yes; Without Sanction for Violation
- No

Chamber of Deputies:

- Yes; Strictly Enforced Sanctions
- Yes; Weakly Enforced Sanctions
- Yes; Without Sanction for Violation
- No

20. Please list and describe any other features of voting that should be noted.

The new electoral legislation (Law no. 35/2008) established a two-tier seat allocation for both Chambers of the Parliament. However, the voter casts only one vote for each of the Chambers. The division of seats between tiers is variable and depends on the actual result of voting. In extreme theoretical circumstances, it is possible for one tier not to receive seats at all. Overhang seats are allowed.

The country is divided into a fixed number of electoral colleges (representation districts) for each of the two Chambers of the Parliament. For the Chamber of Deputies one seat is allocated for every 70,000 inhabitants, while for the Senate it is allocated for 160,000 inhabitants. Each electoral college elects one MP.

How are seats allocated?

On the first tier, seats are allocated to candidates receiving a majority of 50%+1 of the votes cast within the representation district. This district-level candidate threshold is cumulated to a national-level party one: either (a) 5%

for individual parties, 8% for two-party electoral alliances, 9% for three-party electoral alliances, 10% for 4+ parties alliances; or (b) gaining simultaneously 6 districts for the Chamber of Deputies and 3 for the Senate.

On the second tier, the remaining seats are allocated according to a complicated algorithm (for details, see Marian and King 2010) to other candidates based on candidate results at district level and party results at constituency level. At this level the same threshold (alternatives (a) or (b) above) remains in place.

Overall results (first plus second tier) of the seat allocation are very similar to a PR formula. A corrective mechanism of additional seat allocation at constituency level is designed to compensate for deviations from proportionality.

Questions about Converting Votes into Seats

21a. Are there legally mandated thresholds that a party must exceed before it is eligible to receive seats?

Senate:

- Yes
 No

Chamber of Deputies:

- Yes
 No

21b. If YES in Question 21a, what is the threshold?

Senate:

The electoral legislation states two alternative national-level party thresholds (both tiers): either (a) 5% for individual parties, 8% for two-party electoral alliances, 9% for three-party electoral alliances, 10% for 4+ parties alliances; or (b) gaining simultaneously 6 districts for the Chamber of Deputies and 3 for the Senate.

On the first tier, seats are allocated only to candidates receiving a majority of 50%+1 of the votes cast within the representation district.

Chamber of Deputies:

The electoral legislation states two alternative national-level party thresholds (both tiers): either (a) 5% for individual parties, 8% for two-party electoral alliances, 9% for three-party electoral alliances, 10% for 4+ parties alliances; or (b) gaining simultaneously 6 districts for the Chamber of Deputies and 3 for the Senate.

On the first tier, seats are allocated only to candidates receiving a majority of 50%+1 of the votes cast within the representation district.

21c. If YES in Question 21a, what is the unit for the threshold mentioned in Question 21b?

Senate:

Alternative thresholds:

- (a) Percent of total votes
 Percent of valid votes
 Percent of the total electorate
 Other; please explain: _____
- (b) Percent of total votes
 Percent of valid votes
 Percent of the total electorate
 Other; please explain: *Number of representation districts gained.*

Chamber of Deputies:

Alternative thresholds:

- (a) Percent of total votes
 Percent of valid votes
 Percent of the total electorate
 Other; please explain: _____
- (b) Percent of total votes
 Percent of valid votes
 Percent of the total electorate
 Other; please explain: *Number of representation districts gained.*

21d. If YES in Question 21a, please specify to what House/ Electoral Tier (Segment) the threshold(s) apply.

Both Chambers of the Parliament, both tiers

Please repeat questions 15a through 21d for each electoral tier (segment) of each directly elected house of the legislature. Countries with only one tier should proceed to Question 22.

References

22. Please provide an official source for district-level election results. English language sources are especially helpful. Include website links or contact information if applicable.

Romanian Permanent Electoral Authority (most of the information is available only in Romanian):
<http://www.roaep.ro>

23. Please list any resources that were consulted in the preparation of this report, or that the CSES community may find especially helpful in understanding the political system described. Include website links if applicable.

For an excellent presentation of the new electoral legislation in the case of 2008 Parliamentary Elections in Romania, please refer to:

Marian, Cosmin Gabriel & Ronald F. King. 2010. Plus ça change: Electoral law reform and the 2008 Romanian parliamentary elections. *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 43(1), pp. 7-18.