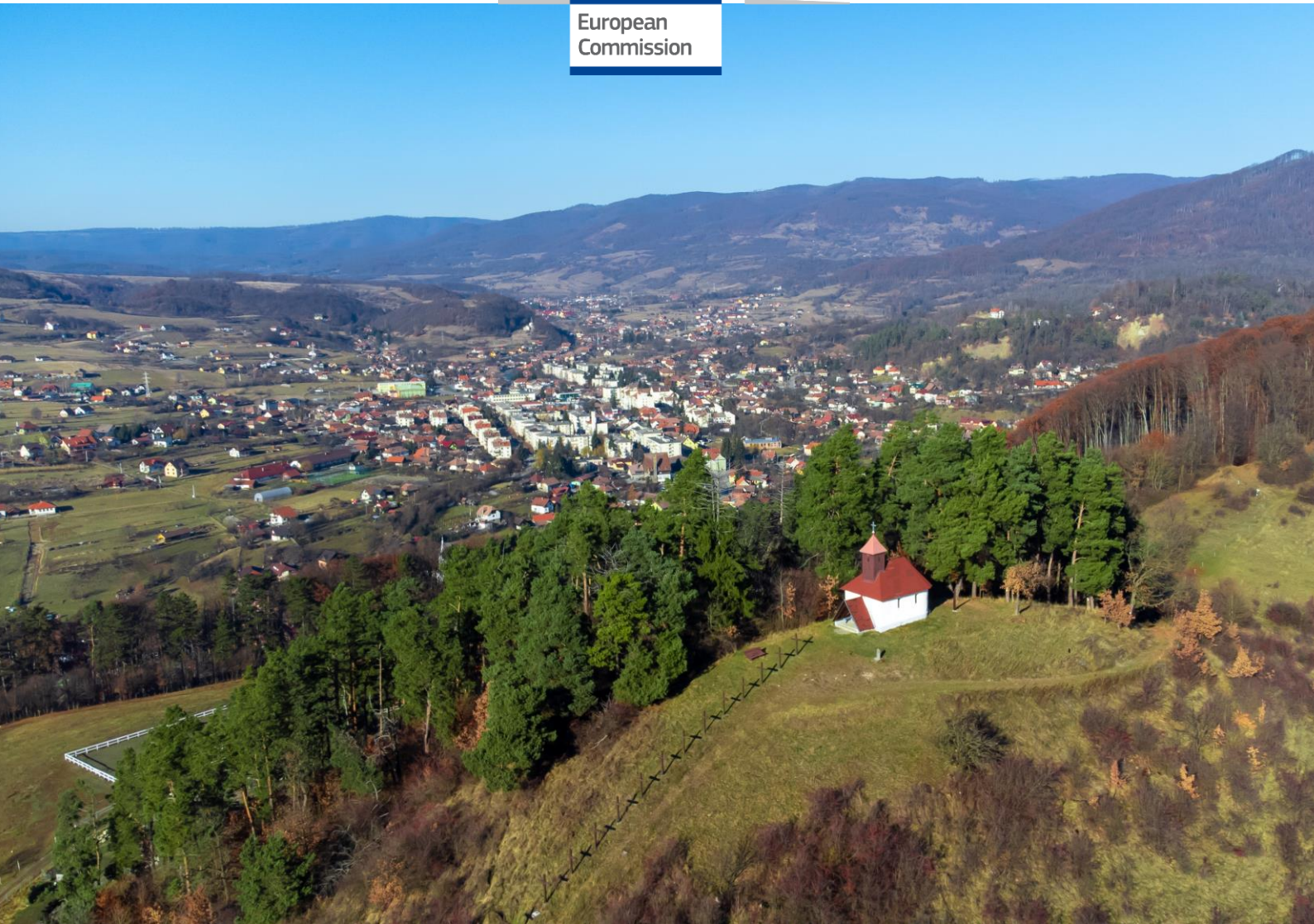




European
Commission



Digital Public Administration factsheet 2023

Romania

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1 Interoperability State of Play

1. Interoperability State of Play

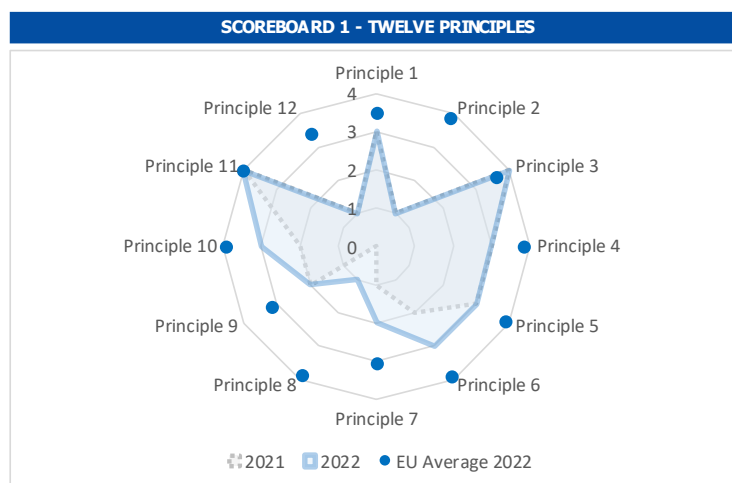
In 2017, the European Commission published the European Interoperability Framework (EIF) to give specific guidance on how to set up interoperable digital public services through a set of 47 recommendations divided in three pillars. The EIF Monitoring Mechanism (MM) was built on these pillars to evaluate the level of implementation of the framework within the Member States. Whereas during the previous, the MM relied upon three scoreboards, the 2022 edition includes an additional scoreboard on cross-border interoperability, assessing the level of implementation of 35 Recommendations. The mechanism is based on a set of 91 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) clustered within the four scoreboards (Principles, Layers, Conceptual model and Cross-border interoperability), outlined below.

| Scoreboard 1 Interoperability Principles | | Scoreboard 2 Interoperability Layers | | Scoreboard 3 Conceptual Model | |
|---|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| | Recommendation(s) n° | | Recommendation(s) n° | | Recommendation(s) n° |
| Principle 1 - Subsidiarity and Proportionality | 1 | Interoperability Governance | 20-24 | Conceptual Model | 34-35 |
| Principle 2 - Openness | 2-4 | Integrated Public Service Governance | 25-26 | Internal information sources and services | 36 |
| Principle 3 - Transparency | 5 | Legal Interoperability | 27 | Basic Registries | 37-40 |
| Principle 4 - Reusability | 6-7 | Organisational Interoperability | 28-29 | Open Data | 41-43 |
| Principle 5 - Technological neutrality and data portability | 8-9 | Semantic Interoperability | 30-32 | Catalogues | 44 |
| Principle 6 - User-centricity | 10-13 | Technical Interoperability | 33 | External information sources and services | 45 |
| Principle 7 - Inclusion and accessibility | 14 | | | Security and Privacy | 46-47 |
| Principle 8 - Security and privacy | 15 | | | | |
| Principle 9 - Multilingualism | 16 | | | | |
| Principle 10 - Administrative simplification | 17 | | | | |
| Principle 11 - Preservation of information | 18 | | | | |
| Principle 12 - Assessment of Effectiveness and Efficiency | 19 | | | | |

Scoreboard 4 Cross-border Interoperability

Source: European Interoperability Framework Monitoring Mechanism 2022

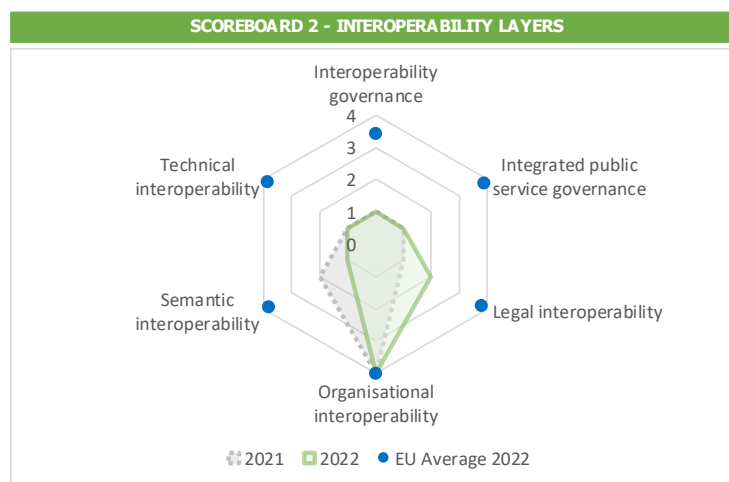
Each scoreboard breaks down the results into thematic areas (i.e. principles). The thematic areas are evaluated on a scale from one to four, where one means a lower level of implementation and four means a higher level of implementation. The graphs below show the result of the EIF MM data collection exercise for Romania in 2022, comparing it with the EU average as well as the performance of the country in 2021.



Source: European Interoperability Framework Monitoring Mechanism 2022

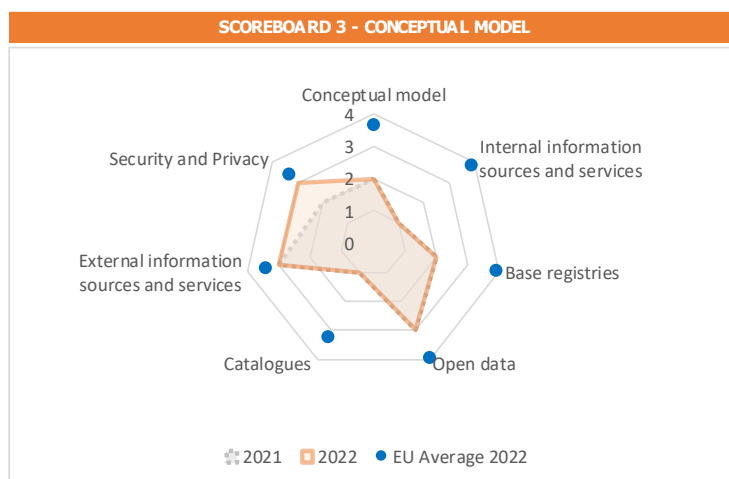
Romania's results in Scoreboard 1 show a medium implementation of the EIF Principles, scoring at the European average for various Principles, including Principle 1 (Subsidiarity and Proportionality), Principle 3 (Transparency) and Principle 11 (Preservation of information). Moreover, Romania progressed on the implementation of some principles compared to 2021. For instance, the country has now an upper-medium performance in Principle 7 (Inclusion and accessibility) as well as Principle 10. Nonetheless, Romania could further work on the implementation of several recommendations with low performance score. In this regard, Romania could undertake additional steps in ensuring a level playing field for open-source software and demonstrating active and fair consideration of using open-source software (Recommendation 3) as well as defining a common security and privacy framework and establishing processes for

public services to ensure secure and trustworthy data exchange between public administrations and in interactions with citizens and businesses (Recommendation 15).



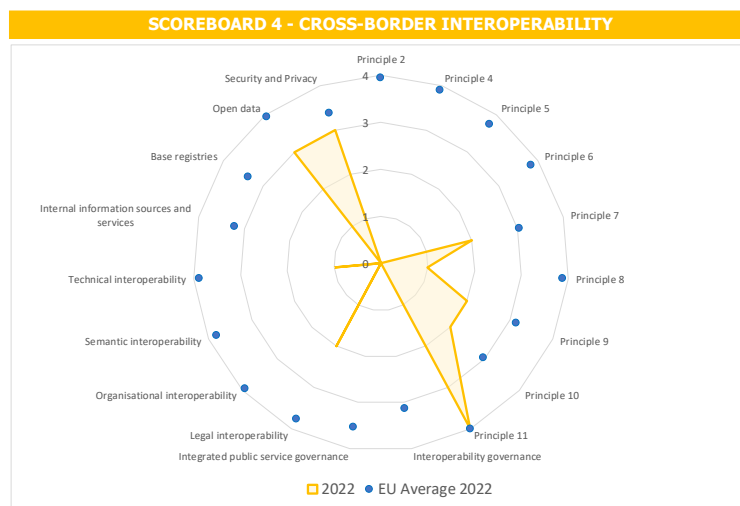
Source: European Interoperability Framework Monitoring Mechanism 2022

The Romanian results for the implementation of interoperability layers shows a medium-low performance in the implementation of corresponding recommendations. However, as in the case of Scoreboard 1, Romania shows progress in the implementation of the recommendations compared to 2021. Particularly, the country scores as good as the EU average in the organisational interoperability layer. Romanian performance improved also with regard to the legal interoperability, but country has still a Lower-medium performance. Potential areas of improvement entail keep working in ensuring interoperability and coordination over time when operating and delivering integrated public services (Integrated Public Service Governance – Recommendation 25) as well as using open specifications, where available, to ensure technical interoperability when establishing European public services (Technical Interoperability – Recommendation 33).



Source: European Interoperability Framework Monitoring Mechanism 2022

Romania's scores assessing the Conceptual Model in Scoreboard 3 shows a medium performance, matching at the EU average for the recommendations related to external information sources and services as well as security and privacy. Nevertheless, areas of improvement concern the implementation of recommendations related to Internal information sources and services and Catalogues, having both a lower performance. In fact, Romania could further work on the development of a shared infrastructure of reusable services and information sources that can be used by all public administrations (Recommendation 36) and on the setup of catalogues of public services, public data, and interoperability solutions while using common models for describing them (Recommendation 44).



Source: [European Interoperability Framework Monitoring Mechanism 2022](#)

The results of Romania concerning Cross-border Interoperability in Scoreboard 4 show an overall medium-low level of implementation of the associated recommendations. Romania has a higher performance in Principle 11 – Preservation of information, denoting the implementation of a long-term preservation policy for information related to European public services and especially for information that is exchanged across borders (Recommendation 18). Areas for improvement concern, among others, the definition of a common security and privacy framework and the establishment of processes for public services to ensure secure and trustworthy data exchange between public administrations and in interactions with citizens and businesses (Principle 8 Security and privacy – Recommendation 15). Moreover, Romania could further work to use a structured, transparent, objective and common approach to assessing and selecting standards and specifications, considering relevant EU recommendations and seek to make the approach consistent across borders (Interoperability governance – Recommendation 22). It is worth noting that the results are partially impacted by the lack of data along seven dimensions considered by the scoreboard.

Additional information on Romania’s results on the EIF Monitoring Mechanism is available online through interactive dashboards.

Curious about the state-of-play on digital public administrations in this country?

Please find here some relevant indicators and resources on this topic:

- [Eurostat Information Society Indicators](#)
- [Digital Economy and Society Index \(DESI\)](#)
- [eGovernment Benchmark](#)



2

Digital Public Administration Political Communications

2. Digital Public Administration Political Communications

2.1. Specific Political Communications on Digital Public Administration

Berlin Declaration on Digital Society and Value-Based Digital Government

In December 2020, the Romanian government signed the [Berlin Declaration on Digital Society and Value-Based Digital Government](#), thus re-affirming its commitment – together with other EU Member States – to foster digital transformation in order to allow citizens and businesses to harness the benefits and opportunities offered by modern digital technologies. The Declaration aims to contribute to a value-based digital transformation by addressing and strengthening digital participation and digital inclusion in European societies.

eRomania - A Public Policy in eGovernment

The [eRomania policy](#) aims to increase the capacity of Romanian institutions and public authorities to develop and implement eGovernment solutions. The problem underlying public policy in the field of eGovernment in Romania is the insufficient development of public eServices, an issue that is evident when taking a look at the small number of electronic public services made available to the public that go beyond level-2 digital sophistication (one-way interaction with citizens, e.g. downloading electronic forms). An eRomania public policy was thus urgently needed.

The policy revolves around 36 life events, representing a series of important public services in the lives of citizens and legal entities. The following four objectives were identified:

- General objective: increase the number and quality of electronic public services in Romania;
- Objective 1: develop life-event related public eServices for citizens and businesses by the end of 2030 reaching at minimum level-4 digital sophistication (where appropriate);
- Objective 2: strengthen the capacity of public institutions and authorities to operate in an advanced digital environment and provide mature public eServices by the end of 2030; and
- Objective 3: strengthen the overall digital competence of public administration employees, and increase the motivation and specialisation levels of public administration information technology (IT) staff continuously, as appropriate, by the end of 2030.

In order to achieve the above-mentioned objectives, 14 specific strategic and complementary measures were defined, representing fundamental decisions acting in synergy to build an effective and sustainable change programme.

2.2. Interoperability

Approval of the Romanian Interoperability Framework

The approval of the Romanian Interoperability Framework (RIF), in December 2017, set out the goal to guide, promote and support the delivery of Romanian public services by fostering cross-border, cross-organizational and cross-sector interoperability. The framework addressed issues such as its underlying principles, the conceptual model for public services, the interoperability levels and the interoperability dimension in the decision-making processes of Romanian public services to support the implementation of Romanian policy initiatives.

Political Governance Program 2021-2024

The [Political Governance Program 2021-2024](#) includes a chapter focusing on activities aimed to reduce the bureaucratic burden for private parties when interacting with public administrations. In this regard, administrative simplification entails the development of the national infrastructure of administrative registers, the creation and administration of unique identifiers, the implementation of standardized ICT architectures and the expansion of the interoperability between them, systematizing and simplifying data flows, queries and reporting procedures. The chapter Digital Public Administration under the section Development of e-government services outlines the implementation of the Once-Only principle and interoperability architecture based on

a management of APIs made available by all public institutions that hold national data registries. This approach will pursue the identification of all basic registers and the creation of a mechanism for amending this list, ensuring the technical infrastructure to access basic registers to be quick, secure and flexible, thus ensuring data integrity, availability and confidentiality.

new Romanian Recovery and Resilience Plan

Part II, Component C7, 'Digital transformation', of the [Romanian Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), provides that Romania should aim at the development of an integrated architecture of public services by increasing the degree of interoperability of digital technologies currently in place within public institutions in Romania.

2.3. Key enablers

2.3.1. *Open Data, Reusability and Access to Public Information*

No political communication has been adopted in this field to date.

2.3.2. *eID and Trust Services*

No political communication has been adopted in this field to date.

2.3.3. *Security aspects*

National Cybersecurity Strategy

In 2013, Romania adopted the [National Cybersecurity Strategy](#). The purpose of Romania's cybersecurity strategy was to define and maintain a secure virtual environment, with a high degree of resilience and confidence, based on national cyberinfrastructures.

The strategy set the following objectives:

- Adapt the regulatory and institutional framework to cyberspace threat dynamics;
- Establish and implement security profiles and minimum requirements for national cyberinfrastructures, relevant in terms of the proper functioning of the critical infrastructures;
- Ensure the resilience of cyberinfrastructure;
- Ensure security through understanding, preventing and fighting vulnerabilities, risks and threats to the cybersecurity of Romania;
- Take advantage of the opportunities to promote national interests, values and objectives in cyberspace;
- Promote and develop cooperation between public and private sectors at national and international level in the field of cybersecurity;
- develop a security culture by raising citizens' awareness on the vulnerabilities, risks and threats originating from cyberspace and the need to ensure protection of their information systems; and
- Participate in initiatives of international organisations, which Romania is a member to, to define and establish a set of international confidence-building measures concerning the use of cyberspace.

The National Cybersecurity Strategy was approved by [Government Decision No. 271/2013](#). The strategic coordination of the activities at national level to ensure a high common level of security of the networks and information systems is achieved by the government through the responsible authority of the new Agency for the Digitisation of Romania, under the coordination of the Prime Minister.

In 2018, a strategic framework was approved by law (through [Law No. 362/2018](#) on Ensuring a High Common Level of Security of Computer Networks and Systems), transposing Directive (EU) 2016/1148, also known as the NIS Directive.

2.3.4. *Interconnection of Base Registries*

Political Governance Program 2021-2024

The [Political Governance Program 2021-2024](#) encompasses a chapter targeting the reduction of the bureaucratic burden and administrative simplification. It provides a framework for the development of the national infrastructure of administrative registers in the public administration:

(i) creation and administration of unique identifiers; (ii) implementation of standardized ICT architectures and expanding the interoperability between them, and (iii) systematizing and simplifying data flows, queries and reporting procedures. Furthermore, the document sets the objective of making databases and base registries interoperable (local-central/central-local) and of regulating reciprocal access to these registries.

2.3.5. *eProcurement*

No political communication has been adopted in this field to date.

2.4. Domain-specific Political Communications

Public Policy in the Field of eCommerce

In the first quarter of 2019, Romania developed a **policy** aimed at improving and promoting the availability of eCommerce solutions across the country, in line with European Commission guidelines. The document provided an extensive overview of the state-of-play of eCommerce development and outlined the main directions and strategic goals for the future.

The strategy was accompanied by an **action plan**, which detailed a list of actions and deadlines for each of the objectives of the strategy. The main objectives set out for the development of eCommerce solutions in Romania are:

- Creating a stimulating and coherent regulatory framework for eCommerce;
- Informing suppliers and online service providers about eCommerce solutions; and
- Strengthening the institutional framework for eCommerce solutions.

2.5. Innovative Technologies

2.5.1. *Artificial Intelligence (AI)*

new National Strategy for Research Innovation and Smart Specialisation

The **strategy** was approved by government **decision** on 20 July 2022. The strategy was developed by the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalisation, and sets the vision for the Romanian research-innovation system, outlining the business options to recognize and support excellence, reward performance, and foster the development of collaboration between public and private parties. Science, innovation and innovative entrepreneurship will constitute successful models for the sustainable development of Romania in a local, national and international context. It defines the sectors in which AI could potentially be applicable, while outlining regional support for new technologies, including AI.

2.5.2. *Distributed Ledger Technologies*

No political communication has been adopted in this field to date.

2.5.3. *Big Data*

No political communication has been adopted in this field to date.

2.5.4. *Cloud Computing*

new Romanian Recovery and Resilience Plan

Part II, Component C7, 'Digital transformation', of the **Romanian Recovery and Resilience Plan**, mentions that investments in the development of government cloud are key to foster Romania's transition to a data-based, secure and dynamic economy, aligning it with the EU's strategic directions of action in data governance. In this regard, the plan highlights several measures that can facilitate the development of government cloud, such as the use of cutting-edge technologies with a high level of cyber security and energy efficiency, as well as the migration of existing applications of digital public services into cloud solutions.

new Government Cloud Project

Romania is in the process of drafting the Decision for the approval of the substantiation note regarding the investment project on the Implementation of the Government Cloud Infrastructure.

In this regard, in October 2022, Romania published the [Technical Project of the Government Cloud](#) as well as the [feasibility study](#). Both documents are the result of broad consultations with public and private stakeholders.

2.5.5. Internet of Things (IoT)

No political communication has been adopted in this field to date.

2.5.6. High-performance Computing

No political communication has been adopted in this field to date.

2.5.7. High-speed Broadband Connectivity

No political communication has been adopted in this field to date.

2.5.8. GovTech

No political communication has been adopted in this field to date.



3 Digital Public Administration Legislation

3. Digital Public Administration Legislation

3.1. Specific Legislation on Digital Public Administration

Government Decision on the Organisation and Operation of the Electronic Point of Single Contact

Decision No. 922/2010, which aimed to regulate the operation of the Electronic Point of Single Contact, was published on 15 September 2010. It was based on Law No. 49/2009 concerning the freedom of establishment and provision of services by electronic means in Romania. The Electronic Point of Single Contact Portal (electronic PCU) was designed and established to facilitate online interaction between public institutions and service providers in Romania. By publishing information and useful links, and facilitating the online authorisation of permits, approvals and certificates needed for market penetration, the procedures for both domestic and foreign businesses have become easier and more transparent.

Emergency Ordinance No. 41/2016

The ordinance, issued in July 2016, introduced the obligation for public authorities to accept documents in electronic format upon citizens' request and reuse any personal data previously transmitted to the public administration. Moreover, the ordinance stipulated new rules concerning the source code for information and communication technology (ICT) systems developed under an eProcurement contract.

3.2. Interoperability

new Law on the Exchange of Data between IT Systems

The Law on the exchange of data between IT systems, establishing the national platform of interoperability, aims to comply with the priorities as per the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, Component C7, 'Digital Transformation' and the Government Programme 2021-2024, on simplifying procedures and lightening the bureaucratic burden, thus ensuring an adequate framework aimed at facilitating citizens' access to electronic public services.

The law focuses on automated communication between public authorities and institutions, in compliance with the Once-Only principle, embedded in Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 on the Single Digital Gateway, a principle that over time will make no longer necessary for citizens to physically go to public offices.

The implementation of functionalities provided by the law implies aligning the national identification and authentication schemes with those of the EU Member States, in accordance with the European rules laid down in Regulation (EU) 2014/910 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market (eIDAS).

3.3. Key Enablers

3.3.1. *Open Data, Reusability and Access to Public Information*

new Law on the Exchange of Data between IT Systems

The Law on the exchange of data between IT systems establishing the national platform of interoperability entered into force in July 2022. The law aims to adopt measures related to technologies, equipment, software programs and the data used by them, with the aim of increasing the degree of interconnection between public institutions' and authorities' IT systems and of facilitating the exchange of data between them, starting from the principles and objectives of the European Interoperability Framework. Particularly, Article 5 foresees the use of Reference Norms for Achieving Interoperability (NRR) by public authorities and institutions through the principle of reuse. This principle entails, among others, (i) the cooperation of public authorities and institutions for the development of common IT solutions, in order to provide public services; (ii) the obligation to share and reuse components of IT solutions, in order to provide public services; (iii) the obligation to share and reuse information and personal data, in order to provide public services, in compliance with the legislation on the protection of personal data; and (iv) the

undertaking of actions to obtain benefits by examining products, services, concepts, specifications, standards, tools, data or components in order to reuse them.

Directive on Open Data and the Re-use of Public Sector Information

The Romanian authorities transposed the Directive (EU) 2019/1024 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on open data and the re-use of public sector information. The law no. 179/2022 on Open data and reuse in public sector has entered into force in June 2022.

Government Ordinance on the Accessibility of Websites and Mobile Applications of Public Sector Bodies

The Romanian government adopted on 21 December 2018 the [Emergency Ordinance on the Accessibility of Websites and Mobile Applications of Public Sector Bodies](#). This regulatory act aims to establish requirements for the accessibility of websites and mobile applications of public sector bodies to enable them to be more easily accessed by users, especially by the elderly and disabled. In this way, citizens will be able to benefit from wider access to public sector services through websites and mobile applications to receive services and information that simplify their daily lives and make it easier to exercise their rights at national and European Union level, in particular the right to free movement and the right to establish and provide services.

Law on Free Access to Information of Public Interest

Law No. 544/2001 was initially published in October 2001. However, it should be noted that the methodological norms for applying the law were approved by [Government Decision No. 123/2002](#) on 7 February 2002 and subsequently published on 8 March 2002.

Government Decision No. 1085/2003

The aim of [Government Decision No. 1085/2003](#) was to implement certain provisions of [Law No. 161/2003](#), regarding measures for ensuring transparency in the exercise of public duties and functions in the business environment, thus pursuing the prevention and punishment of corruption related to the implementation of the NES (National Electronic System).

Law on the Archiving of Documents in Electronic Form

Adopted in May 2007, [Law No. 135/2007](#) established the legal regime applicable to the creation, preservation, consultation and use of administration's documents to be archived or stored in an electronic format.

3.3.2. *eID and Trust Services*

Law on eID and Trust Services for Electronic Transactions

In compliance with the [eIDAS Regulation](#), Romania passed a specific [Law on eID and Trust Services for Electronic Transactions](#). The law established the legal regime of the electronic signature of legal documents in electronic form, as well as the conditions for the provision of reliable services.

Digital Identity System

The National Electronic Identification Scheme is currently under development and Romania will soon pre-notify it to the Commission. According to [Law 242 of 20 July 2022](#), the Technical-Economic Committee for the Information Society shall only approve those IT system project which envisage the use and the perfect alignment to the national identification and authentication infrastructures, in accordance with the European rules laid down in Regulation EU 2014/910 and its implementing regulations.

3.3.3. *Security Aspects*

Law on the Protection of Persons concerning the Processing of Personal Data and the Free Circulation of such Data

[Law No. 677/2001](#) allowed individuals to access and correct personal information held by public or private bodies. It was complemented by recent additions such as [Law No. 55/2005](#), ([OJ No. 244 of 23 March 2005](#)), which ratified the Additional Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of

Individuals with Regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data, referring to control authorities and cross-border data flow. Furthermore, a National Supervisory Authority for Personal Data Processing was established in 2005 by [Law No. 102/2005](#) (OJ No. 391 of 09 May 2005). All data protection files previously kept by the Ombudsman were handed over to the Authority, which supervises and controls the legality of personal data processing under [Law No. 677/2001](#).

Law on the Processing of Personal Data and the Protection of Privacy in the Electronic Communications Sector

The Law on the Processing of Personal Data and the Protection of Privacy in the Electronic Communications Sector replaced Law No. 676 of 21 November 2001 on the Processing of Personal Data and the Protection of Privacy in the Telecommunications Sector. It closely followed Directive 2002/58/EC on personal data processing and privacy protection in the electronic communications sector.

new Ordinance on the Establishment, Administration and Development of Infrastructures and Cloud IT Services

The Emergency Ordinance No. 89 of 27 June 2022 lays out provisions ensuring the cyber-security of the private government cloud to be carried out by the Special Telecommunications Service.

new Law No. 58 of 14 March 2023 on the Security and Cyber Defence of Romania

Law No. 58 of 14 March 2023 establishes the legal and institutional framework regarding the organization and performance of activities in the fields of cyber security and defence, the cooperation mechanisms, and the responsibilities among the institutions.

Anti-corruption Law

The [Anti-corruption Law](#) comprises provisions concerning transparency in information management and electronic public services' administration by demanding that financial statements of public officials be published online. Also, it includes provisions for preventing and fighting cybercrime.

3.3.4. *Interconnection of Base Registries*

new Law on the Exchange of Data between IT Systems

The Law No. 242 of 20 July 2022 on the exchange of data between IT systems includes a chapter on base registries and electronic data exchange. According to the provisions, in order to provide seamless public services, base registries represent the foundation for ensuring the interoperability of IT systems of public authorities and institutions. The law established a list of base registries, among which: (i) the national IT system for population evidence; (ii) the national electronic registry of street nomenclatures; (iii) the integrated system of cadastre and land registry; (iv) the national registry of movable property advertising, and (v) the central trade registry.

3.3.5. *eProcurement*

new Law on the Administration, Operation and Implementation of the National System on electronic invoice RO e-Invoice

In May 2022, the Romanian government published [Law No.139/2022 in the Official Journal](#). The law mandated economic operators established in Romania to issue electronic invoices via the 'RO e-Factura' system when interacting with the public sector (i.e. B2G transactions). The law will complement Government Ordinance 130/2021, which relates to electronic invoicing in B2B transactions. Starting from July 2022, economic operators shall adhere to the following rules:

- Issue invoices via RO e-Factura when trading high risk fiscal products (i.e. products subject of high tax elusion/evasion), in B2B context;
- Issue invoices by RO e-Factura regardless of the products sold, in B2G settings; and
- When trading products with high fiscal risk, they shall report each movement through the RO e-Transport platform.

Law on Public Procurement

The new [Law on Public Procurement](#) was published in the Official Journal No. 390 on 23 May 2016. In addition to laying out new rules for the application of provisions concerning the award of public procurement contracts, the law also included an update of the national [procurement portal](#).

Government Decision on the Approval of Application Norms for the Award of Public Contracts by Electronic Means

The [Government Decision on the Approval of Application Norms for the Award of Public Contracts by Electronic Means](#) was set out in the [Government Emergency Ordinance No. 34/2006 on the Award of Public Procurement Contracts, Public Works Concession Contracts and Services Concession Contracts](#). It focused mainly on the application of Article 21(a) of [Government Emergency Ordinance No. 34/2006](#), in order to make technical facilities available for contracting authorities, and apply fully electronic and open tendering procedures.

Decision on the Approval of the Application Norms for the Provisions concerning the Award of the Public Procurement Contracts using Electronic Means

The [Government Decision on the Approval of the Application Norms for the Provisions concerning the Award of the Public Procurement Contracts using Electronic Means](#) was set out in [Government Emergency Ordinance No. 34/2006 on the Award of Public Procurement Contracts, Public Works Concession Contracts and Services Concession Contracts](#). This decision was supplemented by [Government Decision No. 1337/2006](#) and mainly emphasised the approval of rules for implementing provisions included in [Government Emergency Ordinance No. 34/2006](#).

Government Ordinance on the Modification and Completion of Government Emergency Ordinance No. 34/2006

The [Government Ordinance on the Modification and Completion of Government Emergency Ordinance No. 34/2006](#) was published on 4 October 2007. It introduced important changes in the existing eProcurement legal framework.

Decision on Consular Services for which Fees are Charged and the Level of Consular Fees at the Diplomatic Missions and Consular Offices of Romania

The main purpose of the [Government Decision on Consular Services](#) was to amend and supplement norms for the application of provisions regarding the award of procurement contracts electronically published through the [Government Emergency Ordinance No. 34/2006 on the Award of Public Procurement Contracts, Public Works Concession Contracts and Services Concession Contracts](#) approved by [Government Decision No. 1660/2006](#). This legal act was the legislative expression of the Manchester Declaration of 2005 as agreed by Ministers in charge for eGovernment politics from EU Member States, and candidate and EFTA countries. The declaration set out a new strategic direction for European eGovernment up to 2010, with the aim of including every citizen, business and government in the social and economic benefits that IT-enabled public services can deliver.

eInvoicing Legislation

The [Fiscal Code](#) from 2015, in force from 1 January 2016, and its implementing rules approved by [Law No. 227/2015](#), govern the electronic invoicing in Romania. Additional legislation may apply if electronic signature or electronic archiving are used in the process of electronic invoicing:

- [Law No. 455/2001](#) on electronic signature; and
- [Law No. 135/2007](#) on electronic archiving of documents.

The Ministry of Public Finance is the authority responsible for eInvoicing in Romania.

3.4. Domain-specific Legislation

Law on Electronic Commerce

Following [Regulation 2019/1150 \(EU\)](#) governing the business relationships between providers of online intermediation services and the commercial users listed on marketplace, the Romanian government put forward [Emergency Ordinance 23/2021](#), which laid down measures to guarantee the regulatory implementation at national level. The new law defines sanctions (i.e. between 0.1%

and 1% of the turnover of the previous year) to be applied to providers of online intermediation services in case of non-compliance with provisions such as, among others, the procedures and deadlines to amend the terms and conditions and the transparency on ranking and differential treatment.

Law on Electronic Registration of Commercial Operations

The Law on Electronic Registration of Commercial Operations established the legal regime of electronic documents containing data on economic transactions related to the sale or exchange of goods or services between persons issuing and receiving invoices, tax bills or receipts in electronic form. It was supplemented by statutory provisions concerning the conclusion, validity and effects of legal acts, as well as those provided by Law No. 571/2003 (as amended) and additional normative acts.

Regulation on the Issuance and Use of Electronic Payment Instruments and the Relationship between Users of such Transactions

The Regulation on the Issuance and Use of Electronic Payment Instruments and the Relationship between Users of such Transactions issued by the Romanian National Bank laid out the provisions to regulate the issuance and use of ePayment instruments throughout Romania and to monitor the activities of such instruments, as well as the conditions to be met by providers, users and other institutions involved in the process.

Emergency Ordinance No. 62/2019

The new Emergency Ordinance changes and adds new features to Emergency Ordinance No. 34/2008 regarding the organisation and function of the national system for emergency calls and Emergency Ordinance No. 111/2011 on electronic communications.

3.5. Innovative Technologies

3.5.1. Artificial Intelligence (AI)

No legislation has been adopted in this field to date.

3.5.2. Distributed Ledger Technologies

No legislation has been adopted in this field to date.

3.5.3. Big Data

No legislation has been adopted in this field to date.

3.5.4. Cloud Computing

new Ordinance on the Establishment, Operation and Development of Infrastructures and Cloud IT services

The Emergency Ordinance No. 89 of 27 June 2022 laid out the general legal framework regarding the development and operation of a hybrid cloud infrastructure. It also detailed the governance structure for the Government Cloud Platform administered jointly by the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalisation, Authority for the Digitalisation of Romania, the Romanian Intelligence Service through their Cyber Intelligence structure and the Special Telecommunications Service.

new Decision on the Approval of the Governance Guide for the Government Cloud Platform

Decision No. 112 of 8 February 2023 aimed at establishing standards and obligations necessary for operational, procedural and technical activities to develop IT infrastructures and cloud services. This entails, among other: (i) the definition of criteria for the implementation, operation and maintenance of the Government Cloud Platform; (ii) the data management and storage framework for the Platform; (iii) the plan for the migration and integration into the Platform of IT applications and electronic public services pertaining to institutions and authorities from the

national public administration, and (iv) the list of public authorities whose IT systems and electronic public services are migrating to the platform.

Furthermore, the decision laid out the general criteria for ensuring confidentiality, security, interoperability, and adaptation to technical and semantic standards ensuring the performance of IaaS, PaaS, SaaS cloud applications and services hosted by the platform. Moreover, the decision established a cloud-first policy approach at national level.

3.5.5. Internet of Things (IoT)

No legislation has been adopted in this field to date.

3.5.6. High-performance Computing

No legislation has been adopted in this field to date.

3.5.7. High-speed Broadband Connectivity

No legislation has been adopted in this field to date.

3.5.8. Govtech

No legislation has been adopted in this field to date.



4 Digital Public Administration Infrastructure

4. Digital Public Administration Infrastructure

4.1. Platforms and Applications

4.1.1. National Platforms and Applications

eGovernment Portal

The eGovernment Portal serves as a one-stop shop for central and local public services and forms online, while also incorporating a transactional platform. Businesses and citizens can register for interactive and transactional services. Links to all the departments of central and local government are also included in the portal, as well as information regarding the legislation and regulations related to the interaction with the public administration. Moreover, a Unique Form Service system gathers nine eServices for businesses. The eServices are designed for large contributors and provide unified access for eGovernment services.

Electronic Point of Single Contact

The goal of the Electronic Point of Single Contact is to allow for easy retrieval of all information and working procedures, as well as a set of interactive forms, needed by service providers who wish to conduct their activity in Romania. Furthermore, it provides information about the national business context, objectives and benefits, the authorities concerned, legislation in the field and financing arrangements.

The platform was updated and relaunched in 2016. The new platform allows Ministries to send documents and requests to the citizens, so that citizens do not have to go to the counter to submit them physically. The platform contains a full set of forms, procedures and legislation references, so that citizens are aware of any public procedure or service.

Open Data Portal: data.gov.ro

The Romanian data.gov.ro portal collects all the datasets from public authorities and makes them available in one central portal, accessible to all.

National Courts' Portal

The national courts' portal provides information about every instance court in Romania regardless of tier (first instance/appeal courts) including their websites, their schedule of judgment hearings and information about the decision rendered.

National Cadastre and Real Estate Advertising Agency Platform

National Cadastre and Real Estate Advertising Agency Platform enables citizens and business to access extracts from the cadastral plan for information, as well as orthophoto plans or global navigation satellite system (GNSS) services.

new Ghiseul.ro – The Official Tax Payment Portal

Ghiseul.ro, administered by the Authority for the Digitalisation of Romania, enables citizens to pay their taxes and fees established by public institutions enrolled in the system as well as fines with deductions related to payments within 15 calendar days. The platform also enables payments related to the provision of any public service, including any community service of public utility, as well as any payments related, directly or indirectly, to the provision of that public service. Furthermore, since March 2023 it is also possible to retrieve the criminal record free of charge from the platform.

Hub.mai.gov.ro – Platform of the Ministry of Interior

Hub.mai.gov.ro enables citizens to retrieve their criminal record, to schedule an appointment to get or renew the passport and to obtain approval for urban planning and land development documentation as well as construction/ demolition permits.

4.1.2. Subnational Platforms and Applications

No infrastructure in this field has been reported to date.

4.2. Networks

Local Communities Electronic Networks

The **Local Communities Electronic Networks (LCENs)** connect local communities (schools, public offices and libraries) to the internet. Public access points have been set up in each area covered by the networks. The objectives are to reduce the rural-urban digital divide, stimulate the use of ICTs in schools, and facilitate the interaction between citizens and administration. The network has covered 255 rural communities and small towns throughout Romania, targeting over 1.7 million Romanian citizens (10% of Romanian rural areas).

Trans European Services for Telematics between Administrations

Romania uses the **Trans European Services for Telematics between Administrations (TESTA)** network as the main cross-border infrastructure to communicate digitally among the EU agencies, institutions and Member States.

4.3. Data Exchange

National System of Interoperability

The **National System of Interoperability (SNI)** was launched in November 2021 and connects the databases of Romania's public administrations.

4.4. eID and Trust Services

Interoperability System with EU Member States

The Authority for the Digitisation of Romania (ADR) is implementing the **SITUE project** (Interoperability System with EU Member States), aimed at fostering the interoperability system across EU Member States. It will be based on the construction of the eIDAS node for Romania and will connect it with the eIDAS nodes of other Member States, as well as with the identity and electronic services providers in Romania.

Centralised Digital Identification Software Platform

The ADR is implementing the project named **Centralised Digital Identification Software Platform (PSCID)**, that will provide the gateway and the first point of access to secure electronic eGovernment services. Implementing the PSCID provides: (i) more powerful tools; (ii) secure electronic authentication for accessing and using public electronic services and unit management; (iii) centralised identification of citizens' electronic identities and their credentials, and (iv) the provision of identities in target systems that provide electronic services. The project is still under implementation and is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2023.

4.5. eProcurement

National eProcurement System

Romania has a central **eProcurement Platform** that is under the responsibility of the ADR. All Romanian contracting authorities are required to publish their notices within the framework of public procurement procedures, and all businesses aiming at supplying products or services to a public authority have to access the platform.

This system simplifies procedures for both suppliers and purchasing agencies. The system is the national single point for the transmission of public procurement notices to the EU Official Journal (as OJS eSender). Furthermore, it offers interactive and transactional services dedicated to sustaining 20% of the total amount of public acquisition.

In March 2017, Romania launched a **project**, funded through the **Connecting Europe Facility Programme**, to integrate the eCertis service into eProcurement.

The national eProcurement system has improved by adding a new functionality: the **Dynamic Procurement System**, which was conceived to help users get an easier and more efficient experience when using this service.

new

RO e-Invoicing platform

Following the Law 139/2022 and starting from 1 July 2022, e-invoicing for B2G transactions are mandatory in Romania. All transactions made with Romanian public bodies have to be accompanied by electronic invoices issued through the national invoicing system **RO e-Factura** in UBL 2.1 format. The platform is available since November 2021 for both B2G and B2B purposes, allowing users to send and download invoices. The issuer of the invoice has to authenticate itself with a qualified digital certificate, issue the XML UBL format invoice and send it to the platform. The platform will do the clearance and sign the invoice electronically to obtain the final legal format. Invoices are available on the platform for 60 days.

4.6.ePayment

National Electronic Payment System for Taxes

The **National Electronic Payment System for Taxes** managed by the ADR is one of the most important portals in Romania, where citizens and businesses can interact online with public institutions and pay taxes/fees. Currently, the system has more than 1 500 000 users (citizens and businesses) and it interacts with more than 1 200 public institutions in Romania.

The main interconnections are with:

- City halls, where users can, upon authentication, view and pay their local taxes and fees;
- The Virtual Private Space (SPV), where users can pay their State taxes and fees; and
- The Informatic System for Electronic Transport Assignment (SIAE), where users can pay online their fees for the ADR to issue the digital certificate.

The country is also working towards important interconnections between Ghişeu.ro and at least two other systems:

- SINEPCVI, the platform to obtain one's driver license and car registration certificates online; and
- IDIS-DGP, the passports' management system.

The fees for driver's licenses, car registration certificates and passports can be paid online on Ghişeu.ro.

4.7.Knowledge Management

No particular infrastructure in this field has been reported to date.

4.8.Cross-border Infrastructures

One-Stop-Shop System

In April 2021, the **National Agency for Tax Administration (ANAF)** started offering the possibility to private companies to electronically register to the One-Stop-Shop (OSS) system, which became operational in July of the same year. The OSS system allows businesses to benefit from eServices for VAT registration and reporting across EU Member States. The objective of the OSS system is to decrease the administrative burden on the public sector while facilitating trade across EU Member States.

4.9.Base Registries

No particular infrastructure in this field has been reported to date.

4.10. Innovative Technologies

4.10.1. Artificial Intelligence (AI)

No particular infrastructure in this field has been reported to date.

4.10.2. Distributed Ledger Technologies

No particular infrastructure in this field has been reported to date.

4.10.3. Big Data

No particular infrastructure in this field has been reported to date.

4.10.4. Cloud Computing

No particular infrastructure in this field has been reported to date.

4.10.5. Internet of Things (IoT)

No particular infrastructure in this field has been reported to date.

4.10.6. High-performance Computing

No particular infrastructure in this field has been reported to date.

4.10.7. High-speed Broadband Connectivity

No particular infrastructure in this field has been reported to date.

4.10.8. GovTech

No particular infrastructure in this field has been reported to date.



5 Digital Public Administration Governance

5. Digital Public Administration Governance

For more details on Romania's responsible bodies for digital policy and interoperability, its main actors, as well as relevant digital initiatives, please visit the NIFO collection on Joinup.

5.1. National

Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitisation

The Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitisation (MCID) has executive control over information society and communications. This dedicated Ministry is the main policy and strategy provider in this domain and serves as the specialised body of the central public administration in the information society and communications sector.

Moreover, the MCID is responsible for the implementation of policies and strategies, together with the subordinate agencies and departments in the information society and communications domain. Furthermore, it implements the government's information society and communications policy.

Authority for the Digitalisation of Romania

The Authority for the Digitalisation of Romania (ADR) is a public institution coordinated by the MCID that has responsibilities related to eGovernment, information society and digital transformation. Furthermore, it is tasked with coordinating all operating systems that are related to the provision of eGovernment services and information systems through which electronic public services are provided.

The ADR provides eGovernment services by implementing information and communication systems at national level. It is in charge of operating the eGovernment Portal, the Electronic System for Public Procurement, the Virtual Payment Desk and the IT system for the electronic attribution of international authorisations to transport goods.

Another important task of the ADR is the implementation of the Electronic Point of Single Contact project, through which the public administration seeks to become more efficient by simplifying the procedures applicable to services and service providers in order to achieve an interoperable platform at the national and European levels.

Lastly, the ADR is the main body responsible for interoperability activities in the country.

National Council for Digital Transformation

Romania established an expert group, the Digital Romania Consulting Council, whose main goal is to strengthen the development of the information society in Romania.

National Institute for Research and Development in Informatics

The National Institute for Research and Development in Informatics (ICI) is Romania's main research institute in the field of ICT. The main activities in relation to eGovernment coordination are: (i) application of research projects developed by national authorities and programmes financed by EU funds; (ii) assessment of IT projects; (iii) monitoring and auditing of scientific and technical activities for the implementation of ICT projects; and (iv) assessment of online services.

Chancellery of the Prime Minister

According to paragraph 4, Article 4 of Government Emergency Ordinance No. 464/2016 on the attributions, organisation and functioning of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister (CPM), the Chancellery coordinates the IT sector at the level of the whole public administration, including eGovernment projects and open standards.

National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications

The National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM) is the only policies administrator in the field of electronic communications and IT. It assumed the role of national administration of the Top-Level Domain (TLD), '.ro', and the Second Level Domain (SLD), '.eu', for the domain names reserved for Romania.

Electronic Payments Association of Romania

The **Electronic Payments Association of Romania (APERO)** currently enumerates 33 members dispensing electronic payments within the country. It was launched in 2010, in cooperation with the Agency for Digital Agenda of Romania and the National Information System for Tax Payment Online, with a view to assist taxpayers in performing their transactions swiftly and at a minimum cost.

National Supervisory Authority for Personal Data Processing

The **National Supervisory Authority for Personal Data Processing** is an independent public body which supervises and controls the legality of personal data processing falling under the personal data protection legislation. Its competences are those of a control institution, including sanctioning in case legal provisions are infringed by the personal data processors, as a result of self-notification or based on complaints filed by the person whose rights are infringed.

National Directorate of Cybersecurity

The **National Directorate of Cybersecurity (DNSC)** is the new institutional body established to deal with research, development and expertise in the field of cybersecurity. It is the successor of the Romanian National Computer Security Incident Response Team (CERT). The DNSC is a specialised organisation responsible for preventing, analysing, identifying and reacting to cyber-incidents. It is also responsible for elaborating and distributing public policies to prevent and counteract incidents occurring within national cyberinfrastructures.

5.2. Subnational (Federal, Regional and Local)

Ministry of Internal Affairs

Regional and local authorities are subordinate to the **Ministry of Internal Affairs (MAI)** which, by **Law No. 161/2003**, coordinates eAdministration.

Romanian Municipalities Association

The **Romanian Municipalities Association** promotes and safeguards the mutual interests of local public authorities to satisfy and manage public needs to the benefit of their local communities.



6 Cross-border Digital Public Administration Services

6. Cross-border Digital Public Administration Services for Citizens and Businesses

Further to the information on national digital public services provided in the previous chapters, this final chapter presents an overview of the basic cross-border public services provided to citizens and businesses in other European countries. **Your Europe** is taken as reference, as it is the EU one-stop shop which aims to simplify the life of both citizens and businesses by avoiding unnecessary inconvenience and red tape in regard to 'life and travel', as well as 'doing business' abroad. In order to do so, Your Europe offers information on basic rights under EU law, but also on how these rights are implemented in each individual country (where information has been provided by the national authorities). Free email or telephone contact with EU assistance services, to get more personalised or detailed help and advice is also available.

Please note that, in most cases, the EU rights described in Your Europe apply to all EU member countries plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, and sometimes to Switzerland. Information on Your Europe is provided by the relevant departments of the European Commission and complemented by content provided by the authorities of every country it covers. As the website consists of two sections - one for citizens and one for businesses, both managed by DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) - below the main groups of services for each section are listed.

6.1. Life and Travel

For citizens, the following groups of services can be found on the website:

- **Travel** (e.g. Documents needed for travelling in Europe);
- **Work and retirement** (e.g. Unemployment and Benefits);
- **Vehicles** (e.g. Registration);
- **Residence formalities** (e.g. Elections abroad);
- **Education and youth** (e.g. Researchers);
- **Health** (e.g. Medical Treatment abroad);
- **Family** (e.g. Couples);
- **Consumers** (e.g. Shopping).

6.2. Doing Business

Regarding businesses, the groups of services on the website concern:

- **Running a business** (e.g. Developing a business);
- **Taxation** (e.g. Business tax);
- **Selling in the EU** (e.g. Public contracts);
- **Human Resources** (e.g. Employment contracts);
- **Product requirements** (e.g. Standards);
- **Financing and Funding** (e.g. Accounting);
- **Dealing with Customers** (e.g. Data protection).

last update: June 2023

The Digital Public Administration Factsheets

The factsheets present an overview of the state and progress of Digital Public Administration and Interoperability within European countries.

The factsheets are published on the Joinup platform, which is a joint initiative by the Directorate General for Informatics (DG DIGIT) and the Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content & Technology (DG CONNECT). This factsheet received valuable contribution from the Authority for the Digitalisation of Romania.



The Digital Public Administration Factsheets are prepared for the European Commission by Wavestone

An action supported by Interoperable Europe

The ISA² Programme has evolved into **Interoperable Europe** - the initiative of the European Commission for a reinforced interoperability policy.

The work of the European Commission and its partners in public administrations across Europe to enhance interoperability continues at full speed despite the end of the ISA² programme. Indeed, enhanced interoperability will be necessary to unlock the potential of data use and reuse for improved public services, to enable cross-border collaboration, and to support the sector-specific policy goals set by the Commission for the future.

Interoperable Europe will lead the process of achieving these goals and creating a reinforced interoperability policy that will work for everyone. The initiative is supported by the [Digital Europe Programme](#)

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