

Government of Romania

Emergency Ordinance no. 1/2025 on some measures for the organization and conduct of the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and the partial local elections in 2025

In force from 17 January 2025

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Taking into account the Constitutional Court Decision no. 32/2024 on the annulment of the electoral process regarding the election of the President of Romania in 2024, taking into account the fact that it was established that the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 will be organized on the same day as the partial local elections, on May 4, 2025, according to Government Decision no. 4/2025 and, respectively, Government Decision no. 5/2025, whereas the provisions of the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 98/2024 on some measures for the organization and conduct of the elections for the President of Romania in 2024 and the elections for the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies in 2024 had limited applicability, a context in which, in order to prevent and avoid the occurrence of malfunctions in the electoral process regarding the election of the President of Romania in 2025, it is necessary to adopt measures for the organization and conduct of the elections similar to the above-mentioned normative act, for the use of the same electoral infrastructure in the two elections and taking into account the need to ensure a constant fluidity of the voting process and an optimal functioning of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations, by avoiding crowding and the risk that some of the voters will not be able to exercise their right to vote, to ensure the objectivity, transparency, fairness and integrity of the electoral process and to prevent and remove possible electoral incidents, to ensure the possibility of registering in the Electoral Register Romanian citizens with domicile or residence abroad in order to exercise by correspondence the right to vote in the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, for the purpose of ensuring allowances for members, auxiliary technical staff and statisticians of electoral bureaus, in particular for electoral experts and computer operators of electoral bureaus of polling stations, at the level established during 2024, taking into account that the measures proposed by this Emergency Ordinance are not likely to affect electoral rights, within the meaning established by the jurisprudence of the Constitutional Court (Constitutional Court decisions no. 1.189/2008, no. 1.248/2008 and no. 47/2018) and those provided for in the Code of Good Practices in Electoral Matters, adopted by the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission),

having regard to the provisions of art. 3 of Regulation (EU) 2024/900 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2024 on the transparency and targeting of political advertising, in relation to Article 30 para. (2) of the same regulation,

having regard to Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a single market for digital services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act) Law No. 50/2024 laying down measures for the application of Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a single market for digital services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act), as well as amending and supplementing Law No. 365/2002 on electronic commerce,

having regard to Recommendation (EU) 2023/2829 of the European Commission of 12 December 2023 on inclusive and resilient electoral processes in the Union and enhancing the European nature and efficient conduct of the elections to the European Parliament,

noting that these measures are aimed at a general public interest and constitute an emergency and extraordinary situation, in order to carry out in good conditions the electoral processes of 2025, which will take place on May 4, 2025, the regulation of which cannot be postponed,

considering that the failure to adopt this Emergency Ordinance as a matter of urgency may have negative consequences on the proper organization and conduct on the same day of the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and the partial local elections in 2025,

Pursuant to art. 115 para. (4) of the Constitution of Romania, republished,

The Government of Romania adopts this Emergency Ordinance.

Art. 1. - At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the Permanent Electoral Authority designates, in addition to the computer operators assigned to polling stations, a number of computer operators of maximum 25% of the number of polling stations in the commune, city, municipality or sector of the municipality of Bucharest, but not less than one operator for each administrative-territorial unit.

Art. 2. - (1) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the headquarters of the Central Electoral Bureau shall be provided by the Permanent Electoral Authority, of the electoral bureau for polling stations abroad by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the headquarters of the county electoral bureaus of prefects and presidents of county councils, the headquarters of the electoral bureaus of the sectors of Bucharest, as well as of the electoral bureaus of the mayors' polling stations, and the headquarters of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(2) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the auxiliary technical staff of the Central Electoral Bureau is provided by the Permanent Electoral Authority, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and, as the case may be, by the National Audiovisual Council, the National Authority for Administration and Regulation in Communications, the National Directorate of Cyber Security and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the necessary statisticians by the National Institute of Statistics.

(3) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the auxiliary technical staff of the county electoral offices and the electoral offices of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest are provided by the Permanent Electoral Authority and prefects, and the necessary statisticians by the National Institute of Statistics and the territorial departments of statistics.

(4) The auxiliary technical staff of the electoral bureau for polling stations abroad shall be provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with the Permanent Electoral Authority, while the necessary statisticians shall be made available by the National Institute of Statistics.

(5) Computer scientists must also be part of the auxiliary technical staff of the county electoral offices and the electoral offices of the sectors of the city of Bucharest.

(6) The computer scientists provided for in para. (5) will be appointed by the prefects at the proposal of the local and central public administration authorities involved in the organization and conduct of the elections, only on the basis of the evaluation carried out by the Special Telecommunications Service.

(7) The computer scientists provided for in para. (5) ensures the support of the activity of the operative intervention centers to remedy possible malfunctions of The IT System for monitoring the turnout and preventing illegal voting.

(8) In the sense of this emergency ordinance, statisticians mean the staff of the National Institute of Statistics and the territorial statistical departments nominated by order of the president of the National Institute of Statistics, respectively by decisions of the executive directors of the territorial statistical departments to carry out activities within the processing stations and centralization of election results or at the headquarters of the National Institute of Statistics, respectively of the territorial statistical departments, with the aim of ensuring technical support, as well as to support the good organization and conduct of elections.

Art. 3. - (1) At the partial local elections of 2025, the electoral operations are carried out in the same polling stations organized for the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, established under the conditions of Law no. 370/2004 for the election of the President of Romania, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions.

(2) In well-justified situations, the headquarters of the polling stations used in the second round for the election of the President of Romania in 2025 may be different from those used in the first round of voting, provided that their accessibility and publicity are ensured at least 3 days before the voting day.

(3) At the partial local elections of 2025, for the organization and conduct of electoral operations, the following shall be established, under the conditions of Law no. 115/2015 for the election of local public administration authorities, for the amendment of the Law on Local Public Administration no. 215/2001, as well as for the amendment and completion of Law no. 393/2004 on the Statute of Local Elected Officials, with subsequent amendments and completions, distinct from the electoral bureaus constituted at the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, county electoral bureaus and district electoral bureaus.

(4) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, at the procedures for filling the county electoral bureaus, the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest, the

electoral bureau of the polling stations abroad and the electoral bureaus of the polling stations in the country and abroad, with the representatives of the political parties, shall apply the procedure provided for in art. 16 para. (4) of Law no. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions. If there are any vacancies, the president of the competent electoral bureau shall apply the procedure provided for in art. 16 paragraph (6) of Law no. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and supplements.// For the 2025 presidential elections in Romania, the procedure laid down in Article 16 para. (4) of Law No. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions, shall apply to the appointment of representatives of political parties to the county electoral bureaus, the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest, the electoral bureau for polling stations abroad, and the electoral bureaus of polling stations both in the country and abroad. In case of any vacancies, the president of the competent electoral bureau shall apply the procedure provided for in Article 16 para. (6) of Law No. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions.

Art. 4. - (1) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and the partial local elections in 2025, the printing of all ballot papers, as well as of publications intended for electoral bureaus shall be ensured by the Autonomous Authority "Monitorul Oficial". The ballots are stapled or glued.

(2) The ballot papers shall be printed with letters of the same size and the same characters and with the same ink. The ballot papers used in the polling stations in the country are printed in as many copies as there are voters registered in the Electoral Register, with a supplement of 10%. Ballot papers used in polling stations abroad shall be printed in as many copies as are established by the Permanent Electoral Authority, at the proposal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Postal ballots shall be printed in as many copies as voters are registered on the permanent electoral list for postal voting, with a supplement of 5%.

(3) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, at least 15 days before the voting day, the Autonomous Authority "Official Gazette" shall ensure the printing of ballot papers, under the conditions of this emergency ordinance. The provisions of art. 32 para. (3) and (4) and of art. 71 of Law no. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions, shall be applied accordingly.

(4) At the partial local elections of 2025, by derogation from the provisions of art. 60 para. (3) of Law no. 115/2015, with subsequent amendments and completions, at least 10 days before the voting day, by the Permanent Electoral Authority, a copy of the first print run for each type of ballot paper shall be presented to the members of the county electoral bureau or of the district electoral bureau, as the case may be. They have the right to request the Permanent Electoral Authority to reprint the ballot papers if the names of the candidates, the electoral sign or the name of political parties, political alliances or electoral alliances or organizations of citizens belonging to national minorities participating in the elections are incorrectly printed or not visible.

(5) At least 5 days before the voting day, the Autonomous Authority "Official Gazette" ensures the printing of ballots for the partial local elections of 2025.

(6) The paper required for printing the ballots for the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and the partial local elections in 2025 shall be provided and delivered by the National

Administration of State Reserves and Special Problems, at the price of registration in the accounting at the values of the technical specifications of the product in stock, under the conditions of the law.

(7) The quantity of paper in intact original packaging, remaining unused, shall be returned by the Autonomous Authority "Official Gazette" to the territorial units of the National Administration of State Reserves and Special Problems from where it was delivered, within 10 days from the date of publication of the result of the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part I, based on the handover-takeover report.

(8) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and the partial local elections in 2025, the payment of the paper actually consumed, after the refund provided for in para. (7), invoiced at the accounting registration price, shall be made by the Permanent Electoral Authority, within 30 days from the date of publication of the results of the elections for the President of Romania in 2025.

(9) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, the making of self-adhesive stamps is ensured, under the law, by the National Company "Imprimeria Națională" - S.A. until 15 days before the voting day at the latest, by the Permanent Electoral Authority.

(10) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the stamp of the Central Electoral Bureau shall be carried out by the Permanent Electoral Authority.

(11) The stamps with the mention "VOTED" at the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 shall be manufactured, under the law, by the Autonomous Authority "State Mint" no later than 15 days before the voting day, by the Permanent Electoral Authority.

(12) The stamp with the mention "VOTED" must be sized so that it is smaller than the quadrilaterals on the ballot paper, respectively than the distance between them.

(13) The control stamps of the polling stations abroad for the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 shall be manufactured by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(14) The expenses provided for in para. (1) and para. (5) and (9) - (11) shall be provided from the state budget, through the budget of the Permanent Electoral Authority, and the expenses provided for in para. (13) shall be provided through the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Art. 5. - (1) By derogation from the provisions of art. 44 para. (1) of Law no. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions, at the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, on Sunday, voting begins at 7:00 a.m. local time and ends at 9:00 p.m. local time, but no later than 9:00 p.m. local time in Romania.

(2) In the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, voting abroad also takes place on the Friday and Saturday immediately prior to voting day. On Friday and Saturday, voting begins at 7:00 a.m. local time and ends at 9:00 p.m. local time.

Art. 6. - For the implementation of the provisions of art. 44¹ para. (3) of Law no. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions, in the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the monitoring methodology is established by decision of the Permanent Electoral Authority at the proposal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Art. 7. - (1) By derogation from the provisions of art. 46 para. (1) of Law no. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions, on Sunday at 9:00 p.m. local time in Romania, the president of the electoral bureau of the polling station declares the voting over and orders the closure of the polling station.

(2) Voters who, at the time provided for in para. (1) are located at the headquarters of the polling station, as well as those who are in line outside the headquarters of the polling station to enter the polling station can exercise their right to vote.

(3) Two members appointed by the electoral bureau of the polling station within it check at 9:00 p.m. local time in Romania whether there are voters outside the polling station premises waiting to exercise their right to vote and ascertain and monitor the order in which they have access to the polling place.

(4) The voters in the situations provided by para. (2) and (3) may vote no later than 11:59 p.m. local time in Romania.

(5) In the case of voting abroad during the Friday and Saturday immediately preceding the voting day, the provisions of para. (2) - (4) shall be applied in compliance with local time.

Art. 8. - (1) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the following allowances are granted for the activity carried out within the electoral bureaus, as well as for their technical support:

a) 248 lei per day of activity for the chairmen of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations in the country, their deputies and computer operators;

b) 180 lei per day of activity for the members of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations in the country, other than those provided for in letter a);

c) 225 lei per day of activity for the presidents of the county electoral bureaus, of the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest, for their deputies, as well as for the other members of these electoral bureaus;

d) 128 lei per day of activity for computer scientists;

e) 150 lei per day of activity for the auxiliary technical staff of the county electoral bureaus, of the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest, as well as for their statisticians;

f) 263 lei per day of activity for the president of the Central Electoral Bureau, his deputy, as well as for the other members of the Central Electoral Bureau;

g) 225 lei per day of activity for the auxiliary technical staff of the Central Electoral Bureau, as well as for its statisticians;

h) 248 lei per day of activity for the president of the electoral bureau for polling stations abroad, for his deputy, as well as for the other members of this electoral bureau;

i) 188 lei per day of activity for the auxiliary technical staff of the electoral bureau for polling stations abroad, as well as for its statisticians;

j) 548 lei per day of activity for the presidents and deputies of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad;

k) 495 lei per day of activity for the members of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad who also perform the duties of computer operators;

l) 450 lei per day of activity for the members of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad, other than those provided for in letters j) and k);

m) 263 lei per day of activity for the president of the electoral bureaus for postal voting and for their deputies;

n) 180 lei per day of activity for the members of the electoral bureaus for postal voting;

o) 248 lei per day of activity for the computer operators of the electoral bureaus for postal voting;

p) the presidents of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad, who also perform the duties of the electoral bureaus for postal voting, their deputies and the members of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad receive in addition a fixed allowance of 263 lei, provided that they receive envelopes on the exercise of voting by mail.

(2) At the partial local elections of 2025, the following allowances are granted for the activity carried out within the electoral bureaus, as well as for their technical support:

a) 225 lei per day of activity for the presidents of the county electoral bureaus and of the district electoral bureaus, for their deputies, as well as for the other members of these electoral bureaus;

b) 128 lei per day of activity for computer scientists;

c) 150 lei per day of activity for the auxiliary technical staff of the county electoral bureaus and district electoral bureaus, as well as for their statisticians.

(3) The presidents of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations constituted in the localities where partial local elections 2025 are organized, their deputies, the members of the respective electoral bureaus and the computer operators benefit from only one allowance from those provided for in para. (1) letters a) and b), as the case may be.

(4) The necessary funds to cover the travel expenses for participation in the electoral process of the chairmen of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad, of their deputies, as well as of the members of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad appointed or proposed by the heads of diplomatic missions and consular offices shall be provided from the state budget, through the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, within the limits provided by the Government Decision no. 518/1995 regarding some rights and obligations of the Romanian personnel sent abroad for the performance of temporary missions, with subsequent amendments and completions.

(5) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and in the partial local elections in 2025, the members of the electoral bureaus, computer operators, auxiliary technical staff, statisticians, computer operators, as well as the staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs included in the plans of measures specific to the fields of public order and safety to ensure the security of the operations and activities carried out for the proper organization and conduct of the electoral processes, approved at the level of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Romanian Police, the General Police Directorate of the Municipality of Bucharest and the county police inspectorates, are entitled to a protocol allowance of 35 lei per person for each day of activity.

(6) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, the staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs included in the plans of measures specific to the fields of public order and security to ensure the security of the operations and activities carried out for the proper organization and conduct of the electoral processes, approved at the level of the Ministry

of Internal Affairs, the Romanian Police, the General Police Directorate of the Municipality of Bucharest and county police inspectorates, benefit from an allowance per day of activity of 188 lei.

(7) The staff of the Special Telecommunications Service included in the specific measures plans, drawn up and approved at the level of the Special Telecommunications Service, for the preparation, organization and conduct in good conditions of the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and the partial local elections in 2025, benefit from an allowance per day of activity of 188 lei.

(8) By way of derogation from the provisions of Law no. 227/2015 on the Fiscal Code, as subsequently amended and supplemented, for the allowances provided by this Emergency Ordinance, only the income tax is due and transferred, according to the law.

(9) During the functioning of the electoral bureaus, the public authorities and institutions where the persons referred to in para. (1) - (7) are employed, ensures the payment of salary rights, secondment allowances, as well as any other daily allowances and monetary rights due according to the law.

(10) Receiving the allowance provided for in para. (1) - (7) does not affect the right to receive other daily allowances, indemnity, pensions or other monetary rights due under other laws.

(11) In the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and in the partial local elections in 2025, by the amounts provided for in Article 13 of the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 27/2006 on the remuneration and other rights of judges, prosecutors and other categories of personnel in the justice system, approved with amendments and completions by Law no. 45/2007, with subsequent amendments and completions, only judges whose presence in the electoral bureaus is mandatory according to the law shall benefit.

(12) During the functioning of the electoral bureaus, the presidents of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations in the country and their deputies shall be considered seconded.

(13) The members of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations in the country and their computer operators have the right to receive, upon request, a paid day off from work, on the day following the voting day, based on the certificate issued in this regard by the county electoral bureau, the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest or the Permanent Electoral Authority, as the case may be.

(14) Upon request, the members of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad receive certificates from the presidents of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad attesting to the activity carried out in the polling station.

(15) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and in the partial local elections in 2025, the expenses for carrying out electoral operations shall be borne from the state budget and/or from the local budget according to the provisions of Law no. 115/2015, as subsequently amended and supplemented.

Art. 9. - (1) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the payment of the allowances of the members of the Central Electoral Bureau and its auxiliary technical staff, as well as the payment of the protocol allowances of the staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs included in the plans of measures specific to the fields of public order and safety to ensure the security of the

operations and activities carried out for the proper organization and conduct of the electoral process, approved at the level of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Romanian Police, the General Police Directorate of the Municipality of Bucharest and the county police inspectorates, the Central Electoral Bureau is provided from the state budget, through the budget of the Permanent Electoral Authority.

(2) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, the payment of the allowances of the auxiliary technical staff appointed by the Permanent Electoral Authority in the county electoral bureaus, in the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest and in the district electoral bureaus shall be ensured from the state budget, through the budget of the Permanent Electoral Authority.

(3) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, the payment of the allowances of the members of the county electoral bureaus, of the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest, of the district electoral bureaus, of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations in the country, of the computer operators, of the computer scientists, as well as of the auxiliary technical staff designated by the prefects shall be ensured from the state budget, through the budget of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, for the prefect's institutions.

(4) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, the payment of the allowances of the staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs included in the plans of measures specific to the fields of public order and security to ensure the security of the operations and activities carried out for the proper organization and conduct of the electoral process, approved at the level of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Romanian Police, The General Police Directorate of the Municipality of Bucharest and the county police inspectorates, provided for in art. 8 para. (5) and (6), with the exception of the protocol allowances provided for in para. (1) and (8), shall be provided from the state budget, through the budget of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

(5) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and the partial local elections in 2025, the payment of the allowances of the staff of the Special Telecommunications Service included in the specific measures plans, drawn up and approved at the level of the Special Telecommunications Service, for the preparation, organization and conduct in good conditions of the electoral process, provided for in art. 8 para. (7), shall be provided from the state budget, through the budget of the Special Telecommunications Service.

(6) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the maintenance expenses of the means of transport provided to the Central Electoral Bureau and the related fuel expenses shall be provided from the state budget, through the budget of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

(7) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, the amounts necessary to cover the expenses generated by the activities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the field of public order and security shall be provided from the state budget, through the budget of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

(8) At the 2025 elections for the President of Romania, the payment of the allowances of the members of the electoral bureau of the polling stations abroad and its auxiliary technical staff, of

the members of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad, of the members of the electoral bureaus for postal voting, of their computer operators, as well as the payment of the protocol allowances of the staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs included in the plans of measures specific to the fields of public order and safety to ensure the security of the operations and activities carried out for the proper organization and conduct of the electoral process, approved at the level of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Romanian Police, the General Police Directorate of the Municipality of Bucharest and the county police inspectorates, at the electoral bureau for polling stations abroad and at the electoral bureaus for postal voting shall be provided from the budget through the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(9) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, the payment of statisticians' allowances shall be ensured from the state budget, through the budget of the General Secretariat of the Government for the National Institute of Statistics.

Art. 10. - (1) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, the county electoral bureaus, the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest or the constituency electoral bureaus, as the case may be, shall ensure, together with the Permanent Electoral Authority, the training of the presidents of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations and their deputies, in the spaces made available by the prefect.

(2) The refusal of the presidents of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations or of their deputies to participate in the training leads to the reduction by 50% of the allowances provided for in art. 8.

Art. 11. - (1) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, the ballot papers, control stamps and stamps with the mention "VOTED", the forms for concluding the minutes and other materials necessary for the conduct of the electoral process shall be taken over by the prefect, together with the president of the county electoral bureau, of the electoral bureau of the Bucharest municipality sector or of the district electoral bureau, as the case may be, on the basis of a report, and shall be kept in special, locked and sealed rooms. These materials shall be distributed, through the mayors, to the presidents of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations, on the basis of minutes, on the day before voting. For polling stations abroad, the taking over and delivery of the materials and forms necessary for voting shall be made, on the basis of a report, by the chairman of the electoral bureau for polling stations abroad, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(2) By exception to the provisions of para. (1), in the situation of difficult access in some areas on the territory of Romania, with the approval of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the distribution can be made two days before the vote.

(3) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, in the event that the materials necessary for voting cannot be sent in due time to the electoral bureaus of the polling stations abroad, they will be printed and made, respectively, locally, by the diplomatic missions and consular offices, in accordance with the procedure established by decision of the Central Electoral Bureau.

(4) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, the mayors ensure the transport of materials, documents and forms provided by law for the electoral process to the electoral bureaus of the polling stations.

(5) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, after the closing of the polling stations, the mayors shall ensure the transport of materials, documents and forms provided by law for the conduct of the electoral process from the electoral bureaus of the polling stations to the county electoral bureaus, as well as those of the sector of the municipality of Bucharest, as the case may be.

(6) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and at the partial local elections in 2025, the mayors of the county seat municipalities, respectively the mayors of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest, shall provide adequate interior spaces in the vicinity of the county electoral bureaus or those of the sector of the municipality of Bucharest, as the case may be, for the stationing, in the situation in which it is necessary, of the members of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations and the staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs that ensures the security of the materials, prior to their submission to the hierarchically superior electoral bureaus.

(7) The manner of transporting, storing and distributing the documents and the materials related to electoral processes, in order to hand them over to the electoral bureaus, as well as the organized movement of the members of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations to the county electoral bureaus, as well as to the sector bureaus of the municipality of Bucharest is established by the Government decision on the measures for the proper organization and conduct of the elections for the President of Bucharest. Romania from 2025, respectively by the Government decision on the measures for the proper organization and conduct of the partial local elections in 2025.

(8) At the level of each county, as well as of the municipality of Bucharest, the prefect coordinates the activities provided for in para. (7). The coordination method exercised by the prefect shall be established by the Government decision provided for in para. (7).

Art. 12. - At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and in the partial local elections in 2025, polling booths and ballot boxes must be placed only in the room where the polling place is located. The polling booths, ballot boxes and other materials necessary for the electoral bureau of the polling station are provided by the mayors of communes, cities, municipalities and administrative-territorial subdivisions of municipalities.

Art. 13. - (1) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and in the partial local elections in 2025, prefects and sub-prefects may not run for office and may not participate in the actions of the electoral campaign, under penalty of dismissal from office, unless they resign at least 50 days before the date of the elections.

(2) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025 and in the partial local elections in 2025, prefects and sub-prefects may not carry out activities as members or auxiliary technical staff of an electoral bureau.

Art. 14. - (1) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the county electoral bureaus, the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest and the electoral bureau of the polling stations abroad shall cease their activity no later than May 24, 2025.

(2) In well-justified cases, the Central Electoral Bureau may establish the extension of the activity of the bureaus provided for in para. (1).

Art. 15. - By way of derogation from the provisions of art. 8 para. (1) of Law no. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions, at the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, starting with the third day from the entry into force of this Emergency Ordinance, the voter who wishes to vote abroad may register in the Electoral Register as a voter abroad, by means of an online form, located on the website of the Permanent Electoral Authority, in which he/she will write his/her name, surname, personal identification number, locality and state where he/she chooses to vote, to which he/she attaches the scanned copy or photo of his/her identity document. The exercise of the right to vote at a polling station abroad is not conditioned by registration in the Electoral Register as a voter abroad.

Art. 16. - (1) For the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the definitions provided by art. 3 of Regulation (EU) 2024/900 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2024 on the transparency and targeting of political advertising shall apply accordingly.

(2) During the electoral campaign of the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, political actors, within the meaning of article 3 point 4 of Regulation (EU) 2024/900, shall ensure the publication, together with each political advertising material, of the following information:

- a) an indication that it is a political advertising material;
- b) the identity of the sponsor of the political advertising material, respectively the name, e-mail address and, if public, the postal address, and if the sponsor is not a natural person, the address of the registered headquarters;
- c) where applicable, a mention that the political advertising material has been subject to techniques for targeting a target audience or distributing advertising material, within the meaning of art. 3 points 11 and 12 of Regulation (EU) 2024/900;
- d) a mention that the amounts spent for the preparation, placement, promotion, publication, distribution or dissemination of political advertising material come exclusively from the sources allowed by Law no. 334/2006 on the financing of the activity of political parties and electoral campaigns, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions;
- e) as the case may be, a mention that the political advertising material has been the subject of an electoral promotion or a paid electoral promotion.

(3) The provisions of paragraph (2) shall also apply to any promotion, distribution, posting or editing of political advertising materials by political actors, within the meaning of art. 3 para. (4) of Regulation (EU) 2024/900, on online platforms within the meaning of art. 3 letter (i) of Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a single market for digital services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act), on very large online platforms within the meaning of art. 3 para. (8) of Regulation (EU) 2024/900, online search engines within the meaning of art. 3 letter (j) of Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 or other social networks.

(4) The details of the manner of promotion, distribution, posting or editing of political advertising materials shall be established by decision of the Permanent Electoral Authority.

(5) For the purposes of this Emergency Ordinance, in the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, any written, online, audio or video material, used in the electoral campaign, which directly or indirectly urges voters to choose or not to choose, to vote or not to vote for an independent

candidate or for a candidate of a clearly identified political party, is considered political advertising material.

(6) The violation of the provisions of para. (2) and (3) shall constitute contraventions, unless the acts are committed under such conditions as to be considered, according to the criminal law, criminal offences, and are sanctioned with a fine ranging from 15,000 lei to 50,000 lei.

(7) The contraventions provided for in para. (6) shall be ascertained by the representatives appointed by the President of the Permanent Electoral Authority, and the sanctions shall be applied by decision of the Permanent Electoral Authority.

(8) The sanctions shall apply, as the case may be, to the political party, political alliance, organization of citizens belonging to national minorities, independent candidate, financial representative and/or donor, as well as to any other persons who have violated the provisions of para. (2) and (3).

(9) The application of the sanctions provided for in para. (6) shall be prescribed within 3 years from the date of the commission of the acts.

(10) The decision of the Permanent Electoral Authority provided for in para. (7) may be appealed to the competent court, under the conditions of the law.

(11) In the situations provided for in para. (6), the offender shall pay to the state budget the amounts of money and/or the cash value of the goods and services that were the object of the contravention, based on the decision of the Permanent Electoral Authority.

(12) To the extent that this Emergency Ordinance does not provide otherwise, for the contraventions provided for in para. (6), the provisions of the Government Ordinance no. 2/2001 on the legal regime of contraventions, approved with amendments and completions by Law no. 180/2002, with subsequent amendments and completions, shall apply accordingly.

Art. 17. - (1) The Central Electoral Bureau, the county electoral bureaus, the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest and the electoral bureau of the polling stations abroad, constituted at the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, shall have the quality of relevant authorities, within the meaning of art. 4 para. (1) letter a) of Law no. 50/2024 on the establishment of measures for the application of Regulation (EU) 2022/2.065 of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Single Market For Digital Services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Service Act), as well as for amending and supplementing Law no. 365/2002 on electronic commerce.

(2) By way of derogation from the provisions of art. 42 para. (1) of Law no. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions, at the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the resolution of complaints regarding the electoral campaign through very large online platforms, within the meaning provided by art. 3 para. (8) of Regulation (EU) 2024/900, including those formulated on the day before and on the day of voting, shall fall under the exclusive competence of the Central Electoral Bureau.

(3) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the county electoral bureaus, the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest and the electoral bureau of the polling stations abroad will immediately redirect to the Central Electoral Bureau, by electronic mail, the

complaints addressed to them regarding the electoral campaign through very large online platforms, within the meaning of art. 3 para. (8) of Regulation (EU) 2024/900, including those formulated on the day before and on the day of voting.

(4) By way of derogation from the provisions of Art. 42(4) of Law No. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions, in the 2025 presidential election, the resolution of the complaints referred to in paragraph (2), of the complaints regarding the online electoral campaign, including those submitted on the day before or on the day of voting, other than those referred to in paragraph (2), and of the appeals against the decisions of the county electoral bureaus, the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest and the electoral bureau for polling stations abroad by which the complaints regarding the online electoral campaign, including those submitted on the day before and on the day of voting, other than those referred to in paragraph (2), shall be resolved on the same day they are registered.

(5) The decisions of the Central Electoral Bureau by which the complaints referred to in paragraph (2) are admitted, as well as the decisions of the county electoral bureaus, the electoral bureaus of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest, and the electoral bureau for polling stations abroad by which complaints regarding the online electoral campaign, other than those referred to in paragraph (2), are admitted, constitute orders to act against illegal content within the meaning of Art. 9 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2065.

(6) The decisions provided for in para. (5) must contain the elements provided for in art. 9 para. (2) letter a) of Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 and are enforceable.

(7) The decisions of the Central Electoral Bureau provided for in para. (5) shall be immediately communicated to the Permanent Electoral Authority, in order to transmit them to the very large online platforms, as defined in art. 3 para. (8) of Regulation (EU) 2024/900, under the penalty of a fine ranging from 1% and 5% of the online platform's turnover, should the platform fail to remove the advertising material in question within 5 hours from the notification by the Permanent Electoral Authority.

(8) The decisions of the Central Electoral Bureau provided for in para. (5) may be appealed to the Bucharest Court of Appeal, within 48 hours from their publication on the Central Electoral Bureau's website.

Art. 18. - (1) At the polling stations in the localities where partial local elections are organized, the electoral operations are carried out in the same time frame as the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, with the same stamps with the mention "VOTED", on separate ballot papers, the voter turnout being recorded on separate electoral lists for the two types of elections.

(2) At polling stations set up in localities where partial local elections are held, voters may choose to exercise their right to vote only for one type of election or for both elections.

(3) In the situation provided for in para. (1), the stamp with the mention "VOTED" and the date of the election or, as the case may be, a single self-adhesive stamp with the mention "VOTED" and the date of the election shall be applied only once on the voter's identity document, according to the model approved for the elections for the President of Romania in 2025.

(4) In the situation provided for in para. (1), the mayors will provide separate ballot boxes for each type of ballot paper, duly inscribed, and a single special ballot box will be used for both elections.

(5) In the situation provided for in para. (1), The IT System for monitoring the turnout and preventing illegal voting must allow the distinct highlighting of voter turnout for the partial local elections and for the elections for the President of Romania in 2025.

(6) In the situation provided for in para. (1), the computer operators of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations will inform voters that The IT System for monitoring the turnout and preventing illegal voting registers voter turnout separately for each election.

(7) In the situation provided for in para. (1), the computer operators of the electoral bureaus of the polling stations shall register in The IT System for monitoring the turnout and preventing illegal voting the voter's option to vote only for one type of election or for both elections, as communicated by him. The computer operator of the electoral bureau of the polling station informs the chairman of the electoral bureau of the polling station both the messages provided by The IT System for monitoring the turnout and preventing illegal voting, as well as the voters' options, so that voters receive the ballots according to the options entered in The IT System for monitoring the turnout and preventing illegal voting

(8) In the situation provided for in para. (1), The IT System for monitoring the turnout and preventing illegal voting allows the voter who has opted to vote for only one ballot and then return to the polling station to exercise his right to vote at the second ballot as well.

(9) In the situation provided for in para. (1), during the process of recording the results, the members of the electoral bureau will proceed, in the first phase, to unseal all the ballot boxes and the special ballot box in order to arrange the ballots by categories. Placing the ballot paper in a ballot box other than the one related to it does not entail its cancellation.

(10) Delegates of political parties accredited according to the law, observers and representatives of the media accredited according to the procedure approved by decision of the Permanent Electoral Authority are also considered accredited for observing the operations specific to the conduct of the partial local elections of 2025.

Art. 19. - (1) By way of derogation from the provisions of art. 4 para. (4) of Law no. 288/2015 on voting by mail, as well as amending and supplementing Law no. 208/2015 on the election of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, as well as for the organization and functioning of the Permanent Electoral Authority, with subsequent amendments and completions, at the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, starting with the third day from the entry into force of this Emergency Ordinance, the voter with domicile or residence abroad can register as a voter by mail, by means of an online form, located on the website of the Permanent Electoral Authority, in which he/she will enter his/her name, surname, personal identification number, domicile or residence address and e-mail address, as well as the option of transmitting the vote cast by correspondence in the country or at the diplomatic representation, to which the voter shall attach the scanned copy or photo of the identity document and of the document proving the right of residence, issued by the foreign authorities.

(2) By derogation from the provisions of art. 14 para. (5) of Law no. 288/2015, with subsequent amendments and completions, at the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the sealed outer envelopes must be sent sufficiently before the voting date, in order to ensure their delivery up to 4 days before the voting date, inclusive, to the headquarters of the electoral bureau for voting by mail.

(3) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, voters are notified by electronic mail by the Permanent Electoral Authority about the receipt or, as the case may be, non-receipt of the outer envelopes by the competent electoral bureaus.

(4) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the voter for whom the electoral bureau for postal voting did not register the receipt of the outer envelope in accordance with the provisions of art. 15 para. (1) of Law no. 288/2015, as subsequently amended and supplemented, may exercise his/her right to vote at that election at the polling stations.

(5) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, if two or more ballot papers of the same kind have been inserted in the same inner envelope, they shall be declared null and void by the electoral bureau for postal voting.

(6) At the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, if there are damages to the seal of the outer envelope that are not likely to affect the integrity of the postal vote, the electoral bureau for postal voting shall not cancel the respective outer envelope.

Art. 20. - By way of derogation from the provisions of art. III para. (1) letter b) of the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 34/2023 on some fiscal-budgetary measures, the extension of certain deadlines, as well as for the amendment and completion of certain normative acts, with subsequent amendments and completions, in 2025 expenses may be incurred for the endowment of the electoral bureaus constituted at the elections for the President of Romania in 2025, the processing stations and centralization of the election results attached to them, of the operative intervention centers, of the Technical Support Center and of the Permanent Electoral Authority, within the approved budget.

Art. 21. - The provisions of this Emergency Ordinance are supplemented by the provisions of Law no. 370/2004, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions, of Law no. 115/2015, with subsequent amendments and completions, of Law no. 208/2015, with subsequent amendments and completions, respectively of Law no. 288/2015, with subsequent amendments and completions, as well as of Law no. 334/2006, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions, insofar as they do not contravene the provisions of this Emergency Ordinance.

PRIME MINISTER
ION-MARCEL CIOLACU

Countersigns:

Deputy Prime Minister,

Marian Neacșu

p. Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Internal Affairs,

Romeo Simionescu,

Secretary of State

Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance,

Tánczos Barna

President of the Permanent Electoral Authority,

Toni Greblă

p. Minister of Foreign Affairs,

Luca-Alexandru Niculescu,

Secretary of State

p. Secretary-General of the Government,

Mihnea-Claudiu Drumea

Minister of Development, Public Works and Administration,

Cseke Attila-Zoltan

Minister of Justice,

Radu Marinescu

Bucharest, the 16th of January 2025.

No. 1.