

Directorate-General for the Presidency
Directorate for Relations with National Parliaments

Factsheet: Romanian Senate














1. At a glance



Romania is a constitutional republic with a democratic multiparty parliamentary system. The bicameral parliament (Parlamentul României) consists of the Senate (Senat) and the Chamber of Deputies (Camera Deputaților). The Chamber of Deputies and the Senate are elected every four years by universal, equal, direct, secret, and freely expressed suffrage. In the 2016 legislative elections, following the amendment of electoral law in 2015, deputies and senators were elected based on a proportional electoral system, last used in the 2004 elections, and which replaced the uninominal voting system.

The new electoral law provides a norm of representation of 73,000 inhabitants for deputies and 168,000 inhabitants for senators which led to a decrease in the number of MPs: from **588** to **466** parliamentary seats (**308 deputies, 18 minority deputies, and 134 senators**). The Romanian diaspora is represented by four deputies and two senators.

2. Composition

The Senate: Current Parliamentary Political Group Composition				
	Party	EP affiliation	%	Seats
	Partidul Social Democrat (PSD) Social Democratic Party		45,67	
	Partidul Național Liberal (PNL) National Liberal Party		20,41	
	Uniunea Salvați România (USR) Save Romania Union	Not affiliated	8,92	
	Uniunea Democrată Maghiară din România (UDMR) Româniai Magyar Demokrata Szövetség Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania		6,24	
	Alianța liberalilor și democraților (ALDE) Liberal-Democrat Alliance		6	
	Partidului Mișcarea Populară (PMP) Popular Movement Party		5,65	
Turnout: 39.49%.				
Next legislative elections: 2020.				

3. Officeholders

President of the Senate  Mr Călin POPESCU-TÂMBULEA (ALDE/ALDE), since March 2014	Chairperson of the EU Affairs Committee  Ms Crețu Gabriela (PSD/ S&D), since December 2016
Secretary General of the Romanian Parliament: Mr ION VÂRGĂ	

4. Relations with Members of the European Parliament

Participation rights for Romanian MEPs in plenary sittings	No, only upon request/invitation
Participation rights for Romanian MEPs in committee meetings	No, only upon request/invitation
Availability of videoconferencing system in Romanian Senate	No

5. Information links

- Official website: <http://www.senat.ro/>
- [Rules of procedure for Romanian Senate](#)
- [List of committees](#)
- [Recent documents submitted by the Senate to the Interparliamentary EU Information Exchange \(IPEX\)](#)
- [European Parliament Information Office in Bucharest](#)

6. Contacts

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