

Representation in EU institutions and bodies

European Parliament

For now The European Parliament has 785 members, 35 of them representing Romania. Starting with 2009, the number of members in European Parliament will be 736, Romania will have 33 of them. Any citizen of a member state can stand for European parliamentary elections in any other Member State, on the condition to be resident of the later. Being member of European Parliament is incompatible with a national parliamentary mandate.

European Council

The European Council is the name given to the summits gathering the heads of state or government of the EU member states, and the President of the European Commission. These summits take place at least twice a year.

The Romanian president and prime minister take part in the works of the European Council .

Council of the European Union

The Council of the European Union contains ministers of the governments of each of the European Union member states. In official European Union documents is referred as Council of Ministers or, simply, Council.

According to a declaration from the Nice Treaty, Romania has 14 votes in the Council.

European Commission

Romania is represented in the European Commission by Leonard Orban - European Commissioner responsible for multilingualism.

Court of Justice of the European Communities

Romania has a judge in the CJEC and another one in the Court of First Instance. Both judges are appointed for a six years term, which can be renewed.

European Economic and Social Committee

Romania will have 15 members in the Economic and Social Committee.

ESC is a consultative body of the European Union, representing economic and social categories (such as employers, trade unions etc.). The Committee is consulted by the European Commission, the European Parliament or the EU Council before decisions are taken on economic and social policy.

The ESC members are nominated by the governments for a four years period. Romania has 15 members in the Economic and Social Committee.

Committee of Regions

The Committee of the Regions (CoR) has the duty to assure that the principle of subsidiarity according to the decision must be taken as close to the European citizen.

The CoR has to be consulted by the European Commission, the EU Council and the European Parliament before decisions are taken on matters such as regional policy, the environment, education and transport – all of which concern local and regional government.

Since 1 January 2007, 15 representatives of the Romanian local public authorities, presidents of county councils of six Romanian counties and nine mayors, including the mayor of Bucharest, promotes the interests of the Romanian local communities within the Committee of the Regions.

Central European Bank

The European Central Bank manages the euro and is also responsible for framing and implementing the EU's economic and monetary policy.

One of the ECB's decision-making bodies is the General Council, comprising the ECB's President and the Vice-President and the governors of the national central banks of all EU member states. Its task is to contribute to the ECB's advisory and coordination work and helps prepare for the future enlargement of the euro zone.

European Investment Bank

EIB lends money for projects of European interest, particularly in the less well-off regions, candidate countries and the developing world.

The Bank's general lending policy is defined by the Board of Governors consisting of ministers (normally the Finance Ministers) from all the Member States. Each member state has a contribution to the EIB capital.