



# Romania



**Background** The principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia -- for centuries under the control of the Turkish Ottoman Empire -- secured their autonomy through the Treaty of Paris in 1856. They were de facto linked in 1859 and formally united in 1862 under the new name of Romania. The country joined the Allied Powers in World War I and subsequently acquired new territories -- most notably Transylvania -- that more than doubled its size. In 1940, Romania allied with the Axis powers and participated in the 1941 German invasion of the USSR. Three years later, overrun by the Soviets, Romania signed an armistice. The post-war Soviet occupation led to the formation of a communist "people's republic" in 1947 and the abdication of the king. The decades-long rule of dictator Nicolae CEAUSESCU, who took power in 1965, and his Securitate police state became increasingly oppressive and draconian through the 1980s. CEAUSESCU was overthrown and executed in late 1989. Former communists dominated the government until 1996 when they were swept from power. Romania joined NATO in 2004, the EU in 2007, and the Schengen Area for air and sea travel in 2024.

**Capital** name: Bucharest

**Government type** semi-presidential republic

**Area** total : 238,391 sq km

land: 229,891 sq km

water: 8,500 sq km

**Climate** temperate; cold, cloudy winters with frequent snow and fog; sunny summers with frequent showers and thunderstorms

**Natural resources** petroleum (reserves declining), timber, natural gas, coal, iron ore, salt, arable land, hydropower

**Population** total: 18,148,155 (2024 est.)

**Population growth rate** -0.94% (2024 est.)

**Ethnic groups** Romanian 89.3%, Hungarian 6%, Romani 3.4%, Ukrainian 0.3%, German 0.1%, other 0.9% (2021 est.)

**Religions** Romanian Orthodox 85.3%, Roman Catholic 4.5%, Reformed 3%, Pentecostal 2.5%, other 4.7% (2021 est.)

**Languages** Romanian (official) 91.6%, Hungarian 6.3%, Romani 1.2%, other 0.7% (2021 est.)

**Executive branch** chief of state: President Nicusor DAN (since 26 May 2025)

head of government: Prime Minister Ilie BOLOJAN (since 23 June 2005)

**Legislative branch** legislature name: Parliament of Romania (Parlamentul României)

**Diplomatic representation in the US** chief of mission: Ambassador Dan-Andrei MURARU (since 15 September 2021)

<b>Diplomatic representation from the US</b>	chief of mission: Ambassador (vacant); Chargé d'Affaires Michael L. DICKERSON (since 20 May 2025)
<b>Economic overview</b>	high-income, EU-member economy; euro membership delayed over macroeconomic indicators; persistent inflation, but consumption and EU-funded investments driving recovery; skilled labor shortage; high public debt and budget deficit; challenges include fiscal sustainability and political instability
<b>Real GDP (purchasing power parity)</b>	\$774.376 billion (2024 est.) \$768.126 billion (2023 est.) \$750.091 billion (2022 est.)
<b>Real GDP per capita</b>	\$40,600 (2024 est.) \$40,300 (2023 est.) \$39,400 (2022 est.)
<b>Exports</b>	\$136.253 billion (2024 est.) \$136.488 billion (2023 est.) \$129.286 billion (2022 est.)
<b>Exports - partners</b>	Germany 19%, Italy 10%, France 6%, UK 5%, Hungary 4% (2023)
<b>Exports - commodities</b>	cars, vehicle parts/accessories, insulated wire, garments, wheat (2023)
<b>Imports</b>	\$159.575 billion (2024 est.) \$153.427 billion (2023 est.) \$149.209 billion (2022 est.)
<b>Imports - partners</b>	Germany 19%, Italy 8%, Hungary 6%, Poland 6%, China 6% (2023)
<b>Imports - commodities</b>	vehicle parts/accessories, packaged medicine, cars, crude petroleum, plastic products (2023)

## Population Pyramid

