

## Romania

1. **Year Achieved Independence:** 1989

2. **Political Institutions:** Romania relies on a bicameral parliament.

3. **Lower Chamber Electoral System:**

- 1990: Multi member system. 395 seats are elected in 41 constituencies. No electoral threshold. Remaining seats are distributed on the basis of the unused votes in a national tier.
- 1992: 325 seats elected in 42 constituencies. The number of seats is depending on the size of the population. A 3% electoral threshold on the national level is adopted. For alliances the threshold augments by 1% with every additional party. The Hare formula is used at the district level, remaining seats are distributed on the basis of the unused vote with D'Hondt in a national tier.
- 2000: 327 seats are elected in 42 constituencies. A 5% legal threshold is implemented augmenting by 3% if two parties form an alliance. For each additional member of an alliance 1% is added to the legal threshold up to a maximum electoral threshold of 10%. The legal threshold is lowered to 3% of the national vote increasing by 1% by every additional party in party coalitions up to a maximum of 8%. 18 seats are distributed among representatives of ethnic minorities. Legally constituted organizations of citizens belonging to a national minority (except the Hungarians), which in the elections have not obtained at least one Deputy, have the right to a seat if they have obtained throughout the country at least 5% of the average number of validly expressed votes.
- 2004: 332 seats are elected in 42 constituencies.

4. **Electoral History:** Elections for a fully elected House of Represent were held on the following years.

Election Date	Polity Score *	CLEA Data Release
May 20, 1990	5	√
September 27, 1992	5	√
November 3, 1996	8	√
November 26, 2000	8	√
November 28, 2004	9	

Notes: \*The Polity Score ranges from -10 to 10, from least democratic to most democratic. Data come from the Polity IV dataset: <http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/polity/data/>.

5. **Sources on Electoral History:**

- Downs, William M. and Raluca V. Millera (2005): "The 2004 presidential and parliamentary elections in Romania", *Electoral Studies* 25(2), 409-415.
- OSCE (2004): Romania: Parliamentary and Presidential Elections 28 November and 12 December 2004; OSCE/ODIHR assessment mission report.
- Shvetsova, Olga (1999): "A survey of post-communist electoral institutions: 1990-1998", *Electoral Studies* 18, 397-409.

6. **Sources of Electoral Data:**

- 1990-2000: Data collected by CLEA from Database on Central and Eastern European Elections at the University of Essex (<http://www.essex.ac.uk/elections/>)