Romania

Investor Presentation

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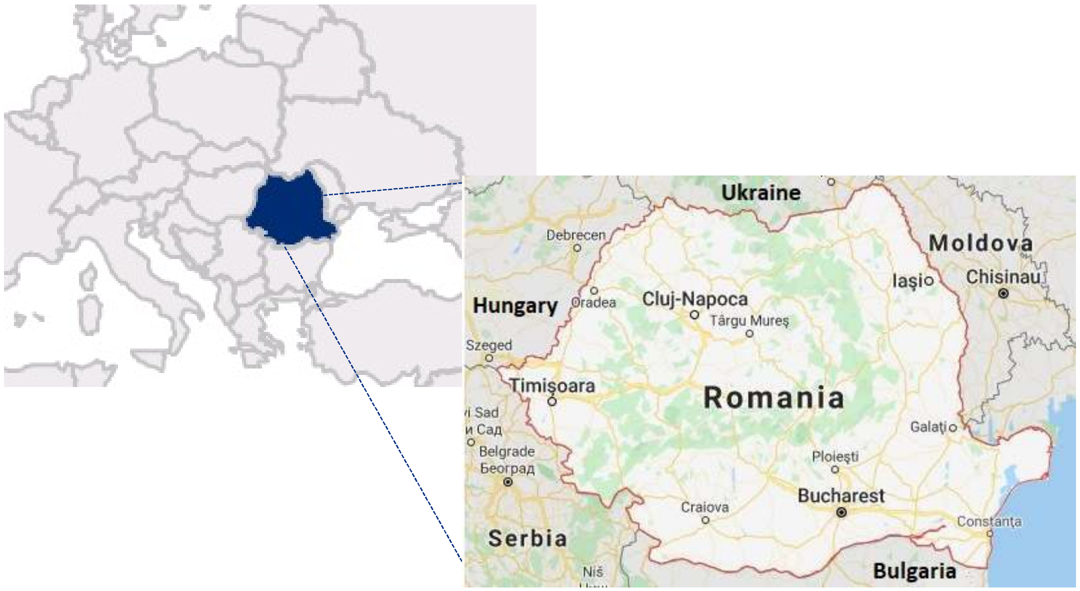
Overview

Snapshot of Romania's Economy

Area	238,391 sq. km
Population (2019)	c. 19.4 mn
Average RON/EUR rate (Jan – Apr 2020)	4.8054
Average RON/EUR rate (2019)	4.7452
GDP (2019 current prices)	EUR 223.3[1]
GDP per Capita (2019)	EUR 11,535[1]
GDP Growth (2019)	4.1%[1]
GDP Growth (Q1 2020, y-o-y)	2.4%
Average Inflation Rate (September 2020)	2.45%
Unemployment[2] (September 2020)	3.26%
Public Debt / GDP (August 2020)	42.8%



Current Credit Ratings

S&P Global	FitchRatings	Moody's
BBB- / Negative	**BBB- / Negative**	**Baa3 / Negative**
since May 16, 2014; outlook revised on December 10, 2019	*since July 4, 2011; outlook revised on April 17, 2020*	*since October 6, 2006; outlook revised on April 24, 2020*

Source: National Institute of Statistics ("NIS"), Eurostat, National Agency for Employment, Map data ©2020 Google, GeoBasis-DE/BKG (©2009).
(1) Provisional data.
(2) Registered unemployment rate.

Key Features of Romania's Credit Profile

Strong Macroeconomic Framework

- Romania had one of the highest growth rates in the EU during the last decade: the annual average GDP growth was 4.9%[1] during 2015–2019.
- After joining the EU, real convergence expressed in GDP per capita in PPS significantly improved from 39%[1] in 2006 to 66% in 2018 of EU average.
- Romania recorded an annual economic growth of 4.1% in 2019, driven by construction sector, services and investment.
- The economy of Romania remains resilient: (i) In Q1 2020, the Romanian economic growth was one of the fastest among the EU 27 Member States (2.4% y-o-y), together with those of Lithuania (2.5%) and Bulgaria (2.4%) as per Eurostat data as of May 15, 2020; (ii) according to the Spring Forecast of the EC, released on May 6, 2020, in Q2 2020 (i.e. expected peak of Covid-19 pandemic), the GDP is foreseen to decrease by one digit number only in three EU states: Romania (-9.6%), Sweden (-9.3%) and Poland (-8.2%), compared to more significant drops in the rest of the Member States.

Well Capitalized and Liquid Banking Sector

- NPL ratio[2] showed a sustained downward trend (from 9.6% at end 2016 to 4.09% at end of 2019 and 4.04% in April 2020).
- To date, the Romanian government has not used public money to support local banks and their recapitalization has been entirely a responsibility of the shareholders.
- Very well capitalized banking sector, with a total capital adequacy ratio of 22.0%[3] as of 2019.
- Stable exchange rate.

Improving Financial Sector

- Lasting FDI growth: 30.5% in 2016, 6.2% in 2017, by 9.8% in 2018 and 1.3% y-o-y in 2019. In the first seven months of 2020, FDIs were EUR 1.32 bn (provisional data).
- Constant decrease of the share of foreign currency denominated deposits and loans.

Low Public Debt

- Public Debt to GDP ratio of 42.8% at end of August 2020, increased sharply compared to 35.3% at end of 2019 (Eurostat, ESA methodology), mainly due to the COVID-19 crisis.
- Sustainable debt management policy continued.

(1) Source: Eurostat; (2) Under the EBA Methodology. The same observation applies to data under the national methodology; (3) National Bank of Romania, "Aggregate Indicators for Credit Institutions"

Nominal Convergence Criteria

Convergence Criteria	Maastricht Requirements	Romania	Fulfilment of the criteria
Inflation rate (HICP) (%, annual average)	≤ 1.5 pp above 0.35% the average of the three best-performing EU Member States[(1)]	1.8%[(1)] (May 2020)	No
Long-term interest rates (% p.a., annual average) [(2)]	≤ 2 pp above 0.9% (average of the three best-performing EU Member States in terms of price stability	4.54% (May 2020)	No
Exchange rate vs the euro[(3)] (2-year maximum percentage change)	± 15%	+0.6 / -1.6% (May 2020)	Yes
General government deficit (% of GDP)[(4)]	≤ 3%	6.36%	No
Government debt (% of GDP) [(5)]	≤ 60%	42.8%	Yes

(1) The reference value for May 2020 was calculated by the National Commission of Strategy and Prognosis ("NCSP") taking into account Estonia, Luxembourg and Slovenia based on Eurostat data.
(2) Eurostat: the reference value for May 2020 was calculated by the NCSP, taking into account Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Finland.
(3) The reference value for April 2020 was calculated by the NCSP, based on Eurostat data. Maximum percentage deviations of the bilateral exchange rate against the euro from its April 2018 average level in May 2018 to April 2020 based on daily data at business frequency. An upward / downward deviation implies that the currency was stronger / weaker than the average exchange rate in April 2020.
(4) January – September 2020 budget execution, ESA methodology, Eurostat statistical data.
(5) As at the end of August 2020. Source: Monthly Report of the Ministry of Public Finance.

Source: Eurostat, NBR and NCSP calculations.

Response to COVID-19

Romania Reacted Early and Adequately to Covid-19

- Romania managed to contain the immediate spread of the virus due to a timely announcement of a state of emergency on March 16, 2020 and parallel implementation of a wide range of restrictive and pre-emptive measures.
- As of May 15, 2020, Romania, being one of the more populous countries in the CEE region, has entered in a state of alert and began a phase of gradual stabilisation and flattening of its pandemic spread curve.
- As of September 2020, Romania has taken the necessary measures to contain the fast growth of the newly infected Covid-19 cases.

Protective Measures during the State of Emergency

- National curfew, closing of schools, cultural institutions, restaurants,public businesses, suspension of sports, religious activities, etc.
- Restrictions on domestic movement
- Suspension on international flights and closure of borders with Hungary, Moldova, Ukraine and Serbia
- Increased testing of suspected cases

Cumulative Confirmed Covid-19 Cases in Romania vs Other European Countries

Reported cases per 100 000 population (as of October 23, 2020)

Belgium *875.1*

Czechia *828.4*

Netherlands *509.5*

France *388.8*

United Kingdom *338.2*

Iceland *315.4*

Spain *312.4*

Slovakia *292.6*

Romania *218.4*

Status of Covid-19 Pandemic Spread in Romania as of October 26, 2020

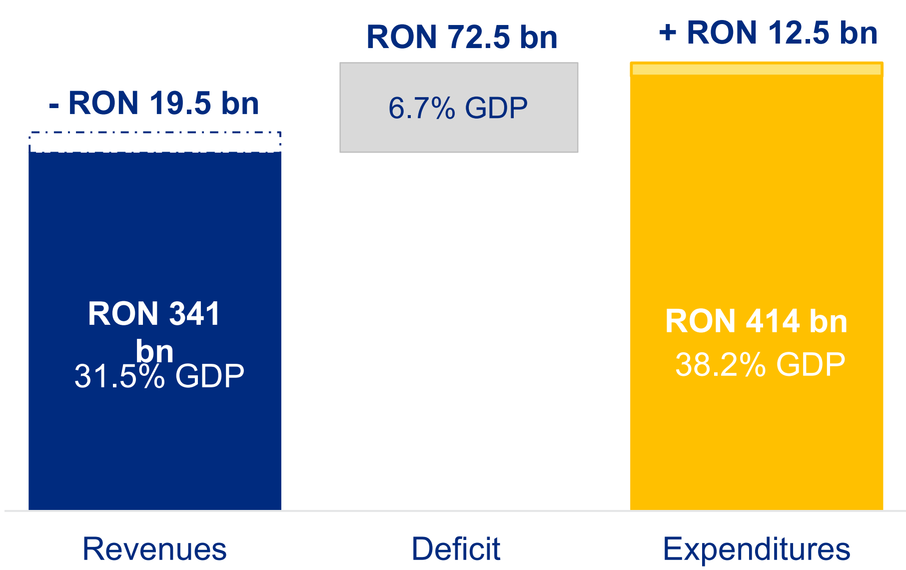
		7-day Δ	14-day Δ
Total Confirmed Cases	212,492	14.1%	32.4%
Total Tested Persons	3,064,698	6%	13.1%
Total Tested per 100k	15,797		

Sources: ECDC, National Institute of Public Health, Ministry of Internal Affairs – Strategic Communication Group

Impact of Covid-19 on the Consolidated Budget 2020

- The first budget amendment in 2020 was based on a macroeconomic forecast of the National Commission of Strategy and Prognosis from April 2020, taking into account the measures, stimulating the economic growth and restricting the spread of the pandemic:
  - **Revenues:** decreased to RON 341 bn (by RON 19.5 bn)
  - **Expenditures:** increased to RON 414 bn (by RON 12.5 bn)
  - **Deficit:** increased by RON 32 bn than the initially planned to RON 72.5 bn (6.7% of GDP)

Revised General Consolidated Budget 2020 due to Covid-19 Measures



- The overall fall of revenues by RON 23 bn is offset by funds from the EU (RON 3.9 bn).
- The largest revenue decrease is expected to result from:
  - Lower social insurance contributions: RON 8.36 bn
  - VAT revenue fall: RON 5.6 bn
  - Reducing excise duties: RON 2.7 bn
  - Lower profit tax: RON 2.3 bn
- Key components of the revised deficit estimate include expenditures related to labour and social protection, health programmes, SMEs support, local development, police force, agriculture and rural development, food safety, sanitizing measures, medical equipment, etc.
- Public debt is estimated to reach 43.6% at the end of 2020.

Wide-Ranging Economic Stimuli Counter the Effect of the Pandemic

Restarting the Economy After Covid-19 is a Key Priority for the Romanian Government and specific measures have been introduced to address the challenges and mitigate the effects of the crisis

Decisive Fiscal and Economic Measures for about 3% of 2019 GDP

- Increased funds allocated to the healthcare system
- The State pays 75% of the individual gross wage (with a cap) for technical unemployment, in case of employees affected by Covid-19
- Employees with suspended contracts receive for three months 41.5% of their gross basic salary from the unemployment insurance budget
- The State pays 50% of salaries of employees 16-29 years and >50 years old
- Wage benefits for parents staying home with children
- Corporate tax discount of 10% in Q1-Q3 2020, if tax is paid by 25 April 2020
- Property tax dues postponed by three months
- 2020 tax exemption for hospitality sector taxpayers with restricted activities
- Cancellation of interest and penalties for late fiscal dues and installments
- Faster VAT reimbursement and settling of negative VAT amounts as well as VAT exemption for supplies, imports and purchases of masks and equipment
- Debt moratorium of up to nine months (but no later than December 31, 2020) on loans for certain debtor categories, with incomes directly or indirectly affected by Covid-19
- Social security contributions delayed for affected companies
- Suspension of foreclosures affecting debtors with overdues
- RON 20 bn guarantees for loans of SME's and micro-enterprises: up to 80-90% of loan, with a cap
- Subsidised interest for investments and deferred utility bills of SMEs

Response of the National Bank of Romania

I. Monetary Policy Measures

- Monetary policy rate was cut from 2.50% to 1.5%
- The symmetrical corridor defined by interest rates on standing facilities around the monetary policy rate was narrowed to ±0.5 percentage points from ±1.0 percentage points. Thus:
  - the deposit facility rate was reduced to 1.00% from 1.50%
  - lending facility rate was lowered to 2.00% from 3.50%
- Leu-denominated government securities purchased on the secondary market
- Carried out repo operations, providing liquidity to credit institutions
- EUR 4.5 bn repo line with ECB for high-quality collateral activated

II. Operational Measures

- Measures supporting the smooth functioning of settlements and payments in RON
- Credit institutions provided with continuous cash flow and liquidity
- Flexibility in the use of macroprudential capital buffers (temporarily, in line with similar action in other EU countries; except for institutions paying dividends)
- Liquidity coverage ratio < 1.0, if needed
- Recommendation to avoid dividend distribution or reduce capital
- Cap on pension funds' investments in government securities lifted till 2021
- IFRS reporting for non-financial institutions postponed from 2022 to 2023

Sources: National Bank of Romania, IMF

Multi-Layer Economic Support Extended by the EU

Series of support measures have been introduced by the European Commission and are available to Romania and other Member States

Lines of EU Support and Implementation by the Ministry of European Funds

- EUR 3.1-3.9 bn in transfers from the EU budget to Romania (part of the EU Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative).
- Additional funds to be received from the SURE financial instrument (up to EUR 100 bn), the EU Solidarity Fund (in support of public expenditures on employment), the European Economic Recovery Fund and the EIB.
- Adoption of Government Emergency Ordinance (43/2020) treating EU financed support measures, i.e. expenses and costs covered via:

Most Deprived OP[1]

- distribution of aid to affected individuals, elderly people, people with disabilities

Large Infrastructure OP

- reimbursements for medical equipment, devices and related expenses

Human Capital OP

- reimbursements of costs of staff in the social assistance sector
- reimbursements of monthly risk remunerations paid to doctors and medical staff
- reimbursements of compensations granted to Covid-19 hit businesses

Measures Aimed at Increasing Funds' Absorption Flexibility and Avoiding Decommitment of Funds

- Launch of calls for proposals within the Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative
- Continuation, postponement or suspension of projects' implementation
- Increase of pre-financing from 10% to 30% of contract values
- Extension of pre-financing deadlines
- Extension of works' execution and reimbursement deadlines
- Suspension of various activities during the state of emergency: submission deadlines, execution of debt securities, monitoring visits
- Electronic registration of documents

Administration of State Aid

- In line with the temporary state aid framework of the EU, the MEF[2] is carrying out analysis of financial statements of relevant entities and will relocate funds within OPs to enhance financing measures, where needed

(1) Operational Programme; (2) Ministry of European Funds

Long Years of Uninterrupted GDP Growth

Romania's Economy: Macroeconomic Indicators

Overview | Response to Covid-19 | **Long Years of Uninterrupted GDP Growth** | Sustainable Fiscal Policy | Prudent Public Debt Management | EU Funds Absorption | EU Funding

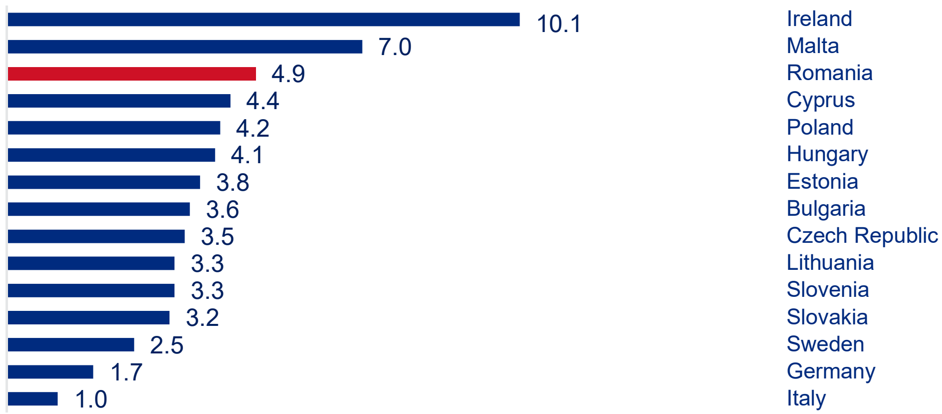
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Macroeconomic Indicators									***Estimate***
Real GDP (% y-o-y)	2.1	3.5	3.4	3.9	4.8	7.1	4.4[p]	4.1[p]	(3.8)
Inflation rate (%, e.o.p.)	5.0	1.6	0.8	(0.9)	(0.5)	3.3	3.3	4.0	2.8
Inflation rate (%, annual average)	3.3	4.0	1.1	(0.6)	(1.5)	1.3	4.6	3.8	2.8
Budget balance (% GDP, cash)	(2.5)	(2.5)	(1.7)	(1.4)	(2.4)	(2.8)	(2.8)	(4.6)[n]	(8.6)
Budget balance (% GDP, ESA 2010)	(3.7)	(2.1)	(1.2)	(0.6)	(2.6)	(2.6)	(2.9)	(4.3)[n]	n.a.
Government debt (% GDP, EU methodology)	37.0	37.6	39.2	37.8	37.3	35.1	34.7	35.3[o]	43.6
Exports of goods (%, y-o-y)	(0.5)	10.0	6.7	4.9	6.2	9.6	8.1[s]	2.1[p]	(10.3)
Current account balance (% GDP)	(4.8)	(0.8)	(0.2)	(0.6)	(1.4)	(2.8)	(4.4)[s]	(4.6)[p]	(4.1)
Interest And Exchange Rates									
NBR policy rate (%, e.o.p)	5.25	4.0	2.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	2.50	2.50	1.50
Credit facility rate	9.25	7.00	5.25	3.25	3.25	2.75	3.50	3.50	2.00
Deposit facility rate	1.25	1.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.75	1.50	1.50	1.00
Average exchange rate (RON/EUR)	4.46	4.42	4.44	4.45	4.49	4.57	4.65	4.75	4.84
Labor Market Indicators									
ILO unemployment rate (%)	6.8	7.1	6.8	6.8	5.9	4.9	4.2	3.9	4.4

Source: NIS, National Commission of Strategy and Prognosis (Spring forecast 2020), Budget Law no 50/2019, Fiscal Budgetary Strategy 2020-2022 (Ministry of Finance).
Notes: Budget balance (% of GDP cash and ESA2010) for the 2018-2019 period is estimated at the moment of the 2018 Budget adoption. 2020 estimates are part of budget planning for 2020 and the medium–term. Revised 2013 – 2019 data in the context of common European benchmark revision 2019; (n) April 2020 EDP Notification; (o) Eurostat Newsletter no. 156/22.10.2020; (s) Semi-final data; (p) Provisional data.

Growth Supported by Domestic Demand and Capital Formation

Romania is One of the Fastest Growing Economies in the EU

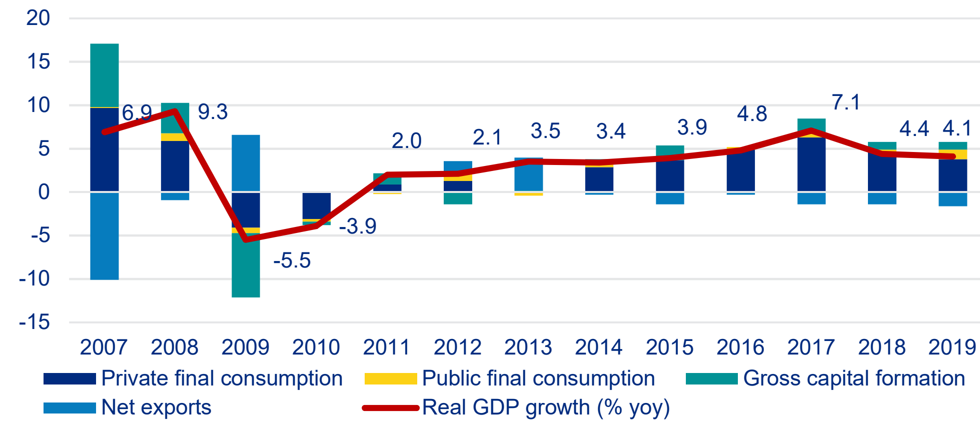
% GDP Growth, Average 2015–2019



Source: Eurostat

GDP Growth is Underpinned by Strong Domestic Demand

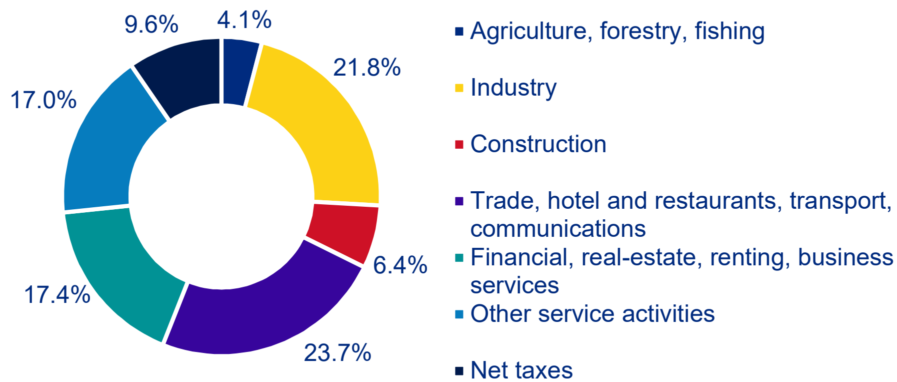
GDP Components, Percentage Points



Source: NIS

The Romanian Economy is Diversified

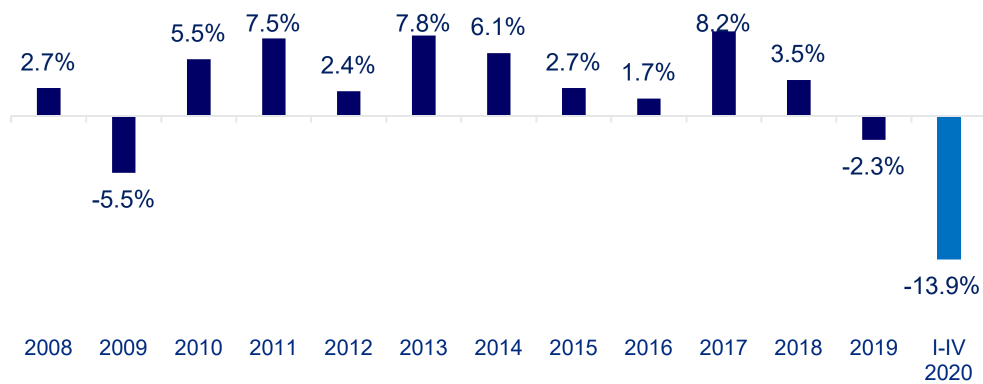
Structure of Gross Domestic Product by Sectors in 2019, %



Source: NIS, https://insse.ro/cms/sites/default/files/com_presa/com_pdf/pib_tr4e2019_2.pdf

Industry Slump Offset by Consumption and Capital Formation

Real Change in Industrial Production, y-o-y, (base year 2015)



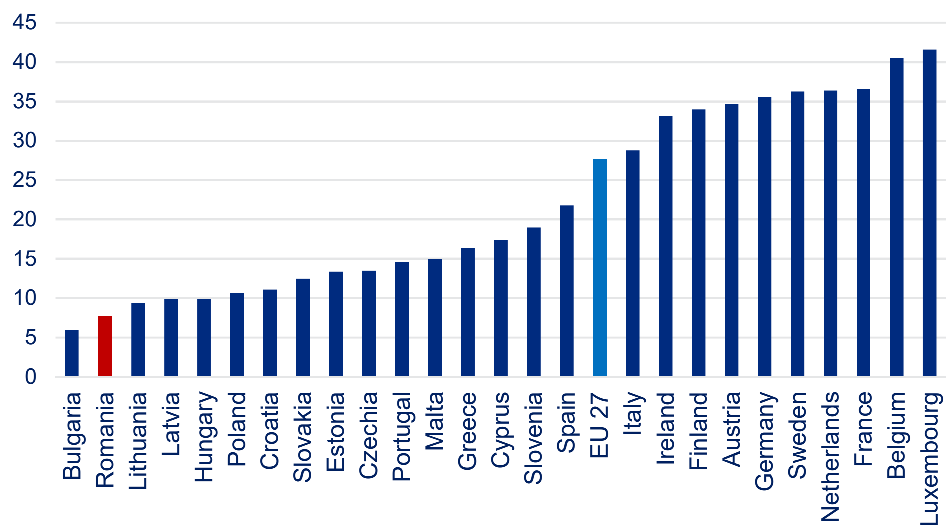
Source: NIS

Labour Market Conditions Supportive of Long-Term Growth

- Highly educated workforce as evidenced by the United Nations' Human Development Indicators 2019: skilled employees constitute 81% of the Romanian labour force and 71% of the population are internet users. The country ranked #52 / #189, according to the 2019 Human Development Index.
- Romanian labour costs per hour remain among the most competitive in the EU.
- In March 2020, the EU implemented the first Covid-19 measures, influencing the unemployment in the Union. Romania's unemployment rate (ILO methodology) is nevertheless kept below the EU27 average and remains one of the lowest among the member states to date: 4.8% in April 2020.

Labour Costs in Romania are Sustained at one of the Lowest Levels in the EU

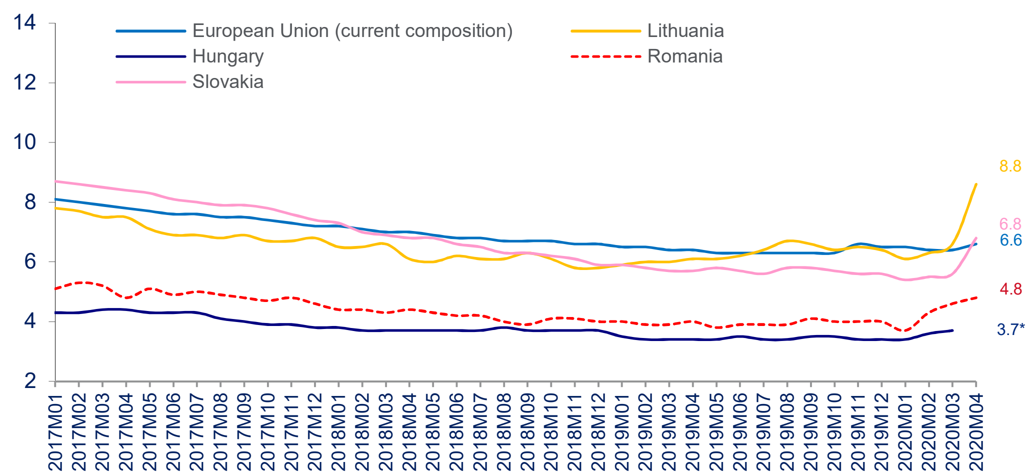
Annual data as of 2019, EUR



Source: Eurostat. Data according to ESA 2010 methodology

Unemployment Rate Below the EU Average

Unemployment rate (monthly, seasonally adjusted), %



Source: Eurostat, ILO Methodology
* Latest data as of March 2020

Sustainable Fiscal Policy

2019 Budget: Overview and Assumptions

2019 Budget Execution

- Revenues to the general consolidated budget, in the amount of RON 321.13 bn (30.9% of GDP), increased by 8.8% in nominal terms compared to 2018.
  - Increases in the collection of: social contributions (+13.6%), corporate income tax (+13.2%), excises (+10.3%), personal income tax (+2.3%);
  - The collection of VAT increased by 9.7% as compared to 2018. Reimbursments from the EU amounted to RON 25.32 bn.
- The expenditures of the general consolidated budget, in the amount of RON 369.4 bn, increased in nominal terms by 14.7% YoY compared to 2018.
  - Personnel expenditures increased by 18.8%;
  - Expenditures on goods and services increased by 18.3%, while the expenditure for social assistance increased by 13.2%;
  - Investment expenditure amounted to RON 43.6 bn, 27.4% higher than in 2018.
  - Subsidies expenditure amounted to RON 7.11 bn (0.7% of GDP).

The execution of the general consolidated budget, during the period of 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019, ended with a cash deficit of RON 48.3 bn, or 4.6%. of GDP.

Macroeconomic Assumptions for the 2019 Budget	2019 August revision	2019 November revision
GDP (RON bn)	1,031.0	1,040.8
Real Growth Rate (%)	**5.5**	**4.0**
Inflation / end of year (%)	3.2	3.8
Inflation / annual average (%)	3.4	3.8
Average number of employees (‘000s)	5,282	5,170
No. of unemployed persons registered as at the end of year (‘000s)	287	287
- Rate of registered unemployment (%)	3.2	3.2
Gross average salary (RON / month)	5,163	4,945
Goods exports – growth rate (%)	8.9	2.7
Goods imports – growth rate (%)	9.4	4.0

Source: Ministry of Public Finance

2020 Budget: Overview and Key Assumptions

September 2020 Budget Execution – Deficit of 6.36% of GDP

- Revenues to the general consolidated budget, in the amount of RON 227.72 billion, decreased by 0.4% in nominal terms compared to the same period of last year.
- Personal income tax revenues registered an increase (+5.1%) compared to the same period of last year, while social security contributions revenues stagnated compared to the level registered in the same period of last year.
- Revenues from the collection of VAT and excises decreased by 14.3% and 3% respectively compared to the same period of last year.
- Revenues from corporate income tax decreased by 13.8%, while non-tax revenues increased by 2.2% compared to the same period of last year.
- Reimbursements from the EU amounted to RON 16.04 billion, up by 44.2% compared to the same period of last year.

- The expenditures of the general consolidated budget, in the amount of RON 294.99 billion (27.9% of GDP), increased in nominal terms by 15.4% compared to the same period of last year.
- Personnel expenditure increased by 6.5%, compared to the same period of last year.
- Goods and services expenditures increased by 12.7%, while the expenditure for social assistance increased by 22.9%.
- Investment expenditure amounted to RON 29.8 billion (the largest sum invested in the economy for the first 9 months of a year in the last decade), being 29.8% higher than the same period of last year.

	Macroeconomic Assumptions for the 2020 Budget	First Budget Rectification - April 2020(1)	Second Budget Rectification - August 2020(1)
GDP (RON bn)	1,129.2	1,082.1	1,058.0
Real Growth Rate (%)	**4.1**	**-1.9**	**-3.8**
Inflation / end of year (%)	3.0	3.0	2.8
Inflation / annual average (%)	3.1	3.1	2.8
Average number of employees ('000s)	5,268	5,087	5,070
No. of unemployed persons registered as at the end of year ('000s)	275	295	338
- Rate of registered unemployment (%)	3.0	3.4	3.9
Gross average salary (RON / month)	5,429	5,212	5,114
Goods exports – growth rate (%)	4.5	-7.3	-10.3
Goods imports – growth rate (%)	5.5	-6.1	-7.7

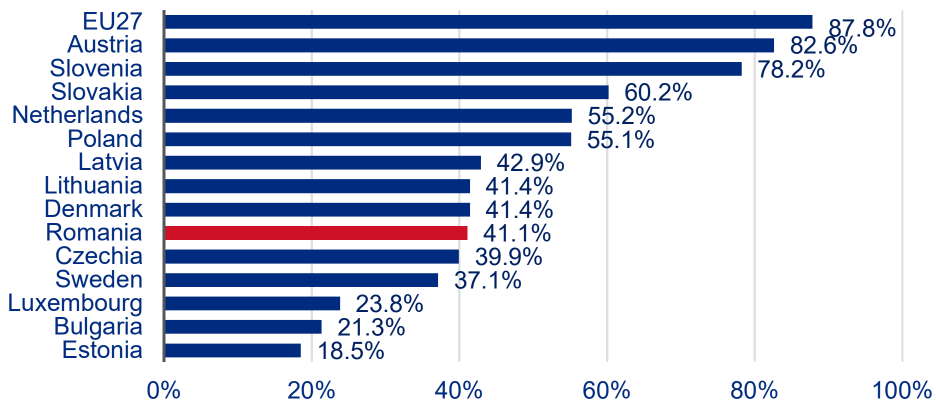
Source: Ministry of Public Finance. (1) Forecast of the National Commission of Strategy and Prognosis.

Prudent Public Debt Management

Public Debt is on a Sustainable Path

Romania has one of the lowest Debt / GDP Ratios in the EU

General Government Debt / GDP, 2020 Q2



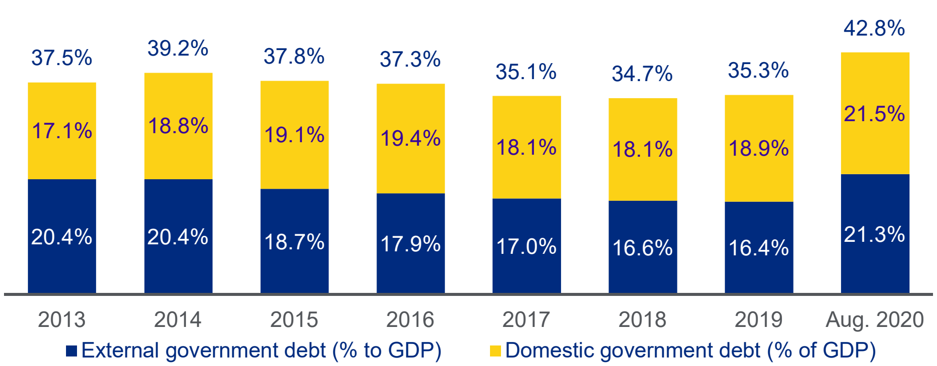
Source: Eurostat News release no. 157/22.10.2020.

(% of GDP)	2016	2017	2018	2019P	2020F
Gross Financing Need, Out of which[1]:	9.0%	7.6%	7.4%	8.6%	13.1%
– Budgetary Deficit	2.4%	2.8%	2.8%	4.6%	8.6%
– Refinancing of Public Debt[1]	6.6%	4.8%	4.6%	4.0%	4.5%
Foreign Currency Buffer[2]	3.6%	2.8%	2.6%	1.8%	2.5%
Net Government Debt[2]	33.7%	32.3%	32.1%	33.5%	41.1%

(P) Provisional. (F) Forecasted.

Debt / GDP Ratio is Stable…

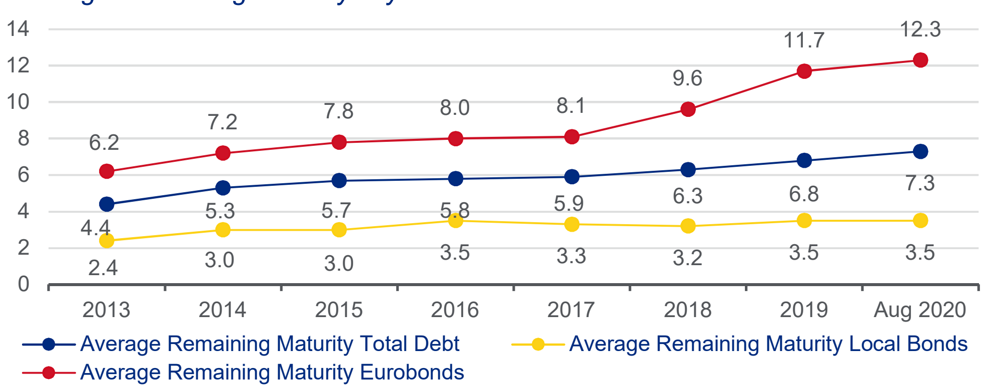
General Government Debt / GDP ESA 2010[3], August 2020



Source: Ministry of Public Finance – (EU Methodology).

…with a Prudent Maturity Profile

Average Remaining Maturity in years

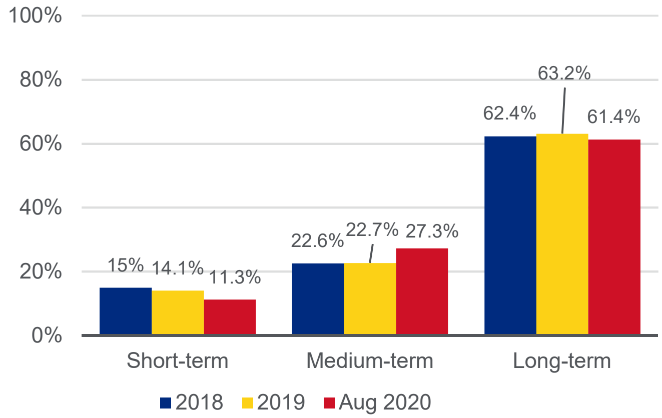


Source: Ministry of Public Finance (public government debt according to the national legislation, without temporary financing).

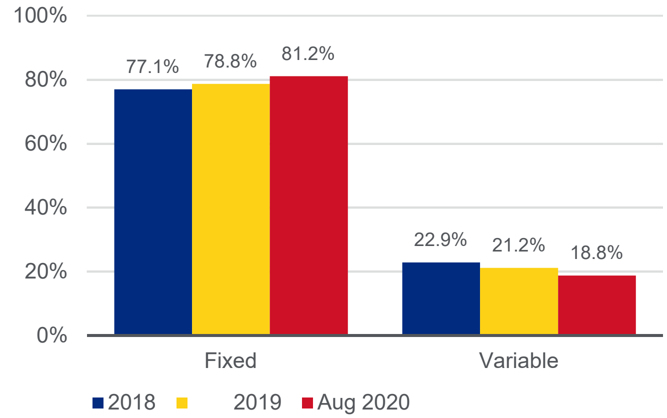
(1) Ministry of Public Finance (own calculation)
(2) Ministry of Public Finance - historical compilation of the Public Debt Bulletin and projection of the Ministry of Public Finance for 2020; Calculated as Gross government debt (EU Methodology) – Foreign currency buffer
(3) Ministry of Public Finance - according to EU methodology, the debt to GDP ratio was calculated taking into consideration the sum of GDP for the last four quarters

Stable Government Borrowing Profile

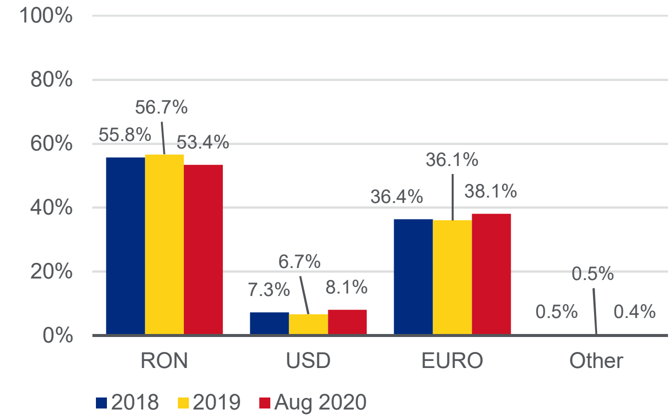
Increasingly Long Tenor Borrowings…



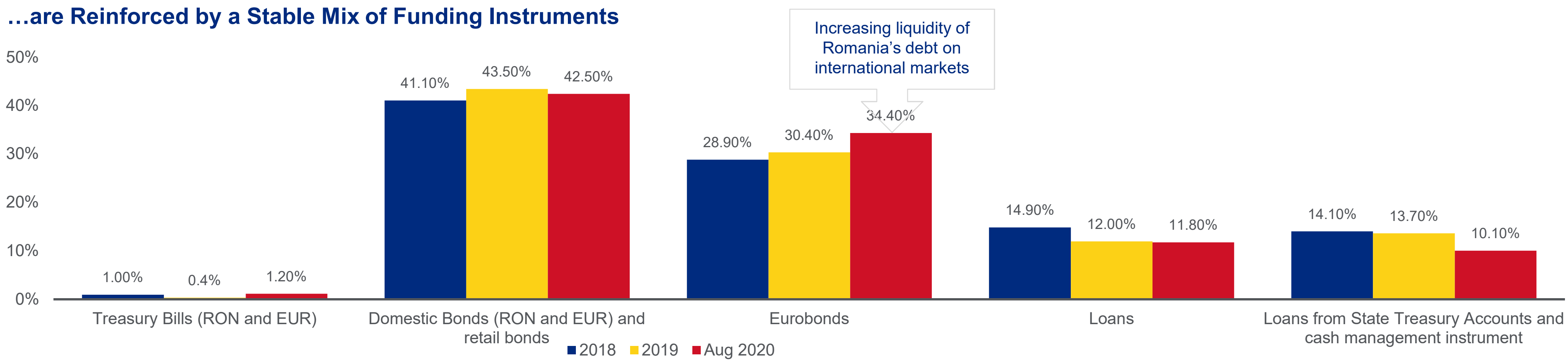
…Mostly Paying Fixed Interest…



…Primarily in RON and EUR…



…are Reinforced by a Stable Mix of Funding Instruments



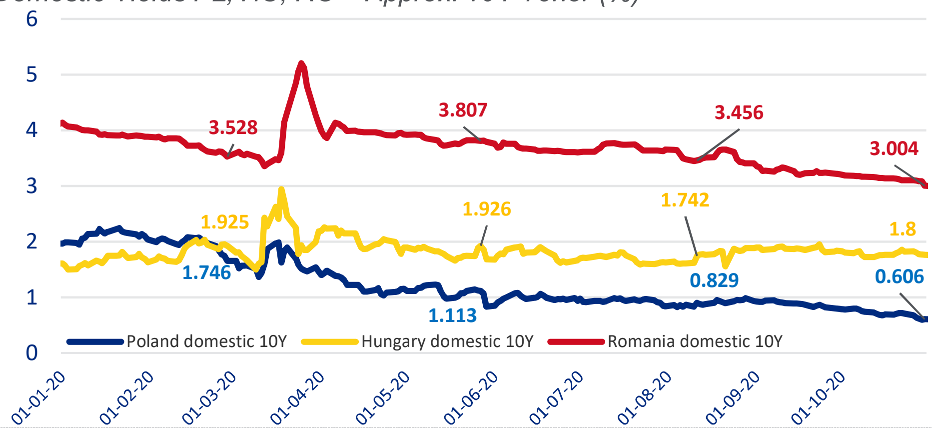
Source: Ministry of Public Finance. Historical compilation of the Public Debt Bulletin.
Note: Based on national legislation.

Investment Grade Ratings Underpin Strong Market Performance

- Since March 2020, Romanian domestic yields have experienced episodes of volatility, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, yields have been compressing since the end of March, given improved general market sentiment.

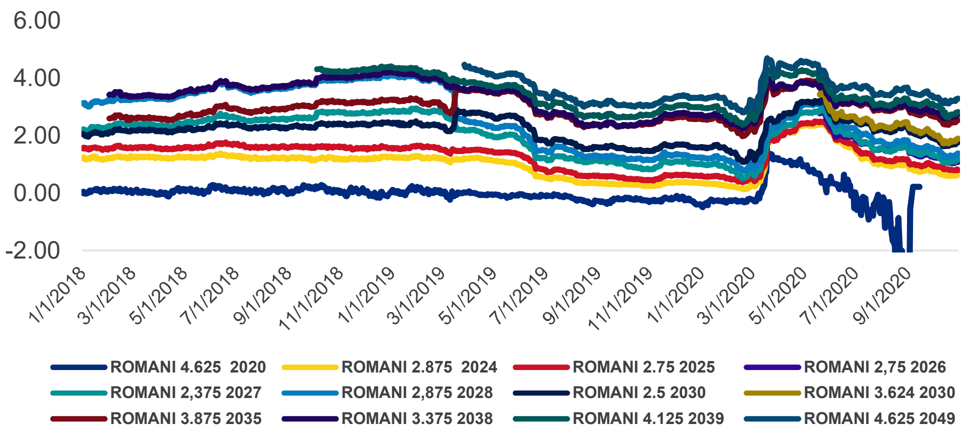
Yields have been relatively stable, on Romania's domestic debt…

Domestic Yields PL, HU, RO – Approx. 10Y Tenor (%)



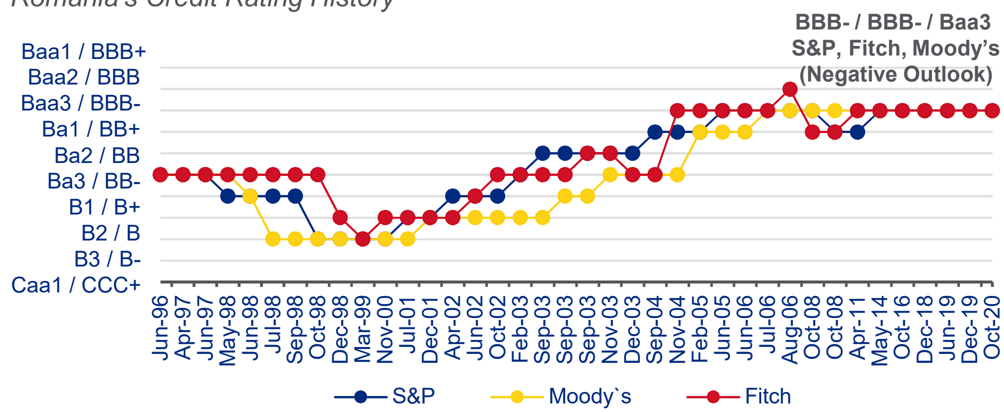
…and on its foreign debt

Bid Yields of Romanian EUR Eurobonds, %



Romania Regained Full Investment Grade Status in 2014

Romania's Credit Rating History



Source: Market data.

Fine-tuned instruments and diversified investor base

Instruments

- On the domestic government securities market, MoPF intends to issue a wide range of maturities between 6 months and 15 years on the interbank market, building liquid benchmarks to an equivalent of about EUR 2.5 billion
- In 2020 MoPF will continue to issue retail bonds with 1 to 5 years maturity via treasury offices, postal units and banks. This year MoPF has also issued retail bonds via the Bucharest Stock Exchange in EUR and local currency.

Well diversified Investor base

- *Holders of domestic market government securities (end of August, 2020)* (1)
  - Local commercial banks 48.2%
  - Pension funds 19.3%
  - Non-residents 18.4%
- *Average participation in Eurobonds issues*(2)
  - Fund managers 60–70%
  - Institutional investors 10–20%
  - Commercial and private banks 15–25%
  - Central banks 3–5%
- *Geographical distribution of Eurobond issuances in EUR*(2) – mostly Western European Countries (Germany and Austria around 8% for issues of 10Y and 20% for longer tenors, the UK around 27% on average, France and Benelux around 10% etc.); US (around 29-30%); Central and Eastern European states (usually around 10%) and investors from the Middle East and Asia (with an average participation of around 2–3%).

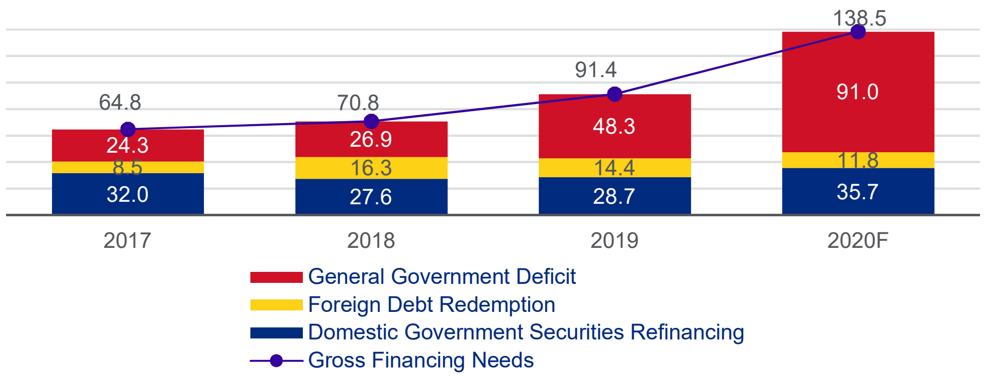
(1) Source: Ministry of Public Finance. Public Debt Bulletin.
(2) Source: Ministry of Public Finance (own calculation).

Romania Enjoys Robust Market Access

- Romania's funding sources are well diversified:
  - **Domestic market** via RON and EUR government securities issued on the interbank market and retail government securities;
  - **External market** (Eurobonds, Institutional Loans from IFIs and government agencies).
- A hard currency buffer has been built up to cover up to four months of gross financing needs.
- As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic measures introduced in Romania, the total government financing needs for 2020 were revised from RON 86.9 bn to RON 138.5 bn. The plan of the Government is to finance the gap via RON 80.4 bn domestic market issuance and up to EUR 9.3 bn Eurobond issuance.

Financing Needs

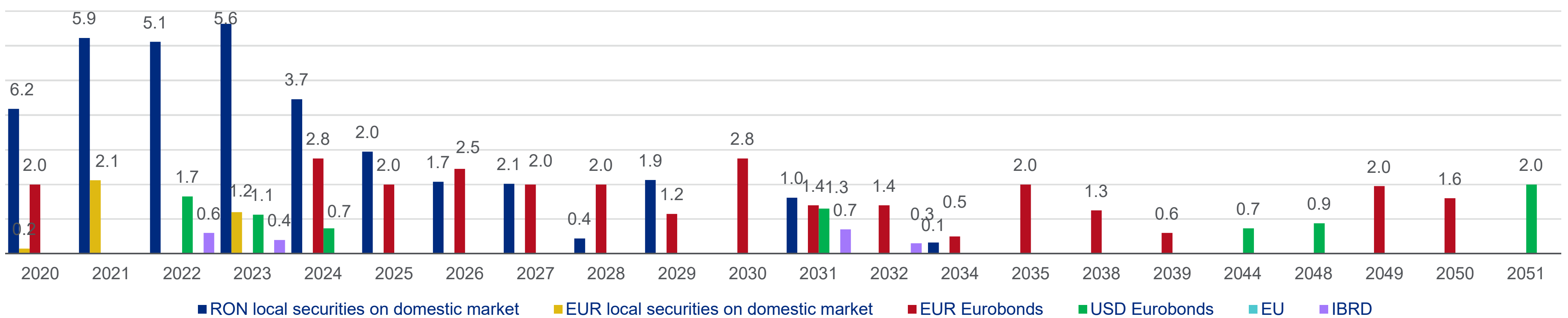
Government Financing Needs, RON bn



Source: Ministry of Public Finance (own calculation), Public Debt Report - August 2020

Government Debt Maturity Structure is Well Distributed across a Long Horizon

Redemption Profile of Government Securities and External Loan Facilities, EUR bn



Source: Ministry of Public Finance. Data as of July 31, 2020.

Prudent Debt Management Policy (Cont'd)

Sovereign Debt Risk Management Targets

	Parameters[1]	Levels as of August 2020	Levels as of December 31, 2019	Indicative Targeted Min / Max Ranges (2019–2021)[2]
Currency Risk	Share of domestic currency debt, % of total	48.2	49.8	45 (Min) – 60
	Share of EUR debt out of total foreign-currency denominated debt, %	81.9	83.4	80 (Min) – 95
Refinancing Risk	Debt maturing in one year, % of total	13.0	12.0	10 – 20 (Max)
	Local currency debt maturing in one year, % of total	17.0	17.0	15 – 25 (Max)
	ATM[3] for total debt, years	7.3	6.7	6.0 (Min) – 7.0
	ATM[3] for local currency debt, years	4.1	4.1	3.5 (Min) – 5.0
Interest Rate Risk	Debt re-fixing in one year, % of total	16.0	14.0	10 – 20 (Max)
	Local currency debt re-fixing in one year, % of total	17.0	17.0	15 – 25 (Max)
	ATR[4] for total debt, years	7.4	6.8	6.0 (Min) – 7.0
	ATR[4] for local currency debt, years	4.1	4.1	3.5 (Min) – 5.0

Objectives of the Debt Management Strategy

- Cover funding needs of the central government, while minimizing medium- and long-term debt costs
- Limit risks for the government public debt portfolio
- Develop the domestic market for government securities

Strategic Guidelines During 2019–2021

- The net financing mainly in local currency is as a move to further facilitate the development of the domestic market of government securities and help mitigate foreign currency exposure, at the same time considering the domestic market absorption capacity and, in general, the demand for debt instruments denominated in lei, as well as the need for a further diversification of the investor base of government securities.
- Depending on the market circumstances, the Ministry of Public Finance takes into consideration to partially pre-secure the next year's estimated financing needs.
- Pursue a smooth redemption profile, avoiding to the extent possible the concentration of principal repayments/refinancing of government securities in the short-term.
- Mitigate the refinancing risk and the liquidity risk by maintaining a foreign currency buffer at a comfortable level and possibly by using other instruments depending on the terms and conditions thereof.
- Maintain a presence on the international capital markets, through issuances of Eurobonds mainly in Euro and access the USD market or other foreign currency markets on an opportunistic basis, giving consideration to the extension of the debt portfolio average maturity and taking into account the cost/risk ratio associated thereto and the diversification of the investment base.
- In the process of external financing, the debt will be contracted mainly in euros.
- The euro issuances on the domestic market will be considered only if there is a special demand from domestic investors in the absence of alternative lending instruments, provided that there is a beneficial maturity/cost ratio.
- Maintain the exposure to interest rate risk under control by monitoring the share of domestic debt re-fixing within the next year and the average time to re-fix for the total portfolio.
- Use financing instruments offered by the international financing institutions to benefit of the favorable terms and conditions attached to those instruments.

(1) Relates to government public debt according to national legislation excluding temporary financing; (2) Risk indicators presented are calculated for public government debt according to national legislation, excluding loans from availabilities of the State treasury account (temporary financing), in line with the limits established in the Debt Management Strategy 2019–2021; (3) ATM – average time to maturity; (4) ATR – average time to re-fixing.

Source: Ministry of Public Finance: Historic compilation of the Public Debt Bulletin and Government Public Debt Management Strategy.


Improved EU Funds Absorption


EU Funds Absorption has Accelerated in the Past Years

Operational Program	Development Objective	Allocation 2007–2013	Absorption Rate						
			Dec 2014	Dec 2015	Dec 2016	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	Dec 2019	August 2020
		EUR bn	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
RO Program[(1)]	Economic, social, balanced and sustainable regional development	3.71	57	64	85	93	100	100	100
SOP[(2)] **Environment**	Protect and improve the environment and living standards	3.98	42	62	79	84	94	94	94
SOP Transport	Modernization and development of European priority transport axes within Romania and the national transport infrastructure as a whole	3.76	57	62	77	81	92	92	92
SOP Increase of Economic Competitiveness	Fostering growth towards a knowledge-based economy	2.54	57	76	105[3]	100	100	100	100
SOP Human Resources Development	Open, knowledge-based society through provision of conditions facilitating human resources development	3.20	47	55	73	91	91	91	91
OP Administrative Capacity Development	Help increase the responsiveness of Romania's public administration and judicial system	0.21	72	89	99	100	100	100	100
OP Technical Assistance	Strengthening the capacity of beneficiaries to prepare and implement EU financed projects	0.17	55	81	113[3]	100	100	100	100
Total		**17.57**[4]	**52**	**63**	**83**	**89**	**95**	**95**	**95**

- To assure the highest level of absorption, Romania implemented the following structural measures:
  - Strengthening and improving of the monitoring at the level of large infrastructure projects in order to speed up implementation
  - Active promotion by the Government of the alternative use of EU funds, through similar projects
  - Further reallocation among priority goals of various programmes
  - Increase the administrative capacity of programming departments through the use of European Investment Bank expertise
  - Extending the categories of eligible expenditures, allowing the reimbursement for expenditure already realised under the approved projects
  - Phasing of projects between the 2007–2013 and the 2014–2020 programming periods

Note: The final absorption rate can be calculated after the acceptance by the EC of the final documents for closure, that were submitted by the Member States up to March 31, 2017.
(1) Abbreviations: Regional Operational; (2) Abbreviations: Sectoral Operational Program; (3) Includes amount requested through top-up mechanism; (4) The 2007–2013 allocation was modified due to the amounts decommited.

Source: Ministry of European Funds

EU Funds Absorption under the 2014–2020 Programming Period

Operational Program	Funds Allocated, EUR bn	Absorption Rate (Amount Requested to EC) (%)					
		Dec 2015	Dec 2016	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	Dec 2019	August 2020
OP Technical Assistance*	0.25	0	0	23.28	37.29	56.90	53.28
OP Competitiveness	1.33	0	0	6.48	17.01	25.38	31.19
OP Human Capital (including Youth Employment Initiative: EUR 0.11bn)	4.37	0	0	0.09	14.87	25.28	30.13
OP Administrative Capacity	0.55	0	0	4.15	12.95	23.23	26.25
OP Large Infrastructure	9.22	0	0	10.13	17.77	25.24	32.83
OP Regional	6.76	0	0	0.41	12.78	22.86	26.35
OP for SME's Initiative**	0.10	0	0	93.09	-	-	-
OP's for European Territorial Cooperation	0.48	0	0.54	1.76	9.56	21.19	26.85
OP Aid for the Most Deprived	0.44	0	0.97	17.37	17.35	30.27	30.27
Total	**23.50**	**0**	**0.02**	**5.62**	**15.65**	**24.87**	**30.25**

- Cohesion funds are aimed at reducing disparities between the various regions and the lags of the least-favoured regions;
- Aside from cohesion funds, during the 2014–2020 period, Romania has additional available financings of approx. EUR 20bn, under the Common Agricultural Policy;
- At the end of August 2020, the total amounts received from the European Commission, pre-financing and reimbursements related to the operational programs financed by the FESI and FEAD (POAD), are at approx. EUR 13.5 bn, which means approx. 44% of the EU allocation for these programs (about EUR 31 bn).

Increased Focus on Controls

- **Performance Oriented:** There is a monitoring framework, including milestones and specific targets corresponding to each operational programme
  - Their completion is verified for 2018 and 2023
- **Improving efficiency of EU funds spending:** the EC is putting in place performance reserves in amounts ranging between 5 and 7 % of (most of) the allocations under each priority within the operational programmes
  - The performance reserve amounts will be released subject to the achievement of the milestones set for 2018
- **Ex-ante conditionalities** to ensure the conditions for effective cohesion policy investments and predictability of national sectorial policies

The impact of EU Funds on the Romanian economy is set to increase given Romania's strides in improving EU fund absorption and the increased focus on European Commission Control

Note: *The 2014–2020 allocations for Technical Assistance, Large Infrastructure, Administrative Capacity, Human Capital and Regional Operational OP's were modified due to the financial reallocations between the programmes.
** The OP for SME's Initiative was included in the OP Regional by EC approval from 16.10.2018.

Source: Ministry of European Funds.

Multiannual financial framework 2021-2027
Next Generation EU

MFF 2021 – 2017 & Next Generation EU

- Next generation EU (NGEU) is a new, temporary and exceptional instrument, intended exclusively to support Member States in recovering from the crisis.
- The total value of this instrument is 750 billion euro, of which 390 billion euro will be provided to Member States in the form of grants and 360 billion euro in the form of loans.
- Through the NGEU, a number of programs and instruments will be additionally funded to complement the allocations in the European budget, with a focus on financing investments and reforms that will increase the resilience of the Member States and the Union.
- All of the money raised through Next Generation EU and the new EU budget will be channeled through EU programs, across three pillars:
- **The first pillar is support to Member States** for investment and reforms to address the crisis, by:
  - Recovery and Resilience Facility/RRF, who will support Member States to implement investments and reforms that are essential for a sustainable recovery.
  - REACT-EU, who will provide a top-up for cohesion support to Member States. This will be available from 2020 and will support workers and SMEs, health systems and the green and digital transitions and will be available across various sectors – from tourism to culture.
- **The second pillar is about** kick-starting the EU economy by incentivizing **private investment**:
  - InvestEU
- **The third pillar** is about learning the lessons of the crisis.
- According to the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) agreement for 2021-2027, this is an ambitious and comprehensive package combining the classical MFF with an extraordinary Recovery effort destined to tackle the effects of an unprecedented crisis in the best interest of the EU. The MFF, reinforced by Next Generation EU, will be the main European tool for EU recovery.

Operational Program	Funds Allocated, EUR bn
Recovery and Resilience Facility	672.25
ReactEU	47.5
Horizon Europe	5
InvestEU	5.6
European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development	7.5
Just Transition Fund	10
RescEU	1.9
Total	**750**

Source: Ministry of Public Finance.

MFF 2021 – 2017 & Next Generation EU

- For the multiannual financial framework/MFF 2021-2027, Romania will have a total allocation of almost 80 billion euro, from EU funds, divided on:
  - MFF - 46.3 billion euro, non-reimbursable funds (26.8 billion euro for Cohesion Policy, 18.7 billion euro for Common Agricultural Policy and 760 million euro for Just Transition Fund, dedicated to the modernization of the polluting industries in order to implement the Green Deal);
  - Next Generation EU - 33.5 billion euro out of which RRF 30.5 billion euro (13,8 billion euro as grants and 16,7 billion euro as loans). The amount represents 4.4% of the total value of this fund, Romania receiving the fifth-highest allocation of all EU member states.
- Favorable implementation conditions for the new resources available from Next Generation EU, regarding the possibility to allocate, in 2021, a pre-financing amount of 10% for the funds from the Recovery and Resilience Facility/RRF (the most consistent instrument in terms of allocations).
- The loans under the RRF will benefit from the favorable borrowing conditions of the European Commission and redirected to member states, according to their needs.
- Through the Next Generation EU, Romania intends to address investment needs in the private sector by providing grants and support programs. The decision aims to ensure working capital measures, by financing investment needs, economic growth measures, companies digitalization schemes and also measures to support employment growth.

Thank you!