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Documents distributed at the request of a Representative shall be under the sole responsibility of the said Representative, without prejudice to the legal or political position of the Committee of Ministers.

Meeting: 1569th meeting (September 2026) (DH)

Communication from the authorities on the individual measures (24/07/2026) concerning the case of Onu v. Romania (No. 32541/18), Văleanu and Others group v. Romania (Application No. 59012/17).

Information made available under Rule 8.2a of the Rules of the Committee of Ministers for the supervision of the execution of judgments and of the terms of friendly settlements.

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Réunion : 1569^e réunion (septembre 2026) (DH)

Communication des autorités sur les mesures individuelles (24/07/2026) relative à l'affaire Onu c. Roumanie (Requête n° 32541/18), groupe Văleanu et autres c. Roumanie (Requête n° 59012/17) **[anglais uniquement]**.

Informations mises à disposition en vertu de la Règle 8.2a des Règles du Comité des Ministres pour la surveillance de l'exécution des arrêts et des termes des règlements amiables.

L /3905/ 24 July 2026

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24 JUIL. 2026

SERVICE DE L'EXECUTION
DES ARRETS DE LA CEDH

Information Note

In the case of *Văleanu and Others v. Romania* (Application no. 59012/17) Concerning individual measures in respect of application *Onu v. Romania* (no. 32541/18)

The Romanian Government would like to submit updated information on the execution of the case of *Onu v. Romania* (*app. No. 32541/18*). By its decision of 7 January 2025, the Court ruled that there has been a violation of Article 1 Protocol 1 of the Convention, and obliged the State to ensure, by appropriate means, and within twelve months from the date in which the judgement became final (namely by 30 June 2026), the enforcement of the judgement in the applicant's favour involving the return of the property in question, namely 3 ha of *extra muros* land at Șovârca Lake, Oancea village, Galați County. Moreover, the decision holds that, failing such enforcement, the State is to pay the applicant (whose application was pursued by his heirs), within the same twelve months, the amount indicated in the appendix in respect of pecuniary damage, namely 9,431.58 EUR.

The national authorities commenced the formalities for the restitution of the property at hand, which represents the primary obligation. By letter no. L/2659 of 16 July 2025, the responsible local authority, namely the Galați Prefecture, was first informed of the Court's decision and its subsequent obligation to assure, by the indicated deadline of 30 June 2026, that the property is returned to the applicant's heirs. By a letter of 23 July 2025, the Prefect informed the Government that the procedure was initiated, and forwarded to the National Agency for Fishing and Aquaculture (ANPA).

As presented in the Government's observations in the *Văleanu* group of cases, the issue arising in the case at hand was related to the administrative aspects of the property, namely that it belonged to the public State domain. To complete the restitution, the national procedure requires that the land is firstly moved to the private domain of the State, process that is lengthy and complex, involving multiple institutions. The local authorities informed the Government that they are preparing the necessary documentation to transfer the land into the private domain of the State.

The local authorities have been contacted multiple times throughout the twelve-month period of the execution, yet the process did not move forward as anticipated. From the latest information received on 5 May 2026 (and containing the communications with the involved authorities), it could be concluded that there is still much more administrative work until the restitution of the property can take place.

Since the Government was under an obligation to respect the Court's deadline of 30 June 2026, and since the restitution in nature did not take place on time (as provided by the local authorities), and with no prospect of being completed within the deadline, the Government reached out to the applicant's heirs, informing them about the necessity to execute the decision by paying the sum awarded to them as pecuniary damage, as an alternative to the restitution.

By letter of 25 May 2026, which was also transmitted to CM via Rule 9 procedure, the applicant's heir and representative informed the Government of their **refusal to accept the pecuniary damages, expressing their wish to have the property returned to them within the established deadline**. In their reasoning, they invoked that **there is no objective impossibility of restitution in nature**, and that the fact that the process was ongoing is a clear proof that the property is available.

After an exchange of communications aimed at clarifying the situation and the Government's obligations to execute the Court's decision within 12 months from the date of the final judgement, the applicant's heirs **asked for a postponement of the execution deadline**, as they wish to continue the administrative procedures initiated by the local authorities. The applicant's heirs **did not indicate a specific deadline for the execution**, but rather preferred to wait until the restitution in nature takes place effectively. In this regard, the Government showed its support, contacting the local authorities to inform them about their obligation and the postponement of the execution deadline. Moreover, the Government is in close communication with the applicants, and stands ready to fulfill its secondary obligation by paying the pecuniary damages, if the applicant's heirs do not receive the property.