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NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION OF PENITENTIARIES - ROMANIA

An Integrated Approach to Prison Overcrowding

Strategic capacity expansion, rehabilitation policies and modernization in the Romanian Prison System

www.anp.gov.ro

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Beyond Accommodation Capacity

A comprehensive framework for the criminal justice system

Infrastructure

Modernising detention living conditions

Rehabilitation

Implementing policies to reduce reoffending

Alternatives

Strengthening non-custodial sentencing options

Reintegration

Supporting successful social re-entry

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2020-2025 ACTION PLAN

Systemic Capacity Expansion

Mitigating population increase as a result of ECHR Rezmiveș v. Romania

3,549

Finalized new accommodation places

318

Modernized current accommodation places

Challenges making prison overcrowding still relevant

2026-2030 Action Plan:
conditioned by cumulative external factors

NAP: impossibility of refusing to receive individuals on the grounds of overcrowding

Administrative Population Balancing

Short-term measures to manage uneven system pressure

Immediate Relief

Redistributing inmates across available prison units

Continuous Flow

Managing daily admissions and legal status changes

Critical Constraint

Preserving essential proximity to family support networks

Occupancy Trends by Regime

Prison capacity remains under pressure across all operational levels

Detention Regime	2020 Rate	2025 Rate
Open Regime	127.3%	116.3%
Semi-open Regime	140.1%	**143.8%**
Closed Regime	142.5%	140.6%
Maximum Security	119.2%	**130.4%**

September 30th 2026: 25,835 inmates

Deficit: 3,788 accommodation places

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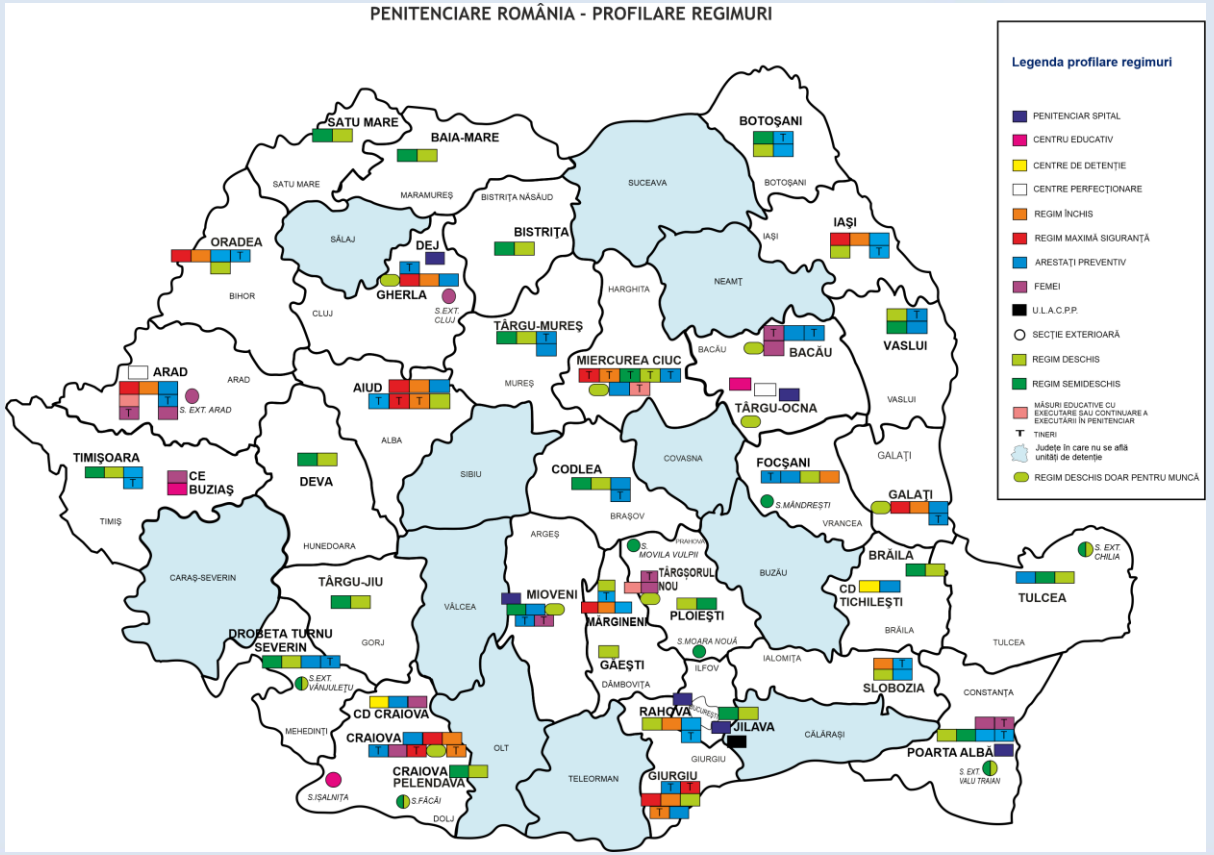
HOW TO ADDRESS THE 3,788-PLACE DEFICIT

The Craiova Initiative

+434

Rapidly created closed-regime places

Cost-efficient reorganisation
by using the current youth infrastructure



Electronic Monitoring (SIME)

Deploying technology to manage capacity and enhance security

- **Supervised Permits:** Expanding reward systems outside the detention facilities
- **External Employment:** Increasing inmate participation in community work
- **Conditional Release:** Facilitating highly secure transitional mechanisms
- **Rapid Deployment:** Employing the already established Romanian Police infrastructure

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The 2026-2030 Measures Calendar

Long-term strategic development for systemic capacity

7,559

Planned new places

2,211

Places targeted for modernisation

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Strengthening Rehabilitation

National Strategy for Preventing Recidivism 2025-2029

119 Programmes

Active educational and vocational integration modules

Mental Health Focus

Free emergency suicide prevention hotline deployed system-wide

Trauma Intervention

Specialized staff training funded by the Council of Europe

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WORKOpp Project (EEA Grants)

Turning imprisonment into an opportunity for rehabilitation

240 New Places

Modern pavilions constructed at Rahova, Timișoara and Târgu Jiu

Open House Concept

Promoting inmate accountability and independent living skills

Production Halls

Dedicated spaces for professional certification and vocational training

Transition to the Community

Digitalisation

IMSChatbot guides inmates through procedural stages in multiple languages

Accessible informational channels established across all units

Conditional Release

29,145 individuals granted conditional release between 2021 and 2026

Continuous system pressure as new entries exceed annual exits

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A Balanced & Resilient Ecosystem

Addressing overcrowding requires interconnected solutions spanning capacity expansion, dynamic security and effective social reintegration.

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Thank you.
Mulțumesc.

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