

EN

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Answer given by Mr McGrath
on behalf of the European Commission
(23.5.2025)

The Commission does not comment about statements that former Commissioners make in their private capacity.

The Commission has no involvement in national elections. The organisation and conduct of elections are the competence and responsibility of the Member States, in accordance with their national legislation, international obligations and applicable EU law. National authorities and courts are primarily responsible for ensuring compliance with applicable rules.

The Commission has no comment on the decision by the Romanian constitutional court of 6 December 2024 to annul the first round of the Romanian presidential elections. This falls under the competence and is a responsibility of the Member State.

The Commission supports Member States on electoral matters, mainly through the framework of the European cooperation network on elections¹. This brings together national authorities with relevant competence and facilitates the exchanges of information and best practices.

The Commission is also working with Member States to support the application of EU law provisions which are relevant in national electoral contexts, such as the Digital Services Act², the Regulation 2024/900 on the transparency and targeting of political advertising³ (which will apply in full from October 2025), the General Data Protection Regulation⁴ and the Artificial Intelligence Act⁵. Furthermore, in 2023, the Commission published a Recommendation on inclusive and resilient electoral processes in the EU⁶.

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/democracy-eu-citizenship-anti-corruption/democracy-and-electoral-rights/european-cooperation-network-elections_en.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32022R2065>. In 2024, it also published Guidelines for providers of very large online platforms and very large online search engines on the mitigation of systemic risks for electoral processes, available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52024XC03014&qid=1714466886277>.

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/900/oj/eng>.

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/679/oj/eng>.

⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1689/oj/eng>.

⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reco/2023/2829/oj/eng>.