

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-000148/25
to the Commission
Șerban-Dimitrie Sturdza (ECR)
(15 January 2025)**

Subject: How can Romania ensure full absorption of NRRP funding by 2026 given the frequent delays in reaching its milestones?

Romania started implementing its national recovery and resilience programme (NRRP) in January 2022, with EUR 3.7 billion in pre-financing. So far it has managed to take up only EUR 9.44 billion of the EUR 29 billion allocated. At the current rate it will be unable to ensure full absorption of funding by 2026, requiring it to redouble its efforts.

Given the frequent delays and structural problems in reaching the milestones:

1. What would be the upshot of Romania failing to fully absorb the NRRP funding by the deadline and what corrective measures might the Commission impose, and what impact could this have on the future allocation of EU funding?
2. Is the current unstable political landscape in Romania one of the potential factors slowing down the absorption of NRRP funds, and what is the Commission's position on the difficulties and delays faced by the government in reaching the milestones?
3. What additional support can the Commission provide to make good the current shortcomings and speed up the implementation of the milestones?

Submitted: 15.1.2025

**Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis on behalf of the European Commission
(18 February 2025)**

The Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) ⁽¹⁾ is a temporary instrument governed by the RRF Regulation. The facility finances reforms and investments in EU Member States which must be completed by 31 August 2026. It is distinct from the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) ⁽²⁾, which constitutes the EU long-term budget.

In the case of the RRF, if the Commission assesses that not all milestones and targets associated with specific instalments are satisfactorily met, the Commission can make partial payments and suspend part of the payment.

Member States then have six months to take the necessary measures to ensure the satisfactory fulfilment of the relevant milestones and targets. If measures are not taken within six months, the overall amount of the financial or loan contribution under the RRF is correspondingly reduced.

The implementation of Romania's recovery and resilience plan is currently delayed due to, in particular, deficiencies in administrative capacity. In its 2024 country-specific recommendations, the Council thus asked Romania to significantly accelerate the implementation of the recovery and resilience plan by guaranteeing effective governance and strengthening administrative capacity.

Like with all Member States, the Commission is working closely with Romania to support the implementation of its plan. The Commission is discussing reforms and investments, allowing the Romanian authorities identifying potential risks and possible measures in addressing them.

This is done through e.g. the technical support instrument, regular meetings and an upcoming revision of the plan prepared in cooperation with the Romanian authorities, to ensure that all the investments which can be implemented by August 2026 are prioritised.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/business-economy-euro/economic-recovery/recovery-and-resilience-facility_en

⁽²⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/2021-2027/documents_en