SEVR2026 Country Profile: Romania (based on the information available in April 2026)

Romania combines an established legal and funding base with lack of public awareness and government engagement. Law 78/2014 defines volunteering as public-interest and contract-based, the Active Citizens Fund (IMPACT3, 2024) builds NGO capacity, and recognition runs through schemes such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Awareness of the volunteering law is low and its definition is narrow. As a result, NGOs shoulder much of the development work because "the government doesn't seem very willing to get involved", and policy consultation "stays in the consultancy area" rather than co-decision. The national strategy is youth-scoped, co-financing with volunteer time "doesn't exist", and insurance is tied to specific schemes such as the European Solidarity Corps. Romania shows solid formal provisions whose reach, public awareness and governmental ownership are recurring concerns.

Romania pairs a strong youth surge with a strongly formalising system with legal recognition, infrastructure and professionalised centres. Consequently, associations and education flourish while informal volunteering is repeatedly pushed back. Employability is the dominant youth motivation, explicitly linking volunteering to skills and the labour market, which favours education and business over community modes. Corporate volunteering is treated as a genuine trade-off, seen as negative for both associative and informal volunteering even as it benefits businesses. Lower engagement among older people is read as a specifically informal loss, since seniors are tied to community-led activity rather than involvement in formal structures.

	Indicator	SEVR2026 Country Profile: Romania
Emerging Volunteering Patterns **Source: Trends section of CFS**	Flexible/short-term/episodic engagement	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Digitalisation/online/e-volunteering	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Rise/dominance of informal volunteering	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Decline/falling volunteer numbers	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Ageing/loss of older volunteers	Loss of older volunteers, read as a specifically informal loss since seniors are tied to community-led activity.
	Professionalisation/skills-based management	Professionalisation and skills-based management via a strongly formalising system with professionalised centres.
	Widening inequality barriers to access	Widening inequality and barriers to access.
	Corporate / employee / CSR volunteering	Corporate volunteering treated as a genuine trade-off.
	Rising youth/student participation	A massive increase in youth and student participation.
	Skills/employability-driven motivation	Employability is the dominant youth motivation, explicitly linking volunteering to skills and the labour market and favouring education and business over community modes.
	Crisis-driven engagement	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.

	Recruitment & retention difficulty	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Public-institution partnership/socialisation	No evidence of this trend has been recorded.
	Formalisation/legal recognition	Formalisation and legal recognition, with associations and education flourishing while informal volunteering is repeatedly pushed back.
BEV2030 indicators 1.3.2 Volunteer time that does not replace paid jobs can be used for the co-financing/ co-resourcing of grants.	1.3.2 Co-financing with volunteer time	**Absent.** Documented absence of co-financing with volunteer time.
1.4.1 Not for profit volunteer centres and platforms receive sufficient public funding.	1.4.1 Sufficient funding	**Established.** The Active Citizens Fund (IMPACT3, 2024) builds NGO capacity.
1.5.2 The co-creation of public policies becomes the norm and the opportunities offered by participatory decision making processes are fully explored and exploited.	1.5.2 Co-creation of public policies	**Partial/emerging.** Consultation without co-decisions, as NGOs are consulted when it comes to creating public policies, but their role stays in the consultance area.
2.1.4 Suitable and sufficient public support is provided to volunteer infrastructure organisation to have the capacity to support and guide these **new forms** of volunteering.	2.1.4 Suitable & sufficient support to 5 volunteering contexts: informal groups, local administrations, national public authorities, educational institutions, business sector actors.	**Partial/emerging.** Support is documented for national public authorities. Support provided to the five contexts is unevenly developed and documented.
2.3.3 Every volunteer has a suitable and accessible point of information or reference point to channel their questions and suggestions.	2.3.3 Accessible point of information	**Partial/emerging.** No reported accessible point of information at national level. There is a regional platform (Voluntariat.ro) present, an emerging, NGO-led information picture.
3.1.1 Civic education and Service Learning are introduced more widely into the formal education systems to increase awareness of volunteering and civil society not only for children and young people but also their wider networks of families and friends.	3.1.1 Education: Civic / Service Learning	**Partial/emerging.** Volunteering is very popular among youth and used for university admission. Informal traction rather than curricular embedding.
3.3.2 Suitable volunteering development strategies that are crosscutting and transversal for different policy fields and sectors are developed.	3.3.2 Strategy	**Partial/emerging.** Youth volunteering is in the National Youth Strategy 2024–2027, a youth-scoped strategy rather than a cross-cutting one.
3.4.1 Legal frameworks for volunteering are adapted and evolve to take this, and other societal and behavioural changes into account. In this way, in addition to the more formal and structured engagement that legal frameworks are frequently focused on, they will be more suitable to facilitate and enable different forms of voluntary engagement, rather than restrict engagement as can be currently the case, unlocking further	3.4.1 Legal framework	**Established.** Law 78/2014 defines volunteering as public-interest, unpaid and contract-based, an established but weakly known law.

potential.		
4.1.2 Opportunities for public recognition for the action of volunteers, citizens and associations through awards, volunteer weeks and festivals etc. are provided and increased.	4.1.2 Recognition	**Established.** The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Romania and other schemes provide established recognition.
5.2.1 Volunteering is included as an integral part of the community planning for crisis prevention and response.	5.2.1 Crisis prevention & response	**Partial/emerging.** An evolving sector filling in welfare gaps, but crisis integration is not documented as planned community response.
5.4.2 Volunteers are provided with the necessary support and protection through suitable accident and third party liability insurance.	5.4.2 Insurance	**Partial/emerging.** ESC funding covers insurance for its projects. Volunteers abroad must cover their own insurance costs. There is only partial insurance coverage, depending on funding schemes.