

XXII. ROMANIA

Population: 22,430,570

Membership OSCE: Original - Helsinki Final Act: Original - Charter of Paris: Original

Membership Council of Europe:07/10/93 - Membership U.N.: 14/12/55

A. CONSTITUTION

Constitution adopted on: 8 Dec 1991

Article 4 Unity of the people and equality among citizens

- (1) The State foundation is laid on the unity of the Romanian people.
- (2) Romania is the common and indivisible homeland of all its citizens, without any discrimination on account of race, nationality, ethnic origin, language, religion, sex, opinion, political adherence, property or social origin.

Article 6 [Minorities]

- (1) The State recognizes and guarantees the right of persons belonging to national minorities, to the preservation, development, and expression of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and religious identity.

Article 29 Freedom of conscience

- (1) Freedom of thought, opinion, and religious beliefs may not be restricted in any form whatsoever. No one may be compelled to embrace an opinion or religion contrary to his own convictions.
- (2) Freedom of conscience is guaranteed; it must be manifested in a spirit of tolerance and mutual respect.
- (3) All religions shall be free and organized in accordance with their own statutes, under the terms laid down by law.
- (4) Any forms, means, acts or actions of religious enmity shall be prohibited in the relationships among the cults.

(5) Religious cults shall be autonomous from the State and shall enjoy support from it, including the facilitation of religious assistance in the army, in hospitals, prisons, homes and orphanages.

(6) Parents or legal tutors have the right to ensure, in accordance with their own convictions, the education of the minor children whose responsibility devolves on them.

Article 30 Freedom of expression

(1) Freedom of expression of thoughts, opinions, or beliefs, and freedom of any creation, by words, in writing, in pictures, by sounds or other means of communication in public are inviolable.

Article 32 [Education]

(7) The State shall ensure the freedom of religious education, in accordance with the specific requirements of each religious cult. In public schools, religious education is organized and guaranteed by law.

Article 35

•Every person has the right to freedom of conscience and religion. This right includes the freedom to profess or not to profess a religion, to individually or collectively perform religious rites and rituals, and conduct religious activity. •The execution of this right may be limited by law and only in the interests of the protection of the public order, the health and morality of the population, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of other individuals. •The Church and religious organizations in Ukraine shall be separate from the State, and schools - from the Church. No religion may be recognized as mandatory by the State. •No one may be relieved from his duties before the State or refuse to obey the law on the basis of his religious beliefs. In the event the performance of military service is contrary to the religious beliefs of a citizen, such duty shall be substituted by alternative (non-military) service.

B. LEGISLATION

The Decree nr. 177 from 4.08.1948 on Religions

Law 129 of 14/07/1997 to ratify the Treaty on good neighborly relations and cooperation between Romania and Ukraine

Law 167 issued on 30 september 1998 published on 1 October 1998 regarding the integration of the social security system of the personnel working with the Romanian Unitarian Church

C. CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION

Law on the Preparation of the Population for Defence (Official Gazette: Monitorul Oficial No. 46/1996).