



This material is made within the EDGE project financed by the European Commission through the Erasmus+ Programme.

THE VOTING RIGHT IN ROMANIA

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This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein."

The History of Voting in Romania

- The first ruler of Romania, Alexandru Ioan Cuza, in the framework of some ample reforms he initiated, elaborated the first electoral law in 1864.
- This law was to lead to a wider representation of the different social categories in the legislative forum and a statute project that established the second Chamber.
- But the equality of all citizens regarding the right to vote was not achieved.

- Throughout the modern period of Romania, precisely until 1917, the vote was exercised only by a small number of population.
- This was the so-called vote based on qualification, which consisted in the recognition of the voter's qualities and implicitly the right to vote was given to citizens who had a certain annual valuable income (land, buildings) determined on the basis of the amount of taxes paid annually according to the earned income.

- The universal vote was introduced in November 1918.
- The electoral law of 1939 granted the right to vote only to people who had studies.
- The first elections after the Second World War took place on November 19, 1946.
- Since 1948, the Communists have won the elections with over 90% of the votes, a tradition that continued until 1989, but the citizens could vote the representatives of a single party, the Communist Party
- In 1997 the vote for partial elections was approved.

In the present

- In Romania, the right to vote is respected among all Romanian citizens, no matter where they live or work.
- After 1989, the new Constitution provides free, democratic elections, respecting the right to vote and to be elected. The citizens have the freedom to choose among the representatives of several political parties.
- As in other democratic countries, there are elections for local, parliamentary (one vote for the election of the Chamber of Deputies and one vote for the election of the Senate) presidential and European parliamentary structures.
- Each citizen is entitled to vote. Each citizen will express his / her personal vote.
- Voting on behalf of another person is forbidden.
- Also, the vote is secret and any control over the way a voter expresses his/her vote is forbidden.