The 1989 Romanian revolution

In 1989, communist regimes in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe were shaken. Romania was the only country where the transition from totalitarianism to democracy was made through violence and in which the leaders of the old regime were executed. Between December 16 and 20, 1989, the so-called "Timişoara Revolution" took place, and December 21 is considered the first day of the Revolution in Bucharest. Then, the demonstrators gathered near the Intercontinental Hotel in the University Square and erected a barricade in front of the intervention device.

On December 16, 1989, the revolution that would cause the fall of communism in Romania begins in Timisoara. Several reformed believers from Timisoara peacefully demonstrate, around the reformed cathedral in Maria Square, against a court decision by which the reformed pastor László Tokés was to be evacuated and moved to another locality. Around 4pm, several trams are blocked by the protesters and shout "Down with Ceausescu!"

On December 17, 1989, Nicolae Ceausescu summoned a teleconference with the party and state assets in the counties and announced that he had ordered to be fired.

 While on December 18, 1989 Nicolae Ceausescu begins his official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran, in Timisoara the shop windows are broken, the militiamen are everywhere, and the military orders people to circulate without stopping, being prevented from being in groups.

After two days when the army, the militia and the security tried to unsuccessfully suppress the revolt, the demonstrators occupied, on December 19, 1989, the center of Timişoara, in the area of ​​Opera Square. Thus, Timisoara becomes the first free city of Romania.

On December 20/21, 1989, the Municipal Committee of the Romanian Communist Party (PCR) decides to organize, in the Republic Square (Palace Square) in front of the headquarters of the Central Committee of the PCR, a large "popular rally" that condemns "huliganic actions" from Timisoara.

 The rally is broadcast live on radio and television, while from the balcony of the Central Committee of the PCR, Ceausescu begins a speech about the achievements of the "multilaterally developed socialist society" and about the benefits of the communist regime. The speech is interrupted by the whistles and whistles of the groups of protesters, created spontaneously.

 During the evening, the demonstrators, mostly young people, gather near the Intercontinental Hotel in the University Square, where they raise a barricade in front of the intervention device. The law enforcement agencies are ordered to "clean up the area". During the night, it is fired on the demonstrators from "Intercontinental" and from University Square, being registered dead and injured. Also, many protesters are arrested and taken to Jilava Prison, near Bucharest.

During the night of December 22 to 23 begins to shoot at several points in Bucharest, registering victims among the army and the population. The headquarters of the Television is strongly attacked and for a short time the broadcast is interrupted. Revolutionary actions are taking place in the main urban centers of the country, consisting mainly of the takeover by groups of revolutionaries, constituted ad hoc, of the power at local level; they were joined by military units throughout the national territory.

The Council of the National Salvation Front (CFSN) appoints General Nicolae Militaru as Minister of National Defense.

On December 24, 1989, the CNSC adopts exceptional measures: complete cessation of fire throughout the country; the surrender of the armament in the possession of civilians to the military units; integration of the units of the Ministry of Interior in the structure of the Ministry of National Defense.

The capital looked like a city under military siege: gunfire continued, tanks patrolled the streets; At intersections and near civilian targets, dams are formed, and civilians and military control vehicles.

On Christmas, on December 25, 1989, TVR announces that Elena and Nicolae Ceausescu have been tried by an Extraordinary Military Tribunal. In Târgovişte, within a military unit, the trial initiated by the Romanian state is carried out by Nicolae Ceausescu, president of Romania (1974-1989), and Elena Ceausescu for the crimes of genocide, the undermining of the state power, the undermining of the national economy, the crime of destruction. of public goods, through the destruction and damage of buildings, explosions in cities, etc., the attempt to flee the country on the basis of funds of over one billion dollars deposited with foreign banks. Following the sentence, the two were executed by shooting the same day.

On December 26, 1989, Petre Roman is appointed as Prime Minister of the Government of Romania, by decree of the CNSC.

On December 28, 1989, the firing of firearms ends after the exceptional measures taken by the NCSC, and Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu are secretly buried at the Ghencea Civil Cemetery in Bucharest.

On December 31, 1989, CFSN President Ion Iliescu, on the occasion of the New Year's speech, announces: abolition of the death penalty, cessation of food exports, implementation of consumer goods imports, cessation of expensive investment works (Danube-Bucharest Canal, The Danube-Jiu-Argeş hydrotechnical system, the free area of Constanta port, Anina thermoelectric power station, Casa Poporului et al.); granting lots for personal use of up to 5,000 square meters to the cooperating members; the declaration of the land related to the dwelling house, the annexes of the household and the court around them in the cooperative areas, private property of the owners, with the right of alienation.