



**"ANDREI SAGUNA" UNIVERSITY OF
CONSTANTA**

ERASMUS STUDENTS GUIDE BOOK



GENERAL PRESENTATION OF "ANDREI ŞAGUNA" UNIVERSITY FROM CONSTANŢA

"Andrei Saguna" University¹ was established within the "Andrei Saguna" Foundation in 1992, its main purpose being to develop the potential of several exceptional personalities that existed at the time in the area and to use it in training specialists of university level. The particular interest in culture, fully proved by the tireless work of "Andrei Saguna" Foundation explains, on the one hand, the influx of youth from Dobrogea towards the University which was founded under its guidance. On the other hand, there is the desire of these young people to learn, to improve themselves in areas of current interest, to many of them even in areas they already work in.

Right from the beginning, the organizers became aware of the fact that it has to be built on precise, legal and led by commonsense principles. Only after a rigorous study of the social and economic future of the area, it came to the conclusion of founding faculties and essential sections.

At its beginning, in order to provide students appropriate training, "Andrei Saguna" University chose as role models traditional universities in the country, not allowing deviations from the principles of Romanian academic education, fact that became clear from the manner of admission to university, education plans and programs, the teaching quality of teachers and the judicious tuition figures. The humanitarian character of the entire activity of the Foundation is also reflected in some of the objectives of the University. Among these, noteworthy is the fact that the University is planning a percentage of free schooling up to 8-10% of the annual tuition figure of south-Danubian Romanian students, chosen by competition, who will return to practice their profession in the country of origin, and will thus contribute to strengthening the Balkan Romanism and the development of relations between Romanians from the north and south of the Danube.

"Andrei Saguna" University acquired legal personality on 15th May 1992, being the first private higher educational institution, non-profit organization, established in the southeast of the country, and was accredited as a legal entity of private and public law, part of the National Education system, by Law no 116/2005.

Starting with the academic year 2002, the new headquarters of University, located on Boulevard Lăpuşneanu, no. 13, Constanta, started to function and, together with other buildings of the university and home-hotel, founded a modern campus.

In May 2006, after 10 years of endeavors, the *monumental bronze statue* dedicated to the Great Andrew, weighing 7 tons and 4.5 m high, was erected in front of "Andrei Saguna University form Constanta. The statue was consecrated by a group of priests led by Archbishop Theodosius of Tomis, in the presence of distinguished representatives of Transylvania-PS Metropolitan Bessarion, Bishop Vicar and Acad. pr. Mircea Păcurariu and a large audience made up of guests: Acad. Alexander Surdu, Acad. Theodore Dima, Professor Liviu Maior and şagunişt-teachers and students. On the Bicentenary's occasion, the "Andrei Saguna" University addressed to His Beatitude

¹ The University operates under the spiritual patronage of Metropolitan Andrei Saguna, because Andrei Saguna, due to his origins, his entire activity and life and what he represents now, is a symbol of unity of the Romanians. The person of which, in the last century, was said to have been "*sent by Providence*" (George Baritiu) and was considered as "Apostle of the Orthodox Romanians in Transylvania", initiated and implemented an effective at socio-cultural program, which focused on material and moral wealth of the Romanian nation, placing the Church in the center of this large and historic actions.

By his decision (April 24, 1852) each Church community founded a school, and every priest was also a teacher or professor, so that by 1865 "*the number of Romanian Orthodox popular schools from Transylvania had increased by 339*" and in the Synod of 1850, led by him, it was required the foundation of the first Romanian university in Transylvania.

Andrei Saguna is the founder and first leader of the "Romanian Telegraph" newspaper, the founder of the Romanian high school and real school from Brasov and the one who founded in 1850, with his own money, a printing company that has published thousands of books (Romanian primers, books and religious works).

Consistent with the idea that Romanians' everywhere unity involves not only linguistic community, but also the community of faith and culture achievable by the extension of Romanian Christian- Orthodox education, Andrei Saguna founded the Pedagogic-Theologic Institute, printed "the first bible of the entire Romanian nation" and was the initiator and the first president of the Transylvanian Association for Romanian Literature and Romanian people's culture - ASTRA.

Honorary member of the Romanian Academy, Andrei Saguna, as a "*Transylvanian Messiah*" (Ioan Slavici), *hit the rock and opened, based on his people, the intellectual culture spring*" (Iacob Ronnicher- leader of the Transylvanian Saxons.)

Patriarch Daniel, a reasoned memorandum on the canonization by the Holy Synod of the Great Andrew and launched a call on supporting the initiative to all the hierarchs of the Romanian Orthodox Church, the request being received with great warmth and with blessings, both by His Beatitude Patriarch, through Patriarchal Vicar Bishop Vincent, and also by the other senior bishops, Bishop SP-Salaj Petroniu , telling us that he *"welcomed the news about the initiative of "Andrei Saguna" Foundation, concerning the canonization of the great hierarch, His Grace Bishop Gerasimos-Râmnic considering that "your initiative is worthy of all praise" and Metropolitan Nicolae of Banat encouraging us with his wonderful words "I appreciate your initiative linked to the canonization of Metropolitan Andrei Saguna and frankly I am glad that you've thought about this. "*

The University respects the values of democracy and the State law, and promotes them in the Romanian society. It is apolitical and does not allow the orientation of the educational process towards any of the doctrines and ideological practices.

**"Andrei Şaguna" University from Constanţa, Bdul. Al. Lăpuşneanu nr.13,
900961, www.andreisaguna.ro**



- rector,

prof.univ.dr. Adrian Cristian PAPARI, adrianpapari@andreisaguna.ro

- Chairman of the Board,

prof.univ.dr. Aurel PAPARI, aurelpapari@andreisaguna.ro

- Vice-rector

conf.univ.dr. Gabriela Munteanu, gabrielamunteanu@andreisaguna.ro

- Vice-rector,

conf.univ.dr. Andra Seceleanu, andraseceleanu@andreisaguna.ro

- Senate President,

lector univ.dr. Ghiursel Regep, regepghiursel@andreisaguna.ro

❖ **Bachelor studies**

| Current number | Faculty | Main field of study | Specialization | Form of education | No of credits | No of places |
|----------------|--|--|--|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1 | Psychosociology | Psychology | Psychology/A | Full time | 180 | 100 |
| 2 | Economic sciences | Management | Management/A | Full time | 180 | 200 |
| | | Marketing | Marketing/AP | Full time | 180 | 50 |
| | | Finance | Finance & banking/A | Full time | 180 | 100 |
| | | Accounting | The Accounting and Bookkeeping Information Systems/A | Full time | 180 | 50 |
| 3 | Law and Administrative Sciences | Law | Law/A | Full time | 240 | 75 |
| | | Administrative Sciences | Public Administration/A | Full time | 180 | 100 |
| 4 | Communication studies and political sciences | Communication studies | Journalism/A | Full time | 180 | 60 |
| | | International Relations and European Studies | International Relations and European Studies /A | Full time | 180 | 50 |

❖ **Postgraduate academic master degree**

| Current number | Faculty | Main field of study | Study programme of accredited postgraduate academic master | Form of education | No of credits | No of places |
|----------------|---|-----------------------|---|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1 | Faculty of Economic sciences | Finance | Finance and business administration in tourism and services | Full time | 120 | 30 |
| | | | Finance & banking management | Full time | 120 | 30 |
| 2 | Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences | Law | Deviance and delinquency | Full time | 120 | 50 |
| 3 | Faculty of Communication studies and political sciences | Communication studies | Media communications, public opinion and informational management | Full time | 120 | 20 |
| 4 | Faculty of Psychosociology | Psychology | Clinical Psychology | Full time | 120 | 30 |

RESEARCH IN UAS

The scientific research activity is a basic component of the mission of the University "Andrei Saguna" from Constanta. The objectives of the "Andrei Saguna" University in Constanta regarding the scientific research are:

- a) participation in national and international scientific research programs;
- b) participation, through academic community's scientific research activity to the enrichment of the heritage of culture and universal knowledge;
- c) the capitalization of the results of scientific research;
- d) the stimulation of funding for scientific research, design, expertise and advice, through contracts with economic agents and other institutions and organizations;
- e) facilitating the acquisition of necessary skills for scientific research by students, graduate and doctoral students;
- f) development and modernization of research facilities.

The scientific research Center, which is organized within the University, was established in order to focus and develop professional experience, to conduct a performing scientific research in juridical sciences, communication, international and community relations, economic, psychology, sociology, and public administration, by stimulating collaboration, exchange of ideas and capitalization the experience of all specialists in the University Center, while helping and encouraging students' research.

The center is open to scientific collaboration both between all institutions and units in the field in Romania and abroad, for which there may be done bilateral agreements, and in national or international programs.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

For 20 years, the University has developed international cooperation relations with similar institutions, in close relation to the specific needs of the area.

Since 1998, the University "Andrei Saguna" is part of the Black Sea Universities Network, along with 81 other universities from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Greece, Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine and Romania.

Fructifying its involvement in cultural and scientific activities in the Balkans, the University organizes a permanent exchange of delegations with similar institutions from Albania, Macedonia, Bulgaria and Greece.

In 1998, the University received from the Foundation the official nomination as official representative of Constanta in relation to Shanghai, in order to conduct cultural and scientific programs with institutions from China.

Since 2011, the University is a member of the EURAS and founding member of the Black Sea and Caucasus Cooperation Network.

UAS participates in many scholarly EUROPEAN programs such as LIFELONG LEARNING

THE BUREAU FOR COMMUNITARIAN PROGRAMMES (BCP)

| | |
|---|--|
| Vice-Rector for International Relations | Conf.dr. Andra SECELEANU |
| Institutional Coordinator | |
| Phone | +40 – 241-662520 |
| Fax | +40 – 241-662520 |
| Email | andraseceleanu@andreisaguna.ro |
| Postal address | Bd. Al. Lapusneanu nr 13, Constanta, 900916, Romania |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| European Programmes Office | Bd. Al. Lapusneanu nr 13, Constanta, 900916, Romania |
| | Fax : +40 – 241-662520 |
| | E-mail: contact@andreisaguna.ro |
| | Web page: http://www.andreisaguna.ro/index.php?nod=438 > |
| Erasmus | Stefan GEORGESCU <i>incoming students</i> <i>incoming and outgoing staff mobility;</i> |
| Phone | +40 – 241-662520 |
| Email | stefangeorgescu@saguna.eu |
| Erasmus | Gabriela MUNTEANU <i>financial administrator</i> |
| Phone | +40 – 241-510500 |
| Email | gabrielamunteanu@andreisaguna.ro |
| Erasmus | Valentina MUNTEANU <i>bilateral agreements, outgoing students</i> |
| Phone | +40 – 241-662520 |
| Email | valentinamunteanu@saguna.eu |

Romanian Language Courses

All Erasmus students have the opportunity to attend Romanian language classes. The courses are structured on two levels: A1 and A2. The course starts at the beginning of the academic year and ends in June. Students that attend courses in our university for only one semester can sit the exam at the end of the semester. They can also obtain an internationally recognized certificate ECL (European Consortium of Languages) after having passed an international examination, hosted by our university.

Academic Calendar

The academic year is divided in two semesters.

The winter semester starts on the 1st of October and lasts 14 weeks and finishes in the end of January. The spring semester starts in February and lasts 14 weeks, till the end of May. Usually the examination period for the first semester occurs in January/ February and in June for the second semester.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

”Andrei Şaguna” University from Constanţa

1. Faculty of Psychosociology

Main field of study:

Psychology

www.pse.andreisaguna.ro

2. Faculty of Economic sciences

Main field of study:

Finance

Management

Marketing

Accounting

www.se.andreisaguna.ro

3. Faculty of Communication studies and political sciences

Main field of study:

Communication studies

International Relations and European Studies

www.comunicare.andreisaguna.ro

4. Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences

Main field of study:

Law

Administrative Sciences

www.drept.andreisaguna.ro

Master of Science Departament

Finance & banking management

Finance and business administration in tourism and services

Deviance and delinquency

Media communications, public opinion and informational management

Clinical Psychology

www.pse.andreisaguna.ro

www.se.andreisaguna.ro

www.comunicare.andreisaguna.ro

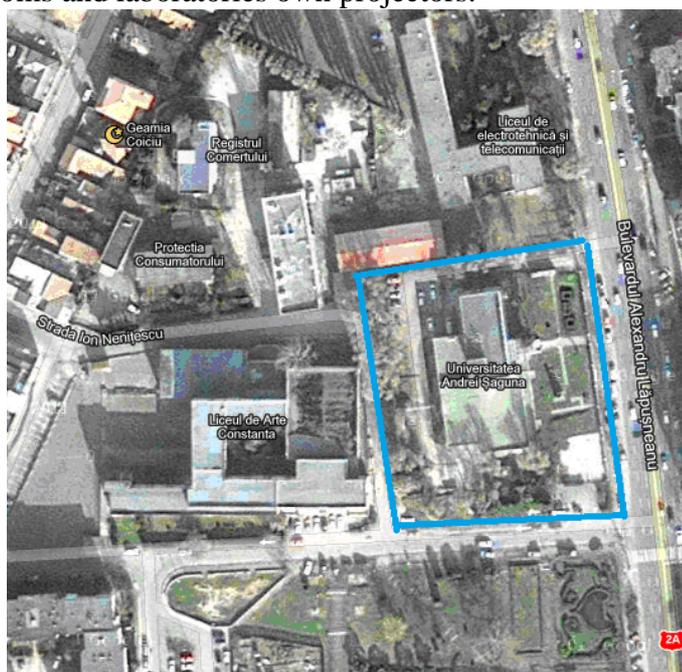
www.drept.andreisaguna.ro

SPACES FOR EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

"Andrei Saguna" University owns education and research areas located on Blvd. Al. Lapusneanu No. 13. The headquarters, with a surface of 4260 sqm and 3550 sqm of land, comprises 16 classrooms and seminar rooms with a total area of 1762 square meters and 6 laboratories with a total area of 362 sqm.

The research area includes a research Center, the Romanian Association of Friendship with China, area of departments. The Research Center uses the computer lab of the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences and the reading room of the virtual library, which offers free access to CEOLL and Springerlink.

In all areas of the university, there is free wireless Internet through UAS network. All classrooms, seminar rooms and laboratories own projectors.



The UAS material base meets its specific and fulfills standards which ensure the conducting of a quality educational process and the capacity of educational facilities (classrooms, seminar rooms, laboratories) is in accordance with current standards.

The spaces for activities are entirely owned by the university, covering 100% the requirement for all activities. They have been modernized and are properly equipped for their destinations and are also in compliance with the technical safety and hygienic standards.

The space for teaching activities has the following structure:

- **Lecture hall** with 314 seats (400 m);
- **3 classrooms:** one with 100 seats (100 sqm)
2 classrooms, each with 65 seats (68 sqm)
- **12 seminar rooms:** 11 with 30 places (45 sqm)
1 with 15 seats (22 sqm)
- **4 computer labs**, each with 25 seats (68 sqm)
- **a multimedia lab** with 18 seats (45 sqm)
- **a criminology lab** with 18 seats (45 sqm)
- **Library and reading rooms** with 200 seats (401 m).

All rooms are equipped with the necessary equipment for conducting higher-quality processes. Thus, each course and seminar room has modern furniture, technical equipment and IT (laptop / PC, video projector), auxiliary materials (whiteboard, projection screen, flipchart) and specialized software.

The material base for the applied activities to specialized subjects and the library and reading rooms one , is organized in compliance with professional standards.

FOCUSING ON STUDENT OF THE LEARNING METHODS

The main responsibility of the teacher is to design methods and student-centered learning environments. The relationship between student and teacher is a partnership one in which each take responsibility to achieve learning outcomes. The learning outcomes are explained and discussed with the students in terms of relevance to their development. The UAS has institutionalized the right of students to see their works and obtain explanation of notation.

The concept of computer-based teaching experienced significant materializations within the UAS over the past two years. There were purchased during this period, about 100 laptops, 20 projectors, a SMART Board . Software was purchased for all specialties.

Numerous PowerPoint presentations were done and also many complex multimedia materials, as support for teaching and learning.

Within the POSDRU project, the continuous training of Mathematics and Economics teachers, there were purchased high capacity servers and an online platform that will support the students was developed.

Teachers use new technology resources (eg e-mail, personal Web page topic, bibliography, electronic resources and dialogue with students) and auxiliary materials, the board, flipchart and projector. Institutionalized peer assistance enables teachers to debate the teaching methodology, to improve their competences of training / teaching and counseling.

UAS provides active participation of students in deepening and construction of knowledge by implementing innovative and engaging teaching methodologies (discovery learning, case study, the study documents, testing, etc.) and interactive (discussion, role play, brainstorming, etc.), which are referred to in the programs and files of the study subjects. Individual or group project as integrated learning method which develops also the professional expertise of the students and the communication skills and team work, has a growing incidence and a high share in the final evaluation of courses, ranging between 40-50%.

Activism in learning and growth of students' concern for research are supported by organizing scientific events, extracurricular events and student scientific meetings, students carrying out the following types of activities:

- appropriate theoretical preparation, according to university curricula;
- practical training through activities appropriate to annual practice stages;
- participation in scientific clubs based on areas of interest;
- participation in university research programs by:
 - personal study;
 - team study;
 - experiments;
 - volunteer activities with NGOs
- exploitation of research results through:
 - attendance at the Annual session of scientific communications of students and teachers from the University "Andrei Saguna";
 - participation in seminars, symposia, meetings with staff, book launches held at the University;
 - participation in scientific sessions organized by other universities of Constanta and the country;
 - participation in national and international congresses and conferences;
 - participation in scientific contests in various areas of interest
 - participation in exchange of experience programs between students from Romania and students from other countries;
- engaging in traditional activities of the university (Freshman Ball, festive course for graduates, graduates Ball);

- participation in artistic activities organized under the guidance of teachers (AS troupe, choir, band music and dance);
- participation in sports activities.

Student scientific circles (meetings):

Juridical Clinic, the foundation was dictated by the need of the "Andrei Saguna" University's students' to conduct useful legal and judicial practices .. "Juridical Clinic" has as main goal to achieve, in a useful manner, under the guidance and support of the teachers, the combining of knowledge gained by students in courses that deepen the main disciplines of law, with the specific of the juridical professions (judges, prosecutor, lawyer, clerk, counselor, mayor, prefect), manifested at the organization of simulated half-explanatory processes and other activities planned for each specialized department / subdivision.

Students' scientific circle of private law is a body of students with scientific interests which surpass the regular training programs. The aim is to deepen knowledge in research and train the development of scientific research skills in students. The Students' Scientific Circle is led by one or more teachers from specific research areas. The current activity of the circle is managed by the Students' Scientific Council, formed by the coordinator of the scientific circle and three students who are members of the students scientific circle.

Academic Debate Club subordinated to the university "Andrei Saguna" from Constanta and provides the organizational framework of the educational debate activity that takes place among the academic community. The club encourages and supports the activity communication skills practice in public space, critical thinking and logical reasoning, careful listening, tolerance for other opinions and fair play. The activity of the Club is organized in the form of training and practice activities twice a month, including specific activities of organizing the academic debate, in Karl Popper format (beginning students) and American Parliamentary (advanced students).

Accounting Clinic www.expertcontasaguna.yolasite.com was dictated by the students' of the Andrei Saguna University need to conduct a useful practice, continuing education through courses and seminars, which are often reduced to means of testing and not a framework for discussion. Thus, students are encouraged to exercise critical thinking and analytical approach, surpassing this way their role in the traditional system, which is reduced to hearing the courses and repeating what the teacher said, without making a scientific- factual of the phenomena.

Top Manager EGI <http://clubegi.yolasite.com/> is a body of students with scientific interests who go beyond the regular training programs. The current activity of the circle is managed by the Students Scientific Council, formed of the coordinator of the scientific circle and three students who are members of the student scientific circle. The objectives of the Club are: the development of students' entrepreneurial skills, the improvement of theoretical and conceptual knowledge on the functioning of the enterprise in general and the applicability of these principles and concepts in the business field in which the economic entity operates, the design and participation with research works in "Symposiums" and "Student Scientific Communications Sessions" in country and abroad, development of scientific projects financed from non- reimbursable European funds.

"Insight" Club. Having as resource our students' and teachers' enthusiasm, within the Andrei Saguna University there was founded and operates the "Insight" Club for debates and issue of creativity on psychology subjects. The club gathers students and teachers for bi- monthly discussions from the Faculty of Psycho sociology and from other faculties and departments of the University, in all years of study and both at license and master's level. In a non-formal and extracurricular expression, the psychology club sets as objective to contribute to filling the teaching mission of the University Andrei Şaguna. Practically, among the objectives assumed by the participants, there are the desire for free, full and harmonious development of human individuality, the promoting of the free will spirit, the development of critical thinking and knowledge renewal. Finally, it is desirable that this activity be a contribution to the formation of autonomous personality and creative professionalism of the members of the academic community. In the club meetings, which have met a large participation, were discussed topics such as: "The concept of Street Smart," "curiosity", "altruism" etc.



ROMANIA

Romania is a country located in [South-East Central Europe](#), North of the [Balkan Peninsula](#), on the Lower [Danube](#), within and outside the [Carpathian arch](#), bordering on the [Black Sea](#).^[2] Almost all of the [Danube Delta](#) is located within its territory. It shares a border with [Hungary](#) and [Serbia](#) to the west, [Ukraine](#) and the [Republic of Moldova](#) to the northeast, and [Bulgaria](#) to the south.

The territory's recorded history includes periods of rule by [Dacians](#), the [Roman Empire](#), the [Kingdom of Hungary](#), and the [Ottoman Empire](#). As a nation-state, the country was formed by the merging of [Moldavia](#) and [Wallachia](#) in 1859 and it gained recognition of its [independence](#) in 1878. Later, in 1918, they were joined by [Transylvania](#), [Bukovina](#) and [Bessarabia](#). At the end of [World War II](#), parts of its territories (roughly the present day [Moldova](#)) were occupied by USSR and Romania became a member of the [Warsaw Pact](#). With the fall of the [Iron Curtain](#) in 1989, Romania started a series of political and economic reforms. After a decade of post-independence economic problems, Romania made economic reforms such as low [flat tax](#) rates in 2005 and [joined the European Union](#) in January 1, 2007. While Romania's income level remains one of the lowest in the European Union, reforms have increased the growth speed. Romania is now an upper-middle income country economy.

Romania has the [9th largest territory](#) and the [7th largest population](#) (with 22 million people) among the [European Union member states](#). Its capital and largest city is [Bucharest](#) ([Romanian](#): *Bucuresti*, the [6th largest city in the EU](#) with 1.9 million people. In 2007, [Sibiu](#), a city in Transylvania, was chosen as a [European Capital of Culture](#). Romania also joined [NATO](#) on March 29, 2004, and is also a member of the [Latin Union](#), of the [Francophonie](#) and of [OSCE](#). Romania is a [semi-presidential unitary state](#).

The domestic currency is the *leu* (**RON**), with its fractional coin, the *ban*.

Demographics

According to the 2002 census, Romania has a population of 21,698,181 and, similarly to other countries in the region, is expected to gently decline in the coming years as a result of [sub-replacement fertility rates](#). [Romanians](#) make up 89.5% of the population. The largest [ethnic minorities](#) are [Hungarians](#), who make up 6.6% of the population and [Roma](#), or Gypsies, who make up 2.46% of the population. By the official census 535,250 [Roma](#) live in Romania. Hungarians, who are a sizeable minority in [Transylvania](#), constitute a majority in the counties of [Harghita](#) and [Covasna](#). [Ukrainians](#), [Germans](#), [Lipovans](#), [Turks](#), [Tatars](#), [Serbs](#), [Slovaks](#), [Bulgarians](#), [Croats](#), [Greeks](#), [Russians](#), [Jews](#), [Czechs](#), [Poles](#), [Italians](#), [Armenians](#), as well as other ethnic groups, account for the remaining 1.4% of the population. Of the 745,421 [Germans in Romania](#) in 1930, only about 60,000 remained. In 1924, there were 796,056 [Jews](#) in Kingdom of Romania. The number of Romanians and individuals with ancestors born in Romania living abroad is estimated at around 12 million.

The official language of Romania is [Romanian](#), an [Eastern Romance language](#) related to [Italian](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#), [Portuguese](#) and [Catalan](#). Romanian is spoken as a first language by 91% of the population, with [Hungarian](#) and [Rroma](#), being the most important minority languages, spoken by 6.7% and 1.1% of the population, respectively. Until the 1990s, there was also a substantial number of German-speaking [Transylvanian Saxons](#), even though many have since emigrated to Germany, leaving only 45,000 native German speakers in Romania. In localities where a given ethnic minority makes up more than 20% of the population, that minority's language can be used in the public administration and justice system, while native-language education and signage is also provided. [English](#) and [French](#) are the main foreign languages taught in schools. English is spoken by 5 million Romanians, French is spoken by 4-5 million, and German, Italian and Spanish are each spoken by 1-2 million people. Historically, French was the predominant foreign language spoken in Romania, even though English has since superseded it. Consequently, Romanian English-speakers

tend to be younger than Romanian French-speakers. Romania is, however, a full member of [La Francophonie](#), and hosted the Francophonie Summit in 2006. German has been taught predominantly in Transylvania, due to traditions tracing back to the Austro-Hungarian rule in this province.

Religion

Romania is a [secular state](#), thus having no [national religion](#). The dominant religious body is the [Romanian Orthodox Church](#), an [autocephalous](#) church within the [Eastern Orthodox communion](#); its members make up 86.7% of the population according to the 2002 census. Other important [Christian denominations](#) include [Roman Catholicism](#) (4.7%), [Protestantism](#) (3.7%), [Pentecostalism](#) (1.5%) and the [Romanian Greek-Catholic Church](#) (0.9%). Romania also has a [Muslim](#) minority concentrated in [Dobrogea](#), mostly of Turkish ethnicity and numbering 67,500 people. Based on the 2002 census data, there are also 6,179 [Jews](#), 23,105 people who are of no religion and/or [atheist](#), and 11,734 who refused to answer. On December 27, 2006, a new Law on Religion was approved under which religious denominations can only receive official registration if they have at least 20,000 members, or about 0.1 percent of Romania's total population.

Politics

The [Palace of the Parliament](#) the seat of Romania's bicameral parliament. Built in 1984, it is the largest building in Europe and the world's second [largest administrative building](#) behind [the Pentagon](#) and 10% larger by volume than the [Great Pyramid of Giza](#).

The [Constitution of Romania](#) is based on the [Constitution of France's Fifth Republic](#) and was approved in a national referendum on December 8, 1991. A plebiscite held in October 2003 approved 79 amendments to the Constitution, bringing it into conformity with European Union legislation. Romania is governed on the basis of multi-party democratic system and of the segregation of the legislative, executive and judicial powers. The Constitution states that Romania is a semi-presidential democratic republic where executive functions are shared between the president and the prime minister. [The President](#) is elected by popular vote for maximum two terms, and since the amendments in 2003, the terms are five years. The President appoints the Prime Minister, who in turn appoints the Council of Ministers. While the president resides at [Cotroceni Palace](#), the Prime Minister with the [Romanian Government](#) is based at [Victoria Palace](#).

The legislative branch of the government, collectively known as the [Parliament](#) (*Parlamentul României*), consists of [two chambers](#) – the [Senate](#) (*Senat*), and the [Chamber of Deputies](#) (*Camera Deputaților*). The members of both chambers are elected every four years under a system of [party-list proportional representation](#).

The justice system is independent of the other branches of government, and is made up of a hierarchical system of courts culminating in the High Court of Cassation and Justice, which is the supreme court of Romania. There are also courts of appeal, county courts and local courts. The Romanian judicial system is strongly influenced by the French model, considering that it is based on [civil law](#) and is [inquisitorial](#) in nature. The Constitutional Court (*Curtea Constituțională*) is responsible for judging the compliance of laws and other state regulations to the Romanian Constitution, which is the fundamental law of the country. The constitution, which was introduced in 1991, can only be amended by a public referendum, the last one being in 2003. Since this amendment, the court's decisions cannot be overruled by any majority of the parliament.

The country's entry into the [European Union](#) in 2007 has been a significant influence on its domestic policy. As part of the process, Romania has instituted reforms including judicial reform, increased judicial cooperation with other member states, and measures to combat corruption. Nevertheless, in 2006 Brussels report, Romania and [Bulgaria](#) were described as the two most corrupt countries in the EU.

Sports

[Football \(soccer\)](#) is by far the most popular sport in Romania. The governing body is the [Romanian Football Federation](#), which belongs to [UEFA](#). At international level, the [Romanian National Football Team](#) has taken part 7 times in the [Football World Cup](#), and it had the most successful period throughout the 1990s, when during the [1994 World Cup](#) in the [United States](#),

Romania reached the quarter-finals and was ranked by [FIFA](#) on the 6th place. The core player of this "[Golden Generation](#)" and perhaps the best known Romanian player internationally is [Gheorghe Hagi](#) (nicknamed *the Maradona of the Carpathians*).^[185] Famous currently active players are [Adrian Mutu](#) and [Cristian Chivu](#).

Tennis is the second most popular sport in terms of registered sportsmen. Romania reached the [Davis Cup](#) finals three times (1969, 1971, 1972). The tennis player [Ilie Năstase](#) won several [Grand Slam](#) titles and dozens of other tournaments, and was the first player to be [ranked as number 1](#) by [ATP](#) from 1973 to 1974. The [Romanian Open](#) is held every fall in Bucharest since 1993.

Popular [team sports](#) are [rugby union](#) ([national rugby team](#) has [so far competed at every Rugby World Cup](#)), [basketball](#) and [handball](#). Some popular [individual sports](#) are: athletics, chess, sport dance, and martial arts and other fighting sports.^[182]

Romanian [gymnastics](#) has had a large number of successes - for which the country became known worldwide. In the [1976 Summer Olympics](#), the gymnast [Nadia Comăneci](#) became the first gymnast ever to score a perfect "ten". She also won three gold medals, one silver and one bronze, all at the age of fifteen. Her success continued in the [1980 Summer Olympics](#), where she was awarded two gold medals and two silver medals.

Romania participated in for the first time in the [Olympic Games](#) in 1900 and has taken part in 18 of the 24 summer games. Romania has been one of the more successful countries [Summer Olympic Games](#) ([15th overall](#)) with a total of 283 medals won throughout the years, 82 of which are gold medals. Winter sports have received little investments and thus only a single bronze medal was won by Romanian sportsmen in the [Winter Olympic Games](#).

CONSTANTA

Constanța is the oldest living city in [Romania](#), founded around 600 BC. The city is located on the [Black Sea](#) coast. Constanța is part of the groups of four equal size cities which ranks after Bucharest, Romania's capital, [Timisoara](#), [Cluj Napoca](#) and [Iasi](#), none of this four cities exceeds 315,000 inhabitants. The [Constanța metropolitan area](#) was founded in 2007 and comprises 14 localities located at a maximum distance of 30 km from the city and, with 550,000 inhabitants, is the second largest urban area in [Romania](#), after [Bucharest](#).

[Port of Constanța](#) has an area of 39.26 km² and a length of about 30 km, is the biggest on the [Black Sea](#) and one of the largest in [Europe](#).

Tourism



Open Top Double Decker in Constanța Tour.

Situated at the crossroads of several commercial routes, Constanța lies on the western coast of the Black Sea, 185 miles (298 km) from the Bosphorus Strait. An ancient metropolis and Romania's largest sea port, Constanța traces its history some 2,500 years. Originally called Tomis, legend has it that Jason landed here with the Argonauts after finding the Golden Fleece.

The second largest city in Romania, Constanța is now an important cultural and economic center, worth exploring for its archaeological treasures and the atmosphere of the old town center. Its historical monuments, ancient ruins, grand Casino, museums and shops, and proximity to beach resorts make it the focal point of Black Sea coast tourism. Open-air restaurants, nightclubs and cabarets offer a wide variety of entertainment. While in the area, you can visit traditional villages, vineyards, ancient monuments and the Danube Delta, a bird-lover's paradise.

Constanța is more than just the entry point to the Black Sea coast. It is a place with a long and interesting past, attested by its many Roman vestiges, historic buildings, facades and mosques that color the Old City Center.

Main sights

Ovid's Square

Designed by the sculptor Ettore Ferrari in 1887, the statue dedicated to the Roman poet, Publius Ovidius Naso, gives name to this square. Emperor Augustus exiled Ovid to Tomis in 8 AD.

The Roman Mosaics (Edificul Roman cu Mozaic)

A vast complex on three levels once linked the upper town to the harbor. Today, only about a third of the original edifice remains, including more than 9,150 sq ft (850 m²) of colorful mosaics. Built toward the end of the 4th century AD and developed over the centuries, it was the city's commercial center until the 7th century. Archaeological vestiges point to the existence of workshops, warehouses and shops in the area. Remains of the Roman public baths can still be seen nearby. Aqueducts brought water six miles (10 km) to the town.

The Genoese Lighthouse (Farul Genovez)

Soaring 26 feet (7.9 m), this lighthouse was built in 1860 by the Danubius and Black Sea Company to honor Genoese merchants who established a flourishing sea trade community here in the 13th century.

The Casino (Cazinoul)

Completed between the two World Wars in art nouveau style according to the plans of the architects, Daniel Renard and Petre Antonescu, the Casino features sumptuous architecture and a wonderful view of the sea. The pedestrian area around the Casino is a sought-after destination for couples and families, especially at sunset.

The House with Lions (Casa cu Lei)

Blending pre-Romantic and Genovese architectural styles, this late 19th century building features four columns adorned with imposing sculptured lions. During the 1930s, its elegant salons hosted the Constanța Masonic Lodge.

The Archeology Park (Parcul Arheologic)

The park houses columns and fragments of 3rd and 4th century buildings and a 6th century tower.

St. Peter & Paul Orthodox Cathedral

Constructed in Greco-Roman style between 1883 and 1885, the church was severely damaged during World War II and was restored in 1951. The interior murals display a neo-Byzantine style combined with Romanian elements best observed in the iconostasis and pews, chandeliers and candlesticks (bronze and brass alloy), all designed by Ion Mincu and completed in Paris.

The Great Mahmudiye Mosque (Moscheea Mare Mahmoud II)

Built in 1910 by King Carol I, the mosque is the seat of the Mufti, the spiritual leader of the 55,000 Muslims (Turks and Tatars by origin) who live along the coast of the Dobrogea region. The building combines Byzantine and Romanian architectural elements, making it one of the most distinctive mosques in the area. The centerpiece of the interior is a large Persian carpet, a gift from Sultan Abdul Hamid. Woven at the Hereche Handicraft Center in Turkey, it is one of the largest carpets in Europe, weighing 1,080 pounds. The main attraction of the mosque is the 164 ft (50 m) minaret (tower) which offers a stunning view of the old downtown and harbor. Five times a day, the muezzin climbs 140 steps to the top of the minaret to call the faithful to prayer.

The Fantasio Theatre (Teatrul Fantasio)

Built in 1927 by Demostene Tranulis, a local philanthropist of Greek origin, this theatre used to be called “Tranulis” before 1947, after the name of its benefactor. It's a fine building featuring elements of neoclassical architecture, located in the heart of the city, on Ferdinand Boulevard.