



Romanian civil protection: "National Export Product" – A radiography of civil protection international assistance missions

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Abstract. According to the Romanian National Defence Strategy for 2020-2024, "the fundamental objective of our foreign and security policies is to raise Romania's international profile". Under this goal in Romania, civil protection has evolved from a purely nationwide domain, focused on domestic risk management, into an essential pillar of European humanitarian diplomacy. In the last ten years, but especially starting in 2020, the Department of Emergency Situations, together with the structures under its coordination, has become a leading actor within the National Emergency Management System and an internationally recognized and trusted civil protection provider. Romania has demonstrated that it is no longer just a consumer of international solidarity but has become an active provider of support, an actor capable of responding quickly and efficiently where circumstances require it. This transition has not happened by chance but is the result of a sound strategy, institutional maturity, and continuous alignment to the global challenges of the 21st century. Romania's commitment was consolidated through a series of actions that demonstrated the national capacity for mobilization, interoperability with European structures, and the logistical robustness of the deployed teams. From medical support operations during the COVID-19 pandemic to urban search and rescue missions following earthquakes or complex humanitarian interventions in conflict-affected areas, Romania's civil protection has become a real expertise exporter. This article does not intend to examine the fundamentals of international cooperation, analyse mechanisms for mutual support, or consolidate an efficient operating architecture at the international level. Based on very limited data that can be found on the websites, the social media pages of the Department for Emergency Situations, or the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations but not compiled in any way, this study provides an in-depth look at Romania's role in international aid, putting into action the commitments made by the country at the EU, North Atlantic Alliance, UN, or bilateral levels. It does this from the point of view of both experts and practitioners.

Key Words: civil protection modules, European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), international assistance, Covid 19 pandemic, Gaza Strip.

Introduction. This paper examines Romania's path in assuming an active role in international assistance through its civil protection. The institutional mechanisms through which this commitment is conducted, the structures involved and the means through which the necessary resources are mobilized will be analysed. At the same time, the logistical, financial and operational challenges faced by the Romanian teams in the field will be highlighted, providing a practical perspective on the efficiency of interventions and how to optimize them. Last but not least, this study will prove how these missions have contributed to the strengthening of Romania's position as a humanitarian security player, providing the reader with a comprehensive overview of the impact of these interventions on the European, and indeed global, civil protection system.

A fundamental aspect of this endeavour is the learning and adaptation process of national civil protection structures. By constantly evaluating the lessons learned from each intervention, Romania is continuously improving its response capacity, refining operational procedures and adapting to international standards. In this respect, participation in joint

exercises and the exchange of expertise with other UCPM member states have played a key role in enhancing the efficiency and speed of interventions.

In addition to the strictly operational dimension, Romania's active presence in civil protection missions also reflects a broader strategy of humanitarian diplomacy (De Lauri 2018). By providing prompt and well-coordinated support, Romania strengthens its relations with its European and international partners, demonstrating its commitment to the values of solidarity and international cooperation. This proactive role not only increases the country's influence in international fora, but also contributes to shaping European policies in the field of disaster management.

Equally, this change in Romania's civil protection must also be seen from the broader perspective of strengthening domestic resilience. According to the systematic self-reflection model developed by Crane et al (2019), building resilience is a process of experience learning, specifically "learning through reflection on doing". It is just in this perspective that all the actions performed in the field of civil protection have proved that this model is, no doubt, a fully viable one, and all the experiences gained from international missions not only improve the preparedness of intervention teams, but also generally contribute to the development of a more robust national civil protection system. The solidity of the civil protection system is exactly linked to the fact that the legislative framework has been continuously refined and adapted on the light of the lessons identified, thus leading to the adoption of numerous legal acts such as:

- Strategy for Strengthening and Developing the Role of the Department for Emergency Situations within the National Emergency Management System 2024-2030 (Ministry of Internal Affairs 2024);
- National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2023-2035 (Romanian General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations 2023);
- National Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (SNASC) for the period 2024-2030 (Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests 2024);
- Strategy for strengthening and developing the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations for the period 2016-2025 (<https://igsu.ro>);
- National Disaster Risk Management Plan (PNMRD) (<https://igsu.ro>);
- National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and a number of five disaster response frameworks (<https://igsu.ro>);
- National Epidemic Response Framework, National Post Earthquake Response Framework, National Flood Response Framework, National Forest Fire Response Framework and National nuclear - radiological accident response framework, just to mention few of them (<https://igsu.ro>).

Thus, this blend of legal framework coupled with an increased allocation of financial resources (mainly through EU structural funds but not limited) and not least the leadership and vision has paved the way to able to respond effectively to emerging risks. This continuous cycle of improvement and innovation makes civil protection a key strategic area for national and European security.

Romania - a reference partner in international civil protection assistance. The first attempts to reorganize the structures responsible for ensuring emergency management were materialized in 2001 with the adoption of Government Ordinance no. 88 of 30 August 2001 on the establishment, organization and functioning of community public services for emergency situations (Romanian Government 2001), a legal act which, in the context of the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 and the evaluation of the security context at national level, could not be executed in its initial form. Starting from the urgent need to develop an institutional system, that was only partially in place, not functioning properly and only activated when emergencies occurred - unable to provide an adequate response to the new challenges to national security, in 2004, in the context of "the proliferation of terrorist attacks on an international scale and the growing severity of non-military threats to national security" but also "given the acceleration of globalization trends, radical climate change...- and not only -", the Emergency Ordinance no. 21 of 15 April 2004 on the National Emergency Management System was adopted (Romanian Government 2004). It is the first normative act which provides an integrated approach to the concept of the National

Emergency Management System (NEMS) based on the rules aimed at the involvement and cooperation of all authorities with responsibilities, gradual competence starting from the local, then regional and national level, while setting priorities in the actions carried out and limitations determined by the respect of fundamental rights and freedoms (Rațiu et al 2017; Rafila & Pițigoi 2012).

In this multifaceted, interlinked and unitary structure of the National Emergency Situations System, the need was felt for a permanent body to ensure a better coordination of the activities of the all-specialized structures that ensure the response, especially when the life is endangered. Thus, since 2014, the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU) has been established as an operational structure without legal personality within the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The progress was soon seen, with sustained work that began to be championed on at least some of the following specific action priorities:

- a) understanding risks - on accurately identifying, assessing and raising awareness of the full spectrum of risks that could impact;
- b) strengthening risk governance - having robust regulatory structures and mechanisms in place for effective risk management;
- c) investing in risk reduction - effective allocation of resources to reduce vulnerabilities and increase resilience through: infrastructure projects; sustainable development; and development of financial instruments to support risk reduction initiatives;
- d) preparedness - a multi-sectoral society-wide approach to managing potential risks and ensuring coordination of response efforts;
- e) international cooperation - promoting international partnerships and collaboration to enhance preparedness.

Basically, by setting up and further developing the DSU, since 2014, Romania ensures, through a continuous, coordinated, long-term approach that adapts over time, a comprehensive vision to investing in anticipating risks, in order to build back better in case of disasters (United Nations 2015). Understanding that international cooperation is a major step in building preparedness in dealing with emergencies, in the last 10-15 years, Romania has consolidated its position as a key player in European and international civil protection mechanisms through the efforts of DSU and its subordinated structures. This approach not only ensures a rapid and efficient response to disasters at national level, but has also become a reference point in fostering international assistance, actively contributing to European and global solidarity.

Almost at the same time, when Romania was seeking to improve its national disaster management, at the European Union level, in order to enhance the collective response capability to both natural and man-made disasters, the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) was created - in 2001, as a coordination and assistance tool between Member States and participating States. To continue to better address the ever-more complex needs of civil protection at the European and global levels, the UCPM has since undergone an ongoing process of development, adaptation, and consolidation. At present, the UCPM includes all 27 EU Member States and 10 participating countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Northern Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine (Malešić 2025; Takács & Muhoray 2024; Hopkins et al 2024; <https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu>). This shows a living proof of the common commitment of these nations to work together in the field of civil protection, ensuring a coordinated and effective response to natural and man-made disasters.

By actively participating in the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), the DSU has proven Romania's capacity to mobilize resources and expertise in support of other countries in need. The international missions carried out in recent years, such as the interventions following the earthquakes in Albania and Türkiye, the medical support provided during the COVID-19 pandemic or the forest fires in Greece, France, Montenegro, North Macedonia, have highlighted Romania's institutional robustness and its commitment to the values of European solidarity.

Another key aspect of promoting international assistance is the close cooperation with similar structures in all EU Member States and outside the EU borders. In this respect, Romania, in addition to its close links with the UCPM, as well as with other major

international entities (such as NATO or various UN institutions), has signed numerous cooperation documents with civil protection services around the world, creating a fertile ground for the development of common plans for all spheres of civil protection: prevention, preparedness, response. For the past 10 years, their number has grown substantially (Figure 1 and Figure 2), underlining Romania's growing commitment to the international civil protection and humanitarian aid support community.

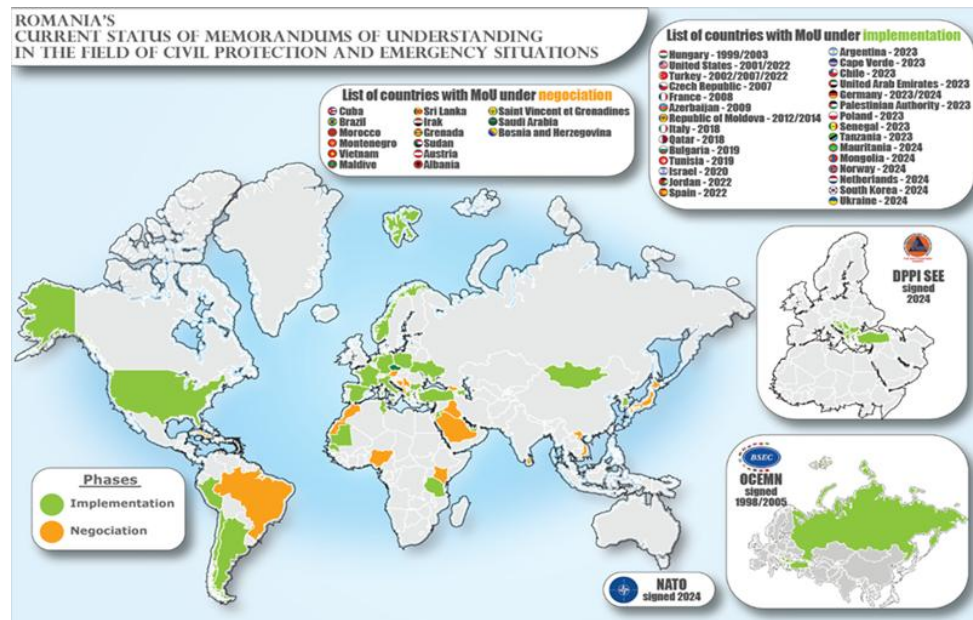


Figure 1. Overview of civil protection and emergency cooperation (own contribution based on open sources collection from <https://dsu.mai.gov.ro> and <https://igsu.ro>).

These partnerships not only ensure enhanced interoperability during emergency interventions, but also increase response capacity through access to additional expertise and resources. By exchanging best practices, conducting joint exercises and developing standardized intervention procedures, Romania has created its own network to streamline rapid and tailored support to the needs required by the broad spectrum of disasters. This collaborative approach optimizes emergency response time and contributes to aligning intervention standards with international best practices.

Returning to the European dimension, Romania has also been actively involved in the decision-making process at the EU level, by participating in working groups (Civil Protection Working Party/EU Council & Civil Protection Committee/EC comitology) dedicated to civil protection (Ministry of Internal Affairs 2019; Council of the European Union 2024; Hybrid CoE 2019). Thus, the concerns highlighted in 2019, when Romania had the rotating presidency of the EU Council, on the consequences of High Impact Low Probability (HILP) events were extremely necessary. In practice, that was the starting point that triggered the subsequent decision that resulted in the developments we have seen both at the national level in terms of leadership, coordination, and the development of civil protection structures, as well as the enhanced role of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism - with all of the dimensions on which the rescEU, the EU's safety belt in terms of civil protection capabilities, was later evolved. By promoting initiatives aimed at improving response mechanisms and supporting policies that encourage the development of response capacities, as before described, the DSU has strengthened Romania's role as a reliable partner in disaster management at the global level. At the same time, there is a remarkable development in the number of international partnerships, which comes along with the structural changes at the DSU level introduced by the Law 253 of 2020. therefore, the General Directorate for Medical Emergencies, the General Directorate for Civil Protection and the Decision Support Directorate are established within the DSU, aiming to support the growing presence and role of Romanian civil protection on the international arena (Figure 2).

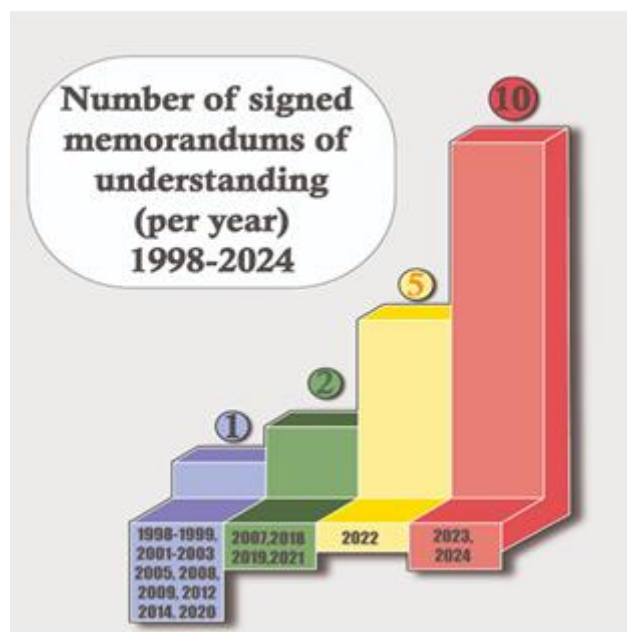


Figure 2. Overview of signed partnership instruments by year.

To summarize, as it can be seen from the above figures, Romania is continuously developing strategic partnerships with external partners in order to strengthen cooperation and exchange experience and best practices, concluding bilateral cooperation documents with relevant stakeholders in the EU and abroad. Only in 2024, DSU signed partnership instruments with important stakeholders such as the Bavarian Ministry of Interior, Sport and Integration, FEMA, the Norwegian Civil Defence, the Ministry of Interior and Community Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, the National Emergency and Disaster Management Authority of the United Arab Emirates or the Ministry of Interior and Security of the Republic of Korea (Department for Emergency Situations 2024).

Actions to develop response capacities through national measures and European support. Over the last 10 years, Romania has significantly reinforced its civil protection response capacity through a combination of considerable financial support from the European Union and with a number of national efforts coordinated by the DSU. This achievement is the result of an integrated strategy aimed not only at developing operational capabilities and skills improvement of our first responders, but also at increasing international cooperation. To ensure that Romania can fulfil its commitments at the international level, preparedness measures have been implemented nationally by upgrading and broadening the equipment to address the full range of risks. At the same time, international exercises have been organized, the most relevant being SEISM 2018 - EU MODEX, a large-scale exercise involving staff and equipment from several areas of Romania and a number of teams from: Norway, Austria, Germany, Italy, Israel, Slovak Republic, Sweden. The exercise was focused on the coordination and collaboration of medical modules (EMT/ Emergency Medical Teams type: 1 to 3 – according with WHO standards, AMP – Advance Medical Post, MEDEVAC/ Medical Evacuation) and with its number of teams and participants it was the largest Medical Module Exercise within the framework of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism. This EU MODEX was hosted by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Romania and took place in different sites across the area of Bucharest (<https://10years.eu-modex.eu>). This was an excellent opportunity to identify valuable ways for improving the national response system not only to major earthquakes, but also applicable to major disasters. As a rapid and tangible example, legislation has been amended to simplify the process of requesting or offering international assistance. However, this is not the sole instance. Since 2015, Romania has emerged as an important contributor at the European level regarding exercises involving civil protection modules. This development is attributed to IGSU's collaboration with the APELL National Centre for Disaster Management Foundation, which initially proposed a project to the European

Commission - DG ECHO, for the organization of three exercises. This partnership was responsible to coordinate exercises on floods, forest fires, and CBRN disasters for the last 10 years, organizing more than 24 training opportunities in real field conditions (<https://www.apell-euromodex.eu>).

On the other hand, given the bilateral relations developed between the DSU and other corresponding authorities around the world, Romania has gain from valuable exchange of expertise. These exchanges have made it possible to consolidate emergency response capacities by adopting the best available practices and technologies, thus contributing to greater efficiency in emergency management.

As stated above, the European Union played an essential role in supporting the development of Romanian civil protection capabilities by its financial instruments articulated at the level of EU member states and not least by the tools that the UCPM has introduced in the preparedness phase and most critically in the disaster response stage. Thus, through the structural funds dedicated to Romania, the EU has allocated substantial funds for the modernization of equipment and training of personnel (<https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu>), while granting Romania access to financing for the further improvement of its intervention capabilities. For example, as stated in the IGSU activity report for the year 2023, the amount that was accessed within the framework of programs financed by non-reimbursable European funds exceeded 980 million euro by the beginning of 2024 (General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations 2023). This example reveals two sides - on the one hand the evident shortages that were accumulating in the emergency response services led to the allocation of a quite substantial amount to cover certain needs, so that in less than 10 years alone, roughly 1 billion euro of funding was allocated, and on the other hand it also reveals an extraordinary ability to mobilize so that in an extremely short time these sophisticated procurements could be carried out under very laborious legislation and in a totally hostile context, generated by the Covid 19 pandemic or Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, which strongly impacted the supply chains.

Additionally, it is also worth highlighting the fact that in the more than 20 years since its establishment, the UCPM has coordinated the assistance provided by Member States in more than 700 emergencies (<https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu>). This impressive achievement is grounded on the provisions of Decision 1313/2013, according to which Member States sending international assistance benefit from EU financial and logistical support, covering in some cases up to 100% of operational and transportation expenses (<https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu>). These provisions that decreased budgetary pressure were essential for Romania's participation in international assistance missions and rapid disaster response.

Last but not least, the excellent collaboration between DSU and the other structures of the SNMU should be emphasized. The components of the SNMSU have contributed, according to their specific competences, to the preparation, planning, organization and implementation of international assistance actions. Thus, significant is the contribution of the Ministry of National Defence, which has carried out numerous missions of transportation of first responders and their technical means in various countries affected by disasters (e.g. the earthquake in Albania 2019 or Türkiye 2023, the fires in France 2022 (European Commission 2019; Romanian Government 2022; Ministry of National Defence 2022; European Commission 2023) or even by direct intervention with its own aircrafts in emergencies missions to extinguish wildfires, such as the fires in 2024 in Albania and North Macedonia (<https://agerpres.ro>). In the same way it was also appreciated the cooperation and coordination with the Ministry of Health during the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g. sending a medical team to Italy, Republic of Moldova and Tunisia, or the medical evacuation of 20 paediatric patients and 61 custodians, from the Gaza Strip), with the National Administration of State Reserves (in the case of numerous donations from Romania to several countries), and with many others, including civil society and various public and private partners of the DSU.

National civil protection response teams available for international assistance missions. Starting with 2014, Romania has developed and operationalized a number of teams (civil protection modules, which are units of personnel and equipment that are ready

to be mobilized - in accordance with the Decision No. 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council) fully complying with European Union standards, some of which are already included in the European Civil Protection Pool (ECPP) – a voluntary pool of pre-committed Member States' disaster response resources.

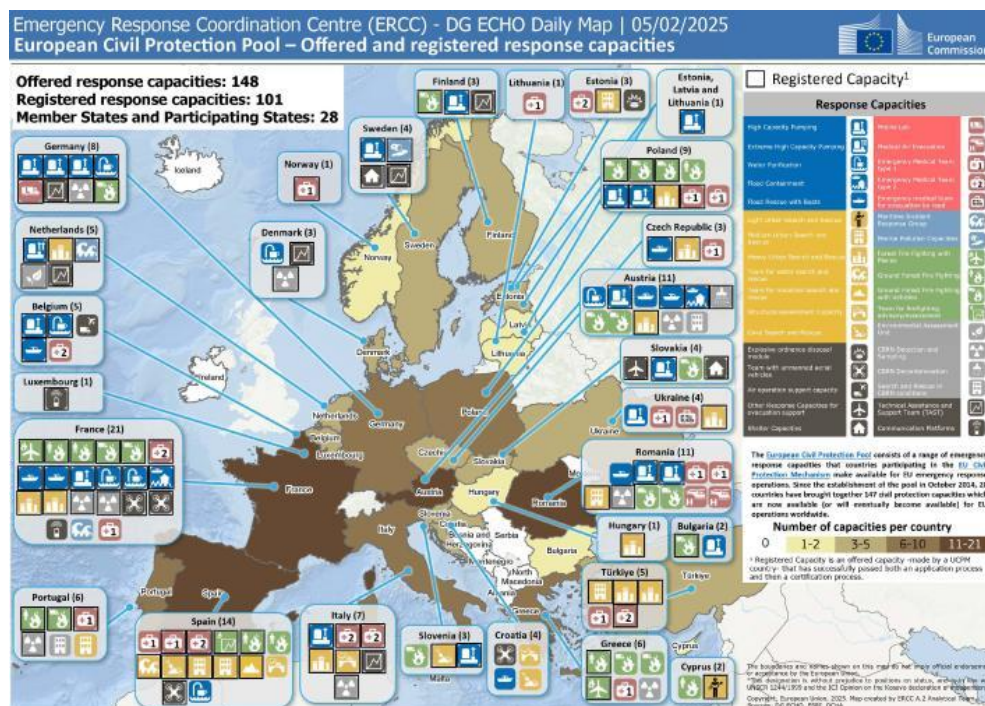


Figure 3. Overview of response capacities at EU level (<https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu>)

These modules are essential to ensure a rapid and efficient response in case of disasters and contribute in the framework of the UCPM to European solidarity, anywhere in the world (Malešić 2025). The upgrading and enhancing of response capacities to create a proper environment for the development of a more secure society both for the Romanian and the European citizens was another priority for the DSU. In order to achieve this objective Romania is currently contributing in the framework of the UCPM/ ECPP (European Civil Protection Pool) with eleven civil protection modules as follows:

i) certified/classified - according with EU or UN standards:

- High-Capacity Pumping (HCP) modules - intended for interventions in case of severe floods as follows:

1) RO-HCP-01 – currently counting a number of 25 staff from Bucharest-Ilfov Emergency Situations Inspectorate was certified at EU level in 2018 and recertified in 2023, with participation in exercises: EU MODEX SIBIU 2022, MNE-MODEX FX Romania/Timisoara - 2021, MNE-MODEX FX Montenegro - 2019, EUROMODEX CZECH MODEX - OSTRAVA - 2017 (<https://www.apell-euromodex.eu>).

2) RO-HCP-02 – operationalized at Timiș County Inspectorate for Emergency Situations level, was certified at EU level in 2018 and recertified in 2023. The 25 staff team gained experience in exercises like: EU MODEX ARGES - 2022, ITA MODEX ITALIA - 2018, AU MODEX LAUBEGG 2017, ForFirEX 2019 CARAȘ-SEVERIN (<https://www.apell-euromodex.eu>).

- Medium Urban Search and Rescue (M-USAR) module - classified to INSARAG standards for response in case of collapsed structures - RO-USAR-01 (<https://vosocc.unocha.org>) is a joint pooling of resources from both the Ministry of Internal Affairs (from national level) and the Ministry of Health or civil society through NGOs. Classified INSARAG as Medium team in 2014, reclassified in 2019, due to conduct INSARAG classification exercise as Heavy team in October 2026. Structure of the personnel: 59 staff and 4 search and rescue dogs as Medium USAR, and 80 staff and 4

search and rescue dogs as Heavy USAR. Relevant missions/exercises: missions in Albania - 2019 and Türkiye - 2023; exercises: NATO/EADRCC Ukraine - 2015, EU MODEX France - 2016, NATO/EADRCC Bosnia and Herzegovina - 2017, NATO/EADRCC Serbia - 2018, EU MODEX Bucharest - 2018, EU MODEX Portugal - 2019, EU MODEX Austria - 2023.

- Medium Urban Search and Rescue (M-USAR) module RO-USAR-10 - organized at Bucharest level, currently in process of INSARAG classification as medium team. Structure: 58 staff and 4 search and rescue dogs. Relevant missions/exercises: mission in Türkiye - 2023 / exercises: EU MODEX Italy - 2022.

- CBRN Detection and Sampling (CBRNDT) module - identifying and monitoring chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear substances in affected areas - RO-CBRNDT, national team of 42 staff, being certified at EU level in 2023. Relevant missions/exercises: EU MODEX, Montana, Bulgaria - 2019, EU MODEX, Târgu Mureş, Romania - 2022, EU MODEX, Lyon, France - 2023.

- ii) under certification:

- Emergency Medical Teams Type 1 (EMT1 - in accordance with WHO requirements) RO-EMT1-B-IF (42 staff) - under classification

Relevant exercises: EU MODEX Macedonia 2017, EU MODEX Bucharest 2018, EU MODEX Estonia 2019, EU MODEX Târgu Mureş, Romania - 2022, EU MODEX Türkiye 2023, EU MODEX Italy 2024 (<https://www.eu-modex.eu>).

- RO-EMT1-MS (50 staff) - under classification

Relevant exercises: EU MODEX Bucharest 2018, EU MODEX, Gorneşti (MS), Romania - 2021, EU MODEX, Târgu Mureş, Romania - 2022, EU MODEX Italy 2023, Vigorous Warriors Hungary - 2024 (<https://www.eu-modex.eu>; <https://www.coemed.org>).

- Aerial Medical Evacuation Module (MEDEVAC) - for the transportation of critical patients from disaster areas to safe medical facilities.

- Ground Forest Fires Fighting with Vehicles modules (GFFF-V) - specialized in large-scale interventions to extinguish forest fires:

- RO-GFFF-V-01 – national team, currently in process of certification

Structure: up to 150 staff (light level 60, medium 90, full team 150)

Relevant missions/exercises: firefighting missions in Greece 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

- RO-GFFF-V-02 – national team, currently in process of certification

Structure: up to 150 staff (light level 60, medium 90, full team 150)

Relevant missions/exercises: firefighting mission in France 2022, 2023 and 2024 (Romanian Government 2022).

- Flood Rescue using Boat (FRB) module - designed for rescue operations in flooded areas or large areas of water - RO-FRB, operationalized by Timiş County Inspectorate for Emergency Situations level, is currently in certification process at EU level. The team of 40 staff, participated at EU MODEX Sibiu, Romania - 2022 (<https://www.apell-euromodex.eu>). Regarding the FRB module, MEVAC as well as one of the GFFF-V modules are funded by DG-ECHO in the form of an adaptation grant to reach the level of equipment and training in line with EU quality standards. The typical architecture of a module is developed around three pillars: the management unit, the operational structure and logistics and support unit. The management unit is responsible for the coordination of all activities of the module during the conduct of specific missions, including: leadership, planning, operation, reporting, mission evaluation, communications, media relations, and personnel safety and security. The management structure includes: the team leader, deputy team leader, head of operations, liaison officer, responsible for communications, logistics, safety and security and spoke person. The operational structure is responsible for running emergency operations and is set up according to the current operational situation in the area of the incident. The logistics and support unit is responsible for ensuring all logistical aspects of mission deployment, including operationalization and management of the base of operations, supply and warehouse management and transport.

A key pillar of preparedness to which the DSU attaches particular importance is the development, maintenance, replenishment and adaptation of strategic stocks of equipment and resources available to support Member States in case of need. Currently, Romania hosts and develops rescEU assets, which are essential components of the European strategic reserve to support Member States in emergencies. These capabilities are, in fact,

a "safety belt" of the European Union, consisting of civil protection capabilities that can be mobilized when member states' capacities are overwhelmed and international assistance from other member states is not available (Hopkins et al 2024; Official Journal of the European Union 2019; <https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu>). Thus, as described in Figure 4, the following stocks are currently in place being established under DSU coordination:

- medical countermeasures or personal protective equipment of medical equipment and essential medicines stockpile - used for the management of health emergencies, including pandemics. Established in 2020, as described in the next chapter, the stock was several times used during the Covid 19 pandemic.
- temporary shelter stockpile - reserves of high-quality emergency shelter units, including light prefabricated structures, and emergency tents, providing people with a safe and secure place to live in the aftermath of a disaster or emergency. Established at the beginning of Ukrainian war it was used to support Ukrainians people as well as in the aftermaths of the earthquake in Türkiye.

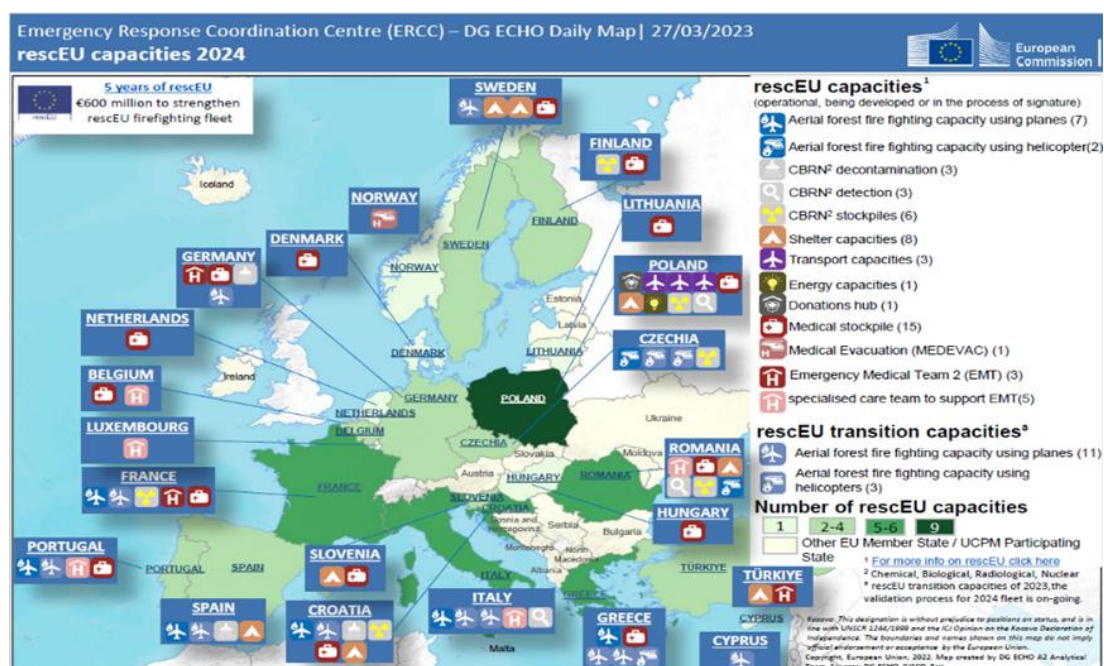


Figure 4. Overview of rescEU capacities (European Commission 2024).

Last but not least, since 2024 Romania in agreement with European Commission is currently also developing rescEU response capabilities in the form of:

- wildfire fleet: in light of multiple record-breaking wildfire seasons across Europe, rescEU is constantly reinforced to provide more aerial means each year. In the long run, the European Commission has set aside substantial funds to purchase 12 new firefighting planes for Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Croatia, and Greece, as well as three helicopters for Slovakia, Czechia, and Romania. These aircraft will form the "permanent rescEU fleet".
- rescEU EMT: EU granted funds to a consortium consisting of 7 Member States (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal, Romania) and 1 participating state (Türkiye) of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism to develop the rescEU Emergency Medical Team (EMT), the first pan-European field hospital. The objective is to boost emergency medical support to populations affected by large-scale natural or man-made disasters. The project will establish 3 Emergency Medical Teams Type 2 (EMT2), which will include surgery and diagnostic services. The rescEU EMT, currently under development, aims to become the largest field hospital globally, providing a modular, highly specialized medical response to disasters.
- rescEU CBRN (chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear) capabilities: decontamination capabilities as well as detection, sampling, identification, and monitoring capabilities are currently being developed to respond to CBRN threats.

- strategic stockpiles of medical and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) equipment and therapeutics - specialized reserves to respond more quickly to needs caused by health crises and CBRN threats such as the COVID-19 pandemic or large-scale human-induced disasters. The reserve enables the swift delivery of items, including different types of therapeutics, medical, CBRN and personal protective equipment.

Depending on the needs arising from disaster events, additional resources may be made available in the form of experts on specific fields or donations - in-kind assistance. These contributions allow for a more flexible and tailored response to the specific needs of each disaster, allowing for enhanced assistance to the affected states. Romania is actively contributing to the European Union's civil protection teams by providing experts trained to participate in international missions. These specialists are trained through dedicated courses in the framework of the UCPM's Preparedness Program, being able to support DG ECHO operations in disaster-affected areas, facilitating the coordination and rapid implementation of response measures (<https://civil-protection-knowledge-network.europa.eu>).

Romania's international assistance missions. The political changes that have marked both Romania and the other countries of the communist block since the end of the 1980's and the beginning of the 1990's have brought with them an interest in external cooperation and solidarity in case of disasters, which, despite the prevention measures, have continued to have major consequences. It is also quite eloquent at least for Romania that the investments in the civil protection system until the mid-2010's ensured only survival. The governments that succeeded each other at the helm of the country did not manage to turn their attention to this system except when disasters occurred and when it was too late for prevention-preparedness measures but there was a complete focus of media coverage on response measures. Against the background of this chronic lack of preparedness measures our very limited involvement in the international emergency arena is also explained, even though the 1990's are the years when international mechanisms for coordinating disaster response such as the UN's INSARAG or NATO's EADRCC were emerging and developing.

As underlined before, until 2014, when the DSU was established and substantial allocations were made to equip the emergency services - fire brigade, ambulance, aviation - Romania's presence in international assistance missions was only sporadic. But with the revision of the legislation in the field of emergency management with the emergence of the DSU and financial resources of over one billion euros, but not least with the membership of NATO and the EU, Romania's role in this area is growing. Basically, we are starting to demonstrate a solid commitment in providing international assistance in crisis and disaster situations, becoming today a key player in the framework of the UCPM providing support both inside and outside the EU.

From traditional assistance in cases of earthquakes and floods, to extended missions in pandemic or geopolitical contexts, Romania has demonstrated a rapid and efficient reaction capacity that today many European countries cannot compete with. What has fostered this is first of all the centralized structure at national level and the integrated emergency response system, but also the extremely well-articulated legislation that allows, through quick decisions, to access various national resources of the several authorities that make up the SNMSU (Mocioi 2023). Thus, with an increasingly efficient logistical backbone and experienced human resources, Romania's presence at international assistance appeals has become a routine.

The diversity of situations in which Romania has stepped in is vast (Figure 5) including earthquakes, floods, forest fires, health crises and armed conflicts. While in the early period interventions focused on typical civil protection situations, since 2020, with the COVID-19 pandemic and major geopolitical changes, Romania has considerably expanded its scope of action (Annex 1), adding missions to deliver medical equipment, humanitarian support for refugees and participation in international risk evaluation. Annex 1 presents data regarding the international assistance offered by Romania between 1999 and 2024.

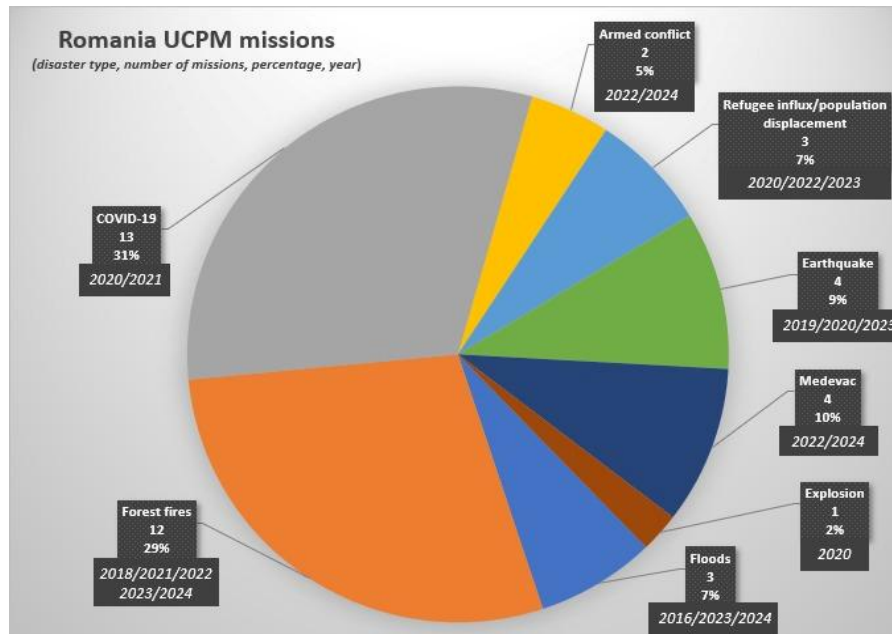


Figure 5. Romanian UCPM missions per risk type developed on data presented in Annex 1.

As stated, initially, Romania's participation in international assistance missions was sporadic, but since 2020, as can be seen in Figure 6, there has been a significant increase in their frequency. This growth reflects both the development of Romania's response capacities and the increased confidence of international partners. Romania is now one of the main providers of assistance in the framework of the UCPM, playing a central role in mobilizing intervention teams and ensuring a rapid and coordinated response at European level. This development has been triggered by the need for a swift response to global crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical conflicts, reinforcing Romania's position as a strategic partner in international assistance. There has also been a diversification of intervention typologies, from in-kind assistance during natural disasters to integrated responses to multiple complex crises. This adaptability reflects the maturity of the Romanian civil protection system and its ability to respond promptly to the specific needs of each emergency. Moreover, as reflected in Figure 7, Romania has consolidated its status as a source of international solidarity by supporting not only neighboring countries or countries members of the UCPM, but also went well beyond these borders, assisting when needed even areas in faraway Asia (geographically speaking) such as Vietnam or India and not only.

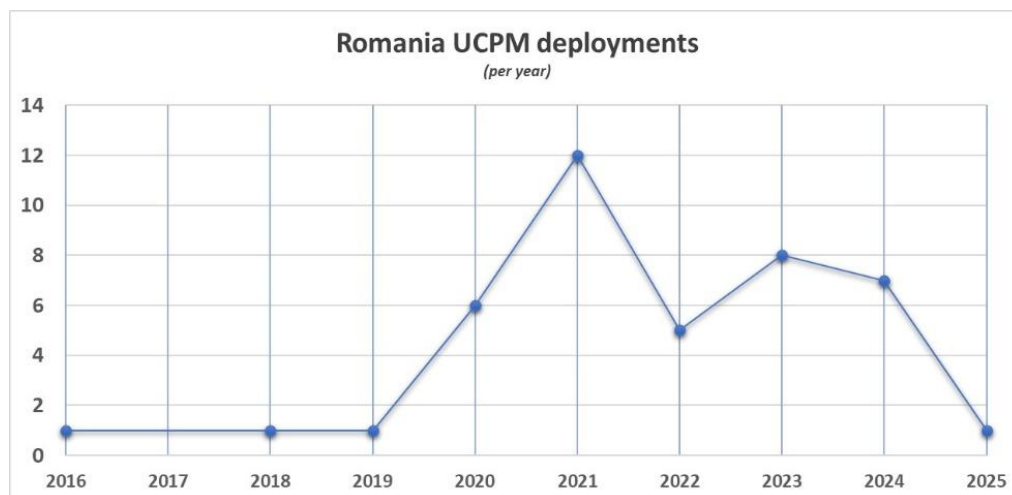


Figure 6. Romanian UCPM deployments based on Annex 1.

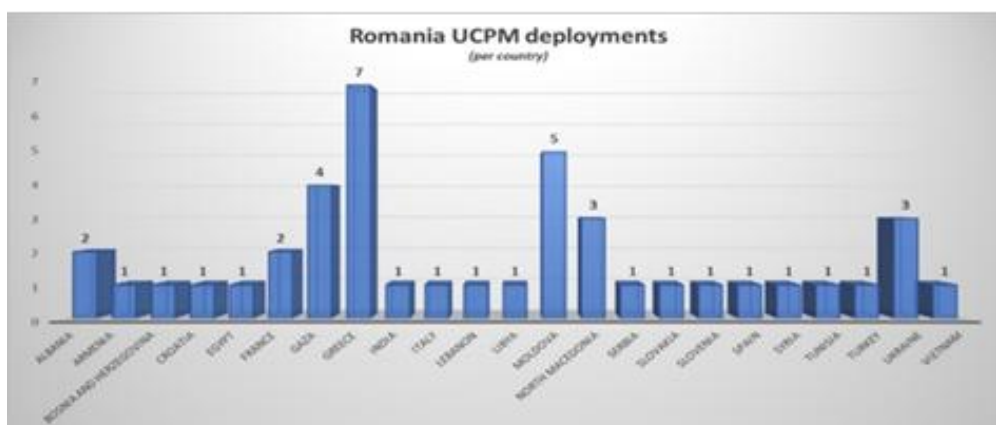


Figure 7. Romania UCPM deployments per country (Annex 1 data).

Particularly in the context of humanitarian crises, our country has made available logistical resources, essential equipment and qualified personnel to manage large-scale emergencies. The complexity of missions has increased significantly, moving from ad hoc donations of materials and equipment to the deployment of expert teams specialized in urban search and rescue, logistical support and advanced medical operations. This transition underlines not only the broadening of Romania's operational capabilities, but also the high level of expertise achieved in international deployments.

It should be noted that these efforts have had a twofold significance. On the one hand, Romania has strengthened its own civil protection capabilities, its personnel have gained crucial experience in carrying out such missions, and on the other hand, it has demonstrated a strong commitment to the principles of European and international solidarity. This evolution, is likely to confirm that as global risks diversify, Romania will continue its pro-active role in supporting the international community, further contributing to building resilience at the global level.

Case studies – forest fires, Covid'19 pandemic, Middle East humanitarian crisis

Forest fires. In the face of climate change, forest fires have become an increasingly threat in Europe, calling for prevention, preparedness and response measures by Member States and European institutions. In Romania, the possibility of forest fires is considerable; nevertheless, the impact level is very modest relative to other types of risks. Climate projections suggest that countries such as Romania, who have not historically encountered a substantial risk of forest fires, would face an escalation of this threat in the coming future. Therefore in 2018, the National Response Concept in case of forest fires was developed to establish the role and responsibilities of all stakeholders responsible for planning and carrying out the response and preparing the conditions for recovery after a forest fire emergency (General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations 2018). Romania typically experiences a low incidence of wildfires each year; however, there has been an increase since 2017, when 65 wildfires were documented annually. As of 2022, the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) had documented 719 wildfires. In 2023, however, the number decreased to 124 (European Forest Fire Information System 2023). In this context Romania has initiated to start building through the Vision 2020 program (Ministry of European Investments and Projects 2020) a number of capabilities to address forest fires, which were used to demonstrate a solid solidarity in this field, promptly stepping in to international requests for forest firefighting and consolidating Romania's position as a reliable partner in the framework of the UCPM.

Although there had been two limited experiences in Greece in 2007 - Ministry of Interior helicopters equipped for firefighting and in 2018, when Romania sent Ministry of Defence aircraft, practically 2021 marks the moment when Romania starts to become a significant player at European level in this field. Thus, in 2021, still in the midst of the pandemic situation, Romania provided support to Northern Macedonia in fighting the forest fires, sending an intervention aircraft, a logistic aircraft and 20 firefighters who contributed

on the ground to the emergency management. The same year also marked the beginning of large-scale interventions in Greece, one of the European countries most affected by forest fires in the last decade, where firefighting teams were sent with fire engines, cisterns and other logistical means necessary to carry out the intervention. In 2022, the number of personnel sent to the same country will reach 142 firefighters, reinforcing operational support. In fact, every year since 2021, Romania has responded to calls for assistance from the Greek state, deploying teams and equipment for emergency management. Starting from 2022, at the initiative of the European Commission, a program with proactive measures for the management of forest fires is being implemented. In this context Romania, deploys two specialized forest fire fighting modules in Greece as part of a pre-positioning program coordinated by DG ECHO. This mechanism allowed a rapid emergency response and contributed to reducing the impact of fires on the population and ecosystems.

Romania's international actions also continued in other European countries. In 2022, Romania sent three aircraft of the Ministry of National Defence to Slovenia and supported the interventions in France with 17 intervention assets and 77 firefighters. This mission introduces a new milestone in terms of response time to such an emergency. With the support of the Ministry of National Defence which facilitates the availability of both its own aircraft and two C17 - Globemaster from Pápa Air Base, Hungary, the Romanian module manages to reach in record time from one part of Europe to another, from Romania to France and to contribute decisively to the stabilization of the situation and minimizing the effects of forest fires. The aforementioned pre-positioning program was maintained in 2023 and 2024, where Romania contributed with two strategically placed forest firefighting modules in Greece and France, and is to be resumed in 2025. It is worth mentioning that in both 2023 and 2024, at the request of the Greek authorities, Romania supplemented its initial teams with additional resources for the management of large fires. In 2024, Romania again extended regional support by mobilizing air assets from the Ministry of National Defence for interventions in North Macedonia (Annex 1).

Covid'19 pandemic. At the beginning of 2020, the SNMSU is faced with its first major challenge, in which it must act to manage a virus affecting the entire planet, and all this in a world that is always on the move and where travel between two diametrically opposite points on the globe can be accomplished in less than 24 hours. A world where the World Health Organization has declared a global medical emergency on 31.01.2020 and a COVID'19 pandemic on 11.03.2020. In this framework, a number of measures, unique in Romania's recent history, have been taken at the highest decision-making level, at administrative, legislative and organizational level, establishing exceptional status, limiting freedoms, transferring responsibilities to the decision-making level and creating flexible mechanisms within the SMNSU to ensure an adapted response to the daily challenges generated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Understanding the challenges that civil protection faces at European level, in order to strengthen the EU's collective capacity to face natural disasters, during the Romanian Presidency of EU Council, by Decision (EU) 2019/420, amending Decision No. 1313/2013/EU, the "rescEU" reserve is introduced. This provides an additional reserve of response resources at European level. In this context following the workshop: „Preparing for low probability high impact disasters - way ahead” held in Bucharest (30 January–1 February 2019) where more than 100 experts from EU level reflected on principles and criteria for a common understanding of "high impact low probability" events (Department for Emergency Situations 2019; Council of the European Union 2019), but also following the violent outbreak of the Covid '19 pandemic in March 2020, by the Implementing Decision 2020/452 on the capacities established to respond to low probability high impact risks, criteria for funding the rescEU strategic reserve with medical stocks are established (Glencross 2022). Thus, 4 days after the modification of the legislation, on 24th March 2020, DG-ECHO is signing with the IGSU for the first time at EU level a direct grant of up to €10 million to set up an initial stockpile of medical countermeasures, which will consist in the first phase of personal protective masks and medical ventilators for intensive care. The expected results are making available medical supplies available in the shortest time

possible and their delivery to the affected countries according to the ERCC indication (<https://www.euzatebe.rs>).

The COVID-19 pandemic presented an extraordinary challenge, highlighting the importance of international solidarity and cooperation in managing health crises. Romania faced multiple challenges, having to rapidly adapt its response strategies and work with international partners to ensure the protection of the population and the functioning of the healthcare system. As we look back now almost five years after the declaration of the Covid'19 pandemic, we have to recognize that despite the lack of protective materials was a problem, but one common to all states, through the measures decided at the level of the National Committee for Emergency Situations, Romania managed the early phase of the pandemic at an acceptable degree when compared to most European countries.

At the technical level, there have been concerns since the end of 2019, and beginning in January 2020, several meetings of the Technical-Scientific Support Group have been held to analyze the situation at the international level, the risks and the steps taken and to propose ways of action and measures that are adopted by decisions of the National Committee for Emergency Situations (CNSU), with 10 decisions being adopted until the declaration of a state of emergency, measures that are gradually implemented at the operational, organizational or legislative level, such as the one related to the setting up of medical emergency stocks.

Thus, through these measures, the Romanian authorities manage to keep the number of Covid'19 virus infections down, so that the emergency care units can deal with the cases and provide specialized assistance to those in need. Moreover, with the apparition of the vaccine at the end of December 2020, Romania had a very good start in terms of vaccination of the population and it seemed that with all the variants of evolution of the virus the measures in place would be effective and would allow a proper management of the cases of infections. However, with the beginning of the summer of 2021, misinformation campaigns and fake news propagated initially on social media but then also on some TV news channels create a lack of trust among the population regarding the need for vaccination and the effects of the virus and thus two immediate directions of development emerge. The number of infections increases due to the lack of compliance with prevention measures (wearing masks, distancing, etc.) and the rate of vaccination drops sharply so that a critical mass of vaccinated people cannot be created to counter the spread of the virus. These things are happening while most European countries are reaching vaccination rates of over 80%, while Romania, according to CNCAV (National Committee for the Coordination of Activities on Vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 data (<https://universul.net>), is only reaching 42% at the end of the pandemic. In this context, from September 2021 onwards, the number of COVID'19 infections increases uncontrollably and the fourth and last wave of the pandemic becomes critical for Romania. According to CNCAV data, record after record is being registered as follows:

- 19 October 2021: record in terms of number of infections 18863 cases;
- 02 November 2021: the highest number of daily deaths – 591;
- 04 November 2021: highest number of patients hospitalized in emergency units -1902.

These figures have created a panic in the population and slightly increased the vaccination rate, but nevertheless Romania was forced to seek international assistance. If until then, as showed earlier, Romania was the champion in terms of international assistance missions both through donations of protective equipment and medical countermeasures (vaccines), as well as medical intervention teams, fall 2021, we bring us the position of requesting that international assistance. The principle of solidarity makes its presence felt immediately and Romania is receiving support from 14 states (either member or participating in the UCPM but also from outside) as highlighted in Figure 8.

The solidarity towards Romanian citizens in need is ensured with medical teams but also with equipment and materials (syringes, gloves, tests, etc.) because the emergency care units are overwhelmed by the large number of cases, teams of doctors from the Republic of Moldova, Denmark, Poland, Israel arrive in Romania to support the medical staff in the hospital units. But at the same time teams from Germany also arrive to select patients and transfer them for treatment outside Romania. In total about 90 patients are transferred to Hungary, Poland, Austria, Germany, Czech Republic, Denmark and Italy.

Thus, Romania not only provided, but also benefited from external support in the form of medicines, medical equipment, vaccines and medical expertise, provided through the European Civil Protection Mechanism and bilateral agreements (Figure 9). Among the countries contributing to the effort were South Korea, the UAE, Qatar, the USA. In addition, four medical teams from Germany, Poland, Denmark and the Republic of Moldova have supported the Romanian authorities by sending medical staff and equipment to combat the effects of the pandemic.

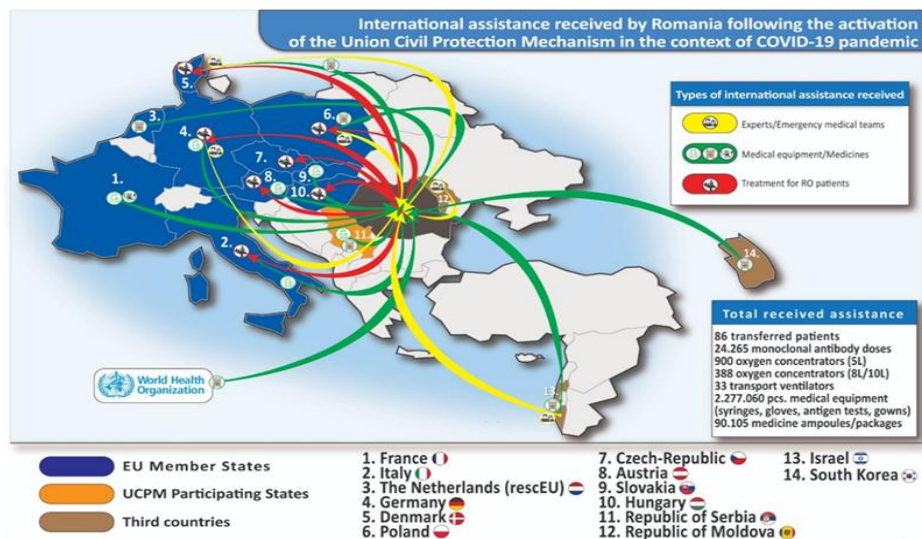


Figure 8. International assistance received by Romania in the Covid 19 context (DSU activity report 2022).

In addition to efforts to manage the crisis domestically, Romania has taken an active role in providing international assistance to affected countries. Only from April 2020 until mid-2021, more than 20 countries have benefited from Romanian support, including medical specialized emergency care, medical teams deployed in Italy, Moldova, Slovakia and Tunisia, as well as in kind donation missions consisting of protective equipment from the rescEU stock of medical countermeasures organized in Romania or vaccines from national reserve, not only in many neighboring countries, members of the UCPM, but also in more widely spread areas such as India or Vietnam (Figure 9).

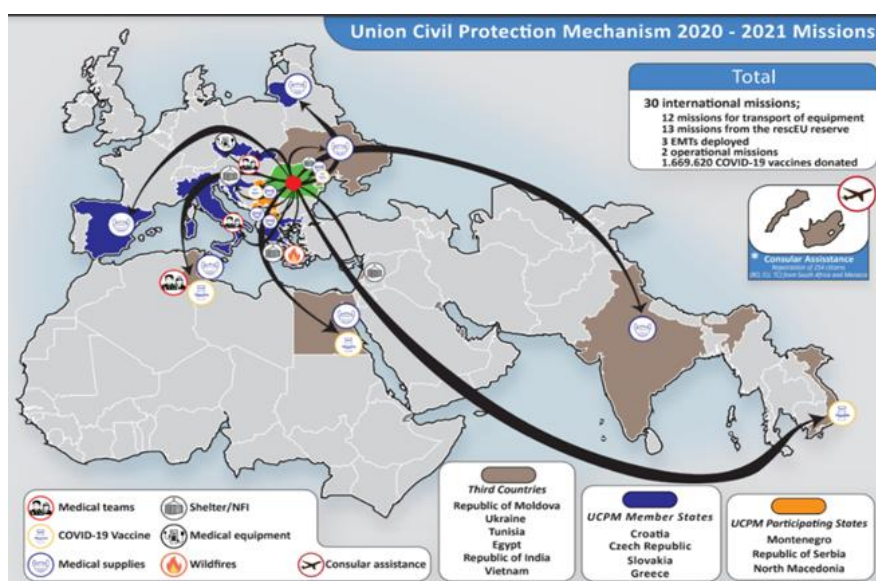


Figure 9. Romania UCPM deployments during 2020-2021 Covid 19 pandemic (DSU activity report 2022).

The COVID-19 pandemic was not only a test for national health systems, but also a valuable lesson on the role of cross-border collaboration and integrated response mechanisms. Romania has managed to consolidate its position as a reliable partner in the management of health crises, both through the support it has received and the help it has offered to other countries, reaffirming its commitment to international solidarity and European cooperation in emergencies.

Romania's involvement in humanitarian assistance in the Middle East. The escalation of the crisis in the Middle East since October 2023 has brought with it an unprecedented deterioration in the humanitarian situation of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. Romania was among the first countries to denounce the brutal terrorist attacks on the one hand but at the same time expressed solidarity and the importance of securing the protection of all civilians at all times, in accordance with international humanitarian law. In this context, starting from end of October 2023 and during whole 2024, Romania renewed its commitment to international solidarity by contributing to humanitarian assistance missions to the population affected by the conflict in the Middle East. Thus, the support was articulated on 3 pillars: food and basic goods, providing specialized medical care in medical facilities in Romania or other EU member states for Palestinian children and support to neighboring countries treating patients from the Gaza Strip.

Humanitarian support consisting of food and shelter materials was initially channeled through the air bridge established through the European Humanitarian Response Capacity (<https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu>) over 230 tons were delivered by the end of 2023. Then, with the establishment of the maritime corridor and the logistics hub organized in Cyprus, Romania was again at the first line in terms of humanitarian support, being involved in the first shipment organized in May 2024 (<https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu>) and in the last one at the end of 2024. Last but not least, it also supported neighboring countries such as the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan with medical equipment and materials, necessary for the sanitary activity of the Jordanian Field Hospital in Gaza Strip.

A distinct action line focused on specialized medical assistance. Starting in September 2024, Romania executed four operations for the medically-assisted transport of patients from conflict-affected regions in the Gaza Strip (Sharon 2024). A total of 86 pediatric patients, along with 216 companions were successfully evacuated from Gaza via Israel to receive appropriate medical care in a secure setting (Romania, Norway, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and Albania (<https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu>)). This mission revealed Romania's capacity for rapid and effective response to humanitarian emergencies, thereby providing protection the most people in need. Additionally, in October 2024, Romania deployed a new international support mission to assist the civilian population in the Republic of Lebanon. This included both delivering humanitarian aid and facilitating the evacuation of Romanian citizens in distress. The intervention once again demonstrated Romania's commitment to protecting its citizens and supporting international efforts to stabilize the region.

Conclusions. An in-depth analysis of the involvement of the Romania's civil protection, in international assistance missions reveals a remarkable transformation in the way the DSU has strengthened its operational capacities, becoming a key player in the field at EU and international level. From its initial modest presence in isolated support missions, the Romanian Civil Protection has built up a robust portfolio of operations, based on the professionalization of its structures, the diversification of its operational units and the integration into a European rapid response network. This development has been backed both by internal efforts to modernize equipment and further qualify staff, and by the constant support of the European Union, which has provided financial, logistical and technical expertise. The UCPM has been an essential platform for this development, allowing Romania to use funds to adapt intervention modules, participate in large-scale international exercises and improve its operational procedures by sharing best practices with other Member States. Through this rapid transformation in a relatively short time, the

DSU has demonstrated an exceptional capacity to mobilize in the face of diverse disasters, from forest fires in Greece, to devastating earthquakes in Albania and Türkiye, to supporting humanitarian efforts in armed conflicts, such as in Ukraine and the Middle East. The flexibility and rapid reaction capacity of the Romanian authorities proved essential in building the confidence of international partners and validating their status as a reliable security provider.

Another fundamental aspect that has contributed to strengthening the international profile of the DSU in the field of civil protection is the development of specialized modules integrated into the ECPP, such as the Urban Search and Rescue teams, Emergency Medical Units, CBRN decontamination and monitoring or Flood Response capabilities. In addition, the hosting of rescEU reserves on the national territory demonstrates Romania's long-term commitment to reinforcing European disaster resilience. In addition, the synergies created between the DSU and other competent risk management authorities such as the Ministry of Defence, the National State Reserve, the Ministry of Health, civil society and many others, have enabled the effective management of complex crises, including pandemics, armed conflicts and natural disasters. The ability to rapidly mobilize resources, both human and material, highlighted the viability of the national integrated emergency management system and demonstrated the value of an integrated approach.

Before closing, it is appropriate to highlight that the source of the data on which this study was conducted is based on very few postings on the official websites of the Romanian Government, DSU, IGSU, or the ministries with responsibilities within the SNMSU. As a rule, these postings emphasize missions carried out quantitatively. Even this weak indicator, in conjunction with the number of press statements and data available at the European Commission level, was the trigger for determining the key role played by Romania in the field of civil protection at the international level. Consequently, simply the existence of fragmented 'pieces of a puzzle' dispersed throughout, along with the absence of a comprehensive overview of Romania's endeavors in this domain, alongside the generally low interest of researchers in this field, served as an important push to uncover an area in which Romania excels. Finally, the authors' expertise in the subject, the scarcity of current studies, and the inherent complexity of providing or receiving international assistance were compelling justifications for the value of this research. In conclusion, Romania's progress in international assistance through civil protection is a clear demonstration of its progress, professionalism and commitment to European and global solidarity. The continuation of this effort requires not only maintaining the current development trajectory, but also a long-term strategic vision aimed at ensuring that Romania remains an essential partner in disaster management and the protection of vulnerable communities at international level.

Conflict of interest. The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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International assistance offered by Romania between 1999 and 2024
(data collection and compilation from open sources - web pages or social media - the
Romanian Government, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Department for Emergency Situations
and General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations)

<i>Crt. no.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Type of assistance</i>	<i>Emergency</i>	<i>Year</i>
1.	Türkiye	Search and rescue team	Earthquake	1999
2.	Türkiye	Search and rescue team	Earthquake	1999
3.	Morocco	In- kind	Earthquake	2004
4.	Bulgaria	In-kind (anti-pollution materials)	Danube pollution	2006
5.	Hungary	In-kind (flood protection)	Floods	2006
6.	Greece	Aerial forest fire-fighting	Fires	2007
7.	Hungary	In-kind – (flood protection)	Floods Red Sludge	2010
8.	Moldova	In-kind - flood protection materials & rescue teams	Floods	2010
9.	Libya	Consular - air evacuation	Conflict	2011
10.	Türkiye	In-kind (Van earthquake)	Earthquake	2011
11.	Bulgaria	In-kind – (flood protection)	Floods	2012
12.	Serbia Bosnia and Herzegovina	In-kind & pumping teams	Floods	2014
13.	Slovenia	Electric generators (blizzard, ice)	Extreme weather conditions	2014
14.	Serbia	In-kind	Migration flows	2015
15.	West Africa	In kind (Ebola)	Health crisis	2016
16.	Macedonia	In kind - flood protection materials	Floods	2016
17.	Greece	Aerial Fire-fighting	Fires	2018
18.	Albania	USAR & in - kind	Earthquake	2019
19.	Greece	In kind	Migration flows	2020
20.	Italy	Medical team (ICU) Covid19	Health crisis	2020
21.	Italy	Personal protective equipment from the Romanian rescEU medical stockpile	Health crisis	2020
22.	Republic of Moldova	Medical team (ICU) Covid19	Health crisis	2020
23.	Spain	Personal protective equipment from the Romanian rescEU medical stockpile	Health crisis	2020
24.	North Macedonia Montenegro	Personal protective equipment from the Romanian rescEU medical stockpile	Health crisis	2020
25.	Lithuania	Personal protective equipment from the Romanian rescEU medical stockpile	Health crisis	2020
26.	Czech Republic	Ventilators from the RO rescEU medical stockpile	Health crisis	2020
27.	Serbia Montenegro	Personal protective equipment from the RO rescEU medical stockpile	Health crisis	2020
28.	North Macedonia	Personal protective equipment from the Romanian rescEU medical stockpile	Health crisis	2020
29.	Lebanon	In kind (Lebanon explosion)	Technological disaster	2020
30.	Croatia	In -kind shelter	Earthquake	2020
31.	Republic of Moldova	Personal protective equipment from the Romanian rescEU medical stockpile	Health crisis	2021
32.	Slovakia	ICU medical team Covid 19	Health crisis	2021
33.	Republic of Moldova	In-kind Covid 19 Vaccine doses	Health crisis	2021
34.	Republic of Moldova	In-kind Covid 19 Vaccine doses	Health crisis	2021
35.	North Macedonia and Montenegro	Personal protective equipment from the Romanian rescEU medical stockpile	Health crisis	2021

<i>Crt. no.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Type of assistance</i>	<i>Emergency</i>	<i>Year</i>
36.	Serbia	In-kind Covid 19 Vaccine doses	Health crisis	2021
37.	Republic of Moldova	In-kind Covid 19 Vaccine doses	Health crisis	2021
38.	India	In-kind medical equipment	Health crisis	2021
39.	Republic of Moldova	In-kind Covid 19 Vaccine doses	Health crisis	2021
40.	Ukraine	Personal protective equipment (masks, coveralls, disposable gloves)	Health crisis	2021
41.	Republic of Moldova	In-kind Covid 19 Vaccine doses	Health crisis	2021
42.	Ukraine	In-kind Covid 19 Vaccine doses	Health crisis	2021
43.	Republic of Moldova	In-kind Covid 19 Vaccine doses	Health crisis	2021
44.	Greece	Ground Forest firefighting forces with vehicle	Fires	2021
45.	Greece	Ground Forest firefighting forces with vehicle	Fires	2021
46.	Tunisia	ICU medical team & Covid 19 Vaccine doses	Health crisis	2021
47.	Vietnam	In-kind Covid 19 Vaccine doses	Health crisis	2021
48.	Egypt	In-kind Covid 19 Vaccine doses	Health crisis	2021
49.	Republic of Moldova	In-kind Covid 19 -tests	Health crisis	2021
50.	Ukraine	In kind (shelter & gas)	Conflict	2022
51.	Republic of Moldova	In kind – energy crises (fuel)	Conflict	2022
52.	Ukraine	In kind (Food and fuel)	Conflict	2022
53.	Republic of Moldova	Transportation of refugees	Conflict	2022
54.	Republic of Moldova	Injured patients' transportation	Conflict	2022
55.	Ukraine	rescEU medical stockpile - EU Logistic HUB	Conflict	2022
56.	Slovenia	Aerial fire-fighting equipment at the UCPM	Conflict	2022
57.	Republic of Moldova	In kind – medical items	Conflict	2022
58.	France	Forest Fire Fighting with Specialized Vehicles (GFFF-V)	Fires	2022
59.	Greece	Forest Fire Fighting with Specialized Vehicles (GFFF-V) pre-positioning pilot program	Fires	2022
60.	Republic of Moldova	Transportation of NATO medical supplies	Health crises	2022
61.	Ukraine	rescEU shelter stockpile generators donation	Conflict	2022
62.	Türkiye	2 x MUSAR	Earthquake	2023
63.	Syria	Shelter tents/modules from the RO-SHELT rescEU shelter stock hosted by Romania	Earthquake	2023
64.	Türkiye	Shelter tents/modules from the RO-SHELT rescEU shelter stock hosted by Romania	Earthquake	2023
65.	Syria	In kind (food& NFI)	Earthquake	2023
66.	Türkiye	Logistical equipment from the RO-SHELT rescEU shelter reserve hosted by Romania	Earthquake	2023
67.	Greece	Forest Fire Fighting with Specialized Vehicles (GFFF-V) pre-positioning pilot program	Fires	2023
68.	France	Forest Fire Fighting with Specialized Vehicles (GFFF-V) pre-positioning pilot program	Fires	2023
69.	Greece	Ground forest firefighting intervention team	Fires	2023
70.	Greece	Ground forest firefighting intervention team	Fires	2023
71.	Jordan	In kind for Gaza refugee	Conflict	2024
72.	Ukraine	Experts - European Civil Protection Team	CBRN	2024

<i>Crt. no.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Type of assistance</i>	<i>Emergency</i>	<i>Year</i>
73.	Gaza Strip	Food and NFI (via Cyprus)	Conflict	2024
74.	Gaza Strip	Evacuation of injured persons	Conflict	2024
75.	Republic of Lebanon	In kind - food products and NFI	Conflict	2024
76.	Chile	Expert in European Civil Protection Team International support mission for rapid response to forest fires in the framework of the pilot pre-positioning program of the MCPMU	Fires	2024
77.	France		Fires	2024
78.	North Macedonia	Aerial forest fighting	Fires	2024
79.	Albania	Aerial forest fighting	Fires	2024
80.	Greece	Ground forest fighters with vehicle / pre- positioning program	Fires	2024
81.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	In -kind	Landslides	2024