

CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS
AND DEFENCE RIGHTS
IN ROMANIA

This leaflet covers:

- Information about FTI
- Definitions of key legal terms
- Criminal proceedings and defence rights in Romania
- Useful links

This booklet was last updated
in February 2015

About Fair Trials International

Since 1992 Fair Trial International has worked for the better protection of fair trial rights and defended the rights of people facing criminal charges in a country other than their own. Our vision is a world where every person's right to a fair trial is respected, whatever their nationality, wherever they are accused.

Fair Trials International was established to help people arrested outside their own country to defend their right to a fair trial. Every year we help hundreds of people and their families to navigate a foreign legal system by offering practical advice, including contacts of local lawyers, guidance on key issues encountered by people arrested abroad, and basic information on different legal systems and local sources of support. As a charity, we do not charge for any of the assistance that we provide.

We believe that respect for fundamental rights and the rule of law are the hallmarks of a just society and that the right to a fair trial is at the heart of this. Sadly too many shocking cases of injustice demonstrate how, time and again, this most basic human right is being abused. We fight against injustice by lobbying for the legal reforms needed to ensure that the right to a fair trial is respected in practice. Working with our clients and international networks, we also campaign for changes to criminal justice laws which are being abused and overused.

To find out more about how FTI can assist you, please contact our legal team (contact details on the back cover).

Fair Trials International is a registered charity (No 1134586) and is registered with limited liability in England and Wales (No 7135273). We are a non-governmental organisation; as such, we are a wholly separate and independent organisation from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

If you require this leaflet in large print, please contact us at the address on the back cover.

DEFINITIONS OF KEY LEGAL TERMS

Appeal (*apel*): An opportunity to dispute a decision made at trial (either on guilt or on sentence) by asking a higher court to review it. This can result in the decision being overturned or changed.

Bar Association (*Barou*): An organisation whose role is to represent lawyers and help people in their dealings with lawyers. There are 42 bar associations in Romania, one in each county, and one in Bucharest – all are members of the National Association of the Romanian Bars (*Uniunea Națională a Barourilor din România*).

Charge/Indictment (*inculpare/rechizitoriu*): A statement (in writing) accusing a person of carrying out an offence. Indictment is an official confirmation of charges which means that your case will go to trial. It is up to the prosecutor to decide whether or not to bring charges, or to take a case to trial.

Consulate (*consulatul*): The section of an embassy whose task is to assist its citizens.

Court of Appeal (*instanță de apel*): A court that is competent to hear appeals (i.e. challenges) made to decisions of the lower courts.

Court of First Instance: A lower court where a trial is initially heard. In Romania, it is usually the *judecătorie* or the *tribunal* that functions as the court of first instance.

Embassy (*ambasada*): The office of a government official who resides in a foreign country and represents his/her government's interests.

European Court of Human Rights (*Curtea Europeană a Drepturilor Omului*): The Court is based in Strasbourg, France, and hears human rights cases against the 47 countries which make up the Council of Europe (which is different from the European Union).

File (*dosar*): name given to your case or case file by your lawyer.

Judgment (*Sentință* at first instance court / *Decizie* at appeal court): A decision on a case delivered by the court.

Judge (*judecator*): A person with authority to hear and decide on cases in a court of law.

Lawyer (*avocat*): A person whose profession is to give legal advice and assistance to clients and represent them in court or in other legal matters. Qualified lawyers in Romania must be a member of one of the 42 bar associations, which are members of the National Association of Romanian Bars.

Legal Aid (*ajutor public judiciar*): Financial assistance provided to a person who needs a lawyer and who cannot afford to pay for one. In Romania, the term 'legal aid' is applicable only to civil matters.

Public Defender (*avocat din oficiu*): A lawyer who is appointed by a bar association, upon the request of the

police/the prosecutor/the court to assist individuals who do not have a lawyer, and are facing criminal charges. In cases where legal assistance is mandatory, a public defender is appointed irrespective of the financial means of the individual.

Offence (*infracțiune*): the legal classification of the crime that you have been accused of.

Pre-trial Detention (*arestare preventivă*): Detention in police custody or in prison during the investigations (and often during the trial itself as well) before the first instance decision of the court on the charges against the suspect.

Public Prosecutor (*procuror*): A person who conducts a case against a person who is accused of a crime.

Remand (*reținere*): The act of sending a person, accused of a crime, into police custody for up to 24 hours.

Sentence (*pedeapsă*): The punishment assigned to a person convicted of a crime as fixed by a court of law.

Victim is known as '*victimă*' in Romanian.

Warrant (*mandat*): A document issued by a legal or government official authorising the police to make an arrest, search premises, or carry out some other action relating to the administration of justice.

Witness is known as *martor* in Romanian.

INFORMATION ON CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS AND DEFENCE RIGHTS IN ROMANIA

We have prepared these notes with the assistance of local criminal lawyers, who tried to describe how things happen in practice, i.e. in the real world. Even within one country, however, practice can vary greatly from one place to another, and it is therefore possible that your experience will sometimes differ from the descriptions below. This document does not constitute legal advice and only provides general information. If you need advice in relation to your specific case, or if you are concerned about a possible violation of your rights, you should discuss this with your local lawyer.

1. LEGAL SYSTEM

Q1. Where do the laws of Romania apply?

The laws on criminal procedure covered here apply to the entirety of Romania. Romanian criminal law more broadly can, in certain cases, also apply to acts committed by Romanians abroad, and acts committed against Romania by foreigners.

2. ARREST AND INVESTIGATION

If you are apprehended by the police, you could be held for an initial period of 24 hours (*conducere administrativă*), after which you could be placed on remand (*reținere*) for another 24 hours by the prosecutor. If the prosecutor wishes to detain you for

7

Fair Trials International – February 2015

This note is intended to be for information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Take local legal advice on your specific situation.

longer, you need to be produced before the court, which will decide whether or not to hold you on 'preventative arrest' (*arestare preventivă*).

I. What are my rights upon arrest?

(a) Right to information:

Q2. Will the police inform me of my rights? Will this be done orally or in writing?

The police should inform you on your rights, in writing, and your signature will be required to confirm this. The fact that you were informed on your rights will be mentioned in writing in a document that you will be requested to sign.

Q3. Do I have a right to be informed of the allegations/ charges against me?

You have the right to be informed as soon as is practicable, in a language you understand, of the reason for your arrest, and the allegations against you. The fact that you were informed on the allegations/charges against you will be mentioned in writing in a document that you will be requested to sign.

(b) Right to inform people:

Q4. Do I have a right to have the consulate informed of my detention?

If you are not a Romanian citizen, you have the right to inform your embassy or consulate as soon as you are

detained. This right could be denied if there are strong reasons to do so, and your right to have your consulate notified could be delayed for a maximum of 4 hours in exceptional cases.

Q5. Do I have a right to inform my family of my detention?

You have the right to inform a member of your family or another person of your choice, or to ask the police to inform that you have been detained by the police. You may be denied this right only on serious grounds. In exceptional cases, your right to contact your family could be delayed for a maximum of 4 hours.

If you are later taken to court and the judge authorises your arrest, the judge can contact your family to inform them of your arrest.

Q6. Do I have a right to a lawyer?

Once apprehended, you have the immediate right to appoint a lawyer of your choice or to be assisted by a public defender (*avocat din oficiu*). The police/prosecutor has to inform you of your right to a lawyer before you give any statement. You have the right to inform your chosen lawyer or to ask that your lawyer is informed of your arrest.

Q7. Do I have a right to a translator/interpreter?

Once arrested, you have the right to an authorised interpreter, free of charge. Usually, an interpreter will be present when you are informed of the accusations against you, and you are interviewed.

You also have the right for an interpreter free of charge to facilitate communication with your lawyer.

Q8. Do I have to talk to the police or can I remain silent during police interrogation? Will it work against me if I am silent?

You have the right to remain silent throughout the criminal investigation. The authorities have to inform you on your right to remain silent, that there will be no negative consequences for your silence, and that anything you do say can be used against you.

This is still a stage when the prosecution is gathering evidence, so it is an opportunity for you to present evidence in your defence. If you agree to make a statement, you will be allowed to first declare everything you think is relevant without being asked any questions.

However, when deciding whether or not to talk to the police, you should always seek the advice of your lawyer. If you have not seen a lawyer, it is generally advisable not to talk to the police.

Q9. When will I know about the case against me?

You and/or your lawyer have the right to consult the entire case file, which contains all the evidence both against you, and in your favour.

During criminal investigations, the prosecutor can limit this right, but s/he has to give reasons for his/her decision. Once charges have been brought against you,

10

this restriction cannot last more than 10 days. Your lawyer is entitled to see your statements in the file regardless of these restrictions.

After examining the evidence, you have the right to make requests for new evidence or additional statements. The investigator has the duty to examine these and choose whether to place them before the court in the case file. If new evidence is admitted, or the charges against you are changed, you must be informed.

If the evidence against you still stands after this process, the prosecutor will then issue an indictment, which means that you will be charged for the crime. Shortly after this you will receive your trial date.

Q10. How long can I be kept in prison before my trial starts?

If the prosecutor requests your detention before your trial, you should be brought immediately before a judge who will decide whether or not you should be subject to 'preventative arrest'. If the judge orders your arrest, you have the right to challenge the decision within 48 hours. The appeal should be heard within 5 days after you file it.

You can only be kept in detention initially for up to 30 days. However, this can be extended by a judge, at the request of the prosecutor, for an additional 30 days at a time. The total period in detention before the closing of criminal investigations should not exceed 180 days.

Generally, pre-trial detention (before the first instance court has delivered its verdict on your case) can last up to the equivalent of half the maximum sentence for the alleged offence, but no more than 5 years.

3. LEGAL REPRESENTATION

For general information on why and how to appoint a local lawyer, please refer to FTI's "Arrested in Another Country?" leaflet.

Q11. How do I find a lawyer?

You can hire a lawyer for yourself at any time after you are apprehended by the police.

Registered lawyers can be found in the Lawyers' Yearly Register (*Tabloul anual al avocailor definitivi si stagiari cu drept de exercitare a profesiei*), which can be found on the web-site of the of the National Association of the Romanian Bars. You can hire any lawyer registered in Romania – your lawyer does not need to be registered with the bar association of the region where you are facing trial.

If you are not a Romanian citizen, your embassy of consular representative may be able to help you find a local lawyer that speaks your language.

Q12. What is the role of my lawyer? Will s/he investigate the case?

The lawyer's role is to assist and represent you during your criminal proceedings (criminal investigation and/or

12

trial). His/her role is to defend you, but not to investigate the case.

Q13. I cannot afford to pay for a private lawyer, what should I do?

Legal assistance is mandatory if you are a minor, if you are detained, or if the police/prosecutor believes that you are not able to represent yourself. During trial, legal assistance is mandatory for crimes punishable with life imprisonment or with imprisonment exceeding 5 years.

If the police/prosecutor/court finds that legal assistance is mandatory in your case, you will be appointed a lawyer from the list of public defenders provided by the Bar Association, and not one of your choosing. In no case you will have to pay back the costs of the legal representation provided to you by a public defendant.

There is no legal aid available in criminal matters for criminal suspects who do not qualify for mandatory legal assistance. As a matter of practice, if you do not have a lawyer, a public defendant will be appointed.

You are free to hire a private lawyer of your choosing anytime during the proceedings, even if a public defendant was previously appointed.

Q14. I am unhappy with my lawyer, how can I change my lawyer? How can I complain against my lawyer?

If you are not satisfied with your public defender you may formally request to change him/her (in writing), although there is no formal procedure in this respect.

13

Fair Trials International – February 2015

This note is intended to be for information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Take local legal advice on your specific situation.

Any complaints against your lawyer, including if they are privately-appointed, should be made to the regional bar association with which they are registered. You can get their information from the National Association of the Romanian Bars.

4. PRE-TRIAL MATTERS

4.1 Pre-trial matters: detention

The information given below is specific to Romania. For general information and tips about how to obtain your release prior to your trial, please refer to our specific note on “Release pending trial”.

Q15. Will I have to stay in prison until my trial starts? Are there alternatives to detention pending trial?

There are less restrictive alternatives to detention pending trial – house arrest, ‘*controlul judiciar*’ (‘judicial control’, which means that you will be released pending trial), and judicial control under bail (*controlul judiciar pe cautiune*).

If you have been arrested, you have the right to request the revocation of your arrest. If your request is approved, you will be released from prison, and you will be placed under house arrest, judicial control under bail, or judicial control.

You may have travel restrictions placed on you by the court, you may have to attend any court hearings to do

14

with your case, and you may be required to sign in at a police station at specified times.

There are further conditions that the court may decide to impose. These can include:

- Having to wear an electronic tag;
- Not attending certain sports or cultural events/visiting certain public places;
- Not approaching or communicating with the victim, his/her family, or anyone else associated with the investigation;
- Not driving; and/or
- Not working (if you committed the offence in the course of your work).

If you were placed under judicial control under bail, you will have to deposit money with the court as a form of security. The minimum amount is 1,000 Romanian Leu; there is no maximum.

Q17. How and when can I apply for release while waiting for trial?

You can ask for the revocation of your arrest anytime while waiting for trial.

Q18. Can I go back to my home country while on bail?

You may be able to return to your home country if you have been released, so long as you are not subject to any conditions that prevent you from doing so. You may need to return to Romania for any court hearings, and

you may also need to inform either the prosecutor or the judge that you are leaving the country.

Q19. What will happen if I breach the conditions of my release?

You could be put under house arrest, or be detained, and you will lose any bail money you have deposited.

Q20. Do I need a lawyer to apply for release?

If you are detained, you are required to have a lawyer. However, that does not necessarily mean that you cannot request to be placed under judicial control yourself.

4.2 Pre-trial matters: timing

Q21. How long before my case goes to trial?

Most criminal trials end within six to twelve months, but in certain cases, it could take between 1 to 3 years for your case to reach trial.

Q22. There are always delays with my case. Does that mean my lawyer is doing a bad job?

Delays in the Romanian criminal justice system are sadly not uncommon, and can be caused by a number of different factors. You cannot assume that your lawyer is doing a bad job on your case, just because it is taking a long time for your case to reach trial.

You have the right to complain if the trial is taking too long.

4.3. Pre-trial matters: pleading guilty

Q23. Can I plead guilty? What are the consequences of pleading guilty?

You can enter into a plea bargain with the prosecutor if the maximum sentence you face is under 7 years or a fine. Plea bargains may only be finalised with the assistance of your lawyer. The plea deal must be approved by the judge, and if it is approved, there will be no trial.

If you plead guilty directly to the court without coming to an agreement with the prosecutor, you will be tried, but the minimum and the maximum sentence you could face is reduced by a third (a quarter, for fines). For, example, if you plead guilty to charges for which by law, you face between 3 and 9 years' imprisonment, the judge can impose a sentence not lower than 2 years, and not more than 6 years.

5. THE TRIAL

Q24. What happens at the trial?

The prosecution will make the first statement in court. Your lawyer will then be called to speak, followed by the victim, the witnesses, and the experts. Witnesses will answer questions from the prosecutor, your lawyer, the victim and/or the judge. Depending on the complexity of your case, your main trial could last several days. Hearings do not usually take place in consecutive days, but rather once per month.

The court must hear you at the beginning of the trial and before the end. You have the right to question witnesses and to provide explanations. You also have the right to remain silent.

Q25. Do I have to be present?

Trials can take place in your absence. You will be represented by your lawyer during trial, and the court can order for you to appear in person, if necessary.

Q26. Can I ask for the trial to take place in my home country?

As a general rule, you cannot be tried in your home country, if the Romanian authorities have decided to try you in Romania. However, your hearing could be carried out by video-conference, if there is an agreement to this effect between Romania and your home country.

Q27. Is there a jury?

No, in Romania you can only be tried by a single judge (at first instance trials) or a panel of judges (for appeals).

Q28. Can my lawyer call and cross-examine witnesses?

Yes. Your lawyer can call and cross-examine witnesses.

Q29. I don't speak the language of the court; do I have a right to an interpreter? Is it free?

The trial will be heard in Romanian. If you do not understand Romanian, the court must appoint an interpreter to provide translation, free of charge.

Q30. Will the written evidence be translated for me?

There is no right to have all the evidence translated into your language for free, but you may be entitled to translation of some important written documents (for example, decisions ordering custody, and the verdict in your case).

Q31. Will the interpreter also help me if I need to talk to my lawyer?

You have the right for an interpreter free of charge to facilitate communication with your lawyer.

Q32. Why is the victim taking part in the trial?

The victim (*'persoana vatamata'*) is normally summoned to attend the trial, but if s/he does not attend, the trial will still go ahead. If the victim seeks compensation from you, s/he becomes a civil party (*'parte civila'*) to the proceedings.

The victim is entitled to have a lawyer appointed by the court, even if s/he does not seek compensation from you, and can make arguments in court.

Q33. Will I be informed of the decision of the court on the day of the trial?

After the judge declares the trial over, s/he will deliberate in the judge's chamber to decide on your sentence. The sentence will be delivered on the same day, or at a later date, but no longer than 15 days after the last hearing. In complex cases, there can be an additional postponement of no more than 15 days. You will be told when the judgment will be delivered at the last hearing, but you will not be summoned for the delivery of the sentence.

Your sentence will be read by the judge in a court hearing, and it should be delivered to you immediately in a language you understand. The full judgment will be written within 30 days from the date it was issued and will also be communicated to you. In practice however, it could be several months before you receive the full court decision in writing.

Q34. Can I receive a copy of the judgment in my mother tongue?

No. The full judgment will be in Romanian, but the summary of the judgment must be communicated to you in a language you understand.

Q35. I was tried in my absence and was not informed of this, what can I do?

You should speak to a local lawyer as soon as possible to find out whether it is possible to challenge your conviction. Re-trials are possible, but only under certain circumstances.

20

Fair Trials International – February 2015

This note is intended to be for information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Take local legal advice on your specific situation.

6. APPEALS

Q36. I am not happy with the decision. Can I appeal against it?

You can either appeal a decision on the facts (arguing that the facts proving your guilt were inaccurate), or the law (e.g. arguing that the incorrect legal procedure was followed). You can appeal against your sentence and/or the civil damages awarded to the victim.

Q37. How do I appeal?

The appeal can be declared in writing after the hearing. The general time limit for submitting your appeal is 10 days from the date you received the summary of your sentence. You must file the appeal with the court which delivered you sentence. If you are in prison, you can file the appeal with the prison administration and they will forward it to the court.

Q38. Do I need to pay my lawyer more money if there is an appeal?

If you are paying for your lawyer, you should be aware that the fees you agreed previously might not cover the appeal proceedings.

Q39. What is the time frame within which the appeal should take place?

The appeal process is, at times, very slow and it can take a full year for your appeal hearing to take place. If

the appeal procedures take more than 6 months, you can complain about duration of the procedures.

Q40. Could things get worse during the appeal?

If you lose your appeal, your original conviction and sentence will stand. You cannot get a harsher sentence in your own appeal.

If the court allows your appeal, this does not necessarily mean that you will be released. The court may retry your case, or send it back to a lower court. If this happens, you could be reconvicted and resentenced.

Q41. If I am not convicted, can the prosecution appeal?

Yes. If you have been acquitted, it is not unusual for the prosecution to appeal against this.

7. PRISON CONDITIONS

Q43. Do I have rights as a prisoner? Where can I find out about my rights?

As a prisoner you have basic rights, including the right to food and water, the right to healthcare, the right to see your lawyer, and the right to be protected from bullying, violence and racial harassment. Your lawyer should be able to provide you with more information.

In practice, these rights are not always respected.

Q44. What can I do if my rights are violated? Where can I get assistance regarding my abuse and mistreatment and other welfare issues?

Any allegations of mistreatment in prison should be discussed with your lawyer, who may be able to advise you on the complaints process. If your rights have been violated, you can make a complaint to the delegate judge supervising your prison or, if you were a victim of a crime, to the prosecutor.

Your complaint could also be made to the Romanian Ombudsman and/or independent bodies who deal with complaints about violation of individuals' rights by public authorities. However such bodies will not have the power to take binding decisions against the authorities.

8. POST-TRIAL MATTERS

Q46. Can I get my sentence reduced?

You can appeal against your sentence, and/or apply for release, but you cannot get your sentence reduced by other means.

Q47. What would help me get an early release?

Once you have completed two thirds of your sentence, you can apply for '*liberare conditionata*' ('early conditional release'). This is a very bureaucratic process and takes into consideration a number of different factors, including the findings of reports on your

23

character, behavior, and physical and mental health, and your written application.

Early release is not a legal entitlement. Even if you are eligible, the prison commission for release and/or the court may refuse your application.

Q48. I have been sentenced to pay a fine, what will happen if I don't pay it?

You have to pay the fine within 3 months from the date of your conviction. If you do not have the means to pay the fine, the court supervising the enforcement of the conviction may allow you to pay it in instalments over 2 years, or order you to community work instead of paying the fine.

If you do not agree to the alternative forms of punishment, you will serve equivalent time in prison.

Q49. Can I ask for a transfer to my home country?

Yes, you can ask for a transfer if Romania and your home country have an agreement that enables such transfers to take place.

For further information, please refer to our note of advice on 'Prisoner Transfers'.

Q50. I have exhausted all legal remedies, is it possible to get my case reviewed?

Under certain circumstances, it may be possible to lodge an appeal, even after your initial appeal has been refused. You should contact a lawyer as soon as

24

possible after the appeal, as usually the right to challenge judgments is subject to very strict deadlines.

If certain conditions are met, it is also possible to get your conviction reviewed at any time after you have been sentenced.

Q51. I have exhausted all legal remedies; can I apply for a pardon?

Applications for individual pardons can be made to the President of Romania. This can be a long process, and in practice are granted only very rarely.

Q52. Can I be expelled instead of serving my sentence?

You can only be expelled after serving your sentence, if the sentencing court decides to order your deportation.

Q53. Is there a risk that I will be deported after serving my sentence?

If you are not a Romanian citizen, the court convicting you can also apply order your expulsion from Romania for a period of 1 to 5 years after you have served your sentence. This will be ordered only if there is no risk of torture for you in your country of origin.

USEFUL LINKS

ORGANISATION	MANDATE	CONTACT DETAILS
LAW GOVERNING BODIES		
<p>National Association of Romanian Bars</p> <p><i>(Uniunea Națională a Barourilor din România)</i></p>	<p>The National Association of Romanian Bars (UNBR) is the central governing body for lawyers in Romania.</p> <p>Each county in Romania has its own bar association. The contact details of the local bar associations can be found on the website http://unbr.ro/ro/unbr/barouri-membre/</p> <p><u>Languages:</u> Website available in Romanian and English</p>	<p>Website: http://unbr.ro/ro/</p> <p>T: +40 (0)21 3134875 / 3160739 / 3160740</p> <p>Palatul de Justiție, Splaiul Independenței nr. 5, Sector 5, Bucharest 50091</p>
OMBUDSMEN		
<p>The Romanian Ombudsman</p> <p><i>(Avocatul Poporului)</i></p>	<p>The Ombudsman has the authority to intervene in cases where public authorities or agencies have infringed the rights of individuals. They are entirely independent of government. You can make a complaint regardless of the fact that you are arrested or in prison.</p> <p>Complaints must be made within 12 months of the incident complained about.</p> <p><u>Languages:</u> Romanian</p>	<p>Website: www.avp.ro</p> <p>T: +40 (0)21 312 71 34 F: +40 (0)21 312 49 21</p> <p>Avocatul Poporului Eugeniu Carada 3 Sector 3 Bucharest 71204</p> <p>Also has local offices in 14 regional centres (Alba Iulia, Bacău, Brașov, Constanța, Cluj-Napoca, Craiova, Galați, Iași, Oradea, Pitești, Ploiești,</p>

ORGANISATION	MANDATE	CONTACT DETAILS
		Suceava, Târgu-Mureş and Timișoara).
NGOs		
HUMAN RIGHTS		
<p>Association for the Defence of Human Rights in Romania – The Helsinki Committee (APADOR-CH)</p> <p><i>(Asociația pentru Apărarea Drepturilor Omului în România – Comitetul Helsinki)</i></p>	<p>APADOR-CH is a non-governmental organisation that aims to raise the level or awareness of and respect for human rights and the rule of law in Romania and in neighbouring countries.</p> <p>APADOR-CH also monitors the conditions of detention facilities, such as prisons and police stations, and carries out fact finding missions in cases where violations of the right to liberty and the freedom from torture have been alleged.</p> <p><u>Languages:</u> Romanian and English</p>	<p>Website: www.apador.org</p> <p>E: office@apador.org</p> <p>T: +40 (0)21 312 45 28 F: +40 (0)21 312 37 11</p> <p>APADOR-CH 8A Nicolae Tonitza Street Sector 3 – Bucharest 030113</p>
<p>Criminal Justice Reform (RJP)</p> <p><i>(Reforma Justiției Penale)</i></p>	<p>RJP aims to improve the conditions of detention and promote constructive community sanctions, by promoting international human rights standards. RJP is a part of Penal Reform International.</p> <p>This is primarily a campaigns group however they may be able to give you useful information on the local laws.</p> <p><u>Languages:</u> Romanian</p>	<p>Website: penalreform.ro</p> <p>E: secretariat@penalreform.ro</p> <p>T: +40 (0)722 626 925 F: +40 (0)21 316 1505</p> <p>Str. Cupolei nr. 5, bl. 2B, sc. B, ap. 55, parter, sector 6 , Bucharest</p>

This leaflet was last updated in February 2015. The information contained in this document is provided for information purposes only and is not intended as legal advice, nor does it constitute legal advice. Whilst we endeavour to keep the information up to date and correct, Fair Trials International makes no representations or warranties of any kind, express or implied about the completeness, accuracy, reliability, suitability or applicability to individual cases of the information contained in this leaflet. Any reliance you place on such material is therefore strictly at your own risk. Fair Trials International disclaims any liability to the fullest extent permissible by law for any loss or damage of any kind arising from the use of the information provided. You should always seek professional legal advice from a lawyer qualified to practice in the jurisdiction you are in.

If you think that an important question is not covered in this fact sheet, please let us know.

FAIR TRIALS

Vision: A world where every person's right to a fair trial is respected.

THANK YOU

Fair Trials International would like to thank the law firms and individual practitioners, including **Diana-Olivia Hatneanu (Cabinet de Avocat Hatneanu Diana-Olivia, Bucharest)**, who have generously given their time and expertise to help produce these legal guidance notes.

Fair Trials is grateful to all of its funders, including:



Co-funded by the European Union

For a full list of our funders see
www.fairtrials.org/get-involved/supporters/

Fair Trials
Temple Chambers
3/7 Temple Avenue
London EC4Y 0HP
United Kingdom

T: +44 (0)20 7822 2370
F: +44 (0)20 7822 2371
casework@fairtrials.net
www.fairtrials.org

LON18648467/10

30

Fair Trials International – February 2015

This note is intended to be for information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Take local legal advice on your specific situation.