

CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE ROLE OF THE POLICE IN ROMANIA, IN THE CONTEXT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

UDC 351.74(498)

342.9(498)

Maria Albu

Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, University of Alba Iulia, Romania

ORCID iD: Maria Albu

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1363-6262>

Abstract. *At present, against the backdrop of military conflicts taking place in different parts of the world, security has become one of the main concerns and demands of citizens, both on a personal level and in the public sphere. As one of these armed conflicts is currently underway in the vicinity of Romania, there is an intense need to strengthen state security, safety and the role of state authorities. At the international level, the interest in security refers not only to armed conflicts but also to the devastating events such as mass movements of migrants and refugees, famines, pandemics, drugs, organized crime and terrorism. In this context, the role of public authorities in Romania is essential and the activity of the police within the administrative authorities is vital.*

Key words: *police, administrative authorities, good governance, security, Romania.*

1. INTRODUCTION

In a democratic and progressive state, security is a factor that contributes to social well-being and quality of life. In Romania, the transition from the authoritarian state to the democratic state caused an evolution of the concept of security. Its current meaning is not only concerned with guaranteeing public order as an expression of the strength and supremacy of state power. The new concept of security implies the fight against crime and demand for a conducive and adequate environment for peaceful coexistence, particularly given that we currently witness several active war conflicts between different states in different parts of the world, including an ongoing conflict between states neighboring Romania.

In such circumstances, the police have the primary role in terms of ensuring citizen security. The legitimacy and effectiveness of the police, acting as agents of the state, are essential for the promotion of security, justice and human rights in democratic societies.

Received September 17th, 2024/Accepted September 30th, 2024

Corresponding author: Maria Albu, PhD, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law and Social Sciences “1 Decembrie 1918”, University of Alba Iulia, Romania; email: maria.albu@uab.ro; maria_ureche@yahoo.com

Yet, security goes far beyond protection against violence and the use of public force. It presupposes a comprehensive protection of the person against the threats and vulnerabilities of one's personal and public environment.

2. THE ROLE OF THE POLICE IN ENSURING PUBLIC ORDER AND PEACE

The importance of the police is justified by the dual function of this state authority which exercises an indispensable function of public administration, and serves as an instrument of social intervention that influences the main forms of relationship between the state and society (Părean, 2010:140). The primary objectives of the public office assigned to the police are to defend the rights and legitimate interests of citizens and the community, to ensure public order and tranquility, citizens' safety and security, and to prevent and combat crime.¹ Police officers must enforce laws and protect citizens and their property from danger and criminal acts, but this huge task entails considerable challenges.

Another factor affecting public insecurity is inadequate provision for the basic human needs. Currently, the main shortcomings are related to poverty, inequality and lack of opportunities. Aggressive conduct is a common human response to the frustrated needs. In a society where dissatisfaction of basic human needs prevails, human conduct increasingly deviates from social standards and legal norms, and engenders criminal behavior. In a state governed by the rule of law, the judiciary is in charge of administering justice but the primary functions of the police are law enforcement and control of public order, crime prevention and investigation, direct and immediate contact and daily relations with citizens, etc.

In any legal state governed by the rule of law, the police perform a wide range of functions and activities in the matter of public order and tranquility.² In every government, the strategies and methods of deploying the police as the law enforcement authority have a direct impact on the citizens' security, either positive or negative. Therefore, security must be perceived from the perspective of guaranteed human rights, i.e. as a vital minimum of specific measures aimed at ensuring citizens' security.

In the course of human history, the term "security" has evolved and undergone multiple transformations. In line with different historical events, it has had diverse forms: public security, social security, legal security, human security, and citizen security. The first term that appeared was *public security*, understood as a set of actions aimed at ensuring public order, integrity and people's property. The term *legal security* was provided as a judicial guarantee in relation to insecurity and the obligation of the state to satisfy the citizens' needs (Voicu, Ungureanu, 2008:90). The current approach to public order and peace refers to human development as a new dimension of *human security*, which places human beings at the core of development and which is correlated with factors such as human rights, health, environment, democracy, food safety, etc. It also includes access to the basic necessities for life, protection of the individual against crime and terrorism, social harm, political corruption, mass migration, efforts to ensure political, economic and democratic

¹ Article 26 §§ 1-3 of the Act on the Organization and Operation of the Romanian Police 218/2002, amended (LEGE nr. 218 din 23 aprilie 2002 privind organizarea și funcționarea Poliției Române), <https://www.global-regulation.com/translation/romania/3073129/law-no.-218-of-23-april-2002-on-the-organisation-and-functioning-of-the-romanian-police.html>

² See the tasks and activities (Art. 26) and rights and duties (Art. 31-41) in the Act on the Organization and Operation of the Romanian Police 218/2002

development, environmental sustainability and efforts to control and reduce pollution. In this way, human security is integrated into the traditional concept of security, with a broad vision that aims to guarantee people a safe and dignified life, without fear. Thus, human well-being has become the primary objective of human security, alongside the respective treatments associated with the use of public force, maintenance of law and public order, and eradication of violence and insecurity.

Public order is one of the cornerstones of the equal approach to observing and respecting human rights. Public order emphasizes social order, through actions that tend to guarantee public peace, by preventing and repressing crimes against the public order. In turn, *citizen security* is positioned as the central object of state protection, both in terms of protecting individual human rights and in terms of ensuring a peaceful environment. Citizen security presupposes a social situation in which all people, as members of society, freely enjoy their fundamental rights and freedoms. On the other hand, this type of security presupposes the state's ability to guarantee the full exercise of these rights and to respond to the effects caused by them (Tudorașcu, 2017: 96).

3. PROTECTION OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

Human rights are linked to the history of humanity. Since ancient times, human beings have struggled to have access to better forms of life, respect for their dignity and fundamental rights and freedoms. In the current context, human rights contribute to good governance, including in public administration. Human rights, together with appropriate regulations and public ethics, have a positive and direct impact on good governance (Corciu, Baloi, 2006: 60).

The definition of human rights refers to a set of prerogatives, principles and values attributed to the human being, which are inherent to human beings and essential for safeguarding their dignity and ensuring their full development within an organized society. Respecting human rights means entail a human-centered approach of any state or private activity, and focusing actions on the protection and safeguarding human dignity, understood as the very essence of human beings.

In terms of their characteristics, human rights are universal because they are the heritage of all human beings; they are inherent and imprescriptible because they cannot be lost or taken away over time; they are inalienable because they cannot be voluntarily abandoned; they are undeniable because they cannot be denied, voided or transferred to another subject; they are indivisible because they form a corpus of equally important (political, economic, civil, social and cultural) rights which enjoy equal protection, and there is no hierarchy among them.³ As such, they must be recognized and respected by public power or authority and must be guaranteed by the positive legal order. Thus, respecting human rights means placing the human being at the core of any state or private activity. It also means focusing actions on the protection and safeguarding of human dignity, understood as the essential value of humanity.

Security must be understood as a human right, while insecurity implies a risk situation for people and their assets. From a generic perspective, security is a right which is aimed at ensuring the full and free exercise of all other fundamental rights. The human right to

³ Human rights are those faculties and prerogatives inherent in the human person, which correspond to him by his very nature, essential to ensure his full development within an organized society, which must be recognized and respected by public power or authority and must be guaranteed by the positive legal order.

security protects the integrity of people, i.e. a set of physical, mental and moral conditions that allow human beings to exist. In this context, the International Human Rights Law and its various normative instruments refer to the obligation of states to guarantee the personal safety and security of individuals.⁴ The right to security is directly related to other fundamental rights, such as the right to life, personal integrity, personal freedom and security, judicial protection and procedural guarantees, confidentiality, honor, freedom of expression, assembly and association, the right to participate in matters of public interest, the right to peaceful use and enjoyment of property and, as a result of all of the above, the right to personal dignity.

According to the Romanian Constitution (1991)⁵, the protection of the vital minimum of personal safety and security constitutes an obligation for all state agents within the scope of their powers; thus, all public authorities or officials have the duty to protect, respect and guarantee human rights and individual freedom and security (Art. 23 of the Constitution). In line with this obligation, police officers must fulfill their responsibilities and ensure the dignity of individuals, even in cases involving the limitation of some fundamental freedoms or rights, in accordance with the principles of necessity and proportionality (Vedinas, 2017:88).

Therefore, human rights must be the common ground that enables all nations to move in the right direction towards peace and development. In Romania, there is a permanent attempt to reduce the gap between the regulations and the reality in which we live, between the Government and society, and to develop common strategies to promote a change of culture in the field of human rights.

In terms of the role and functions of the police, three essential aspects must be kept in mind: the police must always respect people's dignity; police officers also have human rights; and security will only be achieved to the extent that citizens respect and cooperate with police officers. All these aspects are important, particularly considering that as we have become accustomed to observing police powers and activities in relation to the fundamental human rights and freedoms from a negative perspective, assuming that the normative regulation of police powers exclusively entails a limitation of individual rights and freedoms.

4. THE ROLE OF THE POLICE IN COMBATING CRIME

There is a widespread perception that the inhabitants of a state, a region, a city or a village are equally endangered and affected by criminal activities. The reality shows that this is not entirely true; namely, due to specific variations (space, time, age, income and others), the stratification of crimes, different actors and different outcomes affect citizens differently; however, it does not change the fact that there are widespread forms of crime which affect all citizens equally, regardless of whether they are low-impact, mid-impact or high-impact crimes (Neata, Pruteanu, 2013:109).

High-impact crimes would be related to organized crime, corruption, bank robberies, kidnappings and others, whose economic impact is very strong although the number of affected people is smaller, or the impact is so diluted that a large part of the population

⁴ For example, under Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR, 1948), "Every human being has the right to life, liberty and security of person" (Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UN General Assembly, Paris, 10 December 1948); <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

⁵ The Constitution of Romania, adopted on 21 October 1991 and amended in 2003; https://www.cdep.ro/pls/dic/site.page?den=act2_2&par1=2

feels the impact directly (e.g. in case of corruption). Low-impact crimes have a lower economic impact (e.g. robberies, assaults, car thefts, burglaries) but they affect a significant number of people. Mid-impact crimes have an intermediate impact on the population.⁶ Undoubtedly, the perception of insecurity is largely associated with low-impact crimes, which affect a considerable percentage of citizens. Low-impact crimes commonly entail spatial patterns (i.e. they are committed in city centers, markets, vacant lots, dark/dangerous places, bank exits) and temporal patterns (late at night, at dawn). This type of crime requires greater police presence on the street, basic police intelligence, a close relationship and cooperation between the police and the community. There is a need for quantitative resources, which are not always available but may contribute to reducing the perception of insecurity among citizens.

The police image among the citizens is directly related to the problem of performance, which is associated with the gap that appears between the increase in crime and the ability of the police to deal with it. The greater this gap (in terms of police results, detained offenders, etc.), the greater the citizens' doubt and distrust towards the institutional capacity of the police (Voicu, Ungureanu, 2008:103). The citizens' perception of police performance significantly depends on the concrete results. Citizens are not interested in knowing whether the increase in crime is associated with the pace of urbanization, the loss of values, the lack of opportunities, or the accelerated growth of unemployment. Citizens want to know that they will be safe at home, in the neighborhood, city or village, and that they are not at risk of being robbed, assaulted, raped, injured or killed. Citizens do not want to know whether their safety depends on the public police or the local police, nor are they interested in the mutual cooperation between the police and the prosecutor or the judge. Citizens want to know that a police officer will guarantee the citizens' safety, act professionally and treat them with respect. On the other hand, the Romanian citizens know that police officers in Romania are well-paid and are well-protected by a series of legal acts. Under the law, policemen enjoy special benefits, such as early retirement (at the age of 50) and generous pension amounts when compared to other pensioners (who retire at the age of 65 or after 40 years of employment). Thus, considering the great benefits they receive when compared to the vast majority of people, Romanian citizens have high expectations for the police officers: to protect ordinary people and ensure their safety and security. At the end of December 2023, considering the announced legislative changes that were particularly aimed at increasing the retirement age in Romania, there was a huge number of registered requests for retirement filed by police officers who met the legal conditions and wanted to retire. As a result, in 2024, police schools in Romania have organized admission competitions aimed at ensuring a sufficient number of police officers.

Regardless of what the citizens think, the state leaders are responsible for adopting rational measures that guarantee the security of the people, without resorting to radical actions that emphasize repression, disregard prevention, threaten the guaranteed individual rights and violate international conventions. Although the victims of crime and their relatives may expect the most severe punishment for the perpetrators, the rule of law establishes specific procedures for apprehending, investigating, prosecuting and punishing the suspected offender who allegedly committed a crime. The public authorities cannot be irresponsible; they must think of the social and legal consequences that can be triggered by

⁶It should be noted that Romania is divided into regions which develop at a different pace. Thus, the types and degrees of committed crimes reflect the different degrees of development. In economically less developed regions, crime is based on factors related to poverty.

the adoption of strongly repressive measures. The authorities have to adopt measures that mediate between prevention and repression, the victim and the perpetrator, and the private and the general interest. It ultimately leads to overcoming legal insecurity and ensuring the rule of law.

Another problem is the citizens' misunderstanding of the public good and security as a public good. In Romanian culture, it is very common to assume that public property belongs to the government officials and public administration employees, including the police. It easily makes citizens unforgiving when evaluating the performance and results of the public authorities, including the police. Romanian citizens tend to believe that the police do not effectively fight crime, perhaps due to the lack of the human resources and proper logistic support to be on the scene in a timely manner and provide an effective service to the citizens. Romanian citizens also tend to believe that the entire police system should be modernized and that criminal prosecution, as one of the most important branches, should be strengthened (Grigore-Radulescu, 2014:158).

In Romania, police efficiency has improved especially in terms of the number, frequency and effectiveness of operations, but the citizens' public perception about the capacity of the police to effectively fight crime is generally negative. It should be highlighted that Romanian citizens believe that they are protected if they feel that the police look after them. It is commonly associated with the presence of the police at strategic points in the city or neighborhood, which entails a strategy of police presence that does not correspond to the lack of resources in the police or the priorities set by the government. They presuppose a great capacity of political leaders to combine the control of low-impact crimes with greater population sensitivity and the control of high-impact crime with less population sensitivity. It involves considerations related to the political will of the government, the economic and political power, the police image in the citizens' eyes, the country's image in the eyes of foreigners, investment opportunities, as well as the policy to fight crime.

The situation becomes increasingly complex if we consider the variety of crimes committed in different regions of Romania. In one region, the most common crimes may be robbery and assault; in other regions, most common crimes may be kidnapping, rape or homicide. It implies that a security policy must have specific strategies for different regions and for the different criminal strata, redistribute human and other resources accordingly, and introduce important changes in the police profile in line with the needs of each region, which also implies substantial changes in the education and training of police officers.

Today, there are views that the traditional role of the police, based on the suppression of crime and maintenance of law and order, must evolve into a new one, where the primary purpose of the police is to be a public service responsible for the quality of urban safety, in partnership with the civil society. There are numerous examples that illustrate the importance of radical change in the organization of the police, which projects an image of inefficiency, violence and corruption that undermines the legitimacy of the rule of law (Alexe, 2019:124). Even if they operate in a democratic context and fully observe human rights, police forces will always be responsible for maintaining law and order where necessary; they will target those who have committed crimes in order to bring them to justice; they will be tasked with combating organized crime at the national and the international level. Thus, the new role implies adding a new proactive dimension to the traditional functions of the police; it is related to the role of the police as a public service that works in partnership with the local community, civil society and citizens to prevent local problems of crime and insecurity, to

ensure crime prevention and solidarity in security management, while respecting democratic norms and ethical codes of professional conduct.⁷

It is necessary to define precisely the processes and mechanisms that can strengthen the association between local police forces and territorial collectivities in the long term, particularly in terms of prioritizing the approaches that should provide sustainable solutions to the problems of crime, violence and insecurity. It is not a matter of municipal political representatives intervening in the operations of the police force, but rather a matter of assuming the corresponding responsibilities of guidance and leadership in one of the most important aspects of urban development. Police forces can use these mechanisms to share their views on strategic crime-related issues and to gain support of civil authorities and the public for their actions. Hence, it is necessary to recognize the criminogenic and other factors, the possibility of detecting different types of crimes, the probability that an arrest will lead to the detecting other crimes, the impact of the offender-victim relationship, the relations between the police and citizens, etc.

It is increasingly recognized that investigative activity is not the exclusive concern of public authorities and police forces. In the public sector, the state police cooperate with various institutions that complement their activity (Ureche, 2011:129). In addition to the security forces and bodies of the local administrations, the list includes transnational and international agencies, security services, specialized agencies such as commissions in charge of specific crimes, customs directorates or specialized sections of other departments (e.g. dealing with social security fraud or crimes committed inside the penitentiary).⁸

Drug-related crimes which fall within the scope of organized crime are an extremely important but very delicate subject matter. The Romanian Police have always had a very important role in preventing and combating these types of criminal acts. Unfortunately, in recent years, Romania has seen an exponential increase in the number of people, especially young people, who consume psychoactive substances. In the last few years, according to the reports provided by the Directorate for the Investigation of Organized Crime and Terrorism (DIICOT)⁹, there has been a considerable increase in the consumption of cannabis, which was the most consumed drug in 2022 but, in 2023 and 2024, the consumption of drugs has diversified (ketamine, ecstasy, cocaine, LDS). Regarding the age of users of psychoactive substances, the 2023 DIICOT report shows that drugs start being used quite early by minors (11-14 years old) in lower secondary school (DIICOT, 2024:8)¹⁰, which may be compared to the 2020 DIICOT report which referred that minors started using drugs at the age of 16 (on average) while the average age of drug-abusers was 22-23 years of age (DIICOT,

⁷ The real challenge is to articulate and materialize an associative relationship (i.e. partnership) in a contractual way, with clearly defined responsibilities of the police and the civil society (especially in relations between the police and territorial collectivities) concerning the coordination and cooperation in handling daily problems. In this sense, police forces and local authorities have promoted numerous and diverse approaches, with the aim of establishing closer relations with the population, adapting their operative methods, and mobilizing social and economic actors around safety management and crime prevention.

⁸ Explaining the evolution of crime is difficult and complex; thus, authorities from different states, not just European ones, cooperate when needed and sometimes see these practices as possible models for the future.

⁹ Established in 2004, the Directorate for the Investigation of Organized Crime and Terrorism (DIICOT) is a law enforcement agency within the structure of the Ministry of Public Administration which specializes in combating and investigating organized crime, terrorism, cybercrime and drug trafficking (DIICOT, 2024; <https://www.diicot.ro/prezentare/scurt-istoric>).

¹⁰ DIICOT (2024) Direcția de Investigare a Infracțiunilor de criminalitate organizată și terorism: Raport de activitate 2023, București, Februarie 2024; https://www.diicot.ro/images/documents/rapoarte_activitate/raport2023.pdf

2020:6).¹¹ The statistical data on the year 2024 will be available for analysis during this year 2025.

It is clear that the consumption of illegal substances is closely related to drug-trafficking. Considering that the scale of this crime has increased and accelerated in Romania, the state authorities often seem powerless. While the subject matter of drugs seems to have been a taboo 10-15 years ago, nowadays we hear about a growing number of people who consume narcotics or are arrested for drug-trafficking. The Romanian police are well-equipped with drug testing equipment; thus, the number of alcohol tests and drug tests for those who drive vehicles on public roads is very high but a fairly large percentage of cases where these tests gave false positive results was also recorded in Romania. In July 2024, the anti-drug ordinance was amended; now, the result of the blood tests for suspected drug use must be performed and communicated within 72 hours, during which the driver's licence may be withheld; if this deadline is not observed, the driver receives his license back until the police receive official hospital communication on the blood result which either confirms or denies the result of the test with the anti-drug device (Europa Liberă, 2024).¹²

Mass media coverage of crime has increased a lot when compared to previous years. There is a growing number of cases to be resolved by multiple actions of the police in highly publicized cases. One example is the tragic event in August 2023; while driving a car under the influence of drugs, a young man killed 2 young men after crashing into a group of young people who were driving off the road, and injured other young people in that group. This tragedy brought the problem of drug use (abuse) in Romania to the Supreme Council of National Defense.¹³ The authorities have promised reforms but we are still far from what is desired in this regard. In June 2024, the Romanian Government passed an anti-drug ordinance¹⁴, which attempts to reduce the effects of drug abuse on traffic accidents by introducing drug-tests for drivers. The ordinance was subsequently amended because quick drug-tests (distributed by policemen in the streets) generated a large number of false positive results; second, given the fact that results of laboratory tests take time, there were complaints that it unjustly banned driving to those who were not drug users or whose results proved to be negative (Europa Liberă, 2024).

¹¹ DIICOT (2021) Direcția de Investigare a Infracțiunilor de criminalitate organizată și terorism: Raport de activitate 2023, București, Februarie 2022; https://www.diicot.ro/images/documents/rapoarte_activitate/raport2020.pdf

¹² Europa Liberă/Free Europe Romania (2024).Ordonanța antidrog, modificată. Permisul auto poate fi reținut maxim 72 de ore pentru suspiciune de consum de droguri (The anti-drug ordinance, amended. The driver's license can be withheld for a maximum of 72 hours for suspected drug use), by A.Adrelean, 11 June 2024; <https://romania.europalibera.org/a/antidrog-ordonanta-retinere-permis/33030768.html>

¹³ According to the Romanian Constitution, the Supreme Council of National Defense is an autonomous administrative authority vested with the authority to organize and coordinate (in a unitary manner) the activities related to the country's defense and national security (Art. 119). The activity of the Supreme Council of National Defense is subject to parliamentary examination and verification (Art. 65). Annually, no later than the first quarter of the following year, as well as at the request of the permanent specialized committees of the Parliament or whenever it is deemed necessary, the Supreme Council of National Defense is obliged to present reports on the activity in the joint meeting of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate

¹⁴ Ordonanța de urgență nr. 84/2024 pentru modificarea și completarea unor acte normative în scopul creșterii siguranței rutiere (Emergency ordinance no. 84/2024 for the modification and completion of some normative acts in order to increase road safety), *Monitorul Oficial*, P. I nr. 610, 29 iunie 2024; https://lege5.ro/Gratuit/ge2tgmruji2dc/ordonanta-de-urgenta-nr-84-2024-pentru-modificarea-si-completarea-unor-acte-normative-in-scopul-cresterii-siguranței-rutiere#google_vignette

5. CONCLUSIONS

Policing is aimed at limiting individual behavior which may be harmful for other citizens and the society as a whole. This subject matter is regulated in the way that can best contribute to a good governance and collective coexistence. The state is entitled to establish rules and coercive measures designed to maintain order and security. The state can legitimately resort to the use of force to maintain the established order, drawing on the formal apparatus of social control, of which the police force is only a small part.

In exercising the vested powers, the police are obliged to protect and guarantee life in society and equality in exercising the fundamental human rights, as well as the observance of imposed obligations and limitations. In Romania, the reference to the police as a specific body and not only as a law enforcement body entails a group of civil servants who are entrusted with part of the general police activity.

Police officers have the authority to enforce the enacted legal provisions and the capacity to exercise police powers, acting in compliance with the law. The police activity of the public authorities and, therefore, the actions of the agents of the authority that constitute the police forces are aimed at maintaining public order. The primary objective of the police is to protect the law and the norms enacted by the legally constituted bodies in the community. In a modern democratic state, the pursuit of social balance and common welfare is the very justification for the existence of the police. This involves resolving problems in conflict situations and preventing or referring them to other administrative bodies, as appropriate. A police officer can make decisions that affect extremely important areas of human life, such as freedom of movement, interference in the most intimate and private human domain, physical coercion and, in extreme cases, even life itself.

A policeman is an agent of the public authority, which means that all his/her actions are considered to be a simple execution of the orders of that public authority. In Romania, a policeman is hardly recognized as having the professional ability to apply a particular body of knowledge in resolving any problems that he/she may encounter when performing his/her professional activities. The possibilities of using negotiation or mediation, planning strategies and objectives, and their actual application in resolving the problem at hand are almost non-existent.

REFERENCES

- Alexe, I. (2019). Influențe europene asupra procesului de transformare a poliștului român din militar în funcționar public cu statut special (European influences on the process of transforming the Romanian policeman from the military into a civil servant with a special status), in: Bălan E., Iftene C., Văcăreanu M., Troanță D., Varia G. (eds), *Transformări ale administrației și dreptului public în spațiul național și european după anul 1989* (Transformations of administration and public law in the national and European space after 1989), Wolters Kluwer, Bucharest.
- Corciu E., Baloi, A.M. (2006). *Instituții de cooperare polițienească - noțiuni introductive* (Institutions of police cooperation - introductory concepts), MAI publishing house, Bucharest.
- Grigore-Radulescu, M-I. (2014). *Atribuțiile Poliției Române* (the Romanian Police Attributions) Universul Juridic (publishing house), Bucharest.
- Neata, E., Pruteanu, M. (2013). *Elemente de tactica polițienească și proceduri operationale privind intervenția structurilor de ordine și siguranța publică* (Elements of police tactics and operational procedures regarding public order interventions and safety structures), Hamangiu Publishing house, Bucharest.
- Șerb, S. (2007). *Drept polițienesc*, (Police law), Alma Mater (publishing house), Sibiu.
- Șuteu, N. G., Părean, I. (2010). *Teorie și tactică polițienească* (Police theory and tactics), Salgo Publishing house, Bucharest.

- Tudorașcu, M. (2017). *etică și deontologie în administrația publică*, (Ethics and deontology in public administration), Risoprint Publishing house, Cluj Napoca.
- Ureche, M. (2011). *Autoritățile publice în dreptul statelor europene* (Public authorities under the law of European states), Altip Publishing house, Alba Iulia, Romania
- Voicu, C., Ungureanu, G. (2008). *Studii de criminologie și victimologie* (Criminology and victimology studies), Pro Universitaria (publishing house), Bucharest.
- Laurentiu Vedinas, I. (2017). *Statutul politistului local* (The status of the local policeman), Universul Juridic (publishing house), Bucharest.

Legislation

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UN General Assembly, Paris, 10 December 1948; <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>
- The Constitution of Romania (1991, rev. 2003); https://www.cdep.ro/pls/dic/site.page?den=act2_2&par1=2
- Law no. 218/2002 on the Organization and Operation of the Romanian Police (LEGE nr. 218 din 23 aprilie 2002 privind organizarea și funcționarea Poliției Române), subsequently amended; <https://www.global-regulation.com/translation/romania/3073129/law-no.-218-of-23-april-2002-on-the-organisation-and-functioning-of-the-romanian-police.html>
- Legea 360/2002 privind Statutul poliției (Law 360/2002 on the Statute of the Police), *Monitorul Oficial* nr. 440 din 24 iunie 2002; <https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/36819>
- Legea nr. 61/1991 pentru sancționarea faptelor de încălcare a unor norme de conviețuire socială, ordine publică și liniște (Law no. 61/1991 on the sanctioning of acts of violation of some norms of social coexistence, public order and tranquility) *Monitorul Oficial* nr. 125, 18 februarie 2020. <https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/125693>
- Legea nr. 60/1991 privind organizarea și desfășurarea sedintelor publice (Law no. 60/1991 regarding the organization and conduct of public meetings), *Monitorul Oficial* nr. 186, 14 martie 2014, <https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/1532>
- Legea nr. 333/2003 privind paza obiectivelor, bunurilor, valorilor și protecția persoanelor (Law no. 333/2003 regarding the protection of objectives, goods, values and the protection of persons), *Monitorul Oficial* nr. 189, 18 martie 2014; <https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/45134>
- Ordonanța de Urgență 57/2019 privind Codul Administrativ (Emergency Ordinance 57/2019 regarding the Administrative Code), *Monitorul Oficial* nr. 555, 5 iulie 2019; <https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/215925>
- Ordonanța de urgență nr. 84/2024 pentru modificarea și completarea unor acte normative în scopul creșterii siguranței rutiere (Emergency ordinance no. 84/2024 for the modification and completion of some normative acts in order to increase road safety), *Monitorul Oficial*, nr. 610, 29 iunie 2024; https://lege5.ro/Gratuit/ge2tgmruigi2dc/ordonanta-de-urgenta-nr-84-2024-pentru-modificarea-si-completarea-unor-acte-normative-in-scopul-cresterii-sigurantei-rutiere#google_vignette

Online Resources

- DIICOT (2024). The Directorate for the Investigation of Organized Crime and Terrorism, <https://www.diicot.ro/prezentare/scurt-istoric>
- DIICOT (2024). Direcția de Investigare a Infracțiunilor de criminalitate organizată și terorism: Raport 2023, București, Feb. 2024; https://www.diicot.ro/images/documents/rapoarte_activitate/raport2023.pdf
- DIICOT (2021). Direcția de Investigare a Infracțiunilor de criminalitate organizată și terorism: Raport 2023, București, Feb. 2022; https://www.diicot.ro/images/documents/rapoarte_activitate/raport2020.pdf
- Europa Liberă/Free Europe Romania (2024). Ordonanța antidrog, modificată. Permisul auto poate fi reținut maxim 72 de ore pentru suspiciune de consum de droguri (The anti-drug ordinance, amended. The driver's license can be withheld for a maximum of 72 hours for suspected drug use), by A.Adrelean, 11 June 2024; <https://romania.europalibera.org/a/antidrog-ordonanta-retinere-permis/33030768.html>

ULOGA RUMUNSKE POLICIJE U KONTEKSTU DOBRE UPRAVE

U uslovima vojnih sukoba koji se trenutno odvijaju u različitim delovima sveta, bezbednost predstavlja jedan od glavnih problema i zahteva građana, kako na ličnom tako na javnom planu. S obzirom da su u jedan od tih oružanih sukoba uključene i države sa kojima se Rumunija graniči, sve je veća potreba za jačanjem državne bezbednosti i državnih organa koji su odgovorni za bezbednost građana. Na međunarodnom planu, interesovanje za bezbednost podstaknuto je ne samo oružanim sukobima već i mnogim drugim dešavanjima koja imaju štetan uticaj na građane: masovna kretanjima migranata i izbeglica, glad, pandemije, narkotici, organizovani kriminal i terorizam. U tom kontekstu, uloga organa vlasti na terenu je od suštinskog značaja, dok je aktivnost policije u administrativnim organima od vitalnog značaja u Rumuniji.

Ključne reči: policija, organi uprave, dobra uprava, bezbednost, Rumunija.