

## Key Events

1977- Bucharest earthquake kills around 1,500 people.



1989- President Ceausescu and his wife Elena tried to flee from Romania but are caught and executed. National Salvation Front established, headed by former Ceausescu ally Ion Iliescu. Communism falls.



1996- Centre-right election victory sweeps aside former communists. Emil Constantinescu elected president, Victor Ciorbea becomes prime minister.

2004 **March** - Romania admitted to NATO.

2004 **November-December** - Centrist alliance leader Traian Basescu elected president.

2007 **January**- Romania and Bulgaria join the European Union, raising the EU membership to 27.

2012 **December** - Victor Ponta wins parliamentary elections.

2014 **November** - Conservative Klaus Iohannis beats Victor Ponta in presidential runoff election.

2015 **November** - Victor Ponta resigns as prime minister after months of scandal, culminating in mass street protests over lax safety regulations at a nightclub where 32 people died in a fire.

## Cultural and Social Aspects

## Economics

- Romania's economy is a free market economy. A free market economy is where the government has either a few regulations to buyers and sellers, or none at all.
- An advantage of a free market economy is that you have a lot more freedom in what you can sell and buy.
- Another advantage is that prices revolved around what people can afford. The freedom to do this makes this type of economy more appealing.
- Romania's economy went from communism based, to free economy. Romania decided on this type of economy when they adopted a new constitution in 1991.



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## ROMÂNIA



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MARCH 27TH, 2017  
5TH PERIOD

- The history of Romania's cultures was influenced by ancient Rome and conflicts that occurred in Romania.
- Traditions such as the bride having their hair styled into a braided elaborate style, the groom wearing a white leather vest, and the bride and groom asking their parents to "forgive them for leaving the family," were established through an even older tradition where "marriages were arranged by the couple's parents through a matchmaker."
- Another tradition on April 23 and November 29, is where people offer garlic to get rid of vampires. This tradition was established because Romanians believed souls sometimes refuse to leave the body; the spirit sticks around long after death, terrorizing innocent villagers.



- Foods such as grilled sausage, cabbage soup, lamb soup, and cabbage leaves stuffed with rice and meat are what people in Romania eat.
- Most of the Romanian population are Eastern Orthodox (85.4%).
- The culture in Romania is very traditional but has been modernized over time through westernization and cultural diffusion.

### Physical Structure

- Romania is 92,043 mi<sup>2</sup> large.
- Romania is practically split evenly between each geological feature. Approximately 1/3 of Romania is mountainous, 1/3 consists of hills and the other third consists of plains and tablelands.
- The population has increased steadily since 1970 and has decreased drastically within the last few decades. In 1970 the population was increasing by 1.18% and was at 20,549,016 people. At its highest point in 1990 the population was increasing by 0.33% and was at 23,489,361 people. Currently the population is decreasing by -0.7% and is at 19,237,513 people.
- The change is significant because the country's share in the world population has decreased tremendously from the highest percentage being 56% all the way down to 26%. The advantage is that the average age median has increased from 31 to 42.5 years.



- The change occurred because there have been a grave decrease in immigrants and births.

### Political Structure

- Klaus Iohannis is the current leader of Romania.
- Iohannis came into power by beating Victor Ponta in presidential runoff election.
- Romania is currently semi-presidential republic.

Since 1970, Romania has been

- Republic
- Semi-presidential
- Urinary State
- Dictator

#### Fun Facts

- Count Dracula was created by Bram Stoker where he was inspired by the Romanian prince Vlad Tepes, also known as Vlad the Impaler because he was known to impale his enemies and stand them along the roads.
- Romanian language is 1,700 years old.

### Number in Romanian

0	zero
1	unu
2	doi
3	trei
4	patru
5	cinci
6	sase
7	sapte
8	opt
9	noua

The scientist who discovered insulin was Nicolae Paulescu, a Romanian, who originally called it pancreine.





