

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS IN ROMANIA, 7 JUNE 2009

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Abstract: The European Parliament elections in Romania, 7 June 2009. The present study is an overview of the main problems regarding the European Parliament elections in Romania, which took place on 7 June 2009, at the European taking place between 4-7 June of the same year. As is natural in such an approach, considering the fact that Romania has joined the countries of the European Union with just a little while ago (1 January 2007), in the paper are tracked some aspects regarding the parliamentary elections of this organization, after which it is kept at a level quite detailed, the appropriate situation in Romania. Regarding the first issue, it is underlined, for the period 1979-2009 that the rate of participation in European elections, held every five years, has been reduced from 61.99 % in the year 1979 (with 9 Member States) to 43 % in 2009 (with 27 countries in the European Union), in other years the values being tracked by 58.98 % (1984, with the 10 Member States), 58.41 % (1989, 12 States), 56.67 % (1994, all 12 States), 49.51 % (1999, 15 States) and 45.47 % (2004, 25 Member States). Compared with averages, participation in elections has been well differentiated from one state to another, in the event of the year 2009, for example, the highest values were recorded in Belgium, Luxembourg, Malta, Italy, Ireland, Denmark, Cyprus, etc., and the most reduced (35 %) in the United Kingdom, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Romania and Poland (table 1). In connection with the basic issues of this analysis, the European Parliament elections in Romania respectively, is shown, in summary, the following: after joining the European Union the European parliamentary elections first took place on 15 November 2007, as a result being sent to the European Parliament a number of 35 members; the year 2009 was consistent with the conduct of elections in all the 27 States of the European Union, European parliamentary elections data quantification of Romania highlighting the fact that the total number of electors were 18.197.316, of which only 5.035.299 voters, representing 27,67 % of potential, the number of votes validly registered 4.840.033 (96,12 %), these votes were representing, in descending order, the seven political parties, Electoral Alliance SDP + CP (31.08 %), DLP (29.71 %), NLP (14,52 %), DUHR (8.92 %), GRP (8.66 %), NACDP (1.46 %), CF (0.40 %) and at two independent candidates, Elena Basescu (4.22 %) and Paul Abraham (1.03 %); the 33 EU parliamentaries has returned the first five political parties, their number being, in the order of the results obtained, 11, 10, 5, 3 and 3, that joins an independent candidate, Elena Basescu (EBa).

Key words: European parliamentary elections, June 2009, the European Parliament, Romania, counties, geographic-historical provinces

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INTRODUCTION

This study tries to highlight some of the more significant aspects of the European Parliament elections in Romania, events that have become necessary since the accession of our country in the European Union, which took place on 1 January 2007. To get to the analysis of this issue, first it should be underlined some general aspects in connection with the events that led to the formation and the current status of the European Union and its management institution, the European Parliament:

- following the consequences of the second World War, at the level of several European States it was felt the need for common action in respect of the establishment of institutions for economic development, the first of these being the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), which was based on a plan drawn up by Jean Monnet and Robert Schuman (Schuman Plan), presented on 9 May 1950, becoming reality with the Treaty of Paris signed by Belgium, France, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands on 23 July 1952, this ending its validity after exactly 50 years (23 July 2002);

- in that situation of the period in question, at European level the conditions were favouring further European economic integration, as a result of this, the six States of the ECSC have reached, in the framework of the Treaties of Rome, the establishment of the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom), signing taking place on 25 March 1957 and their entry into force on 1 January 1958¹;

- the date 1 July 1967 was consistent with the entry into force of the Treaty by the merger of the three European institutions previously established (ECSC, EEC and WHICH), with this occasion being constituted "... a single Council and a single Commission of the European Community, which together with the European Parliament and the Court of Justice of the EC (whose activity from establishing was concerning all three entities) have created a new institutional structure – European Community"²;

- the next step in the evolution of the analyzed institution, consisting of 10 States (Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United Kingdom and Greece), was the Treaty of Maastricht (negotiated in December 1991, signed on 7 February 1992 and entered into force, as a result of a longer ratification process, only on 1 November 1993), that "... is the instrument of establishment of the European Union. This was a first step towards to the adoption of a definitive EU Constitutions, which will subsequently replace all of the European treaties"³. In fact, on this occasion was shifted the designation of the European Community to the European Union;

- new socio-economic and political conditions at continental and global levels, including the extension of the European Union, required the adaptation of this institution to the needs of the relevant period, which is contained in the treaties of Amsterdam (adopted by the heads of State and Government of the EU on 16-17 July 1997, signed on 2 October 1997 and entered into force on 1 May

¹ http://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tratatul_de_la_Roma

² http://www.undp.md/border/scurt_istoric.html

³ http://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tratatul_de_la_Maastricht

1999), Nice (signed on 11 December 2000⁴) and Lisbon, signed on 13 December 2007 by the representatives of the 27 States of the European Union, the entry into force, scheduled for 1 January 2009 being postponed as a result of the negative referendums of several of the Member countries (France, Ireland and Netherlands);

- in connection with the dimensional development of this institution, it is stressed that it started its activity with only six States, Belgium, France, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and Netherlands (1952), after which the first geographical expansion took place only after 21 years with the accession of Denmark, Ireland and United Kingdom (1973), followed by that of Greece (1981), Spain and Portugal (1986), Austria, Sweden and Finland (1995), through these four waves of European integration, in 1995 the European Union was formed of 15 States. The period after the year 2000 was consistent with the achievement of new possibilities for enlargement of the European Union, thus the year 2004 was the accession of the most powerful wave (sixth), ten European countries, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Malta, Honduras, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. After only three years, at 1 January 2007, the EU has come to contain, through the accession of Bulgaria and Romania, a number of 27 countries, with a total area of 4.330.625 km² and a population around 495 mln. inhabitants (2006)⁵.

ESTABLISHMENT AND EVOLUTION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

In the period of establishment of the first economic organization at European level, that of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), "... it took place the first meeting of a Parliamentary Assembly, made up of 78 members of national parliaments"⁶ of the six states components of such community (10-13 September 1950). With the establishment of the other two organizations – and the EEC and ECAE – starting with with the treaties of Rome (which entered into force on 1 January 1958) - the General Assembly, comprising of 142 members now and with the passage of the designation of the European Parliament, came to lead and to respond to all three communities.

The European Parliament, together with the European Union Council and the European Commission, is one of the main three EU institutions, the first having the role of the representation of citizens of the EU, the second being the main body of the EU decident (establishes policies applicable at Community level), and the third is responsible for the implementation of the decisions of Parliament and the Council. In the composition of the Council of the European Union and the European Commission are in each case, a representative from the 27 national governments from the EU⁷.

With regard to the deputies composition of the European Parliament we have to say they were named till 1979 by the governments of the nione state composing the European Community (Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, United Kigdom, Denmark and Ireland); beginning with 1979 the deputies are appointed for the European Parliament by direct elections. The next elections for the institution analyzed, carried out at intervals of five

⁴ http://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tratatul_de_la_Nisa

⁵ Data concerning the accession to the European Union, may be different from one source to another, starting with Greece http://www.elections2009-results.eu/ro/turnout_ro.html, being referred to as source: TNS opinion in collaboration with the PES (p. 1)

⁶ http://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parlamentul_European

⁷ Făclia, independent newspaper of Cluj, 3 June 2009, p.6

years, have taken place then in the years 1984 (those 9 States plus Greece), 1989 (10 States plus Spain and Portugal), 1994 (12 Member States), 1999 (the 12 Member States plus Austria, Sweden and Finland), 2004 (the 15 Member States plus Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Slovakia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia and Malta, Honduras) and 2009 (the 25 Member States plus Bulgaria and Romania).

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS IN JUNE 2009

For the purpose of the analysis of these elections there are considered two significant components, i.e. some problems of the elections to the European Union level and then that of the European parliamentary elections in Romania.

SOME PROBLEMS OF THE ELECTIONS AT THE EUROPEAN UNION LEVEL

A first aspect worthy to be highlighted represents the dimensional evolution of the Parliament, the increasing number of parliamentarians, which took place in relation to the accession of new states to the European Union. In summary, it is mentioned that the first Chamber of the European institution was the Parliamentary Assembly of the ECSC, made up of 78 deputies (1950), after which, in 1958 as a result of establishment of the EEC and ECAE (ERURATOM), it has been reached, by the treaties of Rome, at constituting of the European Parliament, where was working a number of 142 members; the institution being composed from only six states (Belgium, France, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and Netherlands) has reached the designation of the European Community.

In the dimensional evolution of the Parliament, the threshold was the Treaty of Nice (signed on 11 December 2000), it was established that "... *the maximum number of European parliamentarians must be set at 732, with a minimum threshold of 5 and maximum of 99 members for each Member*"⁸. As a result of the accession to the European Union, in 2004, of 10 States and then, in 2007 the other two, the European Parliament has come to include 27 countries, a fact which has contributed to the increase in the number of members to 785, the distribution at the level of each states: Austria 18, Belgium, 24, Bulgaria 18, Czech Republic 24, Cyprus 6, Denmark 14, Estonia 6, Finland 14, France 78, Germany 99, Greece 24, Italy 78, Ireland 13, Latvia 9, Lithuania 13, Luxembourg 6, Malta 5, United Kingdom 78, Netherlands 27, Poland 54, Portugal 24, Romania 35, Slovenia 7, Slovakia 14, Spain 54, Sweden 19 and Hungary 24. Subsequently, in order to comply with the provisions of the Treaty of Nice, for the European Parliament elections in June 2009 were elected 736 deputies.

The European Parliament analyzed elections were held within 4-7 June 2009, in different days, from one situation to another. Thus, in 4 June went to vote, the British and Dutch, in 5 June the Irish people, and in 6 June the Cypriots, Slovaks, Letonians, the Maltese *people*, then two of the States have benefited, for this action from two days, the Czech Republic in 5-6 June and Italy in 6-7 June. The other 18 member countries of the European Union have exercised their right to vote in the June 7, 2009, in alphabetical order they are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Hungary.

⁸ http://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parlamentul_European (p.2)

The criterion for the allocation of seats in the Parliament "... is based on a degressive and proportional representation of the Member States. Thus, small states send members in EP more than they should, considering the strict population of the states concerned „ (idem).

On the basis of this fact, the 890 MEP elected on June 2009 originate in order of their number from Germany (99), France, Italy and United Kingdom (72 for each), Poland and Spain (50), Romania (33), Netherlands (25), Belgium, Czech Republic, Greece, Portugal and Hungary (22 for each state), Sweden (18), Austria and Bulgaria (17 for each state), Denmark, Finland and Slovakia (a number of 13), Ireland and Honduras (a number of 12), Latvia (8), Slovenia (7), Cyprus, Estonia and Luxembourg (a number of 6) and Malta (5 deputies) (table 1).

It should be also underlined the problem of public participation in the elections to the European Parliament, the EU members states average being 61.99 % in the year 1979 (9 countries), 58.98 % in 1984 (10 States), 58.41 % in 1989 (12 countries), 56.67 % in 1994 (all 12 States), 49.51 % in 1999 (15 countries), 45.47 % in 2003 (25 States in the European Union) and 43 % in 2009 (27 countries).

Table 1. The turnout and the number of MEPs at the June 2009 elections

Crt. no.	Countries	Turnout (%)	No. of seats	%
1	Luxembourg	90.75	6	0.82
2	Belgium	90.39	22	2.99
3	Malta	78.79	5	0.68
4	Italy	65.05	72	9.78
5	Denmark	59.54	13	1.77
6	Cyprus	59.40	6	0.82
7	Ireland	58.64	12	1.63
8	Latvia	53.70	8	1.09
9	Greece	52.61	22	2.99
10	Austria	45.97	17	2.31
11	Sweden	45.53	18	2.45
12	Spain	44.90	50	1.79
13	Estonia	43.90	6	0.82
14	Germany	43.30	99	13.45
15	France	40.63	72	9.78
16	Finland	40.30	13	1.77
17	Bulgaria	38.99	17	2.31
18	Portugal	36.78	22	2.99
19	Netherlands	36.75	25	3.40
20	Hungary	36.31	22	2.99
21	United Kingdom	34.70	72	9.78
22	Slovenia	28.33	7	0.95
23	Czech Republic	28.20	22	2.99
24	Romania	27.67	33	4.48
25	Poland	24.53	50	6.79
26	Lithuania	20.98	12	1.63
27	Slovakia	19.64	13	1.77
Total		43.00	736	100.00

Note. Presence of voting according to http://www.elections2009-results.eu/ro/turnout_ro.html, being mentioned, as a source: TNS opinion in collaboration with the EP

Of course, compared to the average value referred to, the presence of a vote at the state level was very different from one situation to another. Thus, in 1979, the maximum rate of participation in elections (91.36 %) was recorded in

Belgium, and the minimal (32.35 %) in the United Kingdom, this order continuing in the years 1984 and 1989, with little change of the two values (92.09 % and 32.57 %, 90,72 % and 36.37 %). In the following two elections of the Parliament, those from 1994 and 1999, Belgium retains its initial position, the maximum values for the two years being 90.66 % and 91.05 %, while the minimum presence, in the same time order, returned to Portugal (35.54 %) and the United Kingdom (24 %). In terms of the last two elections, 2004 (with 25 States in the European Union) and 2009 (27 countries), the first place belongs to Luxembourg (with participation in the vote of 91 35 %, and 90.75 %), and the last position returned to Slovakia (only 16.97 % in 2004 and 18.64 % in 2009)⁹.

As regards participation in the 2009 elections for the European Parliament, it was found that, compared to the average value of those 27-Member European Union (43 %), it was recorded a very wide spread, from 90.75 % (Luxembourg) until only 19,64 % (Slovakia), the general situation between these limits being the following: a state (Belgium) had a vote presence of over 90 % (it ranks, incidentally, in this position in all those seven years with the European parliamentary elections), following Malta (70-80 %), Italy (60-7 %), Estonia, Cyprus, Ireland, Latvia, Greece (50-60 %), Austria, Sweden, Spain, Estonia, Germany, France, Finland (40-50 %), Bulgaria, Portugal, Netherlands, Hungary, United Kingdom (30-40 %) and Slovenia, Czech Republic, Romania, Poland, Honduras (20-30 %) (table1).

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS IN ROMANIA

The entire set of issues with respect to the elections of the Romanian eurodeputies can be generalized by highlighting some of the general issues and then the voting and election results.

SEVERAL GENERAL ISSUES

As a result of relatively intense negotiations, Romania has reached the phase of signing on 25 April 2005, in Luxembourg, a Treaty of accession to the European Union, on this occasion the President of the European Parliament inviting the Romanian Parliament to appoint from its members 35 observers. The number mentioned has remained the same when Romania joined the European Union (1 January 2007), also as a result of the elections which took place on 15 November 2007, for the euro parliamentarians the situation remained the same until the elections of June 2009 when the representation of Romania in the European Parliament has been fixed at 33 MEPs.

The elections for the selection of the 33 of Romanian MEP, fixed and carried on 7 June 2009, included on the voting bulletins seven political parties: Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), the National Liberal Party (NLP), the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania (DUHR), the National Christian Democratic Party Remains (NACDP), Social Democratic Party, electoral Alliance + Conservative Party (SHE SDP + CP), Greater Romania Party (GRP) and Civic Force (CF) and two independent candidates: Elena Basescu (EBa) and Paul Abraham (PA).

For covering the entire electorate in voting, composed of 18.197.316 voters, there have been established within the territory of Romania 18127 polling stations, and for the Romanians abroad were offered 190 polling stations.

⁹ [http://www.elections2009- results.eu/ro/turnout_ro.html](http://www.elections2009-results.eu/ro/turnout_ro.html)

PARTICIPATION IN THE VOTE, THE RESULT OF THE ELECTIONS AND TERRITORIAL DISTRIBUTION

a. Participation in voting

The participation of voters for the election of the 33 Romanian members in the European Parliament (7 June 2009) shows that the participation rate was just 27.67 % (5.035.299 persons, from the total of 18.197.316 voters on lists), the value positioning Romania on the place of 24 in the 27 States of the European Union, on the following three places being Poland (24.53 %), Honduras (20.98 %) and Slovakia (64 %) 19 (table 1).

Versus the national average to participate in the vote which was 27.67 % (5.035.299 people of the total of 18,197,316 voters), the highest values were recorded in the counties of Teleorman (49.40 %), Giurgiu (41.77, Olt (41 %).11 %), Harghita (49.91 %), etc., and the most reduced in Bucharest (15.92 %) and Sibiu counties (21.18 %), Romania (21.65 %), Brăila (22.14 %), Iasi (22.30 %), Ialomița (22.31 %), Timiș (22.66 %), Tulcea (22.87 %) etc. Concerning the people voting participation, it is to be noticed the fact that four of the counties of Romania have registered a presence of over 40 % in the vote, after which 15 of them have registered values of 30-40 %, 22 counties between 20 %-30 %, and in one case it was below 20 % (Bucharest).

As for the six sectors of Bucharest Municipality, the presence of the vote was, except for the sector 1 (21.14 %), under 20 %, in the situation of the Sector 3 it was achieved the most modest participation (13.96 %) of the 42 territorial-administrative units of Romania. Also it can be mentioned that 19 of the counties of Romania had a rate of participation in voting, over the national average (27.67 %), and the other 22 and the municipality of Bucharest were situated below this value (table 2).

Table 2. Presence of voting and results of the European Parliament elections in Romania, on 7 June 2009, on the parties and counties
(Data source: Adevărul, 9 June 2009, p. 4)

Crt. no.	Counties	Turnout (%)	Place 1		Place 2		Place 3	
			Parties	%	Parties	%	Parties	%
0	1		3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Teleorman	49.40	SDP+CP	51.68	DLP	22.27	NLP	18.91
2	Giurgiu	41.77	DLP	39.80	SDP+CP	27.20	NLP	22.50
3	Olt	41.11	SDP+CP	47.07	DLP	31.62	NLP	11.40
4	Harghita	40.91	DUHR	89.40	SDP+CP	3.40	DLP	2.30
5	Dâmbovița	39.25	SDP+CP	43.01	DLP	36.23	GRP	7.58
6	Ilfov	39.15	DLP	40.32	NLP	23.91	SDP+CP	21.03
7	Sălaj	38.15	DUHR	29.55	SDP+CP	25.34	DLP	23.93
8	Mehedinți	37.25	SDP+CP	37.80	DLP	35.60	NLP	15.08
9	Covasna	36.06	DUHR	82.00	SDP+CP	6.19	DLP	4.47
10	Bihor	33.17	DUHR	27.53	DLP	23.66	NLP	18.65
11	Bistrița-Năsăud	32.94	DLP	37.02	SDP+CP	34.86	NLP	9.46
12	Mureș	32.14	DUHR	49.31	SDP+CP	15.73	DLP	13.22
13	Vâlcea	31.25	SDP+CP	39.56	DLP	25.56	NLP	19.52
14	Gorj	31.00	SDP+CP	34.26	DLP	30.55	NLP	14.49
15	Botoșani	30.75	DLP	33.40	SDP+CP	32.63	NLP	18.45
16	Satu Mare	30.75	DUHR	39.64	SDP+CP	20.61	DLP	19.82
17	Neamț	30.44	DLP	41.91	SDP+CP	32.00	GRP	6.64
18	Vrancea	30.29	SDP+CP	48.17	DLP	21.30	NLP	15.57
19	Alba	30.04	DLP	44.45	SDP+CP	22.35	NLP	14.36

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20	Caraş-Severin	27.80	DLP	35.26	SDP+CP	29.86	NLP	17.24
21	Dolj	28.66	SDP+CP	39.40	DLP	36.56	NLP	10.36
22	Buzău	28.57	DLP	33.30	SDP+CP	31.91	NLP	19.97
23	Argeş	26.48	SDP+CP	41.42	DLP	26.00	GRP	16.66
24	Călăraşi	28.05	DLP	31.14	SDP+CP	27.71	NLP	20.87
25	Galaţi	26.99	SDP+CP	42.44	DLP	26.95	NLP	17.39
26	Hunedoara	26.14	SDP+CP	28.56	DLP	21.73	NLP	21.19
27	Arad	26.05	DLP	40.96	SDP+CP	21.09	NLP	12.33
28	Cluj	25.78	DLP	31.01	DUHR	22.51	SDP+CP	19.82
29	Vaslui	25.48	SDP+CP	47.55	DLP	20.98	NLP	16.72
30	Prahova	25.38	DLP	36.77	SDP+CP	24.59	NLP	16.38
31	Suceava	24.61	DLP	39.50	SDP+CP	28.81	NLP	10.99
32	Braşov	24.45	DLP	33.33	SDP+CP	22.61	NLP	19.53
33	Bacău	24.16	SDP+CP	31.82	DLP	29.15	NLP	20.90
34	Maramureş	23.63	DLP	29.51	SDP+CP	25.24	NLP	16.51
35	Tulcea	22.87	DLP	39.14	SDP+CP	28.75	NLP	14.42
36	Timiş	22.66	DLP	38.30	SDP+CP	27.00	NLP	13.41
37	Ialomiţa	22.31	SDP+CP	44.80	DLP	28.46	NLP	11.31
38	Iaşi	22.30	SDP+CP	37.63	DLP	25.20	NLP	17.41
39	Brăila	22.14	SDP+CP	40.95	DLP	24.32	GRP	13.19
40	Constanţa	21.65	SDP+CP	31.42	DLP	28.94	NLP	14.76
41	Sibiu	21.18	DLP	33.93	SDP+CP	32.06	NLP	13.03
42	Bucureşti	15.92	SDP+CP	28.36	DLP	28.04	NLP	17.16
1	Sectorul 1	21.14	DLP	28.28	SDP+CP	26.49	NLP	23.79
2	Sectorul 5	17.70	SDP+CP	38.55	DLP	22.16	GRP	18.05
3	Sectorul 2	16.62	DLP	30.63	SDP+CP	25.14	GRP	16.77
4	Sectorul 6	15.46	DLP	28.70	SDP+CP	26.27	NLP	17.00
5	Sectorul 4	15.37	SDP+CP	29.94	DLP	28.61	GRP	16.42
6	Sectorul 3	13.96	DLP	30.61	SDP+CP	23.90	NLP	18.68

Note: SDP + CP = Electoral Alliance Social Democratic Party + Conservative Party; DLP = Democratic Liberal Party; NLP = National Liberal Party; DUHR = Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania; GRP = Greater Romania Party.

Regarding the voting participation of the Romanians from abroad, it was found that it was particularly a reduced presence, to the 190 polling stations, voting only 14,330 Romanians, in which the valid votes were 96.1 % (13,769 votes), at the countries level, the votes granted, according to the data supplied by the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, being 2,070 in Italy, in Spain 1,100, 1,400 in Republic of Moldova, etc.

b. The election results and territorial distribution

As previously mentioned, for the European parliamentary elections in Romania there were organized 18317 polling stations, on election entering a number of seven political parties: National Liberal Party, Democratic Union of Hungarians of Romania, Liberal Democratic Party, Electoral Alliance PSD + PC, Christian-Democratic National Peasants' Party, the Civic Force, Romania Mare Party and two independent candidates: Basescu Elena and Paul Abraham.

For obtaining the status of an MEP, the national electoral threshold was established at 242,001 (the part corresponding to the percentage of 5 % of the total valid votes, 4,840,033), and the electoral coefficient got at 146,667 (the full part of the ratio between the total number of valid votes and the number of members assigned to Romania, respectively 4,840,033/33).

Of course, the voting bulletins contained a higher number of candidates, 43 for each of the seven political parties participating in elections on 7 June

2009, this resulting in a total of 301 candidates for the European Parliament on the part of Romania.

As a result of the elections, in the condition in which the number of total eligible voters was 18,197,316 persons, the persons who actually voted were only 5,035,299 (27.67 %), the valid votes reached only 4,840,033, entry in the European Parliament on the basis of the national electoral threshold (for political formations) and electoral coefficient (in the case of independent candidates), was met by the first five political parties and by an independent candidate (Elena Băsescu) (table 3 and figure 1).

Table 3. The results of the European Parliament elections in Romania (7 June 2009)

Crt. no	Political parties and independent candidates	No. votes	%	No. deputies
1	Electoral Alliance Social Democratic Party + Conservative Party (EA SDP+CP)	1,504,218	31,08	11
2	Democratic Liberal Party (DLP)	1,438,000	29,71	10
3	National Liberal Party (NLP)	702,974	14,52	5
4	Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania (DUHR)	431,739	8,92	3
5	Greater Romania Party (GRP)	419,094	8,66	3
6	National Agrarian Christian Democratic Party (NACDP)	70,428	1,46	-
7	Civic Force (CF)	19,436	0,40	-
8	Elena Băsescu (EBA)	204,280	4,22	1
9	Pavel Abraham (PA)	49,864	1,03	-
	Total		100,00	33

Compared to the results obtained by the political parties and independent candidates at the national level, in the situation of counties and geographical-historical provinces there have been recorded quite significant differences from one case to another.

a) The situation registered at Romanian counties and Bucharest Municipality sectors

In general, in connection with this problem, concerning the seats occupied by the five political parties which have entered the European Parliament, at the level of counties and the Bucharest Municipality sectors we mention several significant aspects:

- Electoral Alliance SDP + CP, positioned on the first place (31.08 % of valid vote at the national level), managed to win the first place in 17 counties of Romania and in the municipality of Bucharest, these being situated, with the exception of Hunedoara County (28,56 %) in the geographical-historical provinces in Eastern and Southern Romania. The highest percent values were recorded in the counties of Teleorman (51.68 %), Vrancea (48.17 %), Vaslui (47.55 %), Olt (47.07 %), Ialomița (44.80 %), Dâmbovița (43.01 %), Galați (42.44 %), Arges (41.42 %), Brăila (40.95 %), etc. and the lowest in the municipality of Bucharest (28.36 %) (table 2).

The first place is held by the Electoral Alliance SDP + CP also in two of the sectors of Bucharest Municipality, Sector 4 (29.92 % of the valid votes) and Sector 5 (38.55 %). In terms of positioning in second place, the Alliance envisaged is present in European parliamentary elections in Romania, at the county level, the municipality of Bucharest level and the Bucharest Municipality sectors 21 of the counties of Romania, of which eight are located in Transylvania (Alba, Bistrița-Năsăud, Covasna, Harghita, Mureș Sălaj and Sibiu), four in Walachia (Buzău, calarasi, Giurgiu and Prahova), three from Moldova (Botoșani, Neamț and Suceava), the other three in Banat (Arad, Caraș-Severin and Pini), two of the Maramureș

(Maramureş and Satu Mare) and one of Dobrogea (Tulcea). The second place is taken by the Electoral Alliance SDP + CP in four of the six sectors of Bucharest Municipality, Sector 1 (26.49 % of the valid votes cast), Sector 2 (25.14 %), 3 (23.90 %) and Sector 6 (23.90 %). Positioning on the third place of this political party was recorded only in two counties, i.e. Cluj (21.03 %) and Ilfov (19.82 %).

Table 4. European parliamentary elections in Romania, at the county level, the municipality of Bucharest level and the Bucharest Municipality sectors

Partides	The 1 st place		The 2 nd place		The 3 rd place	
	Counties ¹⁰	Sectors ¹¹	Counties	Sectors	Counties	Sectors
EA SDP+CP	18	2	21	4	2	-
DLP	18	4	19	2	5	-
NLP	-	-	1	-	31	3
DUHR	6	-	1	-	-	-
GRP	-	-	-	-	4	3

Regardless of the place obtained, the EA SDP+CP have rates of over 40 % in the counties of Teleorman (51.68 %, the highest), Arges, Dâmboviţa, Ialomiţa, Brăila, Olt, Vaslui, Vrancea and Galati, and below 20 % in Bihor, Cluj, Mureş, Harghita and Covasna (only 3.4 %, being the lowest in Romania) (table 5);

- DLP is the second political party present in the European Parliament on the part of Romania (29.71 % of the electorate options), occupying the first place, as the previous political entity, also in 18 of the administrative-territorial units of the country, among these being five of the 10 counties of Transylvania (Alba, Bistriţa-Năsăud, Brasov, Cluj and two of Dobrogea (Tulcea), with the emphasis that the DLP is not present on the first place in any of the five counties of Oltenia. As regards the share of positioning this political party on the first place, percentage values for over 40 % were registered into counties of Alba (44.45, Neamţ (41 %), Arad (40.96 %) and Ilfov (40.32 %). DLP is positioned also on the first place in the four sectors of the capital (1, 2, 3 and 6), in which the relative relative minimum score is 28.28 % (sector 1), and the maximum 30.63 % (Sector 2) (table 2).

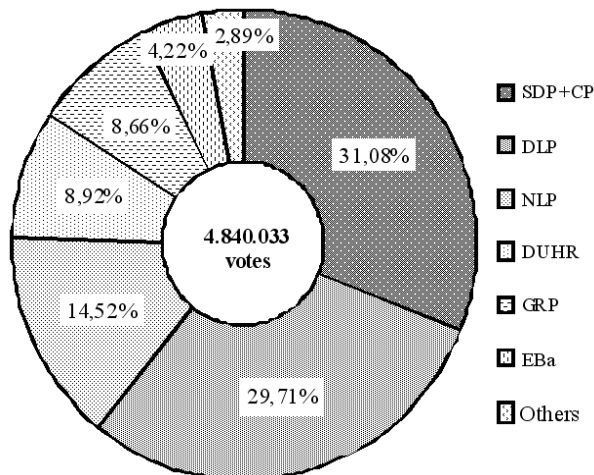


Figure 1. The results of the European Parliamentary Elections in Romania (June 7, 2009)

¹⁰ 41 counties and Bucharest

¹¹ The 6 sector from Bucharest

Table 5. European parliamentary election results on the administrative-territorial units, political parties and independent candidates from Romania (June 7, 2009)

Crt. no.	Unit	Turnouf (%)	EA SDP+CP	DLP	NLP	DUHR	GRP	NACDP	CF	EBa	PA
	România	4,840,033	31.07	29.71	14.52	8.92	8.65	1.45	0.40	4.22	1.03
1	Alba	92,420	22.36	44.45	14.36	5.06	6.79	1.92	0.50	3.73	0.79
2	Arad	98,718	21.09	40.96	12.33	10.13	7.19	2.27	0.32	4.74	0.94
3	Argeş	139,641	41.42	26.00	12.56	0.13	13.66	1.43	0.29	3.57	0.91
4	Bacău	135,815	31.88	29.15	20.90	0.75	9.10	1.27	0.55	4.68	1.67
5	Bihor	163,211	18.07	23.66	18.65	27.54	7.38	1.18	0.27	2.42	0.80
6	Bistriţa-Năsăud	82,297	34.86	37.02	9.46	6.30	5.98	1.36	0.45	3.73	0.80
7	Botoşani	106,835	32.63	33.40	18.45	0.29	9.18	1.06	0.33	3.52	1.09
8	Braşov	120,188	22.61	33.33	19.53	10.03	6.94	1.52	0.57	4.43	0.98
9	Brăila	65,763	40.95	24.32	12.49	0.22	13.19	0.91	0.67	5.55	1.66
10	Buzău	111,390	31.91	33.30	19.97	0.22	9.09	0.90	0.45	3.24	0.89
11	Caraş-Severin	76,144	29.86	35.26	17.24	1.12	9.02	2.02	0.36	3.99	1.10
12	Călăraşi	69,915	27.71	31.14	20.87	0.45	8.45	5.60	0.45	3.49	1.50
13	Cluj	148,903	19.82	31.01	10.66	22.51	7.63	1.94	0.46	4.56	1.36
14	Constanţa	129,625	34.64	27.83	14.11	0.27	11.74	2.22	0.65	7.18	1.32
15	Covasna	64,693	6.19	4.47	2.14	82.41	1.98	0.34	0.22	1.43	0.79
16	Dâmboviţa	161,683	43.01	36.23	7.10	0.14	7.58	0.73	0.23	4.25	0.69
17	Dolj	164,295	39.20	36.56	10.36	0.19	7.78	1.80	0.30	3.09	0.68
18	Galaţi	133,987	42.44	26.95	17.39	0.29	6.99	1.04	0.29	3.63	0.95
19	Giurgiu	93,343	27.29	39.78	22.51	0.17	5.65	0.96	0.28	2.56	0.76
20	Gorj	91,033	34.26	30.55	14.49	0.62	13.77	1.12	0.33	4.17	0.65
21	Harghita	108,688	3.40	2.19	1.09	89.39	1.37	0.25	0.21	1.27	0.77
22	Hunedoara	102,284	28.56	21.73	21.20	5.70	11.80	1.58	0.45	7.62	1.33
23	Ialomiţa	51,853	44.80	28.46	11.31	0.20	8.40	1.66	0.34	3.82	0.97
24	Iaşi	141,635	37.63	25.20	17.41	0.23	9.37	1.37	0.69	6.35	1.71
25	Ilfov	97,467	21.02	40.31	23.91	0.20	9.62	0.61	0.22	3.24	0.83
26	Maramureş	96,944	25.24	29.51	16.51	9.95	9.66	2.13	0.89	5.05	0.99
27	Mehedinţi	88,994	37.03	35.61	15.07	0.41	7.74	0.99	0.14	2.50	0.48
28	Mureş	151,096	15.73	13.22	7.95	49.31	8.36	1.02	0.33	3.11	0.92
29	Neamţ	134,565	32.01	41.91	8.50	0.17	8.64	1.32	0.40	5.87	1.14
30	Olt	156,471	47.04	31.62	11.40	0.15	6.25	0.81	0.11	2.19	0.39
31	Prahova	166,831	24.59	36.77	16.38	0.22	11.16	1.36	0.72	7.52	1.25
32	Satu Mare	94,620	20.63	19.82	11.33	39.64	3.57	1.51	0.25	2.44	0.76
33	Sălaj	74,834	25.32	23.93	10.30	29.55	5.23	1.50	0.23	2.77	1.13
34	Sibiu	75,464	32.06	33.93	13.03	3.34	8.12	1.65	0.43	5.94	1.46
35	Suceava	132,430	28.81	39.50	11.00	0.44	9.62	1.64	0.39	7.47	1.09
36	Teleorman	166,427	51.68	22.27	18.01	0.13	4.63	0.59	0.20	1.70	0.76
37	Timiş	131,284	27.00	38.32	13.41	5.72	7.37	2.06	0.30	4.70	1.06
38	Tulcea	45,212	28.75	39.14	14.42	0.21	8.97	1.17	0.59	5.40	1.32
39	Vaslui	87,765	47.55	20.98	16.72	0.24	8.28	0.83	0.42	3.83	1.11
40	Vâlcea	103,147	39.56	25.27	19.52	0.38	9.30	1.48	0.65	3.12	0.67
41	Vrancea	91,765	48.48	21.25	15.46	0.19	7.99	0.91	0.36	3.91	1.42
42	Bucureşti	276,589	28.04	28.36	17.16	0.54	16.07	2.66	0.46	5.36	1.31
43	Străinătate	13,769	14.87	37.12	15.68	7.16	10.04	2.04	0.65	11.01	1.40
1	Sectorul 1	42,365	26.50	28.29	23.79	0.68	11.95	2.62	0.51	4.54	1.13
2	Sectorul 2	52,121	25.14	30.63	16.59	0.58	16.77	2.88	0.51	5.62	1.25
3	Sectorul 3	51,069	23.90	30.61	18.68	0.59	16.04	2.97	0.44	5.23	1.51
4	Sectorul 4	40,289	29.94	28.61	15.15	0.49	16.42	2.60	0.48	5.09	1.18
5	Sectorul 5	41,645	38.55	22.16	11.41	0.36	18.05	1.84	0.41	5.83	1.33
6	Sectorul 6	49,100	26.27	28.70	17.00	0.51	16.98	2.91	0.45	5.73	1.40

For the second place, it is underlined that this party has this situation in 18 counties of Romania, of which five in Moldova (Bacău, Galaţi, Iaşi, Vaslui and Vrancea), Walachia (Argeş, Brăila, Dâmboviţa, Ialomiţa and Teleorman) and

Oltenia (Dolj, Gorj, Mehedinți, Olt and Vâlcea), in addition joining one county of Crișana-Maramureș (Bihor), Transylvania (Hunedoara) and Dobrogea (Constanța), then the municipality of Bucharest, with two of its sectors (4 and 5). As a fact of specificity, DLP occupies the third position in five of the six counties in the first place is owned by DUHR (Satu Mare, Harghita, Mureș and Sălaj). With regard to the maximum percentage values, DLP has gathered over 40 % of the electorate only in four counties, respectively in Alba (44.45 %, the highest value at the level of county), Arad, Ilfov and Neamț; less than 20 % in the counties of Harghita (just 2.19 %, the lowest level), Mures County, Covasna and Satu Mare (table 5);

- the third place at the national level, with 14.52 % of the total of the valid votes, returned to NLP, percentage value that allowed only a single location second place (in Ilfov County, with 23.91 %), after which in 30 of the counties of Romania it has occupied the third position, in the same condition is also the municipality of Bucharest, and three of its sectors (1, 3 and 6). Compare to the national average percentage values mentioned, over 20 % were registered in the counties Giurgiu (22.51 %), Călărași (20.87 %), Hunedoara (21.1920), Bacău (20.90 %) and sector 1 from Bucharest (23.79 %) the highest value, while the values of less than 10 % were in the counties of Harghita (only 1.09 %, being the most reduced value of the county level), Covasna, Mureș, Bistrița-Năsăud, Dâmbovița and Neamț (table 5);

- with 8.92 % of the total votes, the political formation DUHR had the fourth place, regarding the positioning at the level of administrative-territorial units, in six cases having the first position, of course in four of the counties of the geographic-historic province of Transylvania, respectively Harghita (89.40 % of the valid votes), Covasna (82.00 %), Mureș (49.31 %) and Sălaj (29.55 %) and in two of Crișana and Maramureș, respectively Bihor (27.53 %) and Satu Mare (39.64 %). Further, we can add the presence of Cluj County, in second place with 22.51 % of the valid votes registered in this administrative-territorial unit. Naturally, DUHR has recorded rates higher than 1 % in some other counties of Romania, among them is Arad (10.13 %), Brasov (10.03 %), Maramureș (9.95 %), Bistrița-Năsăud (6.30 %), Timiș (5.72 %), Hunedoara (5.70 %), Alba (5.06 %) and Caraș-Severin 1.12 %, then in all the other counties of the country, voters of this political formations are represented, with the exception of Bacău County (0.75 %) and the municipality of Bucharest (0.54 %), less than 0.50 % (table 5). With regard to the share of many DUHR voters in the first seven counties, it is mentioned that it is well situated over the presence of the Hungarians in those establishments, which at the census from the year 2002 was 84.6 % in Harghita, 73.8 % in Covasna, 39.3 % in Mureș, 23.0 % in Sălaj, 26.0 % in Bihor and 35.2 % in Satu Mare;

- GRP, the fifth political faction that had entered the European Parliament, has managed to gather 8.66 % of the total valid votes at national level (table 3 and figure 1); positioning on the third place was recorded in Argeș (16.66 % of the total of the validly cast), Brăila (13.19 %), Dâmbovița (7.58 %) and Neamț (6.64 %), as well as in three sectors of Bucharest Municipality, sector 2 (16.77 %), 4 (16.42 %) and 5 (18.5 %). It may also be mentioned that GRP gathered over 10 % of the valid votes in a few other administrative territorial units, Bucharest in all six sectors and then in the counties Hunedoara, Gorj, Prahova, Brăila și Constanța, while in the others it scored under 5 % (Teleorman, Covasna, Harghita și Satu Mare).

- the other two political parties participating in elections, respectively NACDP (1.46 % of the valid votes) and CF (0.40 %) had a modest condition vs. the electoral threshold requirements. At the level of administrative-territorial units, the first faction has obtained the highest percentage of the valid votes in the Călărași County (5.60 %) and then values of 2-3 % in Arad, Caraș-Severin, Timiș, Romania and Bucharest, and in sectors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the municipality of Bucharest; the lowest rates, less than 1 % were registered in Harghita (0.25 %), Covasna (0.34 %), Dâmbovița, Giurgiu, Ilfov, Teleorman, Mehedinți, Olt, Vaslui and Vrancea, The second party hasn't got values of over 1 % in any territorial-administrative unit of the country, only values of over 0.50 % in the counties Maramureș (0.89 %, the highest), Alba, Brasov, Iasi, Bacau, Romania, Braila, Prahova and sectors 1 and 2 of the municipality of Bucharest, and under 0.30 % in Bihor, Covasna, Harghita, Galați, Dâmbovița, Giurgiu, Ilfov, Mehedinți and Olt (in this latter County 0.11 %, the lowest);

- regarding the two independent candidates, the election results led to the election of only one of them, Elena Basescu (EBa), which has met 4.22 % of the electorate options at the national level, while Paul Abraham (PA), with only 1.03 %, was not able to meet the requirements of the electoral threshold. At the level of administrative-territorial units EBa registered over 5 % of the valid votes cast in the counties of Hunedoara (7.62 %, this being the high), Maramureș, Sibiu, Suceava, Neamț, România, Tulcea, Brăila, Prahova, Bucharest and its sectors, except for the sector 1, and below 3 % in Bihor, Satu Mare, Sălaj, Covasna, Harghita (1.27 %, the lowest in the country), Giurgiu, Teleorman, Mehedinți and Olt. The second independent candidate, namely PA, gathered, compared the national average, percentage values over 1.50 % of the votes validly cast only in the counties Bacău (1.67 %), Iași (1.71 %), Brăila (1.51 %) and the municipality of Bucharest Sector 3, and under 0.50 % in the counties of Mehedinți (0.48 %) and Olt (0.35 %) (table 5).

In connection with the issue of territorial distribution of the votes validly cast from abroad, it is stressed that they were just 13769 (0.78 % of the total national), their breakdown by political options: SDP + CP 14.87 %, DLP 37.12 %, NLP 15.68 %, DUHR 7.16 %, GRP 10.04 %, NACDP 2.04 %, CF 0.65 %, EBa 11.01 % and PA 1.40 % (table 5).

c. The situation registered at the geographical-historical provinces

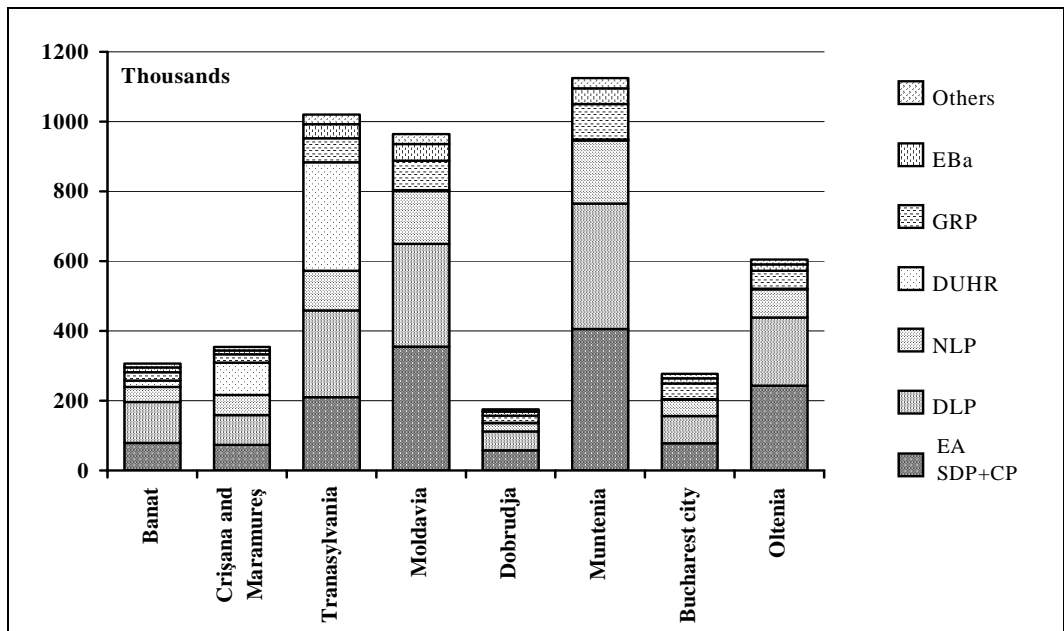
For the European parliamentary elections, held on 7 June 2009, there are taken into account some aspects of generalization of results for the political parties and independent candidates at the level of the geographical-historical provinces, shown with sufficient clarity, in the table 6 and figure 2:

- in Banat (counties of Arad, Caraș-Severin and Timiș), the first place has returned to DLP, with 38.42 % of the total of the valid votes, values exceeding by almost 9 % national average. The other formations, except Eba and the category "others", registered reduced percentage (table 6);

- regarding Crișana and Maramureș (counties of Bihor, Maramureș and Satu Mare), as a result of the widespread participation of the Hungarian population from voting, the first place was obtained by DUHR, with 25.96 % of the valid votes in the two geographical-historical provinces, while the other main parties participating in elections, i.e. SHE SDP + CP (20.72 %) and DLP (24.24 %), have registered significantly lower percentages values compared to the national level average;

Table 6. European parliamentary elections results on political parties and independent candidates, at the level of geographic-historic provinces in Romania (June 7, 2009)

Crt. no.	Geographico-historical provinces and foreing countries	Total valid votes	EA SD +CP	DLP	NLP	DUHR	GRP	EBa	Others
1	Banat	306,146	25.81	38.42	14.02	6.00	7.72	4.54	3.49
2	Crişana and Maramureş	354,775	20.72	24.24	16.11	25.96	6.99	3.16	2.82
3	Transylvania	1,020,867	20.56	24.37	11.19	30.46	6.71	3.92	2.79
4	Moldavia	964,797	36.88	30.44	15.65	0.34	8.69	5.05	2.95
5	Dobrudja	174,837	33.12	30.76	14.19	0.26	11.03	6.73	3.91
6	Muntenia	1,124,313	36.06	31.96	16.15	0.20	9.04	3.96	2.63
7	Bucharest city	276,589	28.04	28.36	17.17	0.54	16.08	5.36	4.45
8	Oltenia	603,940	40.24	32.32	13.51	0.31	8.54	2.94	2.14
9	Foring Countries	13,769	14.88	37.13	15.68	7.16	10.04	11.01	4.10
10	Romania	4,840,033	31.08	29.71	14.52	8.92	8.66	4.22	2.89

**Figure 2.** The situation in the European Parliament elections in Romania, on 7 June 2009, on the political and geographical - historical provinces

- the situation from Transylvania (counties of Alba, Bistriţa-Năşăud, Braşov, Cluj, Covasna, Harghita, Hunedoara, Mureş, Sălaj and Sibiu) is relatively similar to the previous one, meaning that DUHR ranked on the first place, with 30.46 % of the votes validly cast of this historical geographical-provinces, then DLP (24.37 %) and SDP + CP (20.56 %) and the other political parties, however with percentage values lower compared to average recorded at national level;

- unlike the previously analyzed provinces, in Moldova (counties of Bacău, Botoşani, Galaţi, Iasi, Suceava, Neamţ, Vaslui and Vrancea) the first place was won by SDP + CP, with over a third of the votes validly cast (36.88 %), DLP being awarded almost one-third (30.44 %), and NLP a little bit over the value obtained at national level (15.65 %), while the GRP, EBa and the category others (NACDP, CP and PA) recorded values close to those at the country level;

- in Dobrogea (counties Constanța and Tulcea) ranked on the first place SDP + CP, with 33.12 % of the valid votes registered, followed by the DLP and NLP, the three formations' score are comparable with those at the national level, while the GRP, EBa and others values are higher versus the achievements at the level of Romania;

- in Walachia (Argeș, Brăila, Buzău, calarasi, Dâmbovița, Giurgiu, Ialomița, Ilfov, Prahova and Teleorman), the first place was won by SDP + CP with 36.06 %, followed by DLP (31.96 %), NLP (16.15 %), and GRP (9.04 %), in all these four cases reaching values over those obtained at national level. Compared with the situation said, the EBa and the category others hold something less than at the country level;

- Bucharest city (sectors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6) has, in respect of the European Parliament elections analyzed, a condition quite different compared with the geographical-historical provinces previously analyzed, in this respect being underlined that first two political parties, namely the DLP, positioned on the first place (28.36 %) and SDP + CP (28.04 %) in second place, had almost identical frequencies of valid votes, at the same time being situated slightly below the national average. The NLP has obtained almost 3 % over the result achieved throughout the country, and the GRP almost double from 8.66 % 16.08 %;

- the last geographical-historical province of Romania, respectively Oltenia (counties of Dolj, Gorj, Mehedinți, Olt and Vâlcea), was won by SDP + CP which holds 40.24 % of the total of the votes validly cast of five counties, with this situation being on the first place at the European Parliament elections. Regarding the frequency results, it follows the DLP, NLP and GRP, who have registered percentage values close to those recorded at the national level (table 6).

- to conclude the considerations on territorial distribution at the level of the geographical-historical provinces, we emphasize the fact that if DUHR obtained, except the province of Banat (6.00 % of the votes validly cast, the Hungarian population 7.2 %) ¹³, in Crișana and Maramureș those two amounts were 25.96 % and 18.7 %, and in Transylvania 30.46 % and 22.9 %, while in all other provinces, without Bucharest city (0.54 %), DUHR registered less than 0.40 %.

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE ROMANIAN EURODEPUTIES

As emerges from above, in the period 4 - 7 June 2009 elections were held for the establishment of the European Parliament in 27 States of the European Union, the action taking place for Romania on 7 June 2009. As a result of this action were elected those 736 deputies of the European Parliament among 27 countries, according to the relation to the geo-demographic size, this being well highlighted in table 1, which shows that the largest number of MEP's is owned by Germany (99), followed by France, Italy and United Kingdom (each with 72 representatives), then Poland and Spain (with 50 MEPs), Romania (33), etc., and the lowest number of representatives (5) Malta, Cyprus, Estonia and Luxembourg (how many 6 each), Slovenia (7) and Latvia (8).

CONCLUSIONS

The European parliamentary elections in Romania (June 7, 2009), summarized in tables 3 and 4 and shown in Fig. 1, lead to the selection of the 33 Romanian members to the European Parliament, in descending order, 11 have returned to SDP + CP (1. Adrian Severin, 2. Plumb Rovana, 3. Pașcu, Ioan

¹³ Recensământul din anul 2002.

Mircea, 4. Țicău, Silvia-Adriana, 5. Sârbu Daciana-Octavia, 6. Crețu Corina, 7. Boștinaru Victor, 8. Cutaș George-Sabin, 9. Ivan Cătălin-Sorin, 10. Enciu Ioan, 11. Dăncilă Vasilica-Viorica), 10 to DLP (12. Stolojan Theodor-Dumitru, 13. Macovei Monica-Luisa, 14. Ungureanu Traian, 15. Preda Cristian-Dan, 16. Marinescu Marian-Jean, 17. Mutula Iosif, 18. Bodu Sebastian-Valentin, 19. Luhan Petru-Constantin, 20. Niculescu Rareș-Lucian, 21. Antonescu Elena-Oana), 5 to NLP (22. Nicolai Norica, 23. Vălean Adina-Ioana, 24. Weber Renate, 25. Mănescu Ramona-Nicole, 26. Bușoi Cristian-Silviu), 3 to DUHR (27. Tökés László, 28. Winkler Iuliu, 29. Sögor Csaba), 3 to GRP (30. Vadim-Tudor Corneliu, 31. Becali George, 32. Tănăsescu Claudiu-Ciprian) and 1 independent candidat (33. Băsescu Elena).

Table 7. The parliamentary european groups and the affiliation of the Romanian MEPs (Data source: European Parliament)

Indicative	Parliamentary groups	No. MEPs	%	Affiliation of Romanian MEPs
a)	European People's Party (EPP)	265	36.01	10 (DLP), 3 (DUHR), 1 (EBa)
b)	Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats (S&D)	184	25.00	11 (EA SDP+CP)
c)	The Alliance of Liberals and Democrats from European Parliament	84	11.41	5 (NLP)
d)	The Greens – European Free Alliance (Greens – EFA)	55	7.47	-
e)	European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)	55	7.47	-
f)	European United Left-Nordic Green Left (GUE-NGL)	35	4.76	-
g)	Europe of Freedom and Democracy (EFD)	32	4.35	-
h)	Non-Inscrits (NI)	26	3.53	3 (GRP)
	Total	736	100,00	33

Note – DLP = Democratic Liberal Party; DUHR = Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania; EA SDP + CP = Electoral Alliance Social Democratic Party + Conservative Party; NLP = National Liberal Party; GRP = Greater Romania Party; EBa = Elena Băsescu (Independent).

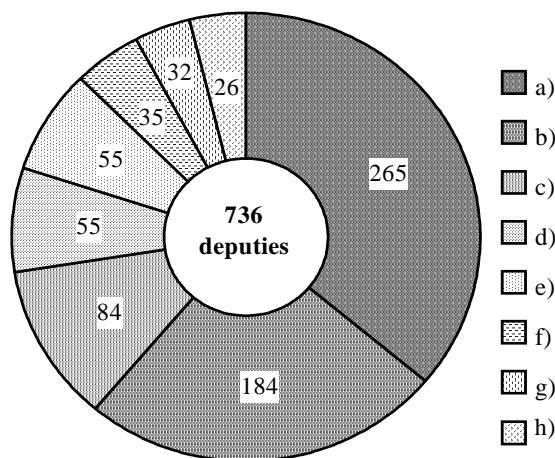


Figure 3. Distribution of the 736 eurodeputies on political groups of the EP (see table 7).

In addition to the 33 members elected to the European Parliament, another list includes alternative members for the European Parliament, the

latter comprising 32 people of EA SDP + CP, 33 of DLP, 38 of NLP, 40 of DUHR and 40 of GR: P¹⁴. Of course, in connection with the quality of some of the Romanian eurodeputies, which should be one of high standards in all respects, is necessary to be brought in the discussion, both under the professional appearance and behavioral aspects, the relevant political considerations, but these do not fall under the category of the studies with geographic character. Incidentally, in the press, in the period of preparation and following the elections, were published materials relating the questionable quality of some of the Romanians elected for the European Parliament

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