

# Coronavirus pandemic in the EU – Fundamental Rights implications National vaccine deployment

Romania
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**Contractor: Human European Consultancy** 

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# 1 National vaccine deployment – planning and overview of priority groups

Please provide the title and hyperlink of the national vaccine deployment plan/s in EN and the national language/s and indicate the date of publication of the plan/s including any updates.

**Romania**, Strategy for vaccination against COVID-19 in Romania (*Strategie de vaccinare împotriva COVID-19 în România*):

- Adopted through the Government Decision no. 1031 from 27 November 2020 (<u>Hotărâre nr. 1.031 din 27 noiembrie 2020 privind aprobarea Strategiei de vaccinare împotriva COVID-19 în România</u>);
- Updated through the Government Decision no. 12 from 20 January 20 2021 for the amendment and completion of the Government Decision no. 1,031 / 2020 regarding the approval of the Vaccination Strategy against COVID-19 in Romania (Hotărâre nr. 12 din 20 ianuarie 2021 pentru modificarea și completarea Hotărârii Guvernului nr. 1.031/2020 privind aprobarea Strategiei de vaccinare împotriva COVID-19 în România)

The full, updated, text of the Strategy is available in Romanian at: <a href="http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/236278">http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/236278</a> (text version) or <a href="https://vaccinare-covid.gov.ro/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/STRATEGIE-din-27-noiembrie-2020-actualizata-20-ianuarie-2021.pdf">https://vaccinare-covid.gov.ro/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/STRATEGIE-din-27-noiembrie-2020-actualizata-20-ianuarie-2021.pdf</a> (PDF with images version).

There is no official or unofficial translation in English.

Onwards, the document will be referred as the National Vaccination Strategy.

Unless otherwise stated, the information included in this report is referencing the National Vaccination Strategy.

Please provide information on the planned phases of vaccination with respect to the groups to be prioritised for vaccination.

The Romanian National Vaccination Strategy includes three phases:

- Phase I (starting in December 2020, as soon as the vaccines became available): health and social workers from residential services.
- Phase II (starting on 15 January 2021):
  - IIa): vulnerable persons;
  - IIb): workers in key sectors;
  - The desired priority between the two sub-phases was 75%-25%.
     There is no data to evaluate if it was respected/achieved.
  - o Persons included in Phase I still have priority after Phase II started.
- Phase III (starting on 15 March 2021).

- IIIa): workers in priority sectors;
- IIIb): general population (everybody else);
- There is no priority between the two sub-phases, so, in practice, there was no difference between them.
- Persons included in Phase I and Phase II still have priority after Phase III started.

Note: at the end of April 2021, the authorities announced plans to offer vaccination without reservation for all, starting with the month of May 2021, in order to increase the vaccination rate to what was allowable by higher availability of doses in quarter  $2^1$ , and given that the number of available vaccines was already bigger that the number of persons wanting to get vaccinated<sup>2</sup>. The plans were confirmed by an official announcement made on 5 May  $2021^3$ .

Specific groups identified in the national vaccine deployment plan	Date of plan  (according to the initial  Strategy, from November  2020)	Date of new/revised plans  (according to the updated Strategy, from January 2021)
older persons; indicate age groups specified	People age 65+: Phase IIa (15 January 2021)	
persons in residential centers, including older people, persons with disabilities, and minors	persons in residential centers, including older people, persons with disabilities, and minors: Phase IIa (15 January 2021)	
persons with underlying health problems	Persons with chronical diseases: Phase IIa (15 January 2021)	
persons with disabilities		Persons with disabilities and the members of their households: Phase IIa (15 January 2021)
key workers (on the basis of their job not their personal	Health workers: Phase I (December 2020)	
characteristics) – e.g. health workers; persons working in care homes;	Social workers from residential services: Phase I (December 2020)	
teachers	Key personnel for the functioning of state institutions, respectively	Key personnel from state institutions, respectively the Parliament, Constitutional Court,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Digi24.ro (2021), '<u>Vaccinarea anti-COVID s-ar putea face și fără programare, începând din luna mai</u>', 27 April 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Hotnews.ro (2021), '<u>Numărul de locuri disponibile pentru vaccinarea împotriva COVID-19 a depășit</u> pentru prima dată numărul de persoane înscrise pe listele de așteptare', 20 April 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Romania, Government of Romania (*Guvernul României*) (2021), '<u>Vaccinarea fără programare, prin prezentare directă, în centrele de vaccinare</u>', 5 May 2021.

Specific groups identified in the national vaccine deployment plan	Date of plan (according to the initial Strategy, from November 2020)	Date of new/revised plans  (according to the updated Strategy, from January 2021)	
	Parliament, Presidency, Government, ministries and institutions subordinated to them: Phase IIb (15 January 2021)	Presidential Administration, Government, Economic and Social Council, Ombudsman, Legislative Council, National Bank of Romania, ministries and institutions subordinated to them: Phase IIb (15 January 2021)	
	Personnel in the field of defense, public order, national security and the judiciary: Phase IIb (15 January 2021)	Personnel working within the institutions of the national system of national defense, public order, national security and the judiciary, bailiffs, interpreters and translators authorized by the Ministry of Justice, registered lawyers, the members of the National Union of Notaries Public, as well as the members from Romania in the European Parliament: Phase IIb (15 January 2021)	
	Staff in the vital economic sector: - processing, distribution and marketing of staple foods, namely: bakery, dairy, meat, fruit and vegetables;	Staff in the vital economic sector: - processing, distribution and marketing of staple foods, namely: bakery, dairy, meat, fruit and vegetables; - water plants, water treatment,	
	- water plants, water treatment, transport and distribution;	transport and distribution; - power plants, production, transmission and distribution of electricity;	
	<ul> <li>power plants, production, transmission and distribution of electricity;</li> </ul>	- gas production, transmission and distribution units;	
	- gas production, transmission and distribution units;	<ul> <li>units for the production, transport and distribution of liquid and solid fuels;</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>units for the production, transport and distribution of liquid and solid fuels;</li> </ul>	- units for the production, transport and distribution of medicines and sanitary materials;	
	<ul> <li>units for the production, transport and distribution of medicines and sanitary materials;</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>transport of persons and goods;</li> <li>railway junctions, civil and military airports, essential ports;</li> </ul>	
	- transport of persons and goods;	- communications, namely the Special Telecommunications Service, national radio and television;	

Specific groups identified in the national vaccine deployment plan	Date of plan (according to the initial Strategy, from November 2020)	Date of new/revised plans  (according to the updated Strategy, from January 2021)
	- railway junctions, civil and military airports, essential ports; - communications, namely the Special Telecommunications Service, national radio and television; Phase IIb (15 January 2021)	- Romanian maritime and river navigating personnel; - Romanian personnel operating on marine platforms (wind, gas, oil); - Romanian personnel working on mobile offshore drilling units (FPSO type ships and FSU type ships); Phase IIb (15 January 2021)
	school and nursery workers: Phase IIb (15 January 2021)	
	postal and currier services workers: Phase IIb (15 January 2021)	
	the staff of religious cults: Phase IIb (15 January 2021)	
	media personnel who carry out activities with an increased risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 infection, such as reports from the medical units: Phase IIb (15 January 2021)	
	workers in sanitation and waste management: Phase IIb (15 January 2021)	
		personnel working in the field of funerals, directly involved in the handling of human corpses: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021)
		the staff of the General Directorates of Social Assistance and Child Protection / Public Social Assistance Service who carry out their activity in direct relation with the beneficiaries, maternal assistants, personal assistants and professional personal assistants: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021)
		employees in local public administration: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021)

Specific groups identified in the national vaccine deployment plan	Date of plan (according to the initial Strategy, from November 2020)	Date of new/revised plans  (according to the updated Strategy, from January 2021)
		workers in agriculture and the food industry: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021)
		staff from the National Meteorological Administration: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021)
		members of diplomatic missions, career consular offices and representatives of international organizations in Romania, including accompanying family members, holders of identity cards specially issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021)
		civilian and military personnel to carry out missions outside the national territory, including family members accompanying them to the post, prior to leaving the mission: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021)
		the social inspectors and the personnel that carry out their activity in the direct relationship with the beneficiaries within the National Agency for Payments and Social Inspection and the agencies for payments and social inspection of the county and of the municipality of Bucharest: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021)
		the staff of the Romanian Court of Accounts and of the county and Bucharest chambers of accounts: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021)
		the staff within the central and local apparatus of the Competition Council: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021)
		the athletes of the national teams or of the Olympic groups, the athletes qualified individually for the Olympic Games, as well as the technical staff

Specific groups identified in the national vaccine deployment plan	Date of plan (according to the initial Strategy, from November 2020)	Date of new/revised plans  (according to the updated Strategy, from January 2021)
		participating in the training of these athletes: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021) sanitary-veterinary staff working in veterinary medical offices: Phase IIb (from 15 January 2021)
persons belonging to ethnic/national minorities persons experiencing homelessness	N/A	N/A  persons experiencing homelessness (not limited to people in shelters):
persons with drug addiction dependencies  persons with low literacy levels	N/A	phase IIa (15 January 2021)  N/A  N/A
persons deprived of their liberty	147.	persons deprived of their liberty: Phase IIIa (15 March 2021)
persons without residence or with insecure legal status (such as refugees, asylum seekers, and undocumented migrants)	* not explicitly included but refugees, asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection recognized in Romania, benefit of the same rights as Romanian citizens, so they had priority if, for example, they were of 65 years or more, or suffering of chronic diseases.	- migrants living in the centers administrated by the General Inspectorate of Immigration: Phase IIIa (15 March 2021)  - all other categories of migrants: Phase IIIb (15 March 2021)
pregnant women and/or members of a household with a pregnant women	N/A	N/A
OTHER – not specified above; e.g. 'Persons living in crowded accommodation'; etc. Please insert	N/A	N/A

Please briefly indicate here (not in the above table):

• the reasons behind major changes with regard to priority groups— as announced by the government.

According to the substantiation note accompanying the Government Decision no. 12 from 20 January 20 2021 for the amendment and completion of the Government Decision no. 1,031 / 2020 regarding the approval of the Vaccination

Strategy against COVID-19 in Romania, the list of priority groups was extended in order to 'include new priority categories that are part of the critical infrastructure or of the personnel that carry out missions outside the national territory'<sup>4</sup>.

• the overall approach behind the definition of priority groups: please identify the main ground for identifying groups as priority group (vulnerability to infection; social vulnerability; multiple criteria).

According to the National Vaccination Strategy, the following criteria were taken into consideration when defining the priority groups:

- 1. the principles of ethics and social equity;
- 2. epidemiological criteria for flexibility in vaccine allocation at regional and local level depending on the evolution of the infection in the territory, such as: rapid, exponential increase in the number of cases above a certain threshold value (definition of an incidence threshold) at the level of a region will allow, depending on the characteristics of the population, the priority distribution of vaccines to that population in order to limit the spread of the virus;
- 3. medical criteria impact of SARS-CoV-2 infection on an individual and collective level:
- a) the risk of infection with SARS-CoV-2;
- b) the risk of severe evolution and death in case of infection;
- c) the risk of transmitting the infection from the infected person to the rest of the persons;
- 4. the essential activities that ensure the proper functioning of critical infrastructure;
- 5. Within the same category, subcategories may be prioritized in relation to medical criteria, epidemiological evolution, indications and contraindications of approved vaccine types, vaccine availability.

vaccinare împotriva COVID-19 în România), 19 January 2021.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Romania, Government of Romania (*Guvernul României*) (2021), Substantiation note accompanying the Government Decision no. 12 from 20 January 20 2021 for the amendment and completion of the Government Decision no. 1,031 / 2020 regarding the approval of the Vaccination Strategy against COVID-19 in Romania (*Nota de fundamentare a Hotărârii nr. 12 din 20 ianuarie 2021 pentru modificarea și completarea Hotărârii Guvernului nr. 1.031/2020 privind aprobarea Strategiei de* 

## 2 Vaccination rollout – communication, targeted outreach, registration, and administration of vaccinations

For each of the subsequent questions (2.1, 2.2 and 2.3) please indicate:

Languages: If information in different languages is available. Please list those languages in which information is available (e.g. languages of recognised national or ethnic minorities and immigrant communities; as well as English and other dominant international languages).

Accessibility for persons with disabilities: If information is provided in accessible formats to ensure accessibility for people with disabilities (including easy read, in braille, sign language etc); are physical venues made accessible for persons with disabilities?

# 2.1 Channels, means and measures to inform about the national vaccination plan

Please provide information on channels, means and measures taken by the government or public authorities to inform the public about the national vaccination plan, its rollout strategy and vaccination awareness raising campaigns; e.g. traditional postal letters; online information; telephone calls; public information campaigns etc.

According to the most recent publicly available information on the national vaccination campaign<sup>5</sup>, the public information campaign included the following components:

- The official website of the campaign<sup>6</sup>, which is both the main information hub and the registration gateway;
- A series of 5 information videos, developed in partnership with the national public television, and broadcasted on all national television networks;
- Daily press releases;
- Press conferences: weekly and whenever necessary;
- Participation of the campaign coordinators at public events and interviews in mass-media;
- Direct online communication using the Facebook and Youtube channels;

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Romania, Government of Romania (*Guvernul României*) (2021), Information on the implementation of the national vaccination campaign (*Nota de informare privind evoluția Campaniei Nationale de Vaccinare*), 19 March 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> vaccinare-covid.gov.ro

- Outdoor communication: over 1 million posters all-over the country (with the help of the local public authorities), including 150.000 in pharmacies and medical facilities; billboards in large cities.

On all channels, the communication was exclusively in Romanian.

The National Audio-Visual Council (*Consiliul Național al Audiovizualului*), the media arbiter, asked the government at least to include subtitles in the languages of the ethnic minorities but no solution was found<sup>7</sup>.

At the end of March 2021, responding to an enquiry from the journalists from Libertatea, a private media outlet, the General Inspectorate for Immigration (*Inspectoratul General pentru Imigrări*), the institution responsible with migrants' integration, answered that it is not their responsibility to provide translation of the materials in other languages. The media outlet decided to translate the basic information in the four most common languages of the non-EU immigrants in Romania<sup>8</sup>.

Sign language interpretation was provided for the video materials and the press conferences.

The official website does not include any accessibility tools for persons with disabilities.

# 2.2 What are the (pre-) registration channels for vaccination put in place?

- a) What registration channels for vaccination are in place e.g. websites, apps, hotlines/call centres, letters, via family doctors, etc.?
- b) Are any alternatives to digital access to vaccine registration in place e.g. appropriate support for those who need it (such as the elderly; those without access to the internet); physical locations for registration etc?

As general practice, there are two channels available to register for vaccination:

- Online, via the official website;
- By phone, via the national call-center.

<sup>7</sup> G4media.ro (2021), <u>'CNA cere subtitrarea în limbile minorităților a spoturilor privind vaccinarea împotriva COVID-19</u>′, 15 January 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Libertatea (2021), '<u>Libertatea publică un mesaj despre vaccinare în 4 limbi pentru zecile de mii de muncitori străini din România. Làm sao để được tiêm vắc-xin phòng COVID-19 khi bạn là người lao động nước ngoài tại Rumani. कोभिड शट भ्याक्सिन कसरी पाउने यदि तपाईं रोमानियामा विदेशी कामदार हुनुहुन्छ भने। இබ රුමේනියාවේ විදේශීය සේවකයෙකු නම් කොරෝනා වයිරස් එන්නත ලබා ගන්නේ කෙසේද. நீங்கள் ருமேனியாவில் ஒரு வெளிநாட்டு தொழிலாளி என்றால் கொரோனா வைரஸ் தடுப்பூசி பெறுவது எப்படி', 31 March 2021.</u>

All categories of persons that don't have the knowledge or the means to access the two channels have the following options:

- Registration by phone or online by their relatives or friends;
- Registration online by their family doctor (only for persons over 65 years old, and persons with chronic diseases).

Mass-media reported of cases where the local public authorities offered either callcenters or physical locations for the vulnerable persons in their localities to register; in such cases, the social assistants would complete the registration using one of the two official channels<sup>9</sup>.

On 24 April, the municipality of Deva announced the opening of the first drive thru vaccination center, where people can get vaccines without prior registration<sup>10</sup>. In the following days, similar drive thru centers were opened in other large cities, such as Timisoara, Arad, Cluj or Bucharest<sup>11</sup>.

For the (Orthodox) Easter extended weekend (30 April – 2 May), the municipality of Constanta, a traditional tourism destination on the Black Sea shore, announced that tourists may get vaccinated without prior registration on the local premises<sup>12</sup>.

On 27 April, the coordinator of vaccination campaign announced that the vaccination without prior registration will be available nation-wide starting with the month of May but priority will still be given to those with valid appointments<sup>13</sup>.

The registration is available only in Romanian.

The interface of the online registration platform does not include any accessibility tools for people with visual impairments, hearing impairments or cognitive disabilities. On 5 February, the National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption (*Autoritatea Națională pentru Drepturile Persoanelor cu Dizabilități Copii și Adopții*) reminded the coordinator of the vaccination campaign that the website is not made accessible for their beneficiaries<sup>14</sup> but the situation didn't change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Mediafax (2021), '<u>Primăria Timișoara are call-center pentru timișorenii care vor să se înscrie la vaccinare'</u>, 27 January 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Digi24.ro (2021), '<u>Primul centru de vaccinare drive-thru din ţară. Oamenii au așteptat cu orele să fie vaccinați direct prin geamul mașinii</u>', 24 April 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Digi24.ro (2021), '<u>Centrele de vaccinare drive-thru au succes în țară. De astăzi se deschide unul și la București</u>', 29 April 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Hotnews.ro (2021), '<u>Turiştii care merg pe litoral în minivacanța de Paşte se pot vaccina la Pavilionul Expozițional din Constanța, fără programare</u>', 29 April 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Digi24.ro (2021), '<u>Vaccinarea anti-COVID s-ar putea face și fără programare, începând din luna mai</u>', 27 April 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption (*Autorității Naționale pentru Drepturile Persoanelor cu Dizabilități Copii și Adopții*) (2021), '<u>Adresa CNCAV 5 februarie</u>

On March 21, a new functionality, the visual map of the vaccination centers, was added to the vaccination platform<sup>15</sup>. The map includes information about which centers are adapted for persons with motor skills impairments. There is no text alternative to the visual map.

#### 2.3 How are the vaccinations administered?

a) Where are the vaccinations administered e.g. vaccination centres, via mobile units, via family doctors, etc.?

The National Vaccination Strategy mentions the following methods to administer vaccines:

- Fixed centers, operated by the local public authorities or inside hospitals;
- Fixed drive thru centers;
- Mobile vaccination centers operated by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (*Ministerul Afacerilor Interne*) or the Ministry of National Defense (*Ministerul Apărării Naționale*), for rural areas.
- Mobile units;
- Inside the family doctors' cabinets.

By the end of April 2021, only the first two methods were implemented (the second starting with the last week of April, see above), and mobile units were used exclusively for the residential centers.

The visual map of the vaccination centers, present on the platform, includes information about which centers are adapted for persons with motor skills impairments. There is no text alternative to the visual map.

b) For those being vaccinated - how is information about the actual vaccination process, the vaccine and any potential side effects provided?

The screening and information of the patients is done at the vaccination point, in two steps:

- Before vaccination, a doctor is applying a questionnaire and conducting the screening. If necessary, the doctor will inform the patient about specific risks.

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>2021- REVENIRE la adresa nr. 2348, din 25 ianuarie referitoare la accesibilizarea platformei vaccinare-covid.gov.ro pentru persoanele cu dizabilități și solicitarea includerii persoanelor cu dizabilități în lista de categorii care se pot vaccina in etapa a doua', 5 February 2021.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Romanian Government (*Guvernul României*) (2021), '<u>Harta interactivă a centrelor de vaccinare, pe tipuri de vaccin</u>', 21 March 2021.

 After the vaccination, the patient will remain under observation between 15 and 30 minutes, and they will be informed about potential side effects and how to report them.

All information is provided in Romanian only.

c) Are there any circumstances where fees are applicable for receiving the vaccine – e.g. for third country nationals?

No. Vaccination (anti-Covid) is always free of charge.

## 3 Challenges and promising practices

### 3.1 Challenges

Controversy surrounding prioritization of various social groups

In **Romania**, the criteria used to prioritize social groups in the vaccination campaign were both medical (vulnerability to disease) and utilitarian (importance for the society). Under the second criteria, a larger number of persons, up to 1.5 million, were prioritized together with the elderly (65+) and the persons with chronic diseases<sup>16</sup> (also see the table in section 1). These persons, usually active and more educated, had easier access to the registration channels, said the representatives of the Coalition of Organization of Patients with Chronical Diseases (Coalitia Organizatiilor Pacientilor cu Afectiuni Cronice din Romania) and the Association of Patients from Romania (Asociatia Pacientilor din România), who criticized the decision<sup>17</sup>. Mass-media reported that family members of the military personnel (considered essential and prioritized before other categories) and other (unknown) persons were prioritized in the first two phases of the campaign, even if they should have waited until the third phase<sup>18</sup>. During this controversy, the deputy minister of health, in an interview, admitted that the priorities were not respected, and certain type of 'privileges' were propagated in the public system, in particular related to the military and the police forces. He also emphasized that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Ziarul Financiar (2021), <u>'Un sfert din totalul de angajaţi sunt eligibili pentru etapa a doua de vaccinare.</u> Administraţia centrală, învăţământul şi industria alimentară au cea mai mare pondere ca număr de angajaţi dintre domeniile "cheie", 17 January 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> 7iasi.ro (2021), '<u>Problema "esentialilor" care iau locul pacientilor cronici la vaccinare. Tot mai multi romani eligibili se ofera sa-si cedeze locul: "Aceasta judecata morala este corecta"', 26 January 2021.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Recorder.ro (2021), '<u>Ce ascund datele complete despre vaccinare: rude ale militarilor băgate în fată și sute de oameni din a treia etapă vaccinați înaintea medicilor</u>', 10 March 2021.

the government considered more important to vaccinate as many people as possible<sup>19</sup>.

#### Low vaccination rates for elderly

In **Romania**, persons over 65 years old are considered among the most vulnerable to the Covid-19 disease, and they are prioritized for vaccination, according to the National Vaccination Strategy, immediately after the health workers. The vaccination of elderly (65+) started on 15 January, with the target of vaccinating 80% of this group by the beginning of May. But according to disaggregated data published at the end of April, the percentage of vaccinated elderly remains relatively low<sup>20</sup>:

Age group	First doze received	Fully vaccinated	Unvaccinated
	4%	10%	85%
80+	39,422	97,092	792,322
	8%	20%	72%
70-79	124,078	300,683	1,106,272
	10%	18%	72%
60-69	253,992	454,301	1,790,912
	9%	11%	80%
All (16+)	3,272,322	1,920,853	16,091,562

## 3.2 Promising practices

Vaccination of persons in residential centers: slow start but good recovery

In **Romania**, the beneficiaries of residential services were prioritized immediately after the health workers, in the second phase of the vaccination campaign, which started on 15 January 2021. By the end of January, mass-media was drawing attention that less than half of the residents were registered for vaccination, and only one third of those registered (thus one sixth of the total number) were actually vaccinated<sup>21</sup>. The lack of mobile units at county level was the main reason for the failure to reach the vaccination targets. Better organization lead to improved results in the following weeks and months. According to the latest data published by the National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Spotmedia.ro (2021), <u>'Numărul mare de centre de vaccinare pentru "esențialii" din instituțiile de forță e o consecință a unui alt privilegiu: MAI și MApN au sisteme medicale exclusive, la nivel national</u>, 11 March 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Romanian Government (*Guvernul României*) (2021), '<u>Situația vaccinării în România pe grupe de vârstă (30 aprilie, ora 10.00)</u>', information released via the official Facebook page of the vaccination campaign, 30 April 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Dela0.ro (2021), '<u>Prioritari după tipic românesc: expuși unui risc crescut de îmbolnăvire, mii de români din centre rezidențiale n-au fost încă vaccinați de statul care îi găzduiește', 31 January 2021.</u>

and Adoption (*Autoritatea Națională pentru Drepturile Persoanelor cu Dizabilități Copii și Adopții*), from the total number of 16,830 adult beneficiaries in residential centers, 14,405 (85.59%) registered for vaccination, and from those, 13,431 (92.24%) were vaccinated by 18 April 2021<sup>22</sup>.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption (*Autoritațea Naționale pentru Drepturile Persoanelor cu Dizabilități Copii și Adopții*) (2021), '<u>Situație vaccinări – servicii rezidențiale DGASPC – perioada 01.01 – 18.04.2021</u>', 18 April 2021.