

Canopy of Prayer

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contributor

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Dear praying friends in Europe

Romania has taken over the presidency of the EU for 6 months. Many have registered their concerns. That is why we have requested an article about Romania first-hand. In addition to ruthless openness regarding the corruption of the government, the author emphasises what is happening spiritually in Romania, that which you otherwise would not know. And so we want to encourage you, dear Romanian brothers and sisters, not to give up in prayer for the release of your beautiful country. Your prayer is highly welcome and effective before God! And you should know that we from Europe are praying from our hearts and stand with you. Be encouraged for the future of your nation with 2 Cor 9:8

Ortwin Schweitzer

Romania

History:

Historically speaking, the Romanian people was born 2,000 years ago. For almost all of this time, the people have always been under foreign occupation, until some 100 years ago. On December 1st, 2018, Romania celebrated its centennial! It is truly a miracle of God the way in which the Romanian people kept their linguistic identity, and their Christian faith, in spite of hundreds of years of foreign rulers, with different cultures and religions.

The Romanians were the ones who put a stop to the Ottoman Islamic invasion towards the western parts of Europe, and I truly believe that this is our calling again!

In 1989, Romania got rid of the Communist tyranny, but the devastation is still present in our country. There is a lot of corruption and so there is suspicion and mistrust among the people of this country.



Romanian Parliament

The current situation:

Romania is being governed by the Social Democratic Party. There are numerous corrupt leaders within this party. They have changed the laws of justice so they cannot be taken to Court. On an economic level, they have imposed some populist measures that have put the country in a difficult situation. Because of this, there have been

numerous social manifestations by the people, who desire integrity and justice in our country.

During the democratic governments since 1989, a great number of companies went bankrupt, the country has been depleted of its resources, and so millions of its inhabitants have emigrated (over 5 million people). The return home of these Romanians and economic development are very important prayer topics!

Corruption is a huge problem, affecting also the safety of this country.

During the last years, after the growing disputes between NATO and Russia, Romania has become a target of direct threats from Russia because Romania is situated strategically, having access to the Black Sea. Romania is heavily assaulted by Russia. Every corrupt leader is a breach into the safety and integrity of our country. This is also a major prayer point!

The spiritual situation:

In Romania, we have religious freedom and the churches are being filled with people who are searching for God.

We have an estimate of over 1 million born-again Christians.

The Orthodox Church is dominant (over 80% of the total population).

There is a growing spiritual awakening with increasing spiritual movements and prayer groups. Also, there has been an intensified interdenominational church activity. The impact of the Christians in our society is ever growing. President Klaus Johannis is a believer.

More and more people are also praying for Israel, more and more Christians come to an understanding of God's plan for Israel. Romania also has a very good relationship with Israel on a state level. In Israel, there is an important Jewish community having Romanian roots.

Prayer points for Romania:

- A massive spiritual awakening to take place in Romania – God is our only solution!
- Elimination of corruption from the governing level.
- Peace and protection of the territorial integrity of the country
- Alignment of Romania according with God's will in the following period of the EU-presidency!



After 28 years of negotiation Greece and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are nearing agreement on the proposed new name "Republic of Northern Macedonia". Let us remember these two nations as they seek to formalise this agreement, as there has already been unrest in Athens over this issue.

Additional prayer points:-

1. **Brexit**, Let us continue to pray for British politicians as March 29th draws nearer and there is still no clear way forward.
2. **Germany and France** are signing a new treaty this week aimed at reinforcing their cooperation. This could cause tension in other EU states.

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