



# **Romania's Anticorruption Monitoring Efforts**

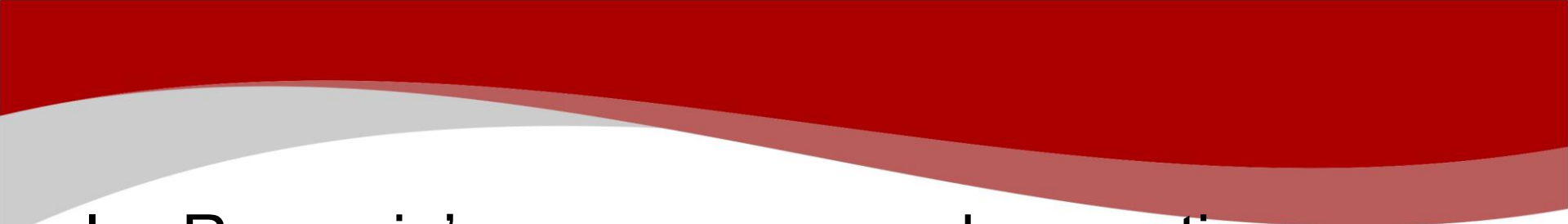
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- I. Romania's governance and corruption situation
  - II. Documenting mismanagement & corruption with EU funds
  - III. Romanian Coalition for a Clean Parliament

# I. Romania's governance and corruption situation

## WGI in 2007 (percentile rank)

	Romania	Bulgaria
Government effectiveness	45.6	53.8
Rule of law	51	52
Control of corruption	54	52.4

## WGI in 2012 (percentile rank)

	Romania	Bulgaria
Government effectiveness	43.5	60
Rule of law	56	51
Control of corruption	50.7	52.1

# Indirect indicators of particularism

1. Why is Romania still considered to be one of the most corrupt among the new EU member states?
2. Why does it still have some of the lowest governance scores?
  - Persistence of a high perception of corruption despite changes in government
  - Real influence held by same individuals/groups regardless of the election outcome
  - High political migration
  - Widespread perception that some people are above the law
  - Relatively low number of convictions/jail time for people from status groups

## II. Documenting mismanagement & corruption with EU funds

- Creation of an original database using data from the DNA and the DLAF to be used for statistical analysis.
- Purposes:
  - identify the most frequent defrauding tactics which were proved following criminal trials;
  - see the frequency of these tactics vis-a-vis the EU financial instruments
  - see the typology of the actors involved in defrauding activities
  - estimate the financial damage incurred via mismanagement on the one hand and frauds on the other hand

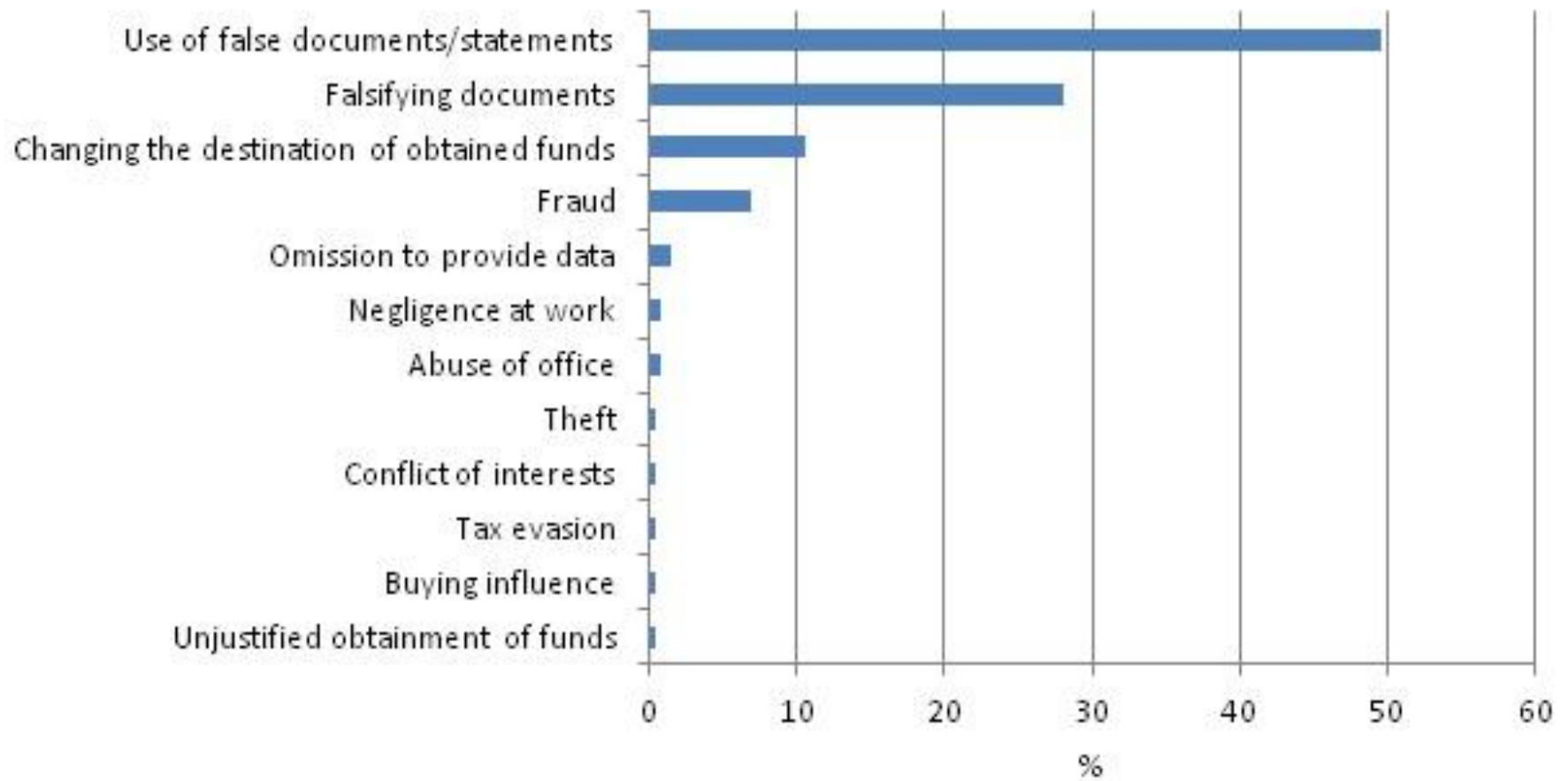
# Documenting corruption with EU funds

Data sources:

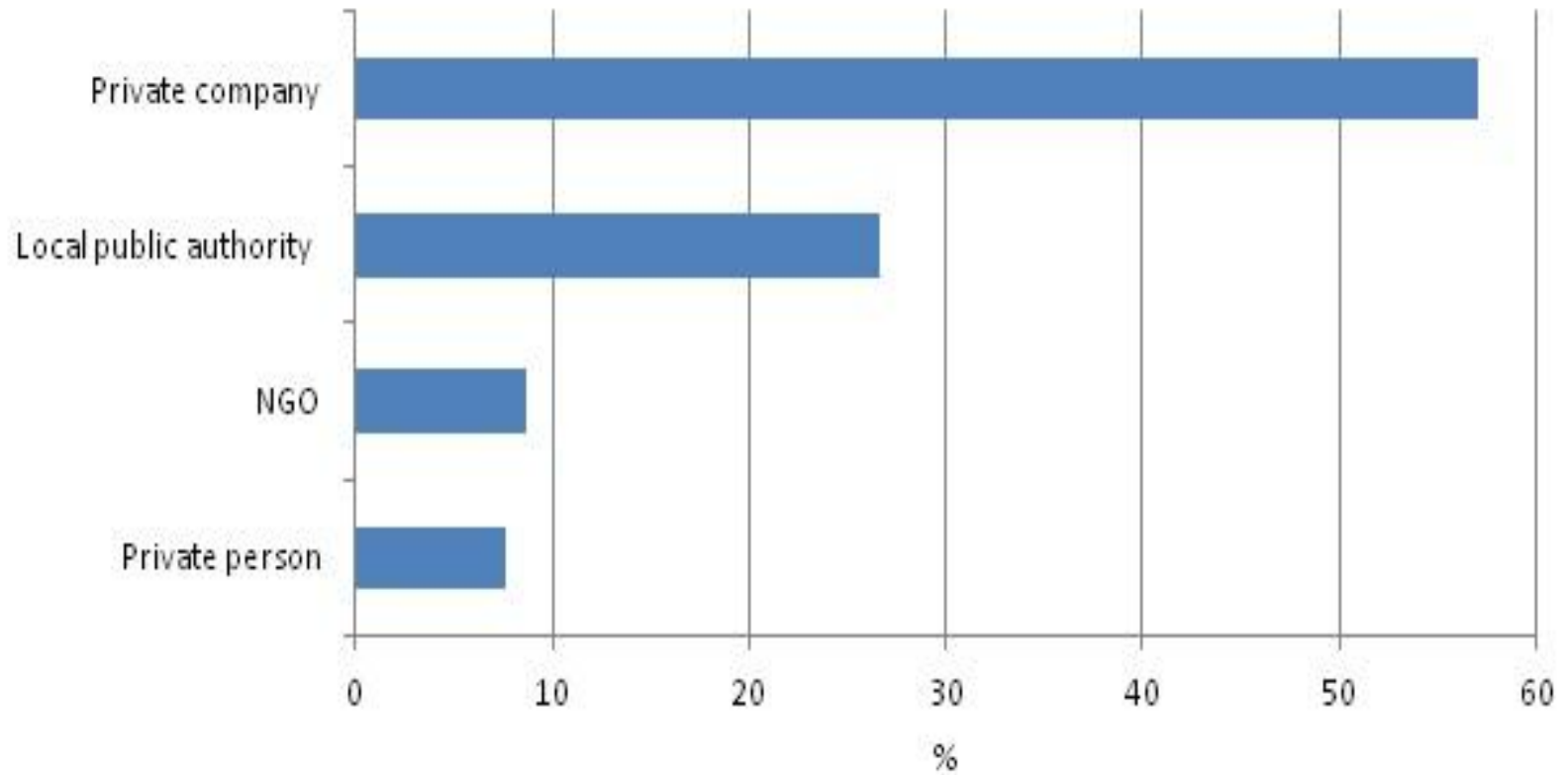
- 1) final penal decisions given out by courts of law following DNA investigations (2010 – March 2013);
- 2) for each decision, the corresponding indictment;
- 3) press articles.

**Not an exhaustive list of defrauding tactics since it concentrated on what could be proven by the DNA prosecutors during the trials ending with definitive sentences**

# The frequency of defrauding tactics

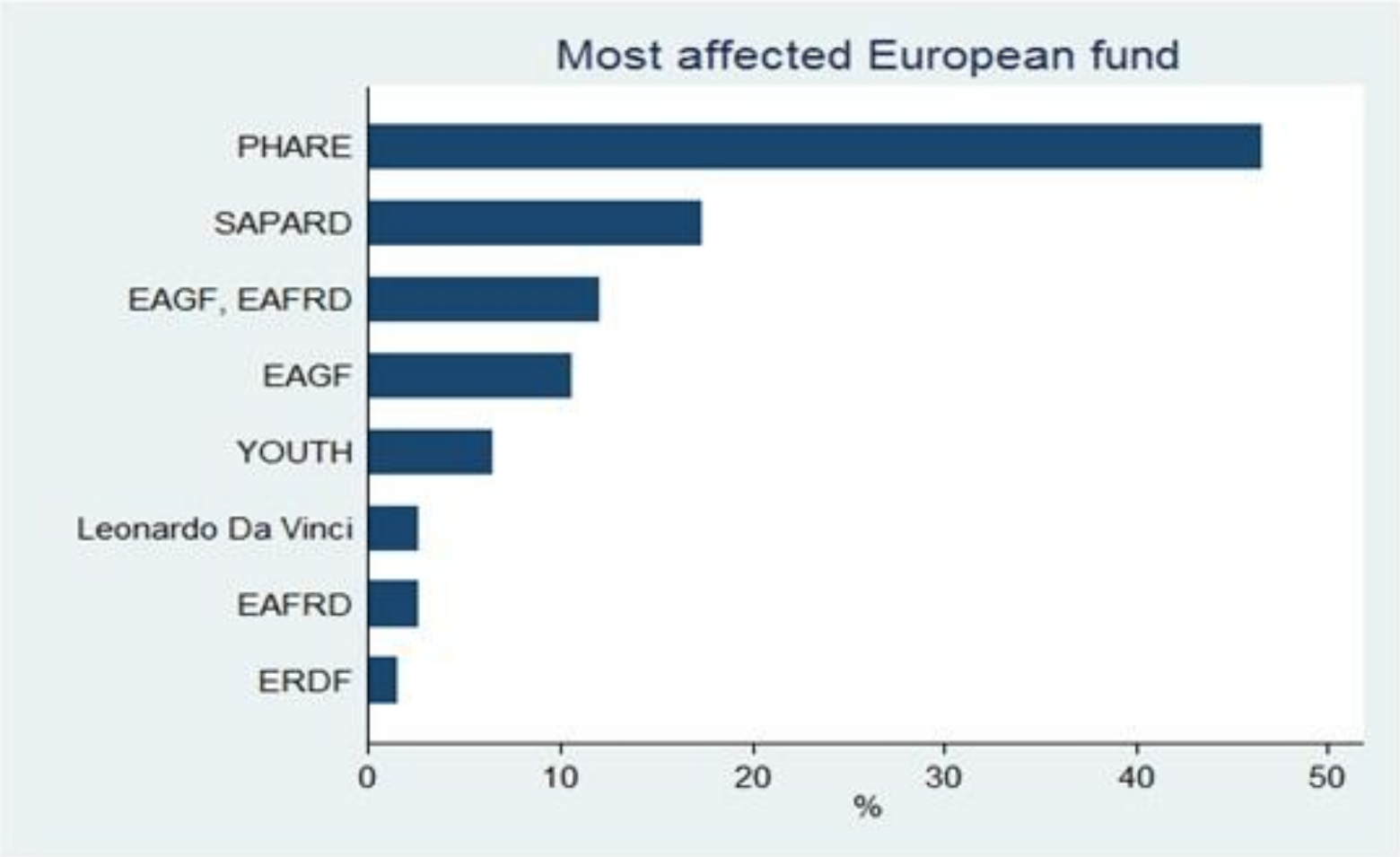


# Types of entities involved in fraud

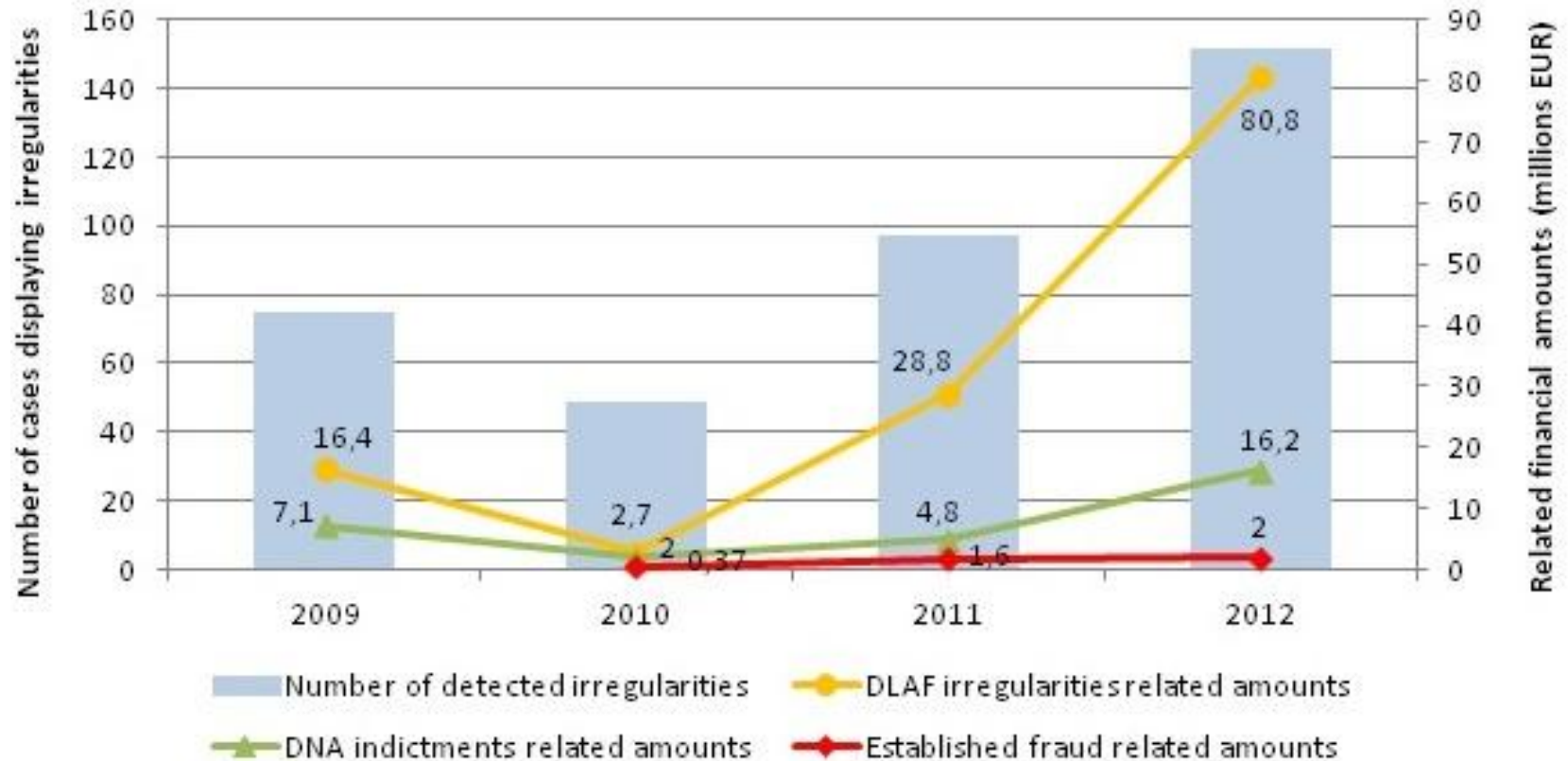




# Most affected EU financial instrument



# Number of detected irregularities and the related financial amounts



# III. The 2004 Romanian Coalition for a Clean Parliament (CCP)

1. Building a broad civic coalition for integrity in politics
2. Defining political integrity and signing an agreement with the political parties
3. Watchdog activity: monitoring political integrity, creating “black lists” and sending them to the political party leadership
4. Putting pressure on parties to drop black listed candidates
5. Public shaming strategy: taking the final lists to the media and the voters

# CCP integrity criteria for mayors/MPs

- Gains from conflicts of interest  
(e.g. signed contracts on behalf of the city hall with his/her own business firm or those belonging to his family)
- Owner of a private firm with tax arrears to the state budget
- Subject to prior investigations for corruption and mismanagement (published and verifiable evidence)
- Being unable to account for the discrepancy between officially stated assets and one's actual income
- Two or more shifts from one party to another to gain or keep office and other advantages
- Having been exposed as an agent of the *Securitate*

# CCP results

- 200 candidates monitored; 98 black listed candidates were withdrawn from the party lists/ were not elected; 104 black listed candidates managed to enter Parliament
- None of the black listed politicians got any appointments after the elections
- Parties created an internal screening mechanism for integrity
- CCP draws new anticorruption strategy of Romania, new assets disclosure form, new procurement legislation
- An automatic endorsement of the new campaign

# CCP results

- The CCP was cited in the World Bank's Anticorruption in Transition report as a good practice example
- **2005:** Coalition for a Clean Government (monitoring low and high-ranking government officials)
  - promoted a better format for the declaration of wealth and interests which was also transformed into an effective anti-corruption and transparency instrument
  - increased transparency in public procurement
- **2006:** Eastern European NGO network - "A Coalition for Clean Parliaments in Eastern Europe" → export the strategy in the Balkans and adapt it to local needs → create new political integrity standards

# CCP results

- **2007 & 2008:** EP and parliamentary elections → a new criteria: **The legislative activity of the elected official in the 2004-2008 mandate (laws supporting the rule of law)**
- **2007:** monitoring was partially transferred to the National Integrity Agency (RAS co-wrote “how to” guides)
- **2009:** parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova; over 200 candidates monitored; booklet distributed nation-wide; not a single party complied with the Civic Initiative request to withdraw black listed candidates from the electoral race

# CCP results

- **2011:** Ukrainian CHESNO movement gathered over 150 entities; over 2300 candidates monitored; 900 candidates black-listed
- **2012:** Romanian parliamentary elections → new criteria were introduced:
  - incompatibilities (accumulation of offices)
  - nepotism
  - having sponsored a political party
  - racist/discriminatory statements/attitude
- **Charter for Good Governance** signed between a broad civil society coalition and the governing coalition – today continuously disregarded
- **2014:** Coalition for a Clean Media





Thank you!

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