



**PERMANENT ELECTORAL AUTHORITY  
OF ROMANIA**

**VENICE COMMISSION  
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Scientific Electoral Experts Debates**

#### **Accessibility of the electoral process**

**online, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

Direct link to the meeting: <https://bit.ly/3p5IAmn>

#### **PROGRAMME**

##### ***Bucharest time (UTC + 2)***

14:00 – 14:15

##### **Opening**

Address by Mr. Constantin-Florin Mitulețu-Buică, President of the Permanent Electoral Authority of Romania  
Address by Mr. Pierre Garrone, Head of the Division of Elections and Political Parties, Venice Commission, Council of Europe

##### ***First session***

14:15 -14:45

##### **Keynote speech: “The concept of accessibility – its implications for voters and candidates”**

Ms. Katharina Pabel,  
Professor, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Substitute Member of the Venice Commission, Substitute Member of the Council for Democratic Elections, Austria

##### **Session of questions/answers**

14:45 - 15:15

##### **Keep in step with the time. Accessibility of voting and legitimacy of the electoral process in times of crisis**

Mr. Cristian Pîrvulescu,  
Professor, Faculty of Political Science, National School of Political Studies and Administration of Bucharest, Romania

##### **Session of questions/answers**

15:15 -15:45

##### **Accessibility during a period of emergency**

Mr. Oliver Kask,

Judge, Member of the Venice Commission, President of the Council for Democratic Elections, President of the National Election Commission, Estonia

**Session of questions/answers**

15:45 - 16:15

*Break*

**Second session**

16:15-16:45

**The accessibility, a theoretical concept between national law and European regulations**

Mr. Bogdan Nicolae Țonea,  
Professor, Faculty of Legal and Administrative Studies, A.I.Cuza Police Academy, Bucharest, Romania

**Session of questions/answers**

16:45-17:15

**Making elections accessible in Romania: a work in progress**

Mr. Cristian-Alexandru Leahu,  
Head of Legislation, Election Dispute Resolution, liaison to the Parliament and European Union, Permanent Electoral Authority of Romania

**Session of questions/answers**

17:15-17:45

**Understandability of the electoral process**

Mr. Lorenzo Cordova Vianello,  
President, National Electoral Institute, Mexico

**Session of questions/answers**

17:45-18:15

**Inclusion and Meaningful Political Participation during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Ms. Rebecca Aaberg,  
International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)

**Session of questions/answers**

18:15 -18:30

**Conclusions**

Ms. Katharina Pabel,  
Professor, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Substitute Member of the Venice Commission, Substitute Member of the Council for Democratic Elections, Austria

Mr. Cristian-Alexandru Leahu,  
Head of Legislation, Election Dispute Resolution, liaison to the Parliament and European Union, Permanent Electoral Authority of Romania

**Opening remarks & First session** - Chaired by Mr. Bogdan Nicolae Țonea, Professor, Faculty of Legal and Administrative Studies, A.I.Cuza Police Academy, Bucharest, Romania

**Second Session** - Chaired by Mr. Oliver Kask, Judge, Member of the Venice Commission, President of the Council for Democratic Elections, President of the National Election Commission, Estonia

---

**AEP contact person:**

Ion-Mincu Rădulescu, adviser, International Cooperation Department, Email: [ion.mincu@roaep.ro](mailto:ion.mincu@roaep.ro)

**Venice Commission's contact persons:**

Pierre Garrone, Head of Division, Email: [pierre.garrone@coe.int](mailto:pierre.garrone@coe.int)  
Stella Chignac, assistant, Email: [stella.chignac@coe.int](mailto:stella.chignac@coe.int)

**Contact person for technical issues:**

Gabriel Dica, head of the Direction for software and applications development. E-mail: [gabriel.dica@roaep.ro](mailto:gabriel.dica@roaep.ro)