

The measures taken or planned, including temporary social security programmes, to provide assistance to or mitigate the pandemic's impact on the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights

I. In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, one of the measures adopted by the Government of Romania was the financing from public funds of the technical unemployment allowance both for employees and for other professional categories that do not carry out lucrative activities based on an individual employment contract. The measure intended to grant support in order to maintain jobs and prevent the increase of unemployment during the health crisis. The adopted measures were taken in accordance with the evolution of the situation registered at national level and with the needs of the labor market and could also be financed from non-reimbursable external funds, within the limits of the allocated amounts and in accordance with the applicable provisions and rules for granting financing (Government's Emergency Ordinance 30/2020 for the amendment and completion of some normative acts, as well as for the establishment of measures in the field of social protection in the context of the epidemiological situation determined by the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, approved with amendments and additions by Law no. 59/ 2020, with subsequent additions).

➤ The categories of beneficiaries of the technical unemployment allowance during the state of emergency and state of alert, as the case may be:

- employees whose individual employment contract is suspended, at the initiative of the employer, according to art. 52 para. (1) lit. c) from Law no. 53/2003 - Labor Code, republished, with subsequent amendments and additions,

- other professionals, as regulated by art. 3 paragraph (2) from Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, republished, with subsequent amendments,

- persons who have concluded individual labor agreements based on Law no. 1/2005 regarding the organization and functioning of the cooperative, republished, with subsequent amendments,

- the persons provided for in art. 67¹ para. (1) letter a) - c) from the Law on physical education and sport no. 69/2000, with subsequent amendments and additions,

- natural persons who obtain their income exclusively from copyright and related rights, as regulated by Law no. 8/1996 on copyright and related rights, republished, with subsequent amendments and additions,

- lawyers whose activity is reduced as a result of the effects of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, during the state of emergency, if in the month for which they are requesting the allowance they have collected at least 25% less than the monthly average for 2019, but which do not exceed the average gross salary provided by Law no. 6/2020.

➤ The method of granting this allowance during the state of emergency and after it, during the state of alert, for the areas in which the authorities have maintained restrictions:

- the bearing from the unemployment insurance budget, for the period of suspension of the individual employment contract at the initiative of the employer, in case of temporary interruption or reduction of the activity according to art. 52 para. (1) lit. c) from Law no. 53/2003 - Labor Code, with subsequent amendments and additions, of an allowance granted to employees, of 75% of the basic salary corresponding to the job held, but not more than 75% of the average gross salary earnings provided by Law no. 6/2020 regarding the state social insurance budget for 2020;

- other categories of professionals defined by Law no. 287/2009 on the Civil Code, republished, with subsequent amendments and additions, who did not have the status of employers and who were

affected in their activity by the effects of the decreed state of emergency, benefited from an allowance equal to 75% of the gross minimum wage per country guaranteed in payment for 2020, from the general consolidated budget;

- for people who benefit from a sports activity contract, according to Law no. 69/2000 with subsequent amendments and additions, whose activity was suspended at the initiative of the sports structure, an indemnity of 75% of the monetary rights related to the consideration of the sports activity was granted, but not more than 75% of average gross earnings;

- natural persons who obtain income exclusively from copyright and related rights and were unable to carry out their activity during the state of emergency, benefited from a monthly allowance of 75% of the average gross salary;

- lawyers were able to benefit from the allowance provided for by art. XV of the Government's Emergency Ordinance no. 30/2020, in the case of these categories of professionals, the allowance is granted if in the month for which they request the allowance, they have earned at least 25% less than the monthly average for 2019, but which do not exceed the earnings gross average salary stipulated by Law no. 6/2020, based on the affidavit;

- persons who have concluded individual labor agreements based on Law no. 1/2005 on the organization and functioning of the cooperative, republished, with subsequent amendments, benefited from an allowance equal to 75% of the minimum gross salary per country guaranteed in payment for the year 2020. In order to grant the sums necessary for the payment of the allowance, the cooperative with which the persons concluded individual agreements took the steps necessary to grant the rights.

The financing from public funds of the technical unemployment allowance during the state of emergency and the state of alert continued during 2021 for all economic activities in which the restrictions were maintained by the authorities.

Thus, the period for granting this allowance began on March 21, 2020 and was successively extended, and according to *Emergency Ordinance no. 211/2020 regarding the extension of the application of some social protection measures adopted in the context of the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, as well as for the amendment of the Government's Emergency Ordinance no. 132/2020 regarding the support measures intended for employees and employers in the context of the epidemiological situation determined by the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, as well as to stimulate the increase in employment*, the provisions of art. XI and XV of the Government's Emergency Ordinance no. 30/2020, with subsequent amendments and additions, was applied until June 30, 2021, for all the areas of activity under Law no. 55/2020 regarding some measures to prevent and combat the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, with subsequent amendments and additions. Also, until June 30, 2021, the application of the provisions of the *Government Emergency Ordinance no. 120/2020 on the establishment of support measures for employees and employers in the context of the epidemiological situation determined by the spread of the SARS-CoV-2* continued, which regulated the fact that employees of employers whose activity was suspended as a result of the epidemiological investigation carried out by the county public health departments, respectively of the municipality of Bucharest, could benefit from the technical unemployment allowance with the exception of employees on medical leave and who were already receiving the social insurance allowance.

This measure was later granted through the provisions of *Emergency Ordinance no. 111/2021 for the establishment of social protection measures for employees and other professional categories in the context of the prohibition, suspension or limitation of economic activities, determined by the epidemiological situation generated by the spread of the SARS-coronavirus CoV-2* for the period October 4 - December 31, 2021.

In 2022, the financing from public funds of the technical unemployment allowance during the state of alert was granted until March 31, 2022 for all economic activities in which the restrictions were maintained by the authorities, this measure being regulated by the provisions of the Emergency Ordinance no. 2/2022 regarding the establishment of social protection measures for employees and other professional categories in the context of the prohibition, suspension or limitation of economic activities, determined by the epidemiological situation generated by the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, as well as for the modification and completion of some normative acts .

The required documents for the employers to receive the amounts necessary for the payment of the technical unemployment allowance were submitted electronically to the county employment agencies, specifically to the Municipality of Bucharest.

II. Starting from June 2020, employers whose employees had their individual employment contracts suspended for a period of at least 15 days during the state of emergency or alert, whether or not they benefited from the technical unemployment allowance, have benefited for a period of 3 months, in accordance with the law, from the settlement of a part of their salary representing 41.5% of the gross basic salary, corresponding to the job held, but not more than 41.5% of the average gross salary per country, with the obligation to maintain the employment relationships until December 31, 2020, with the exception of seasonal workers. These measures also benefited the people who have individual labor agreements concluded on the basis of Law no. 1/2005 regarding the organization and functioning of the cooperation, republished, with subsequent amendments (Government Emergency Ordinance no. 92/2020 of May 28, 2020 for the establishment of active support measures for employees and employers in the context of the epidemiological situation determined by the spread of the SARS-coronavirus CoV-2, as well as for the modification of some normative acts, approved by Law no. 211/2020).

III. Employers who, between June 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020, employed full-time, for an indefinite period of time, people aged over 50 whose employment relationships ended for reasons not attributable to them, during the decreed state of emergency by Decree no. 195/2020 regarding the establishment of the state of emergency on the territory of Romania, extended by Decree no. 240/2020, or the state of alert established by Government Decision no. 394/2020 regarding the declaration of the state of alert and the measures that are applied during it to prevent and combat the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, registered as unemployed in the records of employment agencies, received monthly, for a period of 12 months, for each employed person from this category, 50% of the employee's salary, but not more than 2,500 lei.

At the same time, employers who employed, not later than December 31, 2020, for an indefinite period, full-time, persons aged between 16 and 29 registered as unemployed in the records of the employment agencies have received monthly, for a period of 12 months, for each employed person in this category, 50% of the employee's salary, but not more than 2,500 lei. This measure also benefited, under similar conditions, the employers who employed Romanian citizens whose employment relationships with foreign employers on the territory of other states were terminated, for reasons beyond their control, through dismissal (Emergency Ordinance no. 92/2020 of May 28, 2020 for the establishment of active support measures intended for employees and employers in the context of the epidemiological situation determined by the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, as well as for the modification of some normative acts). The granting of these measures was also extended for the period 1.01 .2021 – 01.09.2021 through the provisions of the Emergency Ordinance no. 220/2020 regarding the application of social protection measures after January 1, 2021 in the context of the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, as well as for the modification of some normative acts.

IV. In the case of the temporary reduction of the activity determined by the establishment of the state of emergency/alert/siege, under the conditions of the law, as well as for a period of up to 3 months

from the end of the last period in which the state of emergency/alert/siege was established, employers had the possibility to reduce the working times of employees up to 50% of the daily, weekly or monthly duration provided for in the individual employment contract, for a period of at least 5 working days, per month, through the employer's decision, during which the affected employees measure have benefited from an allowance of 75% of the difference between the gross basic salary provided for in the individual employment contract and the gross basic salary related to the hours of work actually performed as a result of the reduction in the working time, calculated based on time actually worked, according to the law, settled from the unemployment insurance budget. The reduction of the working times was also applied in the case of shift work schedules, as well as in the case of the uneven work schedules. This measure continued to apply in 2021 in the case of the temporary reduction of the working times determined by the establishment of the state of emergency/alert/siege, as well as for a period of up to 3 months from the end of the last period in which the state of emergency /alert/siege, employers having the option to reduce the working time of employees by no more than 80% of the daily, weekly or monthly duration, provided for in the individual employment contract for a period of at least 5 days, monthly, by decision of the employer, during which the employees affected by the measure received an allowance of 75% of the difference between the gross basic salary stipulated in the individual employment contract and the gross basic salary for the hours actually worked as a result of the reduction in working time. (Emergency Ordinance no. 132/2020 regarding support measures for employees and employers in the context of the epidemiological situation determined by the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, as well as for stimulating the increase in employment, with subsequent amendments and additions).

On March 8, 2022, the state of alert established by Government Decision no. 394/2020 regarding the declaration of the state of alert and the measures that apply during it to prevent and combat the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, approved with amendments and additions by the Decision of the Parliament of Romania no. 5/2020, with subsequent amendments and additions, successively extended by the decisions adopted by the Government of Romania, and this measure was to apply until June 8, 2022. Thus, considering the international economic context generated by the increase in inflation to record levels, including as a result of the price increases recorded on the electricity and natural gas markets, which led to increases in production costs, simultaneously with the reduction in the sale of products and services as a result of the decrease in purchasing power, but also against the background of the armed conflict in Ukraine, The Government of Romania adopted Emergency Ordinance no. 73/2022 for completing the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 132/2020 regarding support measures intended for employees and employers in the context of the epidemiological situation determined by the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, as well as for stimulating the increase in employment, with the subsequent amendments and additions, which continued the granting of this measure until on December 31, 2022, both under the previously provided conditions and for employers whose production decreased by at least 10%, compared to the same month of 2019 or compared to the monthly average of production in 2019. In the case of an employer established between January 1 and March 15, 2020 and which has at least one employee, the decrease in production is related to the production made in the month prior to the application of the measure.

V. In case of the temporary reduction of the activity determined by the establishment of the state of emergency/alert/siege, as well as for a period of up to 3 months from the date of termination of the last period in which the state of emergency/alert/siege was established, for the period reduction of working time, professionals, as well as persons who have concluded individual labor agreements based on Law no. 1/2005 regarding the organization and functioning of the cooperative, republished, with subsequent amendments, benefited, upon request, based on the declaration on personal responsibility, of a monthly allowance of 41.5% of the average gross salary provided by the specific legislation. The granting of this measure was extended until December 31, 2022. (Emergency

Ordinance no. 132/2020 regarding support measures for employees and employers in the context of the epidemiological situation determined by the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, as well as to stimulate growth employment, with subsequent amendments and additions).

VI. For people who carry out unqualified activities of an occasional nature, according to the provisions of Law no. 52/2011 regarding the exercise of occasional activities carried out by day laborers, republished, with subsequent amendments and additions, referred to as day laborers, who carry out their activity in one of the fields provided for in art. 13 of that law, affected by the interruption or restriction of activity as a result of the effects of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, for a period of three months, at the choice of the beneficiary of the works, but not later than June 30, 2021, was granted from the budget of state an amount representing 35% of the remuneration due for the working day (Emergency Ordinance no. 132/2020 regarding support measures intended for employees and employers in the context of the epidemiological situation determined by the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, as well as to stimulate the increase in employment of work, with subsequent amendments and additions).

VII. Until June 30, 2021, but not more than a period of 3 months, at the choice of the employer, for employees who concluded individual employment contracts for a fixed period of up to 3 months, the settlement of a part of the salary granted to them, borne from the unemployment insurance budget, representing 41.5% of the salary related to the days worked in these jobs, for a working period of 8 hours/day, but not more than 41.5% of the average gross salary provided by the legislation, related to the period worked (Emergency Ordinance no. 132/2020 regarding support measures intended for employees and employers in the context of the epidemiological situation determined by the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, as well as to stimulate the increase in employment, with subsequent amendments and additions).

VIII. To carry out the activity in a telework regime, in accordance with the provisions of Law no. 81/2018 regarding the regulation of telework activity, a financial support of 2,500 lei was granted to employers for each teleworker, for the purpose of purchasing packages of goods and technological services necessary for carrying out telework activity. The amount is granted, in the order of submission of requests, until December 31, 2020, from the unemployment insurance budget, by the county employment agencies, within the limits of the funds allocated for this purpose, to employers, for employees who worked telework during the period the state of emergency or the state of alert for at least 15 working days (Emergency Ordinance no. 132/2020 regarding support measures for employees and employers in the context of the epidemiological situation determined by the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, as well as to stimulate growth employment, with subsequent amendments and additions).

IX. During the state of emergency, the period for granting the unemployment allowance provided by Law no. 76/2002, with subsequent amendments and additions, for the unemployed who, during this period, had this right terminated. Later, by Law no. 59/2020 for the approval of Emergency Ordinance no. 30/2020 established the extension by three months, until December 31, 2020, of the period for granting unemployment benefits, including for those for whom the payment of unemployment benefits was suspended on the date of entry into force of Law no. 59/2020.

X. In the situation where employment contracts were suspended as a result of the effects of the coronavirus pandemic, during the state of emergency and alert, the period of suspension was determined to be a period assimilated in the unemployment insurance system, for which the employers did not owe the insurance contribution for work as it is regulated by the specific legislation.

XI. During the state of emergency and alert, when establishing and calculating the unemployment allowance provided by Law no. 76/2002 with subsequent amendments and additions, the allowance

granted to employees whose individual employment contract was suspended, at the initiative of the employer, was used.

XII. The periods in which the persons have benefited from the reduction of working time (and the related allowance) constitute assimilated internship in the unemployment insurance system and are taken into account when establishing the contribution internship of at least 12 months in the last 24 months preceding the date of registration of the application for the allowance of unemployment granted according to Law no. 76/2002, with subsequent amendments and additions.

The proportion of the population living below the poverty line as defined at the national level, before and after taxes and transfers

Regarding the population living below the poverty line is concerned, the evolution in recent years of the AROP (At-risk-of-poverty rate, https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ILC_LI09B_custom_3223592/default/table?lang=en) is as follows:

At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers (pensions included in social transfers) by region – EU-SILC survey

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
50.7	50.0	50.4	49.4	49.5	47.5	45.9	45.2	44.6	46.1

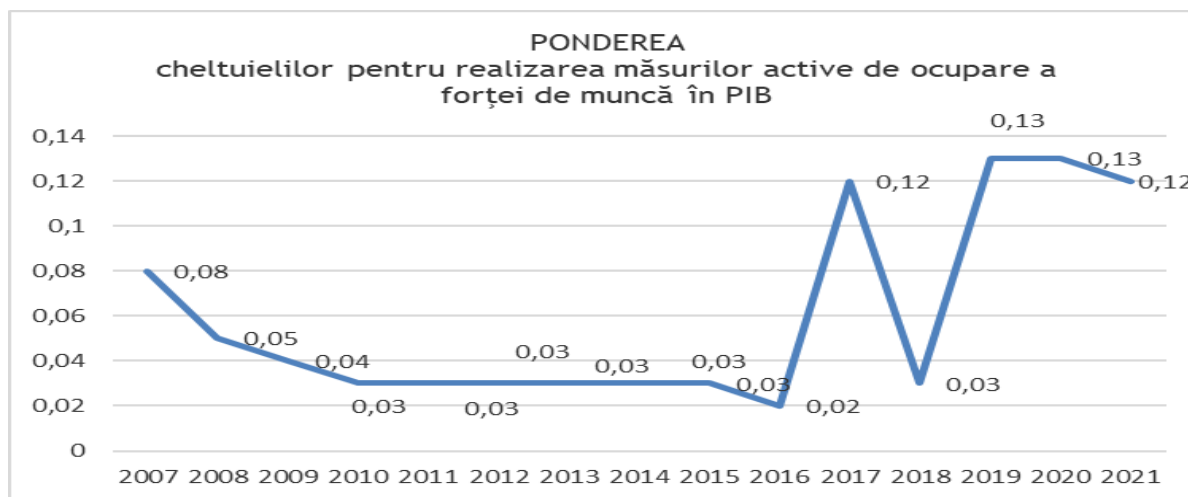
At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers (pensions included in social transfers) by region – EU-SILC survey

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
22.9	23.0	25.1	25.4	25.3	23.6	23.5	23.8	23.4	22.6

ROMANI A	Persons at risk of poverty and social exclusion	Impact of social transfers (excluding pensions) on poverty reduction	Severe material and social deprivation rate	People living in households with very low work intensity
	%	%	%	%
2015	44,5	13,31	34,0	6,2
2016	46,0	14,24	35,9	6,4
2017	42,5	16,61	32,4	5,4
2018	38,7	16,07	28,3	6,0
2019	36,3	15,30	24,5	4,5

2020	35,8	15,83	25,3	4,7
2021	34,4	18,12	23,1	3,5

The share of active measures expenditures in the GDP, for the period 2007-2021

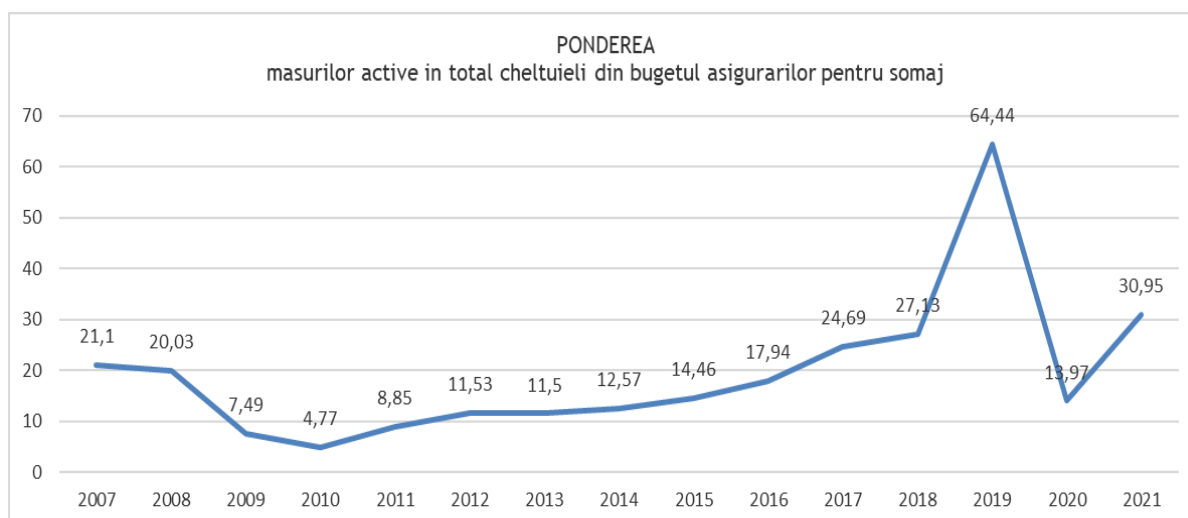


SHARE of expenditures with active employment measures in the GDP [%]

Source: National Agency for Employment

Chart above shows that, although in the period 2007–2017 expenses with the implementation of active measures were maintained, in absolute value, at a level almost 10 times higher than in the base year of the reference period, share in the GDP recorded a slightly downward curve, caused by a stronger growth rate of the GDP. Starting from 2019, the increase in the share of active measures is more obvious.

In the period 2007-2021, the share of active measures expenses in the total expenses financed from the unemployment insurance budget, has evolved as follows:



SHARE of active measures in total expenses from the unemployment insurance budget [%]

Source: National Agency for Employment

Public pension expenditure as % of GDP 2009-2021 (%)

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
State Social Insurance Budget (BASS)	7.59	8.01	7.87	7.42	7.15	7.09	6.99	6.84	6.71	6.65	6.60	7.68	7.57

Statistical data on undeclared work

As regards undeclared work, the number of workers detected performing **undeclared work** during the period: 2014-2021:

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
14.096	10.332	9.936	9.205	14.568	8.551	8.133	6.115

To atypical forms of employment fall: day labor, temporary employment contracts, individual fixed-term employment contracts, individual part-time contracts, individual contracts of telework.

Number of workers with **atypical forms** of employment, during the period: 2014-2021 was as follows:

1. the number of daily workers registered at national level:

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
267.524	237.751	215.827	222.750	251.353	201.305	153.261	153.279

2. the number of employees registered with individual temporary work contracts active on December 31 of each year :

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
32.099	34.978	37.015	35.649	34.522	31.489	30.071	26.354

3. the number of employees registered with individual employment contracts with a telework clause active on December 31 of each year:

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1.854	2.079	2.413	2.704	4.623	23.964	363.218	417.134

4. the number of employees registered with individual fixed-term employment contracts active on December 31 of each year:

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
476.804	464.199	444.193	438.938	468.979	446.103	455.954	465.043

5. the number of employees registered with individual part-time employment contracts active on December 31 of each year:

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
826.033	856.510	875.479	710.172	638.454	632.429	784.977	820.426

Social inspection

The social inspection is the main verification and intervention tool through which the State ensures the respect of the social rights of the citizens, as well as the correct functioning of the mechanisms specific to the assistance process in relation to the provisions of the legislative framework in the field of social assistance.

Control in the field of social assistance is carried out by the social inspection component within the National Agency for Payments and Social Inspection and subordinate structures at the county level.

The social inspection activity is regulated by the Social Assistance Framework Law no. 292/2011, and is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Government's Emergency Ordinance no. 113/2011 on the organization and functioning of the National Agency for Payments and Social Inspection, of Government Decision no. 151/2012 on the Agency's own Statute of organization and functioning National for Payments and Social Inspection, and of the Government's Emergency Ordinance no. 82/2016 for the approval of the special Statute of the specific public function of social inspector and for the modification and completion of some normative acts.

The social inspection was established as a structure specialized in advising, evaluating, controlling and monitoring the implementation of legislation in the field of social assistance, in order to:

- verification of all public institutions at national and local level, responsible for providing social assistance benefits/services;
- the control of public/private providers of social services and the guarantee of the quality of the social services provided by them in accordance with the related minimum mandatory standards, in relation to the identified needs of the beneficiaries;
- guaranteeing the respect of the rights of persons with disabilities to an accessible environment;
- guaranteeing compliance with the legal requirements regarding classification in the degree and type of handicap, in the degree of disability or dependency, as the case may be.

Also, according to art. 23 para. 1 lit. (a) from Law no. 197/2012 on quality assurance in the field of social services, with subsequent amendments and additions, social inspectors ensure the systematic verification of compliance with the minimum criteria and standards that were the basis for the accreditation of providers and social services, as well as indicators related to quality levels. To fulfill this attribution, art. 24 para. (1) from the same normative act provides for the following activities:

- planning and carrying out annual inspections of control and monitoring missions;
- carrying out, within the established terms, the monitoring and control actions, as well as the evaluation actions regarding compliance with the conditions of accreditation, licensing and inclusion in quality classes;
- elaboration of evaluation, monitoring and control reports, as well as control minutes, as appropriate;
- arranging measures to remedy the irregularities found, with precise deadlines and responsibilities;

- application of the sanctions provided by law, in case of non-compliance with the legal provisions in the field;
- proposing the withdrawal of accreditation, the suspension or withdrawal of licensing/provisional licensing;
- the application of the measures established by the decision to withdraw the accreditation or to suspend or withdraw the license;
- requesting verification by the institutions with control powers in the field of public health, fire protection, health and safety at work or, as the case may be, by other public authorities with control powers, depending on the field of competence, in the situation the existence of suspicions of non-compliance with the law, according to their legal competences and the express communication of the result of the verification carried out by these institutions or authorities.

According to the law, in order to remedy the non-conformities found during the control, evaluation and monitoring missions, the social inspectors have:

- remedial measures, ordered by the control minutes. The measures ordered by the social inspectors are mandatory for the inspected entities, and failure to comply with them constitutes a contravention and is sanctioned, according to art. 18 para. (1) lit. b) GEO no. 113/2011 regarding the organization and operation of ANPIS, with a fine from 5,000 lei to 10,000 lei;
- measures to recover the amounts improperly granted, when it was found that the social assistance benefits were established and granted without respecting the eligibility criteria provided by the normative acts in force;
- contraventional sanctions through the record of finding and enforcement of contraventions in the field of social assistance (warning and fine), provided by the normative acts in force;
- the application of complementary sanctions (suspension/withdrawal of the social service provider's accreditation/operating license) when it was found that the identified facts endangered the health and safety of the beneficiaries, as well as in situations where certain legal provisions that establish express both types of measures (main and complementary); notifying other institutions with control powers/criminal investigation bodies regarding the cases of violations provided by the normative acts, which fall within their sphere of competence.

Depending on the existing dynamics in social protection, with the participation of territorial agencies and relevant institutions in the field of social protection, the themes and objectives for the annual National Thematic Campaigns are established. For the period (2017-2019) these were:

Year 2017

1. Control regarding compliance with minimum quality standards by private providers of social services in residential centers for the elderly
2. Verification of compliance with minimum quality standards by public and private social service providers (evaluation).

Year 2018

1. Substantive control of public social assistance services - Stage I, DGASPC
2. Background control of public social assistance services - Stage II, SPAS
3. Verification of compliance with minimum quality standards by public and private social service providers

Year 2019

1. Substantive control of public social assistance services at the level of the communes
2. Verification of compliance with minimum quality standards by public and private social service providers
3. Verification of compliance with the right of children and young people for whom a special protection measure has been established, to food, clothing, footwear, cultural-sports materials, hygienic-sanitary materials, supplies/handbooks, toys, transport, as well as amounts of money for needs personal, according to the provisions of art. 129 of Law no. 272/2004 ® on the protection and promotion of children's rights, with subsequent amendments and additions
4. Control regarding compliance with art. 38 of Law no. 292 / 2011 by private providers of social services in residential centers for the elderly

Under the report of remedial measures and sanctions imposed on service providers, the situations are as follows:

In 2017, the social inspection ordered and monitored a number of 5,527 measures ordered to a number of 1,823 social services (5,020 measures ordered in the thematic control regarding the verification of private centers for the elderly and in the evaluation activity of social services with a view to licensing). 138 sanctions were applied (52 warnings and 85 contravention fines in the amount of 623,150 lei). Also, for a number of 231 services, the withdrawal of the operating license was proposed.

In 2018, the social inspection ordered and monitored a number of 12,188 measures ordered to a number of 2557 social services. As a result of the social inspection missions, a number of 106 operating licenses were withdrawn as a result of irregularities identified in the application of minimum quality standards. Also, a number of 60 sanctions were applied: 21 warnings and 39 contraventions in the total amount of 253,250 lei. The teams of social inspectors made a number of 22 referrals to institutions with control powers/criminal investigation bodies regarding the cases of violations provided for by the normative acts (Directorate of Public Health,

The Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, the Directorate for Veterinary Health and Food Safety, the Commissariat for Consumer Protection, the Prefect's Institution, the County Police Inspectorate - Economic Police, Prosecutor's Office).

In 2019, the social inspection ordered and monitored a number of 14,241 measures ordered to a number of 3954 social services. As a result of the social inspection missions, a number of 93 operating licenses were withdrawn as a result of irregularities identified in the application of the minimum quality standards. Also, a number of 398 sanctions were applied: 123 warnings and 149 contraventions in the total amount of 10,397 lei. The teams of social inspectors made a number of 185 notifications to institutions with control powers/criminal investigation bodies regarding the cases of violations provided for by the normative acts (Directorate of Public Health,

The Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, the Directorate for Veterinary Health and Food Safety, the Commissariat for Consumer Protection, the Prefect's Institution, the County Police Inspectorate - Economic Police, Prosecutor's Office).

The measures ordered by the social inspectors within the inspection missions, as well as the information/guidance carried out with the representatives of the social services have the role of clarifying the fulfillment of a standard/conditions/criteria and indicators, as well as what is their connection with the qualitative functioning of the social service and covering all the needs of its beneficiaries.

The deficiencies identified in the implementation of the legal provisions and which generated measures, contraventions, suspension or withdrawal of operating licenses, as well as notification to the competent bodies, were:

a) from an administrative point of view

- non-compliance with the standards related to the management of social services: the lack of periodic evaluation according to a set of indicators that concern the efficiency of the administration of human, financial and material resources, as well as the effectiveness and performance of the activity carried out (lack of qualifications, lack of internal and external supervision activities, inconsistency between documents administrative of operation and organization, respectively between the regulation of organization and operation and the state of functions, personnel assignments inappropriate to the type of service provided to the needs of the beneficiaries);
- non-compliance with the number and structure of personnel by public and private social service providers, respectively the lack of specialized personnel;
- lack of organizational and functioning documents required by the legislative framework;
- lack of equipment provided by the minimum quality standards.

b) from the point of view of the activities carried out

- failure to reassess the needs of the beneficiaries according to the legal framework;
- failure to prepare work tools (forms used), according to the requirements provided by the standards;
- non-adaptation of work procedures to the requirements of the standards;
- lack of specific activities to cover personal care needs, maintaining and/or improving health and physical and mental autonomy, functional recovery/rehabilitation needs (mental and/or physical), social integration/reintegration needs, skills independent life, depending on the type of beneficiary of the service
- (child, adult, person with disabilities, victims of domestic violence, homeless people, families, elderly people, etc.) or the form of organization of the centers (day centers or residential type, public or private).

Measures for vulnerable energy consumer

1. House heating aid, focusing on the following aspects:

- establishing the maximum income threshold up to which a person or family can benefit from the heating aid, namely of 1.386 lei/person from the family, and for the single person of 2.053 lei;
- establishing the amount of aid, namely by percentage compensation applied to a reference value differentiated according to the heating system. The percentage compensation is 100% for the beneficiaries with the lowest incomes and at least 10% for those whose incomes are at the maximum limit;
- the house heating aid is granted based on the net monthly income of the families or single persons:

- the amounts are variable depending on the type of heating used (centralized system, natural gas, electricity, solid fuels and oil), the net income per family member and also the assets of the family referred to the List of assets leading to the exclusion of the right, Annex of the GD no.50/2011.
- establishing the reference value to which the percentage compensation applies, for the four heating systems of the dwelling: centralized heating (the reference value is established monthly, within the average consumption and depending on the local price of the thermal energy billed to the population), heating with natural gas (250 lei/month), heating with electricity (500 lei/month) and heating with solid or liquid fuels (320 lei/month);
- ensuring the payment from the state budget, through the MLSS budget, of the aids for house heating with wood for the beneficiaries of the social aid granted based on Law no. 416/2001, this being no longer in the direct task of the local public administration authority;

2. **Energy consumption aid** to cover part of the household's energy consumption throughout the year. The average monthly net income up to which the energy supplement is granted is 1386 lei person in the case of the family and 2053 lei, in the case of the single person and is granted as follows:

- in the amount of 30 lei/month for electricity consumption;
- in the amount of 10 lei/month for natural gas consumption;
- in the amount of 10 lei/ month for thermal energy consumption;
- in the amount of 20 lei/month for the consumption of solid and/or oil fuels;

As an exception, in the amount of 70 lei, if the only energy source used is electricity.

Compensation scheme: Rising the prices on the electricity and gas markets, at the international level, led to the adoption of complementary measures to protect the population exposed to the difficulties of paying these costs. By Government Emergency Ordinance no. 118/2021 on establishing a compensation scheme for the consumption of electricity and natural gas for the cold season 2021-2022 was regulated a compensation mechanism for the period 1 November 2021 - 31 March 2022, so that the prices of electricity and natural gas paid by the household consumer not to increase the level of energy poverty.

Price suppressing measures: approval of the provisions of the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 27/2022 on the measures applicable to final customers in the electricity and natural gas market between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023, as well as for the amendment and completion of some normative acts in the field of energy, by establishing temporary measures, so that prices at electricity and natural gas paid by final customers should not increase the level of energy poverty. The normative act provides for the capping of electricity and natural gas prices for both domestic and non-domestic consumers, the new measures being applied for one year, respectively between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023.