

EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS
COUR EUROPÉENNE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

FOURTH SECTION

DECISION

Application no. 14835/22
Florian NICOLAE against Romania
and 19 other applications
(see appended table)

The European Court of Human Rights (Fourth Section), sitting on 26 March 2026 as a Committee composed of:

Anne Louise Bormann*, President*,
Sebastian Răduleţu,
András Jakab*, judges*,

and Viktoriya Maradudina, *Acting Deputy Section Registrar,*

Having regard to the above applications against Romania lodged with the Court under Article 34 of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms ("the Convention") on the various dates indicated in the appended table,

Having regard to the observations submitted by the respondent Government and the observations in reply submitted by the applicant,

Having deliberated, decides as follows:

FACTS AND PROCEDURE

The list of applicants is set out in the appended table.

The applicants' complaints under Article 3 of the Convention concerning the inadequate conditions of detention were communicated to the Romanian Government ("the Government").

THE LAW

A. Joinder of the applications

Having regard to the similar subject matter of the applications, the Court finds it appropriate to examine them jointly in a single decision.

B. Complaints under Article 3 of the Convention (inadequate conditions of detention)

Having examined all the material before it, the Court considers that for the reasons stated below, the present applications are inadmissible.

The applicants complained principally of the inadequate conditions of their detention. They relied on Article 3 of the Convention.

The Government argued that the applicants had failed to exhaust the available effective remedies for their complaints about the inadequate conditions of their detention, as the complaint with the judge responsible for supervising the deprivation of liberty (*plângerea în fața judecătorului de supraveghere a privării de libertate*), provided for by Article 56 of Law no. 254/2013, had become an effective remedy for grievances similar to those of the applicants.

The Court recalls that in *Văscăuțanu v. Romania* (dec.), no. 10120/23, §§ 47–59, 18 November 2025, it held that the remedy, which consists of lodging a complaint with the judge responsible for supervising the deprivation of liberty (*plângerea în fața judecătorului de supraveghere a privării de libertate*), provided for by Article 56 of Law no. 254/2013, constituted, as of 6 April 2023, an effective remedy enabling individuals who allege that they are being held in inadequate conditions of detention to put an end to their situation that they denounced as being contrary to Article 3 of the Convention.

In light of all the material in its possession, the Court observes that the applicants, who allege that they are being held in inadequate conditions of detention, did not indicate that they pursued the available remedy before the domestic courts (see *Văscăuțanu*, cited above, § 65). Therefore, their applications must be dismissed for failure to exhaust domestic remedies.

The Government also invoked other grounds of inadmissibility to argue that the present applications must be rejected.

Since it has already upheld the Government's objection on the non-exhaustion of domestic remedies, the Court does not consider it necessary to examine further the other arguments raised by the Government.

In view of the above, the Court finds that the applicants' complaints concerning the periods set out in the appended table must be rejected for failure to exhaust the domestic remedy laid down in Article 56 of Law no. 254/2013, in accordance with Article 35 §§ 1 and 4 of the Convention.

For these reasons, the Court, unanimously,

Decides to join the applications;

Declares the applications inadmissible.

Done in English and notified in writing on 16 April 2026.

Viktoriya Maradudina Acting Deputy Registrar	Anne Louise Bormann President

APPENDIX

List of applications raising complaints under Article 3 of the Convention (inadequate conditions of detention)

No.	Application no. Date of introduction	Applicant's name Year of birth	Representative's name and location	Facility Start and end date Duration
1.	14835/22 25/11/2022	**Florian NICOLAE** 1987		Poarta Albă and Slobozia Prisons 10/07/2022 pending More than 3 year(s) and 7 month(s) and 7 day(s)
2.	16126/22 16/03/2022	**Ioan PALANCEANU** 1977		Brașov County Police Station, Coldea and Gherla Prisons 06/10/2021 pending More than 4 year(s) and 4 month(s) and 11 day(s)
3.	16664/22 23/03/2022	**Dumitru NOVACOVICI** 1973		Timișoara Prison 16/05/2021 pending More than 4 year(s) and 9 month(s) and 1 day(s)
4.	18271/22 17/05/2022	**Marius-Silviu MORARU** 1981		Rahova Prison, Jilava Prison 06/07/2020 pending More than 5 year(s) and 7 month(s) and 11 day(s)
5.	19726/22 06/06/2022	**Ștefan SZABO** 1953		Oradea County Police Station; Oradea Prison 25/03/2016 pending More than 9 year(s) and 10 month(s) and 23 day(s)
6.	21543/22 27/05/2022	**György GÁZSMÉR** 1980		Iași, Miercurea Ciuc, Aiud, Arad and Codlea Prisons 10/05/2014 pending More than 11 year(s) and 9 month(s) and 7 day(s)

No.	Application no. Date of introduction	Applicant's name Year of birth	Representative's name and location	Facility Start and end date Duration
7.	22434/22 14/06/2022	**George VASILE** 1976		Arad and Poarta Albă Prisons 22/01/2021 pending More than 5 year(s) and 26 day(s)
8.	23310/22 23/12/2022	**Bogdan-Florin GAVRELIUC-LUMEI** 1991		Drobeta-Turnu Severin, Gherla and Baia Mare Prisons 01/03/2021 pending More than 4 year(s) and 11 month(s) and 16 day(s)
9.	24092/22 04/05/2022	**Ciprian CLIMESCU** 1976		Codlea, Miercurea-Ciuc, Gherla, Aiud and Baia Mare Prisons 23/12/2019 pending More than 6 year(s) and 1 month(s) and 25 day(s)
10.	24752/22 06/06/2022	**Florinel BECHEANU** 1986		Bucharest Police Station No. 13; Bucharest Police Station No. 16; Rahova, Jilava, Mioveni and Giurgiu Prisons 26/08/2020 pending More than 5 year(s) and 5 month(s) and 24 day(s)
11.	26402/22 07/11/2022	**Ioan PĂDUREAN** 1973		Aiud Prison 12/04/2021 pending More than 4 year(s) and 10 month(s) and 7 day(s)
12.	26654/22 18/07/2022	**Arpád MAJLÁTH** 1975		Miercurea-Ciuc, Aiud, Arad, Ploiești, Codlea, Timișoara, Rahova, Mărgineni Prisons; Dej and Jilava Prison Hospitals 14/04/2010 pending More than 15 year(s) and 10 month(s) and 5 day(s)
13.	26655/22 01/07/2022	**Florin BRACĂU** 1986		Arad, Ploiești and Timișoara Prisons 16/05/2016 pending More than 9 year(s) and 9 month(s) and 3 day(s)
14.	27083/22 23/08/2022	**Constantin CURT** 1989		Jilava, Rahova and Giurgiu Prisons 26/07/2016 pending More than 9 year(s) and 6 month(s) and 24 day(s)

No.	Application no. Date of introduction	Applicant's name Year of birth	Representative's name and location	Facility Start and end date Duration
15.	27501/22 20/07/2022	**Nicolae-Marian VLAD** 1999		Rahova, Giurgiu and Gherla Prisons 01/07/2020 pending More than 5 year(s) and 7 month(s) and 18 day(s)
16.	28847/22 04/10/2022	**Adrian-Marian AVRAM** 2000		Craiova, Bacău and Arad Prisons 28/01/2019 pending More than 7 year(s) and 22 day(s)
17.	30159/22 08/08/2022	**Dorinela BORCAN** 1970	De Luca Daniele Napoli	Mioveni Prison Hospital; Craiova and Ploiești Prisons 30/09/2020 pending More than 5 year(s) and 4 month(s) and 21 day(s)
18.	30397/22 12/09/2022	**Ionel Daniel LIPTAK** 1974		Arad, Rahova, Giurgiu and Timișoara Prisons 26/01/2009 pending More than 17 year(s) and 25 day(s)
19.	31694/22 24/11/2022	**Gheorghe-Cătălin APOSTOL** 1999		Craiova Youth Detention Center (Bariera Vâlcii), Mioveni and Arad Prisons 13/01/2016 pending More than 10 year(s) and 1 month(s) and 7 day(s)
20.	32099/22 18/07/2022	**Vasile ȘOICA** 1976		Mărgineni, Rahova and Giurgiu Prisons 16/09/2020 pending More than 5 year(s) and 5 month(s) and 4 day(s)