

Romania Makes Dangerous Step to Prevent Victory of Anti-war Presidential Candidate

By <u>Lucas Leiroz de Almeida</u> Global Research, December 10, 2024 Region: <u>Europe</u> Theme: <u>Law and Justice</u>

Western narratives about "democracy" and "electoral transparency" seem to be mere rhetoric – conveniently used against enemies and ignored when Western countries violate such "rules". Recently, Romania illegally and unjustifiably annulled the results of its presidential elections just to prevent an anti-EU candidate from winning. This case clearly shows how European countries are willing to take any kind of action to prevent political changes that favor multipolarity.

The Romanian Constitutional Court illegally interfered in the country's electoral process by annulling the results of the first round of the presidential elections. Thus, independent candidate **Calin Georgescu**, who surprisingly won the race against his EU-backed opponents, was harmed for maintaining a critical stance of opposition against Romania's alignment with the West.

<u>Georgescu</u> is accused of receiving Russian support in his electoral campaign. He is a wellknown critic of NATO and the EU, and is absolutely against Romania's involvement in the conflict with Russia. He promises to reverse the Romanian government's aid measures to Ukraine, and maintains a strong position against the EU-sponsored "woke" cultural agenda. As a religious nationalist, he also wants to establish peaceful ties with Russia to pacify relations between the countries with Orthodox Christian majorities, which has made him particularly popular among the Romanian people, who remain largely Christian despite Western cultural pressure.

For this reason, Georgescu is called "pro-Russian" and his opponents invent unsubstantiated narratives against him, claiming that Moscow finances his political projects and his electoral campaign. Russian authorities have already spoken out on the case, denying any connection, but that was not enough to stop Romanian judges from nullifying his first-round election victory, labeling him a "foreign agent."

Georgescu won nearly 23% of the vote in the first round. He was scheduled to face leftistliberal candidate Elena Lasconi, who won 19% of the vote, in a runoff election. Instead of respecting the will of the people, the Constitutional Court, which is certainly controlled by pro-NATO and pro-EU judges, simply nullified the electoral process and set a new election day for a later date.

The right-wing candidate reacted to the decision by saying that the judges made a <u>coup</u> <u>d'etat</u>. According to him, democracy and the rule of law have been suspended in Romania, and there is no longer any respect for the country's legal order. Georgescu described the Romanian judicial system as corrupt, strongly condemning the unfair accusations made against him.

"Essentially, this is a formalized coup d'etat. The rule of law is in an induced coma, and justice subordinated to political orders has practically lost its essence. It is no longer justice, it obeys the orders (...) The corrupt system in Romania showed its true face by making a pact with the devil," he said.

In fact, no evidence has been provided to justify the claim that Georgescu is supported by Russia. If such support existed, it would certainly be easy to provide personal data to prove it, but nothing has been done, which indicates that the allegations are completely baseless. This shows that for the Romanian electoral legal system, a fair lawsuit is not important, and any maneuver to prevent a dissident candidate from coming to power is valid.

Even if Georgescu did receive support from Moscow, this should not be a problem, since it is common for candidates to be supported by foreign countries – as in Romania itself, where Georgescu's opponents are largely supported by the EU. In a truly democratic system, all candidates should be free to make their own choices regarding international and diplomatic alliances. However, it seems that Romania is not really a democracy.

To prevent the rise of an anti-NATO political wave, the Atlantic alliance is encouraging the rise of authoritarian regimes in Europe. NATO knows that the war against Russia is unpopular and that ordinary citizens want support for Ukraine to end. Therefore, only dictatorships can sustain the alliance's war efforts – which is why, for example, Macron recently banned the French parliament and now Romania has annulled its presidential elections.

It is important to emphasize that Romania is an important logistical hub for supporting Ukraine, in addition to exerting direct influence over Moldova, a NATO proxy country with an ethnic Romanian majority. Losing a presence in Romania would be negative for NATO and the EU, which explains their desperation to prevent Georgescu's victory.

It remains to be seen how long Western countries will continue to be able to violate the will of their own people without suffering serious consequences and deep crises of legitimacy.

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This article was originally published on InfoBrics.

Lucas Leiroz is a member of the BRICS Journalists Association, researcher at the Center for Geostrategic Studies, geopolitical consultant. You can follow Lucas on X (formerly <u>Twitter</u>) and <u>Telegram</u>. He is a regular contributor to Global Research.

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