



MONTHLY MARKET REPORT

- Romania CDS quotations reached a value of 142 at the end of March, up by 19% compared to the end of February 2022 (120 bp).
- The most important increase was registered by the BET-NG index (+3.18%), while the most significant decrease was observed at BET-XT index (-0.06%).
- The value of the total assets of the privately managed pension funds reached EUR 18.07 billion at the end of March 2022, registering an annual rate of growth of 11%, in terms of EUR.



World Macroeconomic Outlook

The International Monetary Fund (World Economic Outlook, April 2022) downgraded its estimates for global economic growth for 2022 to 3.6% (from 4.4% in the January 2022 forecast), as an effect of the estimated reductions for the two largest economies. For the US, the estimates in what concerns the GDP growth for 2022 recorded a downward revision by 0.3 percentage points: from 4.0% according to estimates from January 2022 to 3.7% (according to projections from April 2022). In China, pandemic disruptions related to zero tolerance policy for COVID-19 and prolonged financial stress among real estate developers caused a 0.4 percentage point drop in GDP estimates to 4.4% in 2022. For Romania, the forecast for GDP growth for 2022 registered a decrease by 2.6 percentage points: from 4.8% according to the estimates from October 2021 to 2.2% (according to the projections from April 2022).

According to data published by Eurostat, in the fourth quarter of 2021, **seasonally adjusted GDP** increased by 0.3% in the euro area and by 0.4% in the EU compared to the previous quarter. Compared to the same period of the previous year, seasonally adjusted GDP increased by 4.6% in the euro area and by 4.8% in the EU in the fourth quarter of 2021. Seasonally adjusted GDP grew by 5.3% in both the euro area and the EU, after falling by 6.4% in the euro area and by 5.9% in the EU in 2020.

According to data published by NIS, **the gross domestic product** increased by 5.9% (gross series) in **Romania** in 2021 compared to the previous year. Compared to the similar period of the previous year, in the fourth quarter of 2021, Romania's gross domestic product increased by 2.4% on the gross series and by 3.9% on the seasonally adjusted series.

The National Commission for Strategy and Prognosis (NCSP) revised downward the economic forecast regarding Romania's GDP growth rate for 2022 at 4.3% (from 4.6% according to the NCSP autumn 2021 forecast).

Evolution of GDP (%) and GDP forecast (%)

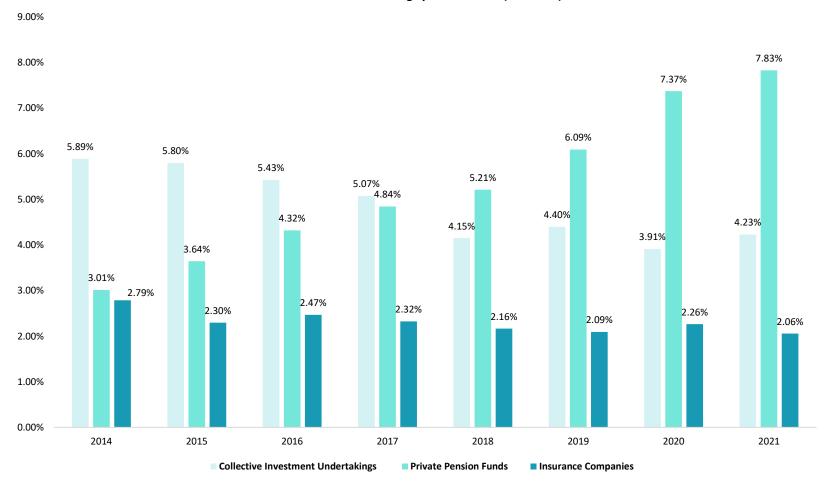
Country	2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 Q4	Q3 Q4 2021 2021 20	2021		pean nission	IM	F*
		2020	2020	2020	2020		2021	2021	2021		2021	2022f	2023f	2022f	2023f
Euro area	1.6	-3.2	-14.6	-4.0	-4.3	-6.4	-0.9	14.6	4.0	4.6	5.3	4.0	2.7	2.8	2.3
Germany	1.1	-1.9	-11.3	-3.7	-2.9	-4.6	-2.8	10.4	2.9	1.8	2.9	3.6	2.6	2.1	2.7
Bulgaria	4.0	-0.8	-7.9	-4.4	-3.3	-4.4	-1.4	7.4	5.0	4.7	4.2	3.7	3.9	3.2	4.5
Hungary	4.6	1.8	-13.0	-4.2	-3.3	-4.5	-1.3	17.6	6.5	7.0	7.1	5.0	3.2	3.7	3.6
Poland	4.7	2.2	-7.8	-1.9	-2.6	-2.5	-1.1	10.9	5.5	7.6	5.7	5.5	4.2	3.7	2.9
Romania	4.2	2.4	-8.8	-5.1	-2.1	-3.7	-0.4	12.7	8.0	3.9	5.9	4.2	4.5	2.2	3.4

Source: Eurostat, percentage change compared with the same quarter of the previous year - seasonally adjusted data, European Commission, Winter 2022 Economic Forecast, World Economic Outlook – April 2022, IMF.



World Macroeconomic Outlook

Evolution of nonbanking system's assets (% of GDP)



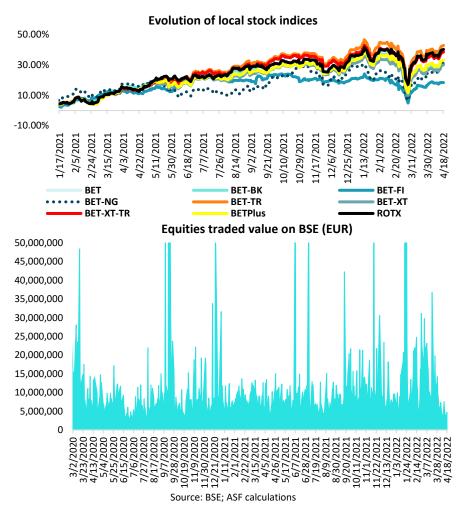
Source: NBR, NIS, ASF



Current trends and headlights on Romanian markets

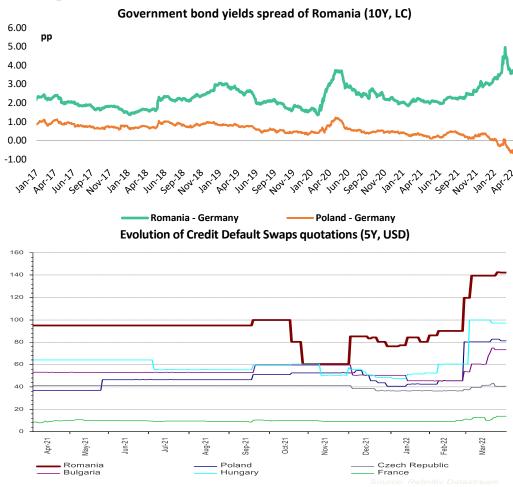
Romanian stock indices evolution in 2022 (30.12.2021 = 100)

Date	BET	BET-BK	BET-FI	BET-NG	BET-TR
04/18/2022	0.06%	-3.09%	-2.17%	1.58%	2.08%
Date	BET-XT	BET-XT-TR	BETPlus	ROTX	BETAeRO
04/18/2022	-0.75%	1.09%	0.18%	3.02%	-4.65%





Macroeconomic risk in Romania: external position and market perception of sovereign risk



Source: Refinitiv

Romania 5 - year bond yields stood at 5.93% at the end of March 2022, after reaching a maximum value of 6.39% (March 8, 2022), while Germany 5 – year bond yields turned positive in the second half of March.

Credit Default Swaps quotations increased significantly during March 2022. Romania CDS quotations reached a value of 142 at the end of March, up by 19% compared to the end of February 2022 (120 bp).

The spread between Romanian and German government bonds (10Y) decreased in March–April 2022, which can be interpreted as a improvement in investor confidence in Romania's country rating.



ROTX

Market risk: evolution of local and international stock indices at the end of March 2022

	International and loca	al stack indices vields	
International indices	1 M	3 M	6 M
EA (EUROSTOXX)	-0.37%	-9.18%	-4.15%
FR (CAC 40)	0.02%	-6.89%	2.15%
DE (DAX)	-0.32%	-9.25%	-5.54%
IT (FTSE MIB)	-1.55%	-8.50%	-2.58%
GR (ASE)	-1.36%	-1.55%	1.63%
IE (ISEQ)	-8.59%	-14.92%	-14.49%
ES (IBEX)	-0.40%	-3.08%	-3.99%
UK (FTSE 100)	0.77%	1.78%	6.06%
US (DJIA)	2.32%	-4.57%	2.47%
IN (NIFTY 50)	3.99%	0.64%	-0.87%
SHG (SSEA)	-6.06%	-10.64%	-8.85%
JPN (N225)	4.88%	-3.37%	-5.54%
BSE indices	1 M	3 M	6 M
BET	-0.03%	-2.67%	0.53%
ВЕТ-ВК	1.09%	-4.90%	-4.46%
BET-FI	2.84%	-2.96%	-5.00%
BET-NG	3.18%	-4.28%	2.20%
BET-TR	1.33%	-0.71%	2.54%
BET-XT	-0.06%	-3.40%	-1.34%
BET-XT-TR	1.30%	-1.60%	0.48%
BETPlus	0.22%	-2.52%	0.62%

The european indices have recorded negative developments (1M), except for the FTSE 100 index (UK: +0.77%). The most significant decrease was recorded by ISEQ index (IE: -8.59%), followed by FTSE MIB index (IT: -1.55%).

The main American and Asian indices showed positive developments, except for the SSEA index (SHG: -6.06%). Therefore, the most significant increase was registered by N225 index (JPN: +4.88%), followed by NIFTY 50 index (IN: +3.99%).

The BSE stock indices have recorded mixed developments (1M). Therefore, the most important increase was registered by the BET-NG index (+3.18%), while the most significant decrease was observed at BET-XT index (-0.06%).

Source: Refinitiv, ASF calculations

0.44%

4.39%

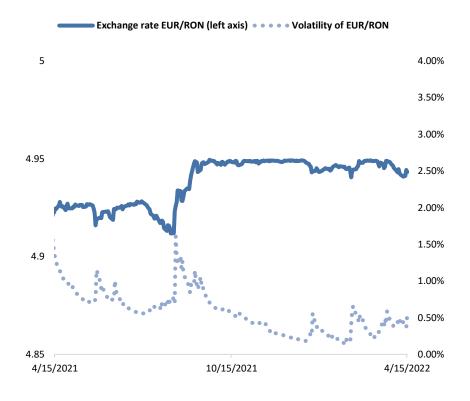
1.83%

Note: 1M=03/31/2022 vs. 02/28/2022; 3M=03/31/2022 vs. 12/31/2021; 6M=03/31/2022 vs. 09/30/2021



Market Risk: exchange rate volatility

EUR/RON Exchange Rate vs Volatility



Source: Refinitiv, ASF model for volatility

Long memory in time series is defined at long-term autocorrelation. The analysis of exchange rate EUR/RON shows that the series is fractionary integrated. Therefore the volatility model fitted for exchange rate is FIAPARCH(1,0.4,1).

Against the background of the accelerated increase of inflation, the exchange rate stabilized in the 4.94-4.95 range.

The evolution of the exchange rate has been stable since the beginning of the year and has registered the slightest depreciation against the currencies of the neighboring economies.

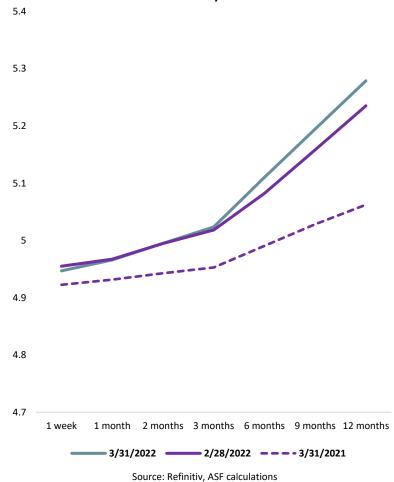
For the moment, the increase in the monetary policy rate, as well as the expectations for its increase, have temporarily tempered the depreciation of Romanian leu.

Although the Romanian economy experienced an increase in the degree of financial stress, the rating agencies did not lower the country rating for Romania, which received from the European Union an anchor of financial stability in the form of the PNRR program.



Market Risk: exchange rate volatility

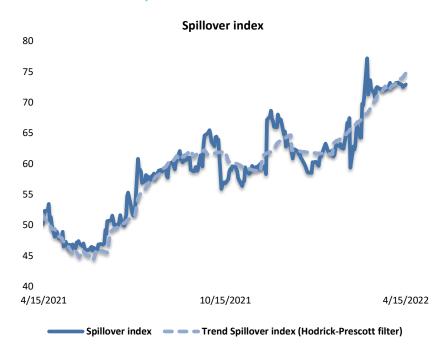
Term structure of EUR/RON forward rate



The term structure of the forward rate for the EURRON exchange rate with maturities between one week and twelve months shows the market expectations. There are expectations of EURRON appreciation for maturities between 3 and 12 months with respect to the previous month (RON depreciation).



Market Risk: Spillover Index



Source: Refinitiv, ASF model

The model used is a Vector Autoregressive Model which follows similar specifications to "Measuring Financial Asset Return and Volatility Spillovers with Application to Global Equity Markets" (Diebold, F.X şi Yilmaz, K.,2009). The data necessary for the calculation of the spillover index are 9 capital market indexes: United States of America, United Kingdom, Germany, Austria, Romania, Hungary, Czeck Republic, Poland and Bulgaria. The sample used contains daily market close data from January 2009-January 2022.

The Spillover index measures the marginal contribution of the external capital markets on the Romanian stock exchange. The Romanian capital market is sensitive to the same regional risk factors that influence the Austrian, Polish, Hungarian, and Bulgarian stock market returns. There is a strong link between the spillover effect and the companies' returns, since the increase in the spillover tends to diminish the returns of the companies listed on the Bucharest Stock Exchange.

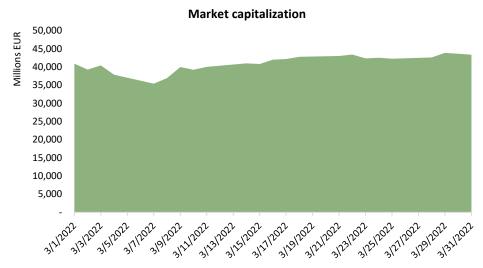
The contagion began to grow rapidly in February amid the war in Ukraine and the general decline in international stock markets.



Liquidity indicators on Romanian Stock Exchanges

The market capitalization registered a decrease of 6% at the end of March 2022 compared to the end of 2021 and an increase of 39% compared to the end of 2020.

In March 2022, the first 3 companies traded on BVB were Banca Transilvania SA with a share of 22.87% of the total value traded in that period, OMV Petrom SA (SNP: 11.00%) and BRD - Groupe Societe Generale SA (BRD: 9.87%).



The BSE's Most Traded Companies during March 2022 (Only the Main Segment)

Symbol	Value (EUR)	%	Value (EUR)	%	Value (EUR)	%
TLV	75,922,868	24.20%	478,972	2.40%	76,401,839	22.87%
SNP	36,761,786	11.72%	0	0.00%	36,761,786	11.00%
BRD	27,371,803	8.72%	5,586,491	28.04%	32,958,294	9.87%
M	27,996,115	8.92%	3,806,916	19.11%	31,803,031	9.52%
FP	29,493,807	9.40%	2,178,614	10.94%	31,672,421	9.48%
SNN	19,513,955	6.22%	0	0.00%	19,513,955	5.84%
SNG	17,928,122	5.71%	0	0.00%	17,928,122	5.37%
SIF5	8,463,394	2.70%	3,532,314	17.73%	12,382,976	3.71%
TRP	11,175,770	3.56%	0	0.00%	11,175,770	3.35%
EBS	10,807,252	3.44%	0	0.00%	10,807,252	3.24%
ONE	7,620,185	2.43%	0	0.00%	7,620,185	2.28%
WINE	6,118,031	1.95%	0	0.00%	6,118,031	1.83%
EVER	1,785,514	0.57%	4,047,109	20.32%	5,832,623	1.75%
EL	5,590,230	1.78%	0	0.00%	5,590,230	1.67%
TGN	3,567,642	1.14%	0	0.00%	3,567,642	1.07%
		7	op 15 Total			92.84%

Source: NBR, BSE data, ASF calculations

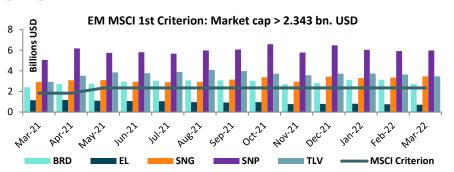


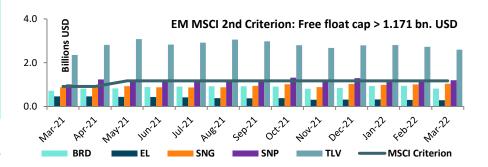
MSCI: Quantitative Indicators for Emerging Market Status

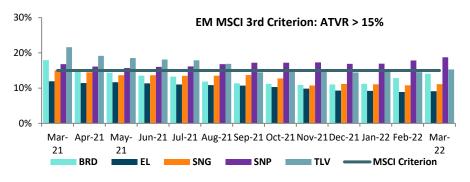
Indicators' variation to MSCI criterion (March 2022)

Company	Cap. bln. USD	Free float bln. USD	ATVR %
BRD	0.39	(0.35)	-0.91%
EL	(1.63)	(0.88)	-5.86%
SNG	1.13	(0.13)	-3.90%
SNP	3.69	0.03	3.75%
TLV	1.12	1.42	0.28%

In March 2022, two companies met the three quantitaive criteria according to the MSCI methodology. Starting with May 2021, the MSCI criteria were modified according to the MSCI Market Classification Framework.







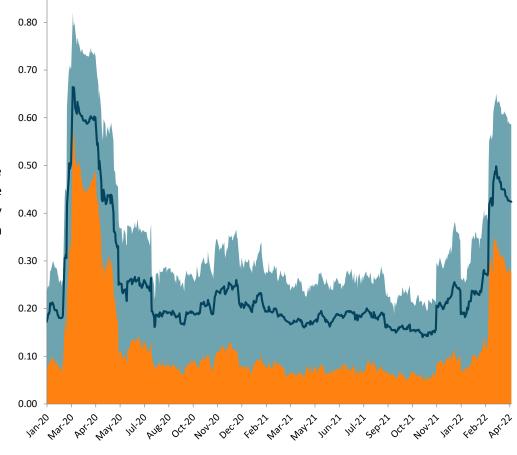
Source: ASF



Risk assessment and the benefit of diversification

0.90

The average correlation coefficient for the 25 most liquid companies traded on BSE



perc.25%

- Average correlation

Source: Bloomberg, ASF

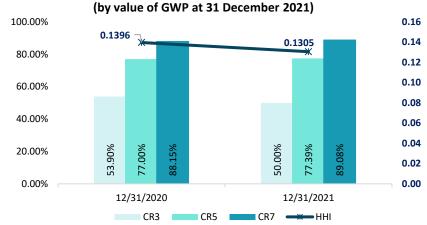
perc.75%

At the end of March 2022, the correlations between the daily returns of the 25 most liquid companies on the Bucharest Stock Exchange decreased, after they increased significantly due to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

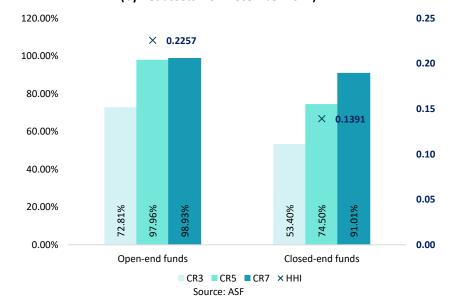


Concentration risk

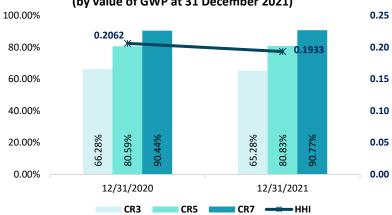
Concentration risk of non-life insurance undertakings



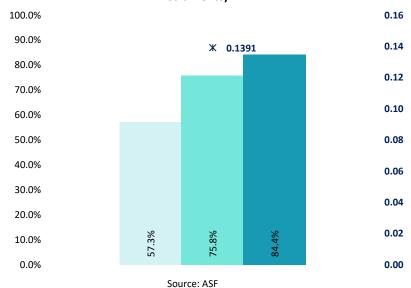
Concentration risk of investment funds in Romania (by net assets – 31 December 2021)



Concentration risk of life insurance undertakings (by value of GWP at 31 December 2021)



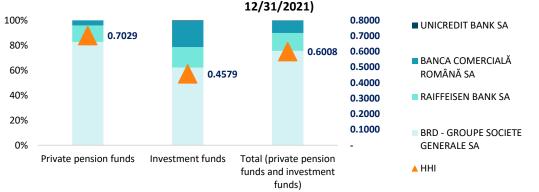
Concentration risk of intermediaries on the BSE (by value of transactions in March 2022 – Main segment & MTS, all spot instruments)



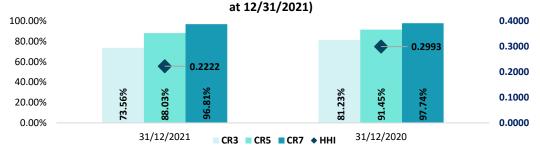


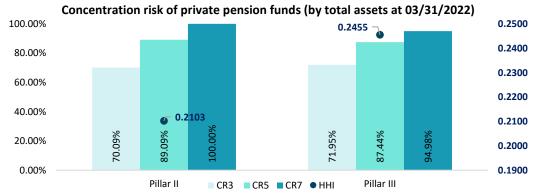
Concentration risk

Concentration risk of depositaries of private pension funds and investment funds (by total assets at



The degree of concentration of insurance companies in the MTPL market (by gross written premiums





According to the main indicators used by the Competition Council, the concentration risk in the non-life insurance market is medium to high, while the life insurance market concentration degree is still high.

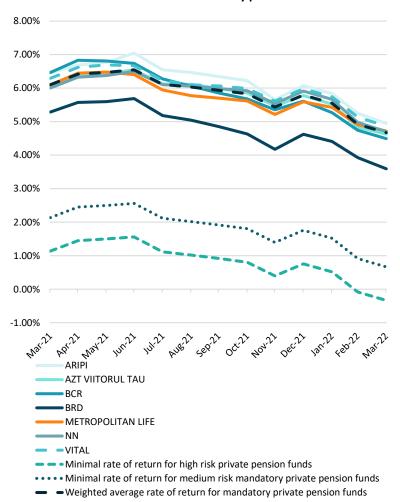
The situation is similar in the case of private pension funds market (Pillar II and Pillar III), but explainable by objective reasons related to their operating mechanism and the current state of the market.

Also on the capital market, the concentration degree is medium to high for OEIFs (although the number of investment funds is high) and for the intermediaries on the BSE due to the fact that top market participants sum up a significant share of the total assets.



Specific developments in the private pension funds sector: Mandatory pension funds (2nd Pillar)

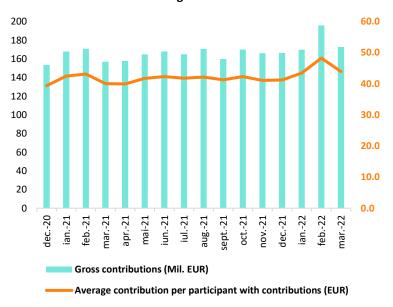
Rate of return for mandatory pension funds



Total assets (EUR), number of participants and return rates

Mandatory pension fund	Total Assets 31 March 2022 (EUR)	Participants (persons) March 2022	Rate of return March 2022
ARIPI*	1,617,518,272	821,243	4.94%
AZT VIITORUL TAU	3,864,044,713	1,641,042	4.63%
BCR	1,248,455,769	724,851	4.49%
BRD	722,898,075	510,991	3.59%
METROPOLITAN LIFE	2,531,201,594	1,096,780	4.72%
NN	6,271,965,128	2,068,051	4.70%
VITAL	1,816,441,892	986,949	4.86%
Total	18,072,525,443	7,849,907	n/a

Evolution of gross contributions



Source: ASF



Specific developments in the private pension funds sector: Mandatory pension funds (2nd Pillar)

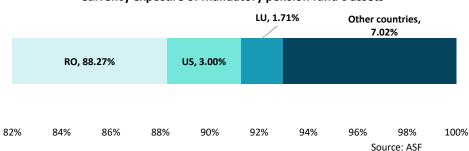
Mandatory pension fund's portfolio at 31 March 2022 (EUR)

Assets category	Assets value (EUR)	% Total assets
Government bonds	10,957,184,880	60.63%
Equity	4,535,849,503	25.10%
Corporate bonds	1,366,821,762	7.56%
Investment funds	556,059,877	3.08%
Supranational bonds	307,008,186	1.70%
Bank deposits	290,206,596	1.61%
Municipal bonds	37,254,342	0.21%
Other assets	14,372,079	0.08%
Commodities and precious metals funds	6,021,072	0.03%
Derivatives	1,747,146	0.01%

Country exposure of mandatory pension fund's assets



Currency exposure of mandatory pension fund's assets

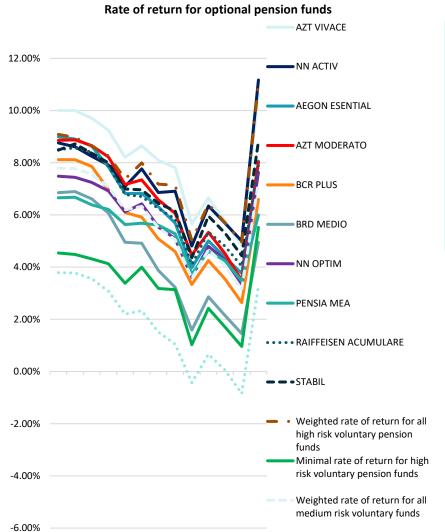


The value of the total assets of the privately managed pension funds reached EUR 18.07 billion at the end of March 2022, registering an annual rate of growth of 11%, in terms of EUR.

At the end of March 2022, the privately managed pension funds' investments were generally made locally, in a percentage of 88%, a large majority being denominated in lei. Most Romanian instruments are represented by government securities and shares listed on the Bucharest Stock Exchange.



Current evolutions in optional private pension funds (3rd Pillar)

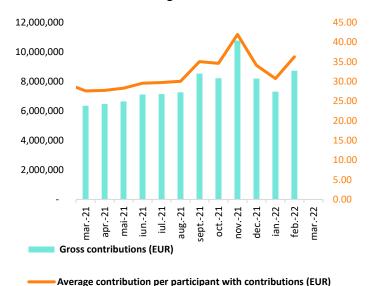


mai-21
iun.-21
iul.-21
aug.-21
sept.-21
oct.-21
nov.-21
dec.-21
ian.-22
feb.-22

Total assets (EUR), number of participants and return rates

Voluntary pension fund	Total assets (EUR), 31 March 2022	Participants (persons) March 2022	Rate of return March 2022
AEGON ESENTIAL	2,240,338	3,980	8.0615%
AZT MODERATO	70,766,516	46,451	8.0216%
AZT VIVACE	25,735,243	21,176	10.6573%
BCR PLUS	117,435,519	142,529	6.5970%
BRD MEDIO	35,739,833	36,886	4.9533%
GENERALI STABIL	6,726,744	5,543	8.8216%
NN ACTIV	81,974,480	61,713	11.1703%
NN OPTIM	295,344,659	217,048	7.6325%
PENSIA MEA	26,082,652	24,281	6.0007%
RAIFFEISEN ACUMULARE	25,584,540	17,332	7.9005%
Total	687,630,525	576,939	n/a

Evolution of gross contributions



Source: ASF

Minimal rate of return for all

funds

medium risk voluntary pension

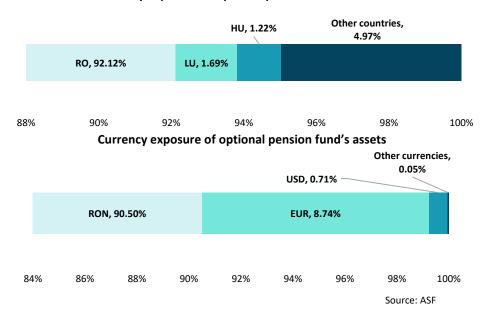


Current evolutions in optional private pension funds (3rd Pillar)

Optional pension fund's portfolio at 31 March 2022 (EUR)

Assets category	Assets value (EUR)	% Total assets
Government Bonds	422,499,415	61.44%
Equity	189,131,969	27.50%
Corporate Bonds	28,252,947	4.11%
Investment Funds	16,996,940	2.47%
Bank Deposits	12,577,795	1.83%
Supranational Bonds	11,324,168	1.65%
Municipal Bonds	4,627,573	0.67%
Oher assets	1,710,474	0.25%
Metal funds	484,688	0.07%
Derivatives	24,557	0.004%

Country exposure of optional pension fund's assets

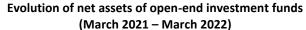


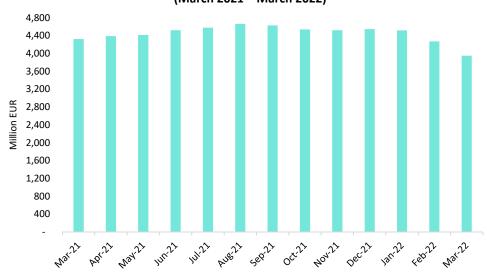
The value of the total assets of the voluntary pension funds, at the end of March 2022, was EUR 688 million, registering an annual rate of growth of 10%, in terms of RON.

At the end of March 2022, the voluntary pension funds' investments were generally made locally, in a percentage of 92%, a large majority being denominated in lei.

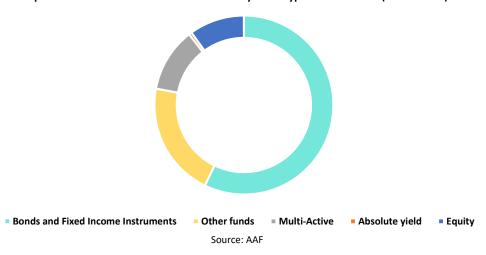


Specific developments in the investment funds sector





Open-end investment funds' market share by Fund Type and Net Asset (March 2022)



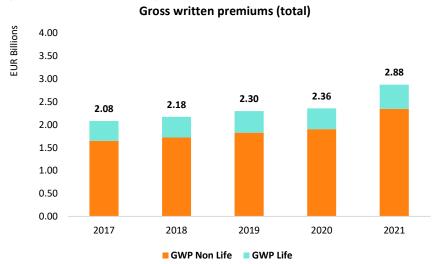
According to data published by AAF, net assets of open-end investment funds (OeIF) reached a value of EUR 3.95 billion in March 2022, down by 7% compared to the previous month (EUR 4.27 billion).

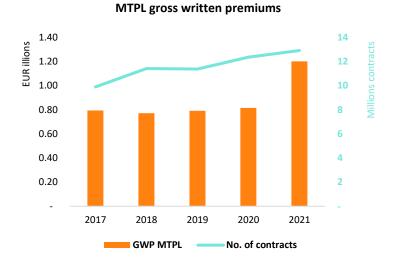
At the end of March 2022, net assets of local open-end investment funds decreased compared to the previous month. Net assets of local open-ended bond and fixed income funds recorded the most significant decrease (-9%).

In March 2022, open-end bond and fixed income instruments funds hold the largest share in total net assets of OeIF (around 57%), while the "other funds" category has a market share of approximately 21%.

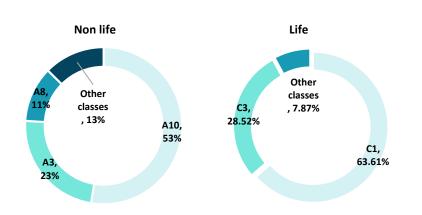


Specific developments in the insurance market in Romania

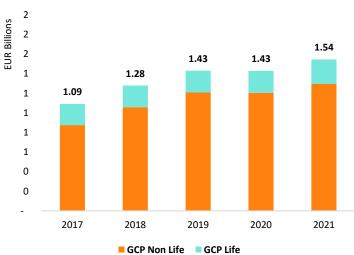




Share of main insurance classes by GWP



Gross claims paid



Source: ASF

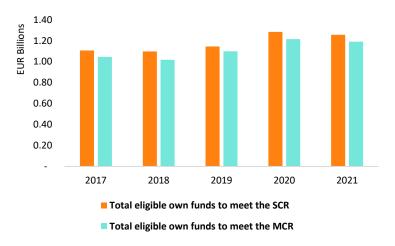


Specific developments in the insurance market in Romania

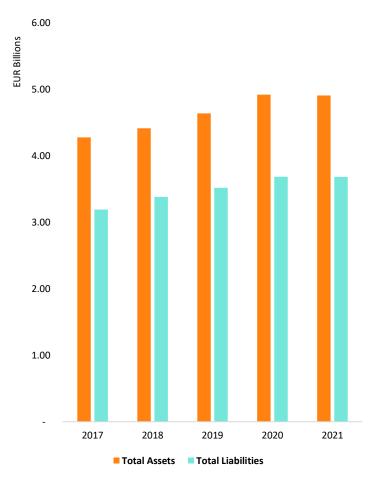
Ratio of eligible own funds to SCR and Ratio of eligible own funds to MCR

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Ratio of eligible own funds to SCR	1.73	1.71	1.77	1.89	1.83
Ratio of eligible own funds to MCR	3.99	3.88	4.18	4.66	4.22

Total eligible own funds to meet the SCR and total eligible own funds to meet the MCR



Total assets and total liabilities



Source: ASF



Press releases and publications of European and international financial institutions in March 2022

EUROPEAN UNION	 2 March: European Commission presents fiscal policy guidance for 2023. 2 March: European Council introduces further restrictive measures in view of the Russian Federation's unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine. 8 March: The European Commission proposes an outline of a plan to make Europe independent from Russian fossil fuels well before 2030, starting with gas, in light of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. 9 March: EU agrees to extend the scope of sanctions on Russia and Belarus. 15 March: European Council decides to impose a fourth package of economic and individual sanctions in respect of Russia's military aggression against Ukraine. 16 March: European Commission proposes changes to the Central Securities Depositories Regulation. 22 March: European Commission proposes new rules to establish common cybersecurity and information security measures across the EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies. 23 March: European Commission outlines options to mitigate high energy prices with common gas purchases and minimum gas storage obligations.
ESMA	 10 March: ESMA publishes its peer review report on the supervision of cross-border activities of investment firms. 14 March: ESMA coordinates regulatory response to the war in Ukraine and its impact on EU financial markets. 15 March: ESMA presents its assessment and recommendations on the EC's MiFIR review proposal. 28 March: ESMA releases the outcome of a study analysing the performance of actively managed equity UCITS relative to their prospectus and market benchmark indices, between 19 February 2020 and the end of June 2020. 28 March: ESMA publishes its Final Report on the EU carbon market.
EIOPA	 10 March: <u>EIOPA publishes the results from its yearly study on the modelling of market and credit risk in internal models.</u> 21 March: <u>EIOPA issues its recommendations to supervisors and insurers based on the learnings and experience of EIOPA's 2021 Insurance Stress Test.</u>
ESA	• 25 March: ESAs releases updated supervisory statement on the application of the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation.
IOSCO	 21 March: <u>IOSCO consults on recent retail investor trends and related conduct implications.</u> 24 March: <u>IOSCO issues a detailed report setting out how decentralized finance is quickly evolving to mirror conventional financial markets.</u>
ECB	10 March: ECB decides that the key interest rates will remain unchanged.