

# January 11, 1990 Special Analysis: Romania: New Regime Under Fire Still has Lead□□□

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### **Summary:**

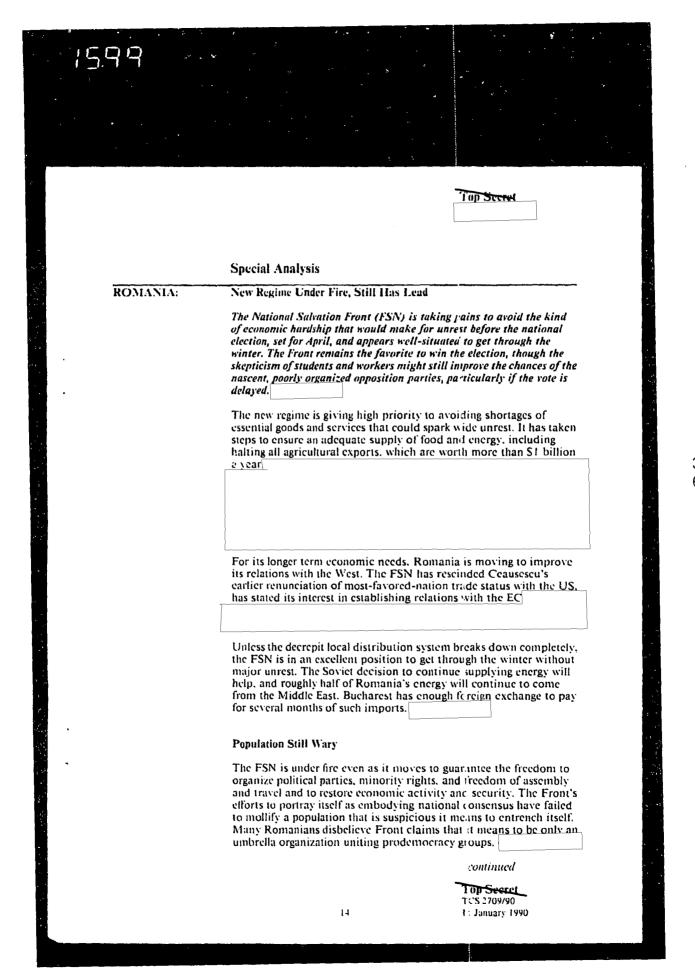
An analysis of the economic turmoil in Romania and its effects on the National Salvation Front's authority.

### **Original Language:**

English

#### **Contents:**

Original Scan



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## Romanian Political Parties and Organizations: The Emerging and the Moribund

The National Peasant Party, a dominant party until forced to disband in 1947, is the best organized of the opposition groups and claims to have thousands of supporters. Its program includes return to traditional Christian values, democracy, nationalism—"true patriotism like President Reagan's"—and social justice. It favors a return to private farming.

The National Liberal Party, a major force in Romania until 1946, has called for a liberalized economy, educational reform, and a return to a constitutional monarchy under ex-King Michael. The Liberals started publishing the first opposition newspaper, *Liberalul*, on Monday. A representative has said they are in contact with the National Peasant Party to present a common list of candidates.

The Romanian Democratic Party models itself on Western social democratic parties and calls for free elections in the second half of the year, free trade unions, and continued membership in the Warsaw Pact.

The Romanian Ecological Movement supports the National Salvation Front (FSN) program but maintains its right to criticize it.

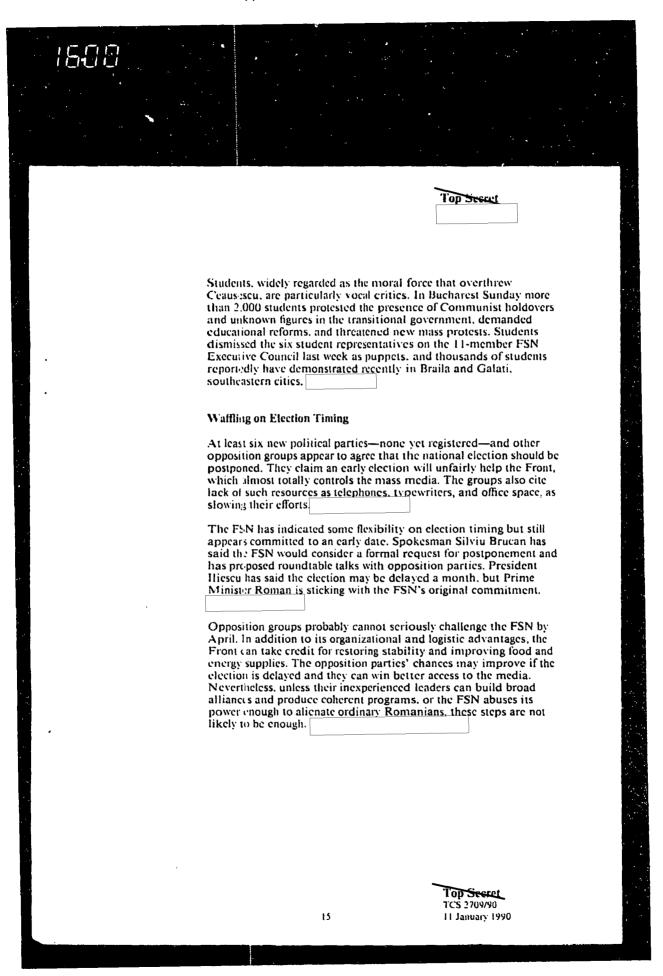
The Hungarian Democratic Forum, created to represent 2 million ethnic Hungarians—Romania's largest ethnic minority—emphasizes support of the FSN's democratic values. It has announced it will probably field candidates under the FSN.

The Democratic Forum of Romanian Germans reportedly has organized in almost all towns with ethnic Germans. Romania's 230,000 ethnic Germans probably cannot sustain an independent political party.

The 3.8 million-member Communist Party has virtually disintegrated in the face of the anti-Ceausescu revolt. Even if it tries to come back with a new name and rhetoric, it may not survive. A small group of Communists on 30 December called for an emergency congress to dissolve the party and transfer its assets to the FSN, but the FSN is distancing itself from the Communists, indicating it does not want their assets.

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