

# REGULATION on the Joint Meetings of the Chamber of Deputies and of the Senate

## CHAPTER I Organisation and Running of the Joint Meetings

### Section 1 *Competence; Convening of the Joint Meetings*

**Article 1** - The Chamber of Deputies and the Senate shall meet in joint meetings in order:

1. to received the message of the President of Romania (Article 62 (2) (a) of the Constitution);
2. to approve the State Budget and the State social security budget (Article 62 (2)(b) of the Constitution), the corrections and the account for budget implementation;
3. to declare general or partial mobilization (Article 62 (2) (c) of the Constitution);
4. to declare a state of war (Article 62 (2) (d) of the Constitution);
5. to suspend or terminate armed hostilities (Article 62 (2) (e) of the Constitution);
6. to examine reports of the Supreme Council of National Defence and of the Court of Audit (Article 62 (2) (f) of the Constitution);
7. to appoint, upon the proposal of the President of Romania, the Director of the Romanian Intelligence Service, and to exercise control over the activity of this Service (Article 62 (2) (g) of the Constitution);
8. to debate the divergent legislative texts caused by the failure of the Committee for Mediation to reach an agreement or by one of the Chambers total or partial disapproval of the report of the Committee for Mediation, and to adopt a final text in respect to divergent problems (Article 76 (2) of the Constitution);
9. to re-examine the Law on State Budget and the Law on State social security budget, and to re-examine also the laws adopted in joint meeting, under the terms of Article 113 of the Constitution, through the commitment of the responsibility of the Government (Article 77 (2) of the Constitution);
10. to adopt the draft laws and proposal revising the Constitution, if the Chambers reach no agreement by mediation procedure (Article 147 (2) of the Constitution);
11. to assist the taking of the oath of the President of Romania (Article 82 (2) of the Constitution);
12. to impeach the President of Romania for high treason (Article 84 (3) of the Constitution);
13. to suspend from office the President of Romania or the person acting as President of Romania, if he/she committed grave acts infringing the provisions of the Constitution (Article 95 (1) and Article 98 of the Constitution);
14. to approve the state of siege or emergency, in the whole or part of the country, instituted by the President of Romania (Article 93 (1) of the Constitution);
15. to debate the programme and list of the Government and to grant the confidence vote (Article 102 (3) of the Constitution);
16. to withdrawn the confidence from the Government by adopting a motion of censure (Article 112 of the Constitution);
17. to carry out the procedure on Government assuming the responsibility upon a programme, a general policy statement or a draft law (Article 113 of the Constitution);
18. to elect the magistrates of the Superior Council of the Magistracy (Article 132 of the Constitution);
19. to appoint the members of the Court of Audit (Article 139 (4) of the Constitution);
20. to appoint the members of the new Supreme Court of Justice (Article 151 (2) of the Constitution);
21. to appoint other officers, activity which, according to the law, falls under the competence of the Parliament;
22. to adopt exclusive political statements, messages or other documents;
23. to declare the results of the national referendum;
24. to receive representatives of other states or of other international bodies;
25. to celebrate certain national holidays or to commemorate certain events and persons;
26. to establish Joint Inquiry Committees or other special Committees;
27. for other situations when the Standing Bureaux of the two Chambers deem necessary to convene them in joint meeting.

**Article 2** - The Presidents of the two Chambers mutually agree to convene their joint meeting.

If the Parliament is not in session, the joint meeting shall be lawfully convened in the cases set forth in Article 92 (2) and (3) and Article 93 of the Constitution, and in the other cases set forth Article 1 of this Regulation; the meeting shall be convened under the conditions of paragraph 1.

### Section 2 *Attributions of the Standing Bureaux; Agenda*

**Article 3** - The Standing Bureaux of the Chamber of Deputies and of the Senate jointly meet when convened by their Presidents:

- a. to adopt the draft agenda of the joint meetings of the Parliament;
- b. to set the date and venue of the joint meetings;
- c. to prepare and ensure the running of the joint meetings under best conditions.

The joint meetings of the Standing Bureaux of the two Chambers are chaired by their Presidents, by taking turns, and in their absence by one of the Vice President.

**Article 4** - Upon the invitation of the Standing Bureaux, one representative of every Parliamentary Groups, as well as any other person needed to discuss the debated problems, shall attend the joint meetings of the Standing Bureaux.

**Article 5** - The materials to be placed on the agenda shall be send to the Standing Bureaux with at least 10 days before their debate in the plenum, except for the cases when, according to the Constitution and this Regulation, the emergency debate in the plenum of the Chambers is required.

**Article 6** - The draft laws are placed on the agenda within maximum 10 days from the receipt of the joint report of the Committees notified on the subject matter.

**Article 7\*** - Upon the request of the President of Romania, the receipt of the message addressed to the Parliament is placed with priority on the agenda of the relevant day, as the case may be, or of the requested day.

After the receipt of the message, the Parliament may decide its debate.

The same procedure shall apply for other requests of the President of Romania express in exercising his/her powers.

*\*- Article 7 is reproduces as amended and completed by the Decision of the Parliament of Romania No 13 of 29 June 1995, published in the Official Journal of Romania. Part I, No 136 of 5 July 1995.*

**Article 8** - The draft agenda shall be submitted to the Parliament for approval on the day set for the joint meeting.

The agenda is adopted by the open vote of at least 51% of the attending Deputies and Senators.

As an exception, the President of the Chamber of Deputies or of the Senate may propose to change the agenda during any joint meeting, upon the well grounded request of one of the Standing Bureaux or of a Parliamentary Group of any Chamber, or, as the case may be, upon the request of the Government.

The request to change the agenda shall be grounded during one time-limited speech. If contrary opinions exist, the floor shall be given only to one spokesman of each Parliamentary Group, after that the proposals expressed shall be submitted for voting.

The agenda shall be changed under the same conditions as for its approval.

### *Section 3* **Meetings in the Standing Committees**

**Article 9** - The Standing Bureau of each Chamber submits draft laws for approval and for endorsement on the subject matter to the Standing Committee of each Chamber in charge of the subject matter regulated by the draft; it may notify also other Standing Committees requesting their opinion. The same procedure shall apply also for other materials which, according to Article 1, shall be debated in the joint meeting of the Chamber of the Parliament, for which the joint Standing Bureaux decided as necessary their discussion and endorsement by the Standing Committees.

The draft law and the other proposals shall be submitted for examination to the Legislative Department of each Chamber, which shall communicate its opinion to the Committee notified on the subject matter.

The requests for the re-examination of the laws adopted in the joint meetings and of those for which the Government assumed its responsibility shall be submitted for discussion and endorsement to the Committee notified on the subject matter.

**Article 10** - The draft laws and the materials set forth in Article 9 shall be discussed in the joint meeting of the Standing Committees, notified on the subject matter, of the two Chambers that shall draw up a joint report.

The Presidents of the Standing Committees notified on the subject matter shall convene the joint meeting, with at least 48 hours before the meeting date, unless a shorter term is required, according to the emergency procedure.

The Deputies and Senators shall attend the joint meeting of the Standing Committees notified on the subject matter.

**Article 11** - The joint meetings of the Committees are public. As an exception, the Standing Committees notified on the subject matter may decide to invite to their discussions experts of the public authorities, press representatives, and may decide the conditions under which the meetings may be broadcast by radio or television, if this does not prejudice national interests which request the confidentiality of the discussions.

The Members of the Government have access to the meeting of the Committees. The Committees may request some Members of the Government to attend their meetings; in this case these ones shall attend the relevant meeting.

The Deputies and Senators of other Committees, who made proposals or amendments, are entitled to attend the joint meetings of the Standing Committees, as well as other experts by the Standing Committees and of the Legislative Department of each Chamber.

Those who are not members of the Standing Committees notified on the subject matter cannot vote.

**Article 12** - The Standing Committees notified on the subject matter legally works in joint meetings, in the presence of at least 51% of the number of Deputies and Senators which are their members; the decisions are adopted by the vote of at least 51% of the attending members.

**Article 13** - Usually, the vote of the Committee is an open vote. The Committee may decide to use the secret vote for certain decisions.

**Article 14** - The joint meetings are chaired by the President of one of the Standing Committees notified on the subject matter, according to the agreement of the two Presidents.

The meetings of the Committees may be recorded in verbatim reports or in meeting minutes.

**Article 15** - The Presidents of the Standing Committees notified on the subject matter, based on mutual agreement, may set a term within which the opinions to be submitted to other Committees which examine the draft laws or other proposals.

If this term is not observed, the Joint Committees notified on the subject matter may prepare the report without waiting the opinions of the other Committees.

**Article 16** - After the examination of the draft laws or of other proposals, of the opinions and written amendments received, one or several rapporteurs appointed by the Joint Standing Committees, upon the proposal of their Presidents, shall prepare the joint report, which shall be submitted for approval by vote.

All the opinions of the other Committees and all other amendment proposals received shall be referred to in the report.

The report shall contain the opinion of the majority of the Members of the Joint Committees and, upon request, the grounded contrary opinions of the other Deputies and Senators.

**Article 17** - The joint report accompanied by the opinions shall be sent to the Standing Bureaux of each Chamber, which shall copy and disseminate it to the Deputies and Senators and, as the case may be, to the

Government or to other public authorities entitled to, with 3 days before the plenary debate. The Standing Bureau of the Chamber of Deputies shall disseminate it to the Government or to other public authorities.

#### *Section 4* **Running of the Joint Meetings**

**Article 18** - The joint meetings shall be alternatively chaired by the President of the Chamber of Deputies and the President of Senate, assisted by two Secretaries, one for each Chamber.

**Article 19** - The joint meetings of the two Chambers are public, except the cases when, upon the proposal of the President who chairs the meeting or upon the proposal of a Parliamentary Group, it is decided by at least 51% of the votes of the attending Deputies and Senators that the relevant joint meetings should be secret.

**Article 20** - Diplomats, representatives of the press, radio and television, as well as citizens may assist the public meetings of the two Chambers, based on the authorisation or invitation issued by the Secretaries General of the two Chambers, under the conditions set by the Standing Bureaux and within the limit of seats available.

The Members of the Government or their representatives may attend the joint meetings from the ministers' bench.

The persons attending the meeting shall maintain silence and refrain from any display of approval or disapproval; otherwise they shall be excluded from the hall.

The President who chairs the joint meeting is entitled to draw the attention to the newspapers and other mass media on clearly inaccurate information regarding the joint meetings disseminated by the latter ones. Upon the request of the President, the mass media shall publish the aspects provided by him/her. If the breach reoccurs, the President, by consulting the Joint Chambers, may withdraw for a certain period of time the authorisation to attend the meetings of the guilty representatives of the mass media.

**Article 21** - The Deputies and Senators shall attend the joint meetings and sign in on the list of presence, kept by the Secretaries.

The Deputy or Senator who is unable to attend a meeting, due to causes beyond his/her control, shall inform in due time the relevant Standing Bureau, specifying the cause that prevent him/her from attending the meeting.

An amount of money representing the fee for one working day in the plenum shall be withdrawn from the monthly emolument of the Deputy or Senator who cannot explain his/her absence.

The President who chairs the joint meeting shall state whether the legal quorum requirements were met and announce the agenda.

**Article 22** - During the meetings, the Presidents of the Parliamentary Groups may request the Chair of the joint meeting to verify whether the quorum requirements were met. The Chair of the joint meeting shall decide whether this is necessary.

If the legal quorum requirements were not met, the Chair suspends the meeting and specifies the day and time when the meeting shall be resumed.

Upon request, the Secretaries shall inform in the following joint meeting about the cause of the absence of the Deputies and Senators who failed to announce their absence and about the fines applied to the Deputies and Senators who were absent without no relevant reason.

**Article 23** - The President or Vice President who replace him/her and who chairs the discussions shall ensure the compliance with the Regulation and the Standing Orders in the meeting hall.

**Article 24** - The Deputies and Senators take the floor in the order in which their names were entered in the list, with the leave of the President.

The ministers attending the joint meeting may be given the floor at any stages of the debates, and whenever they should request it.

**Article 25** - No one may take the floor unless permitted by the President. The persons who take the floor shall speak from the rostrum.

**Article 26** - The President shall have the right to reduce the speaking time according to the matter under debate.

The speakers shall refer in their speech only to the matter for which they entered the list to take the floor. Otherwise, the President shall summon them and, should they not comply, withdraw the floor from them.

**Article 27** - The President shall give the floor at any time to a Deputy or Senator in order for him/her to answer any question involving his/her person, giving a time limit for this purpose.

The provisions of paragraph 1 shall apply also if the floor is requested for problems regarding the Regulation.

**Article 28** - The President or a Parliamentary Group may request the termination of the debate regarding a certain matter under discussion.

The request for the termination of the debates shall be adopted by the vote of at least 51% of the attending Deputies and Senators.

**Article 29** - It is forbidden to utter insults or slanders from the rostrum and from the meeting hall.

It is forbidden the dialogue between the speakers from the rostrum and the persons in the hall.

**Article 30** - The Chair shall call to order the Deputies or Senators who disturb the debate or cause disorder. If the disturbance persists, he/she may interrupt the meeting and may order the exclusion from the hall of the persons who prevent in any way the normal running of the joint meeting.

**Article 31** - The debates shall be recorded on magnetic tape and in verbatim reports.

The verbatim reports shall immediately be published in the Official Journal of Romania, Part II, except for the verbatim reports of the secret meetings.

The Deputies and Senators are entitled to verify the accuracy of a verbatim report by confronting it with the magnetic tape record, before its publishing in the Official Journal of Romania.

#### *Section 5* ***Voting procedure***

**Article 32** - The vote of the Deputies and Senators is private. It may be open or secret.

The open vote shall be cast by hand raising, by standing or by roll-call, and the result of the vote shall be communicated by the Chair of the meeting.

The secret vote shall be cast by ballot papers, balls or by electronic means.

The results of the secret vote cast by ballot papers or by balls shall be ascertained by the Standing Bureaux of the two Chambers.

**Article 33** - The Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, in joint meeting, shall determine every time which voting procedure shall be used, except the cases when this Regulation set forth a mandatory voting procedure.

**Article 34** - The secret voting procedure by ball shall be used to cast the vote of confidence for the Government and to withdraw the confidence granted to the Government by adopting a motion of censure.

**Article 35** - The roll-call voting procedure is as follows: the President shall explain the matter put to the vote and the meaning of the words "in favour" and "against"; one of the Secretaries shall read the Deputies' and Senators' full names, and each Deputy and Senator shall answer "in favour" or "against".

After conclusion of the roll-call, the full names of the Deputies and Senators who did not answer shall be repeated.

**Article 36** - The vote by balls shall take place as follows: a white ballot box and a black ballot box shall be placed before the Chair of the joint meeting. The Deputies and Senators shall come one by one before the ballot boxes, after receiving from the Secretaries two balls, one white and the other black, which they shall place into the two ballot boxes. A white ball placed in the white ballot box and a black ball placed in the black ballot box shall mean a vote "in favour", whereas a black ball placed in the white ballot box and a white ball placed in the black ballot box shall mean a vote "against".

**Article 37** - In the case of the voting procedure by ballot paper, the full names of the candidates, the positions for which they candidate, and the Parliamentary Group which members they are, as the case may be, shall be specified on the ballot paper.

The Deputy and the Senator vote "in favour" by leaving untouched the full name of the person proposed on the ballot paper; they vote "against" by crossing out the full name of the person proposed.

The ballots papers shall be inserted in ballot boxes.

**Article 38** - The state budget and the state social security budget shall be approved by the vote of the majority of the attending Deputies and Senators.

The divergent drafts or proposals for the review of the Constitution shall be adopted by the vote of at least three-fourths of the Deputies and Senators, if no agreement is reach by mediation procedure.

The final texts on the divergent problems in the organic laws which were not settled by mediation procedure, as well as the Regulation on the Joint Meeting shall be approved by the vote of the majority of the Deputies and Senators.

The final texts on the divergent problems in the ordinary laws which were not settled by mediation procedure, as well as the decisions made in the joint meetings shall be adopted by simple majority vote, they may be adopted by vote of the majority of the Deputies and Senators attending the joint meeting.

The impeachment of the President of Romania for high treason shall be decided by vote of at least two-thirds of the Deputies and Senators.

The suspension from office of the President of Romania or of the person acting as President of Romania shall be decided by vote of the majority of Deputies and Senators.

The grant of the confidence to the Government and the withdrawal of the confidence shall be decided by vote of the majority of Deputies and Senators. The other elections and appointments shall be decided by vote of the majority of the attending Deputies and Senators.

The exclusive political documents shall be approved by vote of the majority of the Deputies and Senators attending the joint meeting of the two Chambers.

**Article 39** - In all cases when the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, in joint meeting, adopt laws, decisions and motions, at least 51% of the members of the two Chamber of the Parliament shall be present.

If at least 51% of the Deputies and Senators are not present in the hall, the Chair of the joint meeting of the two Chambers adjourns the voting until the legal quorum requirements are met.

**Article 40** - The Chair of the joint meeting shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie.

The Presidents of the two Chambers shall cast their vote after all the Deputies and Senators cast theirs.

**Article 41** - During the voting, the Deputies or Senators shall not be granted the right to take the floor.

**Article 42** - The laws adopted in the joint meeting shall be signed by the Presidents of the two Chambers and shall be submitted to the President of Romania for promulgation by the President of the Chamber of Deputies.

**Article 43** - Before promulgating the law, the President of Romania is entitled to request to both Chambers, based on a well grounded message, a new consideration of the law or of some articles of the law adopted in the joint meeting of the two Chambers. In this case, the two Chamber of the Parliament in joint meeting deliver their opinions on the objections contained in the message of the President of Romania, after the law or articles in question were re-examined, according to the legislative procedure; these are adopted by vote of at least two-thirds of the Deputies and Senators in the case of the constitutional laws, by vote of the majority of the Deputies and Senators in the case of the organic laws and by vote of the majority of the attending Deputies and Senators in the case of ordinary laws.

If the objections contained in the message of the President of Romania are adopted, the second version of the law shall be submitted for promulgation.

If the objections contained in the message are rejected, the initial version of the law shall be submitted for promulgation.

## CHAPTER II Special Procedures

### *Section 1*

#### ***Approval of the State Budget and of the State Social Security Budget***

**Article 44** - The draft law on state budget and the draft law on state social security shall be annually prepared by the Government and shall be submitted to the joint meeting of the Chamber of Deputies and Senate for approval.

The draft law on state budget and the draft law on state social security shall be submitted by the Government to the Standing Bureaux of the two Chambers, which shall deliver them to the Deputies and Senators.

**Article 45** - The Standing Bureau shall submit the draft law on state budget and the draft law on state social security to the Committees for Budget and Finance Problems for debate and endorsement. The other Committees endorse the drafts' chapters subject to their activity object.

**Article 46** - The Parliamentary Groups, the Deputies and Senators may submit to the Committees written and well grounded amendments within maximum 5 days from the receipt of the draft.

**Article 47** - The Committees notified on the subject matter to examine the draft law on the budget prepare a joint report on each draft, where the amendments accepted and rejected shall be specified, accompanied by a brief justification of the solution adopted.

The joint reports shall be prepared within maximum 30 days from the notification.

**Article 48** - Before the debate of the draft budget in joint meeting, the elements supporting the draft shall be presented by the initiator, as well as the joint report. The report shall be presented by one of the Presidents of the Standing Committees notified on the subject matter or by a rapporteur appointed by them.

**Article 49** - A representative of each Parliamentary Groups of the two Chamber, as well as Parliamentarians who are not members of such groups may take the floor during the general debate of these drafts.

The representative of the Government is entitled to take the floor before the conclusion of the general debate.

No amendments may be proposed at the stage of general debate.

**Article 50** - After the general debate is closed, it is proceeded to the debate of the articles of the drafts on each budget.

The Deputies and Senators may take the floor upon the debate of each article.

During the speech, only amendments on typing problems, which do not affect the essence of the problem discussed, may be presented.

The Chair may submit to the joint meeting for approval the suspension of the discussions on the article under debate.

**Article 51** - The discussion on the articles shall start with the amendments proposed in the joint report, which are submitted for vote with priority.

**Article 52** - The amendments and articles shall be adopted by vote of the majority of the Deputies and Senators attending the joint meeting.

**Article 53** - After the conclusion of the debates of articles, the draft laws shall be submitted in their entirety for the final vote of the Deputies and Senators.

## *Section 2*

### ***Debate of the Divergent Legislative Texts***

**Article 54** - If a draft law was adopted in different versions by the two Chambers, and the Committee for Mediation reached no agreement, or if one of the Chambers does not approve, totally or partially, with the report of the Committee for Mediation, the divergent texts shall be submitted to the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate for debate in joint meeting, by observing the rules on legislative procedure set forth in the previous section and in Article 38 (2), (3) and (4).

**Article 55** - The laws adopted shall be submitted to the President of Romania for promulgation, signed by the President of the Chamber of Deputies, within maximum 10 days from their voting.

## *Section 3*

### ***Relations of the Parliament with the President of Romania***

**Article 56** - The Presidents of the two Chamber of the Parliament convene, within 24 hours from the validation of the results of the elections for the office of President of Romania by the Constitutional Court, the joint meeting of the Deputies and the Senators in order for the candidate whose election was validated to take the oath.

If the parliamentary and presidential elections take place at the same date, the Chambers shall be convene in joint meeting for the taking of the oath within maximum 24 hours from the legal establishment of the elected new Chambers.

**Article 57** - The Presidents of the Chambers of the Parliament shall chair the joint meeting. One of them, after he/she announced the purpose of the meeting, gives the floor to the President of the Constitutional Court or to the representative of the latter, if the President cannot attend, in order to present the report validating the results of the elections for the office of President of Romania, and invites the candidate whose election was validated to take the oath.

The taking of the oath shall be recorded in a statement of the Parliament, by which it acknowledges the commencement of the term of the President of Romania.

The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall apply also for the interim of the office of President of Romania, after the Constitutional Court confirmed the existence of the events justifying the interim.

**Article 58** - If the President of Romania notifies the Parliament on one of the situations set forth in Article 1 (3), (4), (5) and (14) of this Regulation, the Standing Bureau of the Chambers set the joint meeting of the Parliament within maximum 24 hours or 48 hours, as the case may be.

**Article 59** - Subsequent to the debate of the request of the President of Romania, the Deputies and Senators in joint meeting shall approve or agree with the measures take by the President in the exercise of his/her powers, by vote of the majority of the attending Deputies and Senators.

**Article 60** - The impeachment of the President of Romania shall be initiated based on a request signed by at least one-third of the Deputies and Senators. The request shall contain the deeds the President of Romania is charge with and their legal classification. When the Standing Bureaux received the request, they shall immediately inform the President of Romania about the request for impeachment.



**Article 61** - During the joint meeting of the two Chambers, the President who chairs the meeting informs the Deputies and Senators about the content of the request for impeachment and sets an Inquiry Committee which shall prepare a report on the ascertained aspects within the term decided in the joint meeting.

**Article 62** - The Chamber of the Parliament shall be convened in a joint meeting within 48 hours from the submission of the report prepared by the Inquiry Committee to the Standing Bureaux in order to examine and debate it.

**Article 63** - After the conclusion of the debates, the proposal of the Inquiry Committee shall be submitted for vote by balls.

**Article 64** - If it is decided the impeachment of the President of Romania, the Parliament immediately request, under the signature of the Presidents of the two Chambers, the General Public Prosecutor to notify the Supreme Court of Justice, according to the law.

**Article 65** - The President of Romania is entitled to defend himself/herself during the impeachment procedure.

**Article 66** - The proposal of suspensions from the office of the President of Romania in the case when he/she seriously beached the provisions of the Constitution - proposal made by at least one-third of the Deputies and Senators - shall be simultaneously submitted to the Standing Bureaux of the Chamber of the Parliament.

The Standing Bureaux immediately communicate this proposal, under the signature of the Presidents, to the President of Romania therewith specifying the date and venue of the joint meeting of the Chambers.

**Article 67** - The Presidents who chairs the joint meeting, after presenting the proposal of suspension from office and after hearing the explanation of the President of Romania, advise with the Deputies and Senators whether the existing data are enough in order to notify the Constitutional Court or whether it is necessary to set up an Inquiry Committees. The decision shall be approved by vote of the majority of the total number of the Deputies and Senators.

If it was considered that the data are enough, the proposal of suspension accompanied by the necessary information shall be immediately submitted to the Constitutional Court for advice by the President who chaired the joint meeting, specifying the deadline until when the Court should deliver an opinion.

The Chamber of the Parliament shall be convened in a joint meeting within 24 hours from the receipt of the opinion of the Constitutional Court in order to decide upon the proposal of suspension from office.

The President of Romania is invited to attend the debates, and upon his/her request, he/she shall take the floor to give explanation on the deeds he/she is charged with any time during the debates.

The decision shall be adopted by vote of the majority of the Deputies and Senators. The vote used is the secret vote by balls.

**Article 68** - If it was decided to set a Joint Inquiry Committee, the report prepared by it within the term set forth in the decision specified in Article 67 (1) shall be submitted to the Constitutional Court for advice by the Presidents of the two Chambers within 3 days from the submission of the report.

**Article 69** - The decision adopted by the Parliament during the procedure of suspension from the office of the President of Romania shall be communicated to the President of Romania within 48 hours, under the signature of the Presidents of the two Chambers.

If the proposal of suspension from the office were adopted, the decision shall be sent also to the Government in order to initiate the draft law on the organisation and running of the referendum for the removal of the President from office.

**Article 70** - The provisions of Articles 66-69 shall apply accordingly also for the proposal of suspension of the person acting as President of Romania.

*Section 4*  
***Grant and Withdrawal of the Confidence Granted to the Government***

**Article 71** - Standing Bureaux of the two Chambers shall immediately reproduce and deliver to the Deputies and Senators the programme and the list of the Government, when these shall be received from the candidate appointed for the office of Prime Minister.

**Article 72** - The Standing Bureaux set the date of the joint meeting in maximum 15 days from the receipt of the programme and list of the Government, under the conditions of Article 3 of this Regulation, and they also take all actions to convene the Deputies and the Senators.

Each candidate for the office of Minister, who entered the list of the Government, shall be heard during the joint meeting by the Standing Committees of the two Chambers which activity object corresponds to the scope of the future Minister.

Subsequent to the hearing, the Committees shall prepare a justified joint advisory opinion which shall be present to the candidate for the office of Prime Minister.

**Article 73** - The Chair of the joint meeting of the two Chamber of the Parliament shall give the floor to the candidate appointed for the office of the Prime Minister, after the approval of the agenda, in order for him/her to present the programme and the list of the Government.

Further on, upon the request of the representatives of the Parliamentary Groups of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, the Chair shall give the floor to them to express viewpoints of those Groups on the programme and list of the Government.

**Article 74** - After the conclusion of the debates, the proposal for the grant of confidence to the Government shall be submitted for voting. The vote used is the secret vote by balls.

**Article 75** - After the counting of votes, the Chair notify the results of the poll, which shall be recorded in the minutes concluded for this purpose.

**Article 76** - The Decision of the Parliament on the grant of the vote of confidence shall be signed by the President of the Chamber of Deputies and by the President of the Senate and shall be immediately submitted to the President of Romania for the appointment of the Government.

**Article 77** - If the vote of confidence is not granted to form the Government, the Parliament shall immediately inform about this, under the signature of the Presidents of the two Chambers, the President of Romania in order for him/her to appoint another candidate for the office of Prime Minister.

**Article 78** - The motion of censure initiated by at least one-fourth of the Deputies and Senators shall be submitted to the Standing Bureaux and shall be communicated to the Government by the President of the Chamber of Deputies the day when its was submitted. The motion of censure is presented in the joint meeting of the two Chambers within maximum 5 days from its submission.

The motion of censure shall be debated after 3 days from date when it was presented in the joint meeting of the two Chambers.

The date and venue of the joint meeting, and the invitation for participation shall be communicated to the Government by the President of the Chamber of Deputies with 24 hours before.

**Article 79** - After the motion of censure was presented by the Deputy or Senator appointed by its initiator, the Chair of the joint meeting gives the floor to the Prime Minister or, if he/she cannot attend this joint meeting, to the Member of the Government who represents him/her, in order to present the position of the Government.

Further on, the Chair gives the floor to the Deputies and Senators, in the order in which they entered in the list for taking the floor.

**Article 80** - After the conclusion of the debates, the motion shall be submitted for voting.

**Article 81** - The provisions of Articles 74-77 shall apply accordingly also for the adoption of the motion of censure.

**Article 82** - The provisions of this section shall accordingly apply also for the motion of censure regarding the commitment of the responsibility of the Government on a programme, on a statement of general policy or on a draft law, under the conditions of Article 113 of the Constitution.

*Section 5*  
**Appointment and Elections**

**Article 83** - The proposals of appointments and elections for the offices set forth in Article 1 (7), (18), (19), (20) and (21) of this Regulation shall be debate in the joint meeting of the Chambers of the Parliament based on a joint report prepared by the expert Standing Committees of the two Chambers.

**Article 84** - The vote used is the secret vote by ballot papers.

*Section 6*  
**Other Special Procedures**

**Article 85** - The date of the joint meeting for the debate of the reports to be presented to the Parliament by the public authorities, as set forth in the Constitution, shall be set within minimum 5 days from the delivery of the reports to the Deputies and Senators.

The reports shall be examined by the Standing Committees notified on the subject matter and the joint report prepared by them shall be delivered to the Parliamentarians with at least one (1) day before date when it shall be presented in the joint meeting of the two Chambers.

If, following the debates, it is necessary to adopt some measures, such decision shall be approved by vote of the majority of the Deputies and Senators.

**Article 86** - The Chambers may decide in joint meeting, by exercising the powers of control of the Parliament, to be conducted verifications or own inquiries by the Joint Committees established for this purpose or by the Standing Committees of the Chambers, which shall present a joint report.

CHAPTER III  
**Final Provisions**

**Article 87** - The Deputy or the Senator who cannot attend the meetings, because he/she received from the Parliament a temporary task that prevents him/her from attending the meeting, shall not count in the statutory number for establishing the legal quorum of the joint meeting of the Chambers of the Parliament.

The provisions of paragraph 1 shall apply also for the Deputies and Senators who are members of the Government, if they could not attend the meetings because they exercised the powers of their offices.

**Article 88** - The Deputies, the Senators and the Members of the Government shall attend the joint meetings for the debate of draft laws that fall under their competence, for the debates of the investiture and of the motion of censure, of the messages of the President of Romania and of the general policy statement of the Government.

**Article 89** - The provisions of this Regulation shall be completed by the applicable provisions of the Regulations of the Chamber of Deputies and of the Regulations of the Senate.