



# NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Suite 605, 1717 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 328-3136 • FAX (202) 328-3144 • Telex 5106015068 NDIIA

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## INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION TO OBSERVE MAY 20 ROMANIAN ELECTION

WASHINGTON, DC, MAY 11, 1990 -- A 60-member

international delegation will observe the May 20 presidential and legislative elections in Romania -- the first multi-party electoral contest in that country in nearly half a century.

The high-level observer group is sponsored jointly by the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) and the National Republican Institute for International Affairs (NRIIA). Delegation leaders include U.S. Senator Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) and Deputy Labour Leader Roy Hattersley, Britain's Shadow Home Secretary and former Deputy Foreign Minister. The delegation includes legislators, political party leaders and election experts from 15 countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Western Hemisphere.

The purpose of the mission, is to demonstrate international support for free and fair elections and for the democratic transition in Romania.

The delegation, which will be present in Romania from Thursday May 17 through Tuesday, May 22, will meet with Romanian presidential candidates, political party leaders, election officials, journalists and nonpartisan civic

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associations. The group will then divide into teams to watch the voting and counting process in 10 cities throughout the country. The teams will reassemble in Bucharest on Monday, May 21 for a debriefing, the preparation of a delegation statement and a press conference.

NDI, a democratic development institute chaired by former Vice President Walter F. Mondale, has organized international observer missions for elections in the Philippines, Chile, Pakistan, Namibia, Taiwan, Paraguay, Panama, Haiti and Hungary.

For further information, the press contact in Romania is NDI Deputy Program Director Karen Clark -- NDI/NRIIA Headquarters, Hotel Bucharest, Mezzanine Level, Salon 3, Telephone (400) 154580.

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