





Notification template for Article 131 CRD – Other Systemically Important Institutions (O-SII)

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1. Notifying national authority			
1.1 Name of the notifying authority	National Committee for Macroprudential Oversight (NCMO)		
2. Description of the	measure		
2.1 Concerned institution or group of institutions	The NCMO assessed the Romanian banking system from the perspective of the systemic entities based on data related to December 2018, according to the best practices recommended by EBA, i.e. the <i>Final Peer Review Report on the peer review of the Guidelines on criteria to determine the conditions of application of Article 131(3) of Directive 2013/36/EU (CRD) in relation to the assessment of other systemically important institutions (<i>O-SIIs</i>) – <i>November 2017</i> stating the following: "A best practice might be to use the year-end data of the year preceding the identification assessment of the systemic risk dimension, while allowing some flexibility for the use of other additional reference periods to account for structural changes to the composition of the banking system, to inform supervisory judgement to account for year-end reference dates that may be of relevance to the jurisdiction". No structural change of the Romanian banking system occurred since December 2018. Based on data available as of 31 December 2018, 9 credit institutions Romanian legal entities obtained a score higher than the threshold set for automatic designation of systemically important institutions (275 basis points). The name and LEI code of the systemically important institutions identified in Romania are provided below. Banca Transilvania S.A. – LEI code 549300RG3H390KEL8896 UniCredit Bank S.A. – LEI code 549300BDyD5VPGUQS04 Banca Comercială Română S.A. – LEI code 549300RFKNCOX56F8591 Alpha Bank România S.A. – LEI code 529900TKT32Z5LP7XF90 CEC Bank S.A. – LEI code 549300RFKNCOX56F8591 Alpha Bank România S.A. – LEI code 529900TKT32Z5LP7XF90 CEC Bank S.A. – LEI code 549300UZRCTIM0HREY46 An O-SII buffer applicable in 2020 is set for the systemically important institutions which are Romanian legal entities, as mentioned below. The O-SII buffer is applicable at the highest level of consolidation, as applicable.</i>		

	The levels of the O-SII buffer applicable in 2020 for the systemically important institutions which are Romanian legal entities are the following:	
	Banca Transilvania S.A. – 2% (consolidated level) UniCredit Bank S.A. – 1% (sub-consolidated level) Banca Comercială Română S.A. – 2% (sub-consolidated level)	
2.2 Level of the buffer	BRD - Groupe Societe Generale S.A. – 1% (sub-consolidated level)	
applied	Raiffeisen Bank S.A. – 2% (sub-consolidated level)	
	Alpha Bank România S.A. – 1% (individual level)	
	CEC Bank S.A. – 2% (individual level) OTP Bank Romania S.A. – 2% (sub-consolidated level)	
	Garanti Bank S.A. – 1% (individual level)	
	The above mentioned levels of the O-SII buffer are applicable beginning with 1 st of January 2020.	
	7 out of 9 systemically important institutions in Romania which are Romanian legal	
	entities are subsidiaries of foreign banks, as follows: - Banca Comercială Română S.A. – subsidiary of Erste Group Bank AG (LEI code PQOH26KWDF7CG10L6792)	
	- BRD - Groupe Societe Generale S.A. – subsidiary of Societe Generale (LEI code O2RNE8IBXP4R0TD8PU41)	
2.3 Name of the EU	- UniCredit Bank S.A. – subsidiary of UniCredit S.p.A. (LEI code	
ultimate parent	549300TRUWO2CD2G5692) - Raiffeisen Bank S.A. – subsidiary of Raiffeisen Bank International AG (LEI code	
institution	9ZHRYM6F437SQJ6OUG95)	
	- Alpha Bank România S.A. – subsidiary of Alpha Bank (LEI code	
	5299009N55YRQC69CN08)	
	- OTP Bank Romania S.A. – subsidiary of OTP Bank Nyrt. (LEI code	
	529900W3MOO00A18X956) - Garanti Bank S.A. – subsidiary of Garanti BBVA Turkey, which is consolidated by	
	Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria – BBVA (LEI code	
	K8MS7FD7N5Z2WQ51AZ71)	
2.4 Names of subsidiaries	N/A	
3. Timing of the mea	sure	
	The National Committee for Macroprudential Oversight issued the Recommendation	
3.1 Timing of the	no.4/2019, according to which the National Bank of Romania is recommended to	
Decision	implement the O-SII buffer applicable in 2020 for the systemically important institutions identified based on data available as of December 2018.	
3.2 Timing of the Publication	The intended date of publication of the notified measure is November 2019.	
2.2 Diselector	The National Committee for Macroprudential Oversight, as designated authority and the National Bank of Romania (NBR), as competent authority, will publish on the official website (i) the names of the identified systemically important institutions based on data available for December 2018, (ii) the scores obtained according to the	
3.3 Disclosure	methodology harmonized with the EBA Guidelines and (iii) the capital requirements consisting in the O-SII buffer applicable starting with 1 st of January 2020. In addition, the NBR will communicate the decision to each systemic bank which is subject to the O-SII buffer.	
3.4 Timing of Application	The intended date of activation for the O-SII buffer is 1 st of January 2020.	
3.5 Phasing in	The measure is not subject to phasing in.	

3.6 Review of the measure	According to Article 131(6) and 131(12) of CRD IV (which was implemented in the national legal framework by the <i>NCMO Regulation No. 2 of 9 October 2017 on the methodology and procedures used for setting capital buffers and the scope of these instruments</i>), the list of O-SIIs and the respective O-SII buffer will be reviewed annually. The present decision refers to O-SII buffers applicable starting with the 1 st of January 2020. The next revision of the measure will be made in 2020 and will be applicable during 2021.	
4. Reason for O-SII in	dentification and activation of the O-SII buffer	
4.1 Scores of concerned institution or group of institutions, as per EBA guidelines on the assessment of O-SIIs (Article 131.3)	 The overall scores of the banks identified as systemically important institutions based on data available as of December 2018 are listed below: UniCredit Bank S.A. – 1839 basis points Banca Transilvania S.A. – 1527 basis points BRD Groupe Societe Generale S.A. – 1137 basis points Raiffeisen Bank S.A. – 879 basis points Alpha Bank România S.A. – 468 basis points CEC Bank S.A. – 357 basis points CEC Bank S.A. – 287 basis points CEC Bank S.A. – 287 basis points Garanti Bank S.A. – 287 basis points Garanti Bank S.A. – 287 basis points The indicator values of the identified O-SIIs are provided in the attached Excel files (Annex no.1a – Mandatory indicators December 2018). The methodology used by the National Bank of Romania is harmonized with the EBA Guidelines on the criteria to determine the conditions of application of Article 131(3) of Directive 2013/36/EU (CRD) in relation to the assessment of other systemically important institutions (O-SIIs), using a 275 basis points threshold. The above mentioned O-SIIs were designated using the mandatory criteria and indicators, i.e.: a. size; b. importance for the economy of the relevant Member State or the Union, capturing substitutability/financial institution infrastructure; c. complexity, including the additional complexities from cross-border activity; d. interconnectedness of the institution or (sub-)group with the financial system. In order to calculate the mandatory indicators, the harmonized definitions are used according the specifications in Table 2 of Annex 1 in the EBA Guidelines on the criteria to determine the conditions of application of Article 131(3) of Directive 2013/36/EU (CRD) in relation to the assessment of other systemically important institutions (O-SIIs) based on FINREP reports compiled according the implementing technical standard on an EU-wide common supervisory reporting	
4.2 Methodology and indicators used for designation of the O-SII (Article 131.3)	The National Bank of Romania uses a two-step methodology: 1) calculation of scores based on mandatory indicators recommended by EBA <i>Guidelines on the criteria to determine the conditions of application of Article 131(3) of Directive 2013/36/EU (CRD) in relation to the assessment of other systemically important institutions (O- SIIs); 2)</i> calculation of optional indicators (supervisory judgement). All the systemically important institutions listed in the Section 2.1. were identified using the mandatory indicators recommended by the EBA <i>Guidelines on the criteria to determine the conditions of application of Article 131(3) of Directive 2013/36/EU (CRD) in relation to the assessment of other systemically important institutions (O-SIIs).</i>	

Criterion	Indicators	Weight
Size	Total assets	25.00%
Importance (including	Value of domestic payment transactions	8.33%
substitutability/financial system infrastructure)	Private sector deposits from depositors in the EU	8.33%
	Private sector loans to recipients in the EU	8.33%
Complexity/cross-border Value of OTC derivatives (notional)		8.33%
activity	Cross-jurisdictional liabilities	8.33%
	Cross-jurisdictional claims	8.33%
Interconnectedness	Intra-financial system liabilities	8.33%
	Intra-financial system assets	8.33%
	Debt securities outstanding	8.33%
 <i>131(3)</i> of Directive 2013/36/ systemically important instituti into account the specificities statistical distribution of the so of designated O-SIIs. The harmonized definitions ar according the specifications in FINREP reports compiled acco wide common supervisory report The evaluation performed by the in Romania. The names and so as of December 2018 are listed UniCredit Bank S.A. – 1839 bas Banca Transilvania S.A. – 1522 Banca Comercială Română S.A BRD - Groupe Societe General Raiffeisen Bank S.A. – 879 bas ING Bank – Bucureşti Branch Alpha Bank România S.A. – 357 CEC Bank S.A. – 324 basis por Garanti Bank S.A. – 287 basis Citibank Europe – România Br Banca Românească S.A. Grupu Banca de Export-Import a Rom First Bank S.A. (former Piraeus) 	he NBR comprised all the credit institution cores of institutions included in the evaluat below: asis points 7 basis points 7 basis points 8 c. – 1229 basis points 9 c. – 1137 basis points 9 c. – 1137 basis points 9 basis points 9 basis points 9 basis points 9 basis points 1 National Bank of Greece – 184 basis points 1 Sank S.A. – 122 basis points 1 Sank S.A. – 122 basis points 1 Sank S.A. – 122 basis points	nt of other points takes he resulting f the group v indicators, ines <i>i.e.</i> the l on an EU- ns operating ion process
LIBRA INTERNET BANK S.A. – 66 basis points IDEA Bank S.A 53 basis points Credit Agricole Bank Romania S.A. – 45 basis points Patria Bank SA - 37 basis points BNP Paribas Paris – București Branch – 37 basis points		

	 ProCredit Bank S.A. – 36 basis points MARFIN BANK (Romania) S.A. – 35 basis points BANK LEUMI ROMANIA S.A. – 30 basis points PORSCHE BANK ROMANIA S.A 24 basis points BNP Paribas Personal Finance SA Paris – București Branch – 20 basis points Banca Centrală Cooperatistă Creditcoop – 15 basis points BLOM BANK FRANCE S.A. PARIS – ROMÂNIA Branch – 10 basis points Banca Comercială FEROVIARĂ S.A 9 basis points TBI Bank EAD Sofia – București Branch – 7 basis points BANCA ROMÂNĂ DE CREDITE SI INVESTIȚII S.A - 3 basis points Alior Bank S.A. Varșovia – Bucharest Branch – 1 basis point No credit institution was excluded from the evaluation process. The evaluation comprised only credit institutions (the non-bank institutions were not included in the 	
4.3 Supervisory judgement	 assessment). The methodology used by the National Bank of Romania comprises the following indicators in the second step of evaluation (supervisory judgement): a) The contribution of the credit institution to finance the real economy, calculated by the volume of loans to nonfinancial companies and the substitution degree of lending to nonfinancial companies; b) The contribution of the credit institution to financial intermediation, calculated by the volume of deposits from households and nonfinancial companies; c) The activity of the credit institution on the interbank market and quantifying the contagion effects; d) Assessment of systemically important institutions in the ReGIS payment system; e) Contagion vulnerability from the parent to subsidiary banks through the common lender channel (home country capital). The above mentioned criteria can be found in the list of indicators mentioned in Annex 2 - Optional indicators in the EBA <i>Guidelines on the criteria to determine the conditions of application of Article 131(3) of Directive 2013/36/EU (CRD) in relation to the assessment of other systemically important institutions (O- SIIs), namely: private sector loans; retail deposits, corporate deposits; interbank claims and/or liabilities; payment services provided to market participants or others; potential contagion through entities in conglomerate/shareholders. </i> The evaluation performed based on the optional indicators (supervisory judgement) did not identify systemically important institutions in addition to those already designated as systemic in the first step of calculating the mandatory indicators points threshold set for the first step of analysis (mandatory indicators). Therefore, the results obtained in the two steps of analysis are homogeneous. 	
4.4 Calibrating the O-SII buffer	The level of the O-SII buffer was set in accordance with the provisions of Article 131 (5) and (8) of CRD IV, stipulating that (i) the competent authority or designated authority may require each O-SII, on a consolidated, sub-consolidated or individual basis, as applicable, to maintain an O-SII buffer of up to 2 % of the total risk exposure amount calculated in accordance with Article 92(3) of Regulation (EU) No 575/2013, taking into account the criteria for the identification of the O-SII. That buffer shall consist of and shall be supplementary to Common Equity Tier 1 capital; (ii) where an O-SII is a subsidiary of either a G-SII or an O- SII which is an EU parent institution and subject to an O-SII buffer on a consolidated basis, the buffer that applies at individual or sub-consolidated level for the O-SII shall not exceed the higher of: (a) 1 % of the total risk exposure amount calculated in accordance with Article 92(3) of Regulation (EU) No 575/2013; and (b) the G-SII or O-SII buffer rate applicable to the group at consolidated level.	

	 Seven out of the 9 identified systemically important banks in Romania as of December 2018 are subsidiaries of foreign banks from other Member States (AT - BCR, Raiffeisen, IT - UniCredit, EL - Alpha Bank, FR - BRD, ES - Garanti Bank, HU – OTP Bank), which were identified as G-SIIs/O-SIIs and have to maintain an G-SII/O-SII buffer at consolidated level. Thus, according to the information published on the ESRB website, the G-SII/O-SII buffer applicable in 2020 is: (i) O-SII buffer of 2% for Austrian banks Erste Group Bank and Raiffeisen Bank International AG; (ii) G-SII buffer of 1% and O-SII buffer of 0.75% for Italian bank UniCredit SpA; (iii) O-SII buffer of 0.5% for the Greek bank Alpha Bank; (iv) G-SII/O-SII buffer of 1% for the French bank Societe Generale Group; (v) O-SII buffer of 0.75% in the case of BBVA (N.B the O-SII buffer is applicable during 2019; according the information published on the ESRB website, the Bank of Spain will perform a new evaluation in November 2019); (vi) O-SII buffer of 2% in case of OTP Bank group in Hungary. In this respect, the level of the O-SII buffer applicable to the subsidiaries in Romania of the above mentioned banks takes into account the provisions of Article 131 (5) and (8) of CRD IV. Considering that the largest credit institutions in Romania are subsidiaries of foreign EU banks which have the status of G-SIIs/O-SIIs, the National Committee for Macroprudential Oversight recommended to the National Bank of Romania to implement starting January 1, 2020 an O-SII buffer for the Romania legal entities identified as systemic which is correlated with the capital requirements applicable to parent banks. The above mentioned decision regarding the O-SII buffer also accounted for: (i) the role of the O-SII buffer in both increasing the capacity of systemically important institutions to absorb losses from potential exogenous shocks and reducing their negative impact on the
4.5 Effectiveness and proportionality of measure	 The use of the O-SII buffer as a macroprudential instrument is effective in achieving the intermediate objective of "limiting the systemic impact of misaligned incentives with a view to reducing moral hazard", contributing to strengthening the resilience of large institutions which promotes the consolidation of the resilience of the financial system as a whole. The business decisions at an institution level have the objective to maximize profits, but negative externalities may occur for both the real economy and the banking sector as a whole. The objectives of imposing additional capital requirements for systemically important institutions consist of: (i) increasing their capacity to absorb losses, with positive effects on lowering the systemic risk generated by the size of institutions, i.e. the likelihood of facing financial difficulties or lower the severity of their potential negative impact. From this perspective, the O-SII buffer may prove effective; (ii) correcting the advantages that the entities considered "too big to fail" enjoy due to implicit government guarantees. Therefore, the O-SII buffer may be accounted as a proportional measure as it ensures an equal treatment for all banks in the domestic market. The macroprudential instrument consisting in higher capital requirements for the systemically important institutions (O-SII buffer) takes into account the structural dimension of systemic risk, i.e. the distribution of risk in the financial system. In the

5. Cross-border and	case of large institutions, the systemic risk arises from asset size and varies insignificantly over the economic cycle. The group of systemically important institutions in Romania (i) holds 78% of total assets of the Romanian banking sector as of December 2018, (ii) provides the bulk of financial services for the real economy: 77% of the stock of loans, 78% of the deposits from households and companies, 58% of payment transactions, (iii) considering the complexity criterion, they trade 95% of derivatives in OTC markets, hold 91% of total cross-jurisdictional claims and 83% of total cross-jurisdictional liabilities of the banking sector, and (iv) considering the interconnectedness criterion, they provide 71% of the intra-financial system assets and use 81% of intra-financial system liabilities, issuing 98% of total debt securities outstanding.	
	The higher capital requirements following the implementation of the O-SII buffer	
	will increase the resilience of systemically important banks in Romania, which will positively affect both (i) the stability of the financial system and the real economy at a domestic level and (ii) the soundness of the international banking groups at consolidated level. With respect to the impact on the internal market, it is to be mentioned that 92.5%	
5.1 Assessment of cross- border effects and the likely impact on the internal market (Recommendation ESRB/2015/2)	of total exposures in the balance sheet of the Romanian banks as of December 2018 are of a domestic nature. The Romanian banking sector has a relatively modest importance on the foreign markets in terms of both assets and cross-border loans. Direct cross-border loans and through branches sum up 7.5% of the total loans in the balance sheet of the Romanian banking sector, most of them being loans granted to other financial institutions (only 0.47% of total loans are loans granted to household and non-financial companies). Moreover, these figures becomes insignificant when compared to the EU banking sector (according the latest available figures – Consolidated Banking Data - the share of the Romanian banking sector in the total assets of the EU banking sector was only 0.23% as of 31 December 2018). Under these circumstances, our assessment is that the above- mentioned measure has little potential to generate significant cross-border effects via the risk adjustment spillover channel. Concerning the regulatory arbitrage channel, the structure of the banking groups indicates a marginal contribution of the foreign entities to the own funds of the groups or to their capital ratios.	
	In addition, we have to mention that seven out of nine systemically important banks in Romania are subsidiaries of large EU foreign banks, that are G-SIIs or O-SIIs in their home countries and therefore they are subject to G-SII/O-SII buffers. In this way, it is ensured a level playing field both domestically and at the EU level. In the case of subsidiaries of foreign banks, the level of O-SII was set considering the provisions of CRD IV and correlated with the capital requirements applicable to the mother banks.	
	As the capitalization of large Romanian banks is adequate, the implementation of the O-SII buffer will not require new capital contributions from the shareholders. Even though the O-SII buffer is in place, the banks will still have enough capital reserves to be able to resume lending to the real economy in a sustainable manner.	
5.2 Assessment of leakages and regulatory arbitrage within the notifying Member State	 The scope for leakages and regulatory arbitrage is expected to be limited as: (i) the capital requirements consisting in the O-SII buffer should be maintained at the highest level of consolidation (i.e. at consolidated, sub-consolidated or individual level, as applicable) therefore preventing the shifts of activities within groups; (ii) the bulk of banking activity (92,5% of the total assets of the Romanian banking system as of December 2018) concentrate on domestic counterparties; (iii) the capitalization of large banks is adequate, hence the institutions are not bound to reduce or transfer their activities. 	

6. Combinations and interactions with other measures			
6.1 Combinations between G-SII and O-SII buffers (Article 131.14)	N/A The Romanian banking syste	em comprises no G-SII.	
6.2 Combinations with SRB buffers (Article 131.14 + Article 133.5)	Currently, a Systemic Risk Buffer (SRB) applicable to all credit institutions Romanian legal persons is in place. The implementation of SRB in Romania intends to address the vulnerabilities identified across the national financial system: (i) the possibility of a renewed increase in non-performing loan ratios, following the rise in interest rates and the slowdown in the balance sheet clean-up process; (ii) the tensions surrounding macroeconomic equilibria The rationale behind implementing the systemic risk buffer is circumscribed to the following two perspectives: (i) ensuring an adequate management of credit risk from a macroprudential perspective, amid the possible return of non-performing loans onto an upward path, in the context of unfavourable circumstances related to credit institutions' potential future efforts to clean up their balance sheets and (ii) preserving financial stability, assuming that the tensions surrounding domestic macroeconomic equilibria and regional and global uncertainties will persist. Recent European initiatives concerning NPL resolution highlight the importance of tackling this issue from a macroprudential perspective, due to the significant negative effects on banking sector activity and, therefore, on the real economy. Moreover, the tightening on macroeconomic equilibria can lead to significant negative second-round effects on the financial sector, in case of unanticipated external or internal shocks. The level of the systemic risk buffer is set at 0 percent, 1 percent or 2 percent, according to the 12 months average of the non-performing loans ratio and the coverage ratio with provisions reported by each individual credit institution, in accordance with the methodology established in the implementation process of the SRB:		
	Non-performing loans ratio	Coverage ration with provisions	Buffer rate (% of CET1 capital applied to total RWA)
	< 5%	> 55%	0%
	> 5%	> 55%	1%
	< 5%	< 55%	1%
	> 5%	< 55%	2%
	process and to increase the shocks, amid structural unfa The SRB is applicable to all	e resilience of the banking vourable circumstances. exposures. Therefore, accor nd SRB will apply to system	the credit risk management sector against unanticipated ding the CRD IV provisions, ically important banks. Both ation.
6.3 O-SII requirement for a subsidiary (Article 131.8)	 7 out of 9 systemically important institutions in Romania which are Romanian legal entities are subsidiaries of foreign banks, as follows: Banca Comercială Română S.A. – subsidiary of Erste Group Bank AG BRD - Groupe Societe Generale S.A. – subsidiary of Societe 		

	 UniCredit Bank S.A. – subsidiary of UniCredit S.p.A. Raiffeisen Bank S.A. – subsidiary of Raiffeisen Bank International AG Alpha Bank România S.A. – subsidiary of Alpha Bank OTP Bank Romania S.A. – subsidiary of OTP Bank Nyrt. Garanti Bank S.A. – subsidiary of Garanti BBVA Turkey, which is consolidated by Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria – BBVA 		
	Banca Comercială Română S.A., BRD - Groupe Societe Generale S.A., UniCredit Bank S.A., Raiffeisen Bank S.A., Alpha Bank România S.A., OTP Bank Romania S.A. and Garanti Bank S.A. are subsidiaries of foreign banks which were identified as systemically important in the home countries or as G-SIIs. Therefore, the level of the O-SII buffer applicable in 2020 for the above mentioned subsidiaries in Romania was set in accordance with the capital requirements consisting in G-SII/O-SII buffer applicable to mother banks, observing the provisions of Article 131 (8) of CRD IV, stipulating that where an O-SII is a subsidiary of either a G-SII or an O- SII which is an EU parent institution and subject to an O-SII buffer on a consolidated basis, the buffer that applies at individual or sub-consolidated level for the O-SII shall not exceed the higher of: (a) 1 % of the total risk exposure amount calculated in accordance with Article 92(3) of Regulation (EU) No 575/2013; and (b) the G-SII or O-SII buffer rate applicable to the group at consolidated level.		
	With respect to other two Romanian banks identified as O-SIIs, is to be mentioned that:		
	 Banca Transilvania S.A. is not a subsidiary of a foreign EU parent institution, therefore the National Bank of Romania is the competent authority; 		
	(ii) CEC Bank S.A. has domestic capital and the National Bank of Romania is the competent authority.		
	Thus, both the provisions of Article 131 (5) and (8) of CRD IV are observed in the case of the O-SII buffer applied to the systemically important institutions in Romania.		
6.4 Interaction with other measures	N/A		

7. Miscellaneous		
7.1 Contact person(s) at	Eugen Rădulescu, National Committee for Macroprudential Oversight Secretariat, director of the Financial Stability Department in the National Bank of Romania	
notifying authority	Phone: +4021 3130653	
	E-mail: <u>eugen.radulescu@bnro.ro</u>	
7.2 Any other relevant information	N/A	