## Government approved draft state budget law for 2026 - Responsible Investment Budget



Today the Government approved <u>draft state budget law for 2026</u> - Responsible Investment Budget. It is focused on modernizing the economy, developing infrastructure and strengthening long-term competitiveness.

'Through the Responsible Investment Budget, we aim to continue generating sustainable economic growth, so that afterward, we can significantly increase incomes. We understand that people want salary raises now. We would like to offer them quickly and significantly. But this would deepen the budget deficit and slow down the economy. It is not easy to make unpopular decisions, but our duty is to be responsible and invest now where there is real growth potential,' stated Prime Minister Alexandru Munteanu.

According to the <u>Premier</u>, in recent years, authorities have managed to protect people's incomes and stabilize the economy. The stability allows for positive trend estimates and economic growth forecasts of 2.2%-2.8% for 2026. The first results are already visible - in October, industrial production increased by 6.4%, and in the third quarter, construction works increased by 40.2%. At the same time, inflation is decreasing.

The approved budget sees a 55% increase in allocations for capital investments – up to 3 billion lei. This is the largest increase in recent years. Additionally, investments in support programs for entrepreneurs and continuous investments in infrastructure and roads, kindergartens, food and repairs will be increased.

The minimum wage will be raised to 6,300 lei, and the reference value in salary calculations will increase from 2,200 to 2,400 lei, primarily helping those with low incomes. In 2026, a new salary law will be adopted, correcting inequities and bringing improvements for vulnerable categories, including through allowances. Furthermore, compensation programs and investments in health access will continue.

'If we do not invest now in a targeted and efficient way, we will not be able to generate the economic growth that would enable us to have a sufficiently large budget for increasing incomes for everyone - teachers, police officers, doctors, civil servants and all honest workers,' he emphasized.

The state budget revenues for 2026 are estimated at 79.67 billion lei, and expenses at 100.57 billion lei. The budget deficit will be 20.9 billion lei. Externally funded expenses will be 5.71 billion lei, with around 112 projects planned.

Also, the Government approved the draft state social insurance budget law for 2026. The budget is set at revenues of 51.45 billion lei and expenses in the same amount.

Additionally, the draft law on mandatory health insurance funds for 2026 provides for revenues of 18.83 billion lei and expenses of 19.22 billion lei.

