BRIDGEGAP | TRANSPARENCY AND INTEGRITY

Integrity Watch - BridgeGAP Romania

Platform user guide

> **A practical guide to navigating the platform, understanding its indicators and interpreting information responsibly within the RUTI legal context.**

In this document

- how to choose the Executive and Legislative pages and their analysis windows;
- how to use indicators, filters, charts and the meetings list;
- how to read disclosure coverage, the word cloud and verification signals;
- how to read a record and verify the official source;
- the legal framework and the limits of publication.

Note: this document is informational and methodological. For the legal interpretation of a specific situation, consult the current legislation and, where appropriate, a qualified professional.

1. Before you begin

The platform separates analysis of the Executive from analysis of the Legislature and supports movement from statistics and disclosure coverage to an individual meeting. Indicators and charts update according to the page, period and filters selected. This separation is important because the applicable disclosure rules and analysis windows differ between the two categories.

> **Basic rule:** Any displayed total describes the current page and selection. First check whether you are analysing the Executive or the Legislature, then review the period and active filters.

2. Recommended path

1. Choose the Executive or Legislative page first; do not automatically combine indicators from the two categories.
2. Check the applicable analysis window and any other active filters, as these determine which records and totals are displayed.
3. Read the coverage indicators: people included, RUTI profiles and people with eligible meetings.
4. Filter the people list by status or verification signal.
5. Explore the displayed institutions, decision-makers, positions, participants or topics.
6. Open the meetings list and choose the record of interest.
7. Read the date, decision-maker, position, institution, participants and agenda together.
8. Open the RUTI link before citing the record or drawing a conclusion.
9. Reset the filters to return to the overall view.

3. What the user sees

Executive / Legislative selector

What it represents: Separates the people, meetings and statistics for the two branches.

Caution: Each page has its own legal time window and denominator; totals should not be combined without an explicit method.

Coverage indicators

What it represents: Show three different layers of coverage: people included in the analysis, identified RUTI profiles and people with at least one eligible meeting.

Caution: The analytical list, profile register and meeting agenda are different layers and should not be conflated.

People list

What it represents: Compares the person's reference name and role with the RUTI profile and the name appearing in meeting data.

Caution: Spelling variants, changes of office or uncertain matches may require manual review.

Volume indicator

What it represents: The number of records displayed in the current selection after the active filters are applied.

Caution: A record total should not automatically be interpreted as a count of unique meetings.

Period filter

What it represents: Limits results by meeting date.

Caution: The meeting date is not necessarily the RUTI publication or update date.

Institutions

What it represents: Groups records by the institution associated with the decision-maker.

Caution: Inconsistent names may split one institution into different categories.

Decision-makers

What it represents: Shows public office-holders associated with disclosed meetings in the selected data.

Caution: Frequency of appearance does not measure influence or imply misconduct.

Positions

What it represents: Presents the public role associated with the person at the record date.

Caution: The position should be read in the meeting's time context.

Participants

What it represents: Identifies people or entities named as participants**.** The appearance of a name does not by itself establish the person's role in the interaction, position or intended outcome.

Caution: The appearance of a name does not show the position supported or outcome sought.

Meetings list

What it represents: Supports consultation of individual records.

Caution: Similar or repeated values should be checked before being treated as separate meetings or counted as unique records.

Detail panel

What it represents: Brings together the available information about the selected meeting.

Caution: It presents published information and does not add a legal assessment.

Source link

What it represents: Opens the meeting record in RUTI.

Caution: It is the primary reference for verification and citation.

4. How to read a record

- The date shows when the meeting is disclosed as taking place, not when the information was entered.
- The decision-maker, position and institution should be read together and in the meeting's time context.
- The title briefly identifies the meeting; the agenda describes its declared topic or purpose.
- The participant list shows who is named without automatically indicating each person's position.
- Where the record is used to support a public claim, the information should be checked against the original RUTI page and, where relevant, other available public sources.
- The RUTI page may contain additional context that does not appear in the same form on the platform.

> **Companion document:** Technical variable names, data types, formats and completeness rules are documented separately in the Data Dictionary.

5. How to interpret indicators

Element	Supported interpretation	What does not follow automatically
People included in the analysis	Represents the reference population displayed on the selected page.	It does not by itself prove that every person had a duty to disclose a meeting in the selected period.
Active RUTI profile	Shows that a public profile with active status was identified in the consulted snapshot.	It does not demonstrate that the person had meetings falling within the disclosure duty.

Element	Supported interpretation	What does not follow automatically
Person with eligible meetings	Indicates at least one meeting counted in the applicable analysis window.	It does not measure influence or confirm completeness of disclosure.
Record total	Describes the volume displayed after filters are applied.	It is not automatically a unique-meeting count.
Missing value	The information is unavailable in the displayed field.	It does not justify assuming a value or prove the absence of the real-world fact.
Similar records	May indicate duplicates, repeated entries or variants referring to the same source.	Check the date, person, title, participants, agenda and source link together.

6. Legal context

The platform applies different legal and analytical rules depending on whether the selected page concerns the Executive or the Legislature. The key instruments below explain the main disclosure duties, applicable time windows and limitations relevant to the platform's analysis.

Minimum rules: Government General Secretariat Order No. 1,056/2022 defines RUTI, the decision-maker, the specialised group, responsibilities and minimum meeting information. [J1]

Executive: Law No. 49/2025 introduced Article 47^11 into the Administrative Code and registration and publication duties for persons covered by Article 47^2, subject to statutory exceptions. The act entered into force on 18 April 2025. [J2]

Application Guide: The Guide of 26 May 2026, approved by Order No. 459/687/2026, details use of RUTI, exceptions and personal-data protection. [J3]

Legislature: Law No. 197/2025 extended RUTI to meetings of deputies and senators with third parties in connection with legislative initiatives. The duties relevant to this analysis apply from 28 May 2026, six months after publication of the law. [J4]

Decisional transparency: RUTI complements and precedes the procedure under Law No. 52/2003; it does not replace public consultation or publication of draft legal acts. [J5]

Access to information: Law No. 544/2001 governs access to information of public interest and excepted categories. [J6]

Personal data: Names published in an official context remain personal data; reuse must comply with the GDPR and Law No. 190/2018. [J7][J7a]

7. Exceptions and publication limits

Not every interaction falls within RUTI's scope. The existence of an interaction therefore cannot be assessed solely by whether it appears in the platform. The platform can only analyse information that falls

within the applicable disclosure framework and is available in the public RUTI record. The applicable framework provides exceptions for matters such as private life and individual access to public services, representation in administrative or judicial proceedings, diplomatic or consular relations, certain trade-union communications and information excepted under Law No. 544/2001.

> **Consequence for users:** The absence of a meeting from the platform does not demonstrate that it did not occur. The interaction may fall outside RUTI's scope, be excepted, remain unpublished or be unavailable in the information displayed. For the Legislature, absence is assessed only from 28 May 2026; for the Executive, the time window displayed by the platform applies. For the Executive, users should consider the analysis window displayed by the platform and the applicable statutory exceptions. For the Legislature, the platform's analysis of absence begins only from the applicable date of the RUTI disclosure duty.

8. Rules for responsible use

- State the period and active filters when citing a total.
- State whether a result concerns the Executive or the Legislature.
- Describe signals as records or situations requiring verification, not as confirmed breaches.
- Do not equate the number of meetings with influence over a decision.
- Do not treat the appearance of a person or organisation in a meeting record as an indication of illegality or misconduct.
- Present the agenda as a declared topic, not as a conclusion or outcome.
- Check the RUTI page and other public documents before making an important claim.
- For an individual record, cite the date, decision-maker, institution, topic, access date and source link.

> **Recommended wording:** 'According to the public RUTI record presented through the Integrity Watch - BridgeGAP Romania platform and accessed on [date], the meeting held on [date] was disclosed with the topic [topic].'

9. Sources and legislation

[S1] CORDIS - official BRIDGEGAP project record. *project context and objectives*

[S2] BridgeGAP - What is BridgeGap?. *project mission*

[S3] Single Register for Transparency of Interests (RUTI). *official source of the records*

[J1] Government General Secretariat Order No. 1,056/2022. *minimum RUTI rules*

[J2] Law No. 49/2025. *Article 47^11 of the Administrative Code*

[J3] Guide of 26 May 2026, approved by Order No. 459/687/2026. *use of RUTI, exceptions and data protection*

[J4] Law No. 197/2025. *RUTI in Parliament*

[J5] Law No. 52/2003, republished. *decisional transparency*

[J6] Law No. 544/2001. *access to public information and exceptions*

[J7] Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR). *personal-data protection*

[J7a] Law No. 190/2018. *national measures implementing the GDPR*