

## Mayor of Vulcan Accused of Corruption

*Political unrest has come to the small Transylvanian village in the heart of Romania. The Mayor Claudiu Druia is accused of using state money for personal use and if found guilty could face up to 10 years in prison.*

August 28, 2007 (FPRC) -- Romania isn't a stranger to political corruption however the spot light has always been on those serving in Bucharest. But now unrest has come to the the small Transylvanian village of Vulcan, in the heart of Romania.

The Mayor of Vulcan Claudiu Druia is accused of using state money for personal use and if found guilty could face up to 10 years in prison. The charges are varied and include accusation of buying tyres for his car, updating his passport and buying medical insurance all using public money.

The case is being tried in Zarnesti the nearest judicial court. Valentin Flucu, in charge of fraudulent investigation in Zarnesti has said "The maximum sentence is 10 years in prison.

Mr Druia who came to power in 2004 (after ousting the incumbent Mr Muntean Gheorghe) maintains his innocence and has recently send every residence of Vulcan a lengthy letter explaining the situation. The contents of this letter will be reported soon.

Vulcan is a village in the Braşov County in the centre of Romania, 16 km west of the county capital Braşov. Since its founding around the year 1377 it was one of the most important villages in the Burzenland area, were there was a strong Transylvanian Saxon community. According to 2002 census, the commune had a population of about 5,200 inhabitants, by then consisting of three villages: the main village of Vulcan, Holbav and the smaller village of Mina 1 Mai. However on February 12, 2004, the Holbav village became itself a separate commune.

### Contact Information

For more information contact Valentin Flucus of FPRC  
(<http://www.urbannews.ro/forum/index.php?showtopic=18966>)

### Keywords

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[brasov](#)  
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