
Interview: Dr. Gheorghe Ceausescu

Romanians want a new type of society

Dr. Ceausescu is a member of the Parliament in Bucharest and also vice president of the Civic Alliance, a coalition of several parties, which is now part of the coalition government in Romania. He spoke with Angelika Beyreuther-Raimondi.

EIR: You said that there was a reactionary government in Romania up to 1996. Is there a change of political elites now?

Ceausescu: We are now attempting to build a new type of society. There is a struggle in all of these countries against a system, and the system still exists, and we are fighting against this system. In Romania, the situation is the worst, because the same people were actually in power up to November 1996 as had been in earlier governments. It was more an adaptation, than a real change. Now there is a real change. But a real change of elites will happen only with the new generation. The youth have to be prepared so that they really bring the country back into Europe. That is how I think about this change of elites. There was of course a communist elite, and it wants to remain in power and in the leadership of society. . . .

EIR: Today Mr. Klavins, from Latvia, said during the conference, that only 7,000 names can be found in the secret police files in Riga, and that the rest have been removed to places east of Moscow. Are the files that were in Bucharest really still there?

Ceausescu: No one can know that, and the people who do know can't say anything, because they do not have access. These files are secret for 50 years. So they can't say anything. So, we just do not know. We only know that much has been destroyed. In [communist dictator Nicolae] Ceausescu's time, files on party members who were also unofficial collaborators of the Securitate were destroyed on a regular basis. So we only have the files of the non-party members. . . .

EIR: The Iliescu government was practically a continuation of the old policy.

Ceausescu: Yes, of course. [President] Iliescu studied in Moscow in the early 1950s, probably also had connections to the KGB; and during the Hungarian uprising in 1956, when Romanian students showed their solidarity with the Hungarians, he was personally responsible for having students arrested, with the result that they were thrown out of the univer-

sity. So he has a lot on his conscience. . . .

EIR: You reported that students had demanded the end of communism in 1989-90.

Ceausescu: On Dec. 21, 1989, when [Nicolae] Ceausescu was still in power, in Bucharest, I saw it with my own eyes.

EIR: Then people were put under massive pressure, people were killed.

Ceausescu: Yes, so that people would stay home, so that they would not go out on the streets, not make contacts, not organize demonstrations. "Stay home, it is dangerous, these terrorists shoot!"

EIR: And this pressure continued until 1996?

Ceausescu: Yes, and there was also pressure on the miners who came in June 1990 [when President Ion Iliescu mobilized pro-communist miners to come into Bucharest and violently break up demonstrations]. I can tell you, you don't see, even in the worst horror films, what you saw on the streets then. Iliescu said in 1990 that we should build an original democracy. What was destroyed when the miners came? They demolished the university; so, it was directed against the students. The headquarters of the democratic parties were also demolished, as well as the editorial offices of the democratic newspapers. The TV news reported that the miners found drugs and weapons in the party headquarters, and counterfeiting machines. Well, when you find these kinds of things, drugs in a party's headquarters, then that party is finished. . . .

An "original democracy with one party," that is what he had in mind, and he was in an alliance with the extremist parties, with the Greater Romania party, an extremist party, anti-Semitic, against the Hungarians, against democracy, against everything. . . .

EIR: Now there is a new government. Is it a priority to clarify the past?

Ceausescu: I think that is a priority, because reforms cannot be made only in economics. Of course, we do have to do something in the area of economics, so that people are a bit better off, we have to see that. But, we have to begin with this. The law on access to the files is moving a bit too slow, in my opinion. . . .

EIR: Do you think this whole history has to be rewritten?

Ceausescu: Absolutely, . . . especially because there are certain things in Romania, for which there are probably no precedents: in the prisons, in the extermination camps. People were tortured for so long and so brutally, there, until they were turned into henchmen. That was an experiment they carried out there: such experiments! Hardly anything is ever said about the people who were there. Horrible, unbelievable things have been learned from other prisons, but something like this, it seems, no one wants to remember.