
CALIN GEORGESCU, FRONTRUNNER IN ROMANIA'S CANCELLED ELECTION, ANNOUNCES WITHDRAWAL FROM POLITICS

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By Gavin Blackburn with AP

Georgescu said he made his decision to take a step back following the conclusion of the presidential race, which for him indicated "the sovereignist movement has come to a close."

Călin Georgescu, the controversial populist whose bid for Romania's presidency last year resulted in the annulment of an election in the European Union and NATO member country, has announced he is stepping away from political life.

Georgescu upended Romania's political landscape last November when he ran as an independent and unexpectedly surged to frontrunner in the first round of the presidential election, going from an obscure candidate to beating the incumbent prime minister.

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