



THE ASSOCIATION *THE NATIONAL NETWORK OF ROMANIAN MUSEUMS*
BRIEF REPORT 2007

The **National Network of Romanian Museums** was founded in 2006 and includes approximately 45 museums. The association aims to support, promote and develop the museum sector in Romania. The network will be oriented towards activities connected to cultural heritage, cultural tourism, human resources training and will become a source of information and recommendations concerning national and European cultural policies. The network will work as an information, solution and recommendation provider concerning the national and European cultural policies supplier, focusing on trends and on Romanian and EU cultural priorities.

The goal of the network is to sustain the interests of museum bodies, to identify methods of development in the medium and long term, to promote and to value heritage, and the Romanian culture, as well as to cover needs for training and for informing museum operators.

Recent accomplishments:

- the network developed its communication strategy;
- the network conceived and realized its web site www.muze.org, available both in Romanian and English;
- the network participated in the organization of the Seminar *What do we learn in museums nowadays?*, organized by The National Museum of Art of Romania, with the support of the Romanian Ministry of Culture (2006);
- it was one of the partners of *The Second Annual Regional Conference on Museums*, organized by The Romanian Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs, The Fund for Arts and Culture in Central and Eastern Europe and The National Village Museum, Bucharest (2006);

Projects:

RegioMuz was initiated by the **Association National Network of Romanian Museums**, and was implemented with the financial support of the Administration of the National Cultural Fund in 2007. It focused on organizing two training sessions concerning project management and Structural Funds. The project followed the directions of the RNMR strategy (Development of Human Resources) and of the Action Plan 2007 of the network. During the training sessions, guest experts chose a series of themes necessary for the process of understanding project management and of the mechanisms for accessing Structural Funds: the strategic approach of projects, key concepts and instruments in project management, available funds in the cultural sector at national and European level, overview of Structural Instruments in Romania with a focus on culture, and the establishment of strategic partnerships and integrated planning. All the issues from the training agenda were applied concretely, through projects simulations, organized as workshops.

URME (Urban Remembrance and Memory of Europe) project was initiated by The National Museum of Romanian Literature and implemented with the financial support of the Culture 2000 programme and the Romanian Ministry of Culture and Foreign Affairs. It had partners in 6 European cities: Athens, Zaragoza, Arles, Potenza, Lodz and Budapest. The project focused on public space and included some printed materials in English: a map with urban literary routes in Bucharest and an anthology of texts and images about the other 6 European towns involved in the project.

The project **MNIR Micro - zone Bucşani**, initiated by the National Museum of History and implemented with the financial support of the Administration of the National Cultural Fund in 2007. Brought together under the title **A Day of an Aeneolithic Community**, the project's complementary materials are: a multimedia application available on CDs, a booklet (*Bucşani. Ten years of archeological research*) and a movie focusing on experimental archeology.

PUZZLE project - potentially financed by the European Year for Intercultural Dialogue 2008 Program. It includes 5 microprojects, one of them implemented by the **National Network of Romanian Museums**. The main goal of this project is to create a virtual museum of modern Romanian, stressing the ethnic diversity of the Romanian minorities: Jews, Armenians, Ukrainians, and Hungarians. The museum's „collection” will include various moments from the experience and history of the cultural diversity of Romania, until the contemporary period. It will comprise comparative elements of the history of migrations, private life (birth, marriage, religion, family, food, superstitions, and crafts), economic, political, religious differences, and music and visual arts features. Furthermore, the museum will function as a public platform for debates and promotion of the Romanian minorities' arts and traditions, and for the free usage of relevant information that can also be uploaded by users interested in the field (similar with Wikipedia principle).

Opportunities:

The Romanian Ministry of Culture and Foreign Affairs launched, on the 7th November 2007, a new call for projects in 2008, the European Year for Intercultural Dialogue, aiming to stimulate European cultural diversity as well as common values, and to encourage cultural exchanges. Cultural operators active in the museum field are eligible to apply for financial support within this program. The most important criteria for the projects' selection are: organizational capacity, relevance in the field, efficiency, efficacy, impact, sustainability and feasibility.

The Project Management' Authority, with the financial support of the Council of Europe Development Bank, has a program of rehabilitation of 23 important patrimony buildings, including museums.

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