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Global Geopark

# Regional Education in Common European Culture and Education



# BUZAU ROMANIA

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- Arts and crafts are identity marks, which are specific to each people and/or to each geographical region.
- The county of Buzau lies in the south-east of Romania, in Muntenia region and it has all the landforms, harmoniously combined: plains, hills and mountains.
- Situated at the crossroads of Moldavia and Transylvania, the ethnographical area of Buzau is very various and rich, the inherited traditional elements being assimilated and integrated in their own artistic conception.
- The beauty and the rich heritage of Buzau County got an important chance to conservation and touristic reevaluation on 13 April 2022 when 18 villages situated in the hilly and the mountainous area were recognized as THE INTERNATIONAL UNESCO GEOPARK and as a territory rich in natural as well as in cultural resources of worldwide importance.
- Traditional crafts are main elements of our national Romanian heritage, a connection with the past and, unfortunately, a memory which is fading out each day because of the evolution of our society.
- Among all these endangered crafts there are pottery, spinning, making barrels, weaving, sewing, making masks, egg decorating, twine braids, making sheepskins, etc.
- Now, we are going to introduce you a few 'endangered objects' which, nowadays, can be admired only in museums, particular collections and, very rarely, in rural houseworks.



# FORGOTTEN CRAFTS IN ROMANIA

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- Romania is a country with many traditions that are still alive, but also with many sunsets, some of which are even skills that our ancestors had, but that we have lost. Although in theory they are no longer useful to us today, the crafts of the past were, above all, a necessity to have a decent living. Nowadays, however, they have become both a rarity and an art form. Therefore, in this article, 6 of these amazing jobs are presented.  
**The pottery** The craft dates back to ancient times, contributing to the well-being of domestic life and the household in the past. Today, however, few people are familiar with this form of art, which, due to the convenience of everyday life, has come to be considered a very special occupation, receiving more of an aesthetic role.  
**Founder** This craft, which deals with the processing of iron, appeared together with the needs of people to have tools for a good agricultural or household work. The nail, the hammer, the shovel, the rake or the horseshoe are just some of the many examples that the forgers designed in those times.  
**Pinning the eggs** This tradition, which appeared in principle for and during the Easter holidays, comes from ancient times, representing an ancient custom in the Romanian tradition. As I said above, the painted eggs are a testimony of the Easter traditions, beliefs and customs, being an element of spiritual culture specific to our country. In the past, this custom was practiced exclusively by women, a week before Easter. Today, it is an art known and practiced by very few people.



# DOWRY CHEST

Manufacturing of the pieces of furniture are crafts that in the past were very well represented in Romania. Traditional pieces of furniture were made in villages. Old and very important in household inventory, because every girl that was getting married left her parents house with a dowry chest full of soft goodies. They were manufactured from beech, ash or oak wood; the wood was carefully chosen: in the autumn, trees more than 100 years old, with white wood and less sap. A very "trendy" thing was mixing the wood, even wooden nails were used. The chests were decorated by lustering the wood, then it was structured with circles and smooth lines. They wroughted only the visible parts: the lid, legs and the sides of the chests. Beside all those products, craftsmen also worked on chairs, tables, beds and shelves... (every single piece of furniture found in a house)



# SHEEP WOOL AND GOAT HAIR FABRICS

The folk creator Amalia Papazissu offered the cultural heritage a impressive collection of fabrics made out of sheep wool. She showed the world, thru exhibitions, the authentic and folk traditions of Buzău. She taught hundred of children how to pass the tradition and organized themed workshops and with some willing and experimented women, to teach the secrets of weaving. Because of the credit she has gotten over time, in 2013 she got the title of "Human Living Treasure", from UNESCO, and in 2015 she got the medal for "Cultural Heritage Merit", from the president. In the 4 decades of activity, Amalia Papazissu used in her creation only traditional secrets, known in Slănicul Valley.

AMELIA PAPAZISSU, LIVING HUMAN TREASURE

Adela Petre-Living human treasure





## TRADITIONAL BARKS

Traditional Barks More than two thousand on hundred pieces from the bark collection of the National Museum of the Romania laud constitute a real treasure that deserves to be know or present not only for her beauty, for the skills and smoothness with which it was made .The collection includes a large number of pieces from Muntenia thanks to founders which domated hundred years ago by famous collectors, passionate about folk art .Wooden fabrics were considered valuable pieces , both in noble peasant homes . That's why , they were in the doury sheets of thr time from generation to generation within those families. Most categories of fabrics executed in two our four threads . The barks from Muntenia are generally made up to sheets , they are specific for the use of pastel colors , specific to the vegetable dyes and for the choise in the cottage technique . Also in Muntenia the geometric decoration and evolved particularly . The barks with vegetal , design zoomorphic or authromorphic decorations are very rare, in some cases these vasom of the Oltenesti barks. The border is made up of a row of tooth. This type of bark appeared under the influence of the oriental persian carpets of Kashau or Telriz in the seventhly or eighty centurie.

