

## Cultural Infrastructure in Arges County

Pirvu (Mazilescu) Ionica-Diana

„Valahia” University of Târgoviște, Faculty of Economics, Doctoral School

[diana\\_mazilescu@yahoo.com](mailto:diana_mazilescu@yahoo.com)

Goldbach Felix-Constantin

„Valahia” University of Târgoviște

[felixgoldbach@yahoo.com](mailto:felixgoldbach@yahoo.com)

### Abstract

*Cultural infrastructure is the ensemble of institutions offering cultural services and products (museums, theaters, cinemas, etc.).*

*The purpose of this article is to find out what is the equipment of the cultural institutions, the resources made available and the cultural services they offer.*

*The result of this research demonstrates that cultural institutions in cities and municipalities, although they do not have special headquarters or extraordinary facilities, manage to carry out a multitude of activities: literary circles, choruses, fanfare, folk ensembles, folk music performers, folk musicians and instrumentalists valuable, diverse and quality festivals.*

**Key words:** infrastructure, cultural activity, resources.

**J.E.L. classification:** H54, Z10

### 1. Introduction

The resources made available by the classical infrastructure network of the local cultural sector have a high degree of availability, being open to the general public

This category is the most extensive reflecting the degree of development of the classical cultural network of cultural public local infrastructure, referring to public cultural institutions such as: libraries, museums, theater and opera institutions, artistic ensembles and orchestras popular, cultural centers. The number of cinemas is added (these are rather a type of resource that does not belong to the classical cultural infrastructure by the appearance of cinemas within the shopping malls). The indicators of this category are divided into the indicators expressing the existence of cultural resources number of units) and their capacity to provide public access to their services (the number of seats in these units).

This article will start by establishing the place of Arges county in terms of cultural infrastructure, then we will list the cultural institutions in the county as well as their activities. We will conclude with the conclusions.

### 2. Classification of Arges County from the point of view of the cultural infrastructure

The National Institute for Research and Cultural Training conducted a study in 2010 on vitality and cultural infrastructure. In this classification of cities Pitesti is ranked five in terms of infrastructure, after Targu Mures, Timisoara, Iasi and Cluj Napoca. In Pitesti there are the great majority of the institutions of high culture (theater, puppet theater, etc.), as well as of specific institutions of mass culture (folk ensembles). At the same time, however, the presence of philharmonic, libraries and museums provides diverse resources for cultural enthusiasts.

Table no. 1: Ranking of cities analyzed by the cultural infrastructure index / Table 1: Ranking of cities analyzed by the cultural infrastructure index

Pozitie/ Position	Oraş/City	Populaţie/Population	Regiunea de dezvoltare/ Development region	Infrastructură/ Infrastructure	Pozitia după IVC/ Position based on CII
<b>1</b>	Cluj Napoca	310.243	Nord-Vest	1,08	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	Iasi	315.214	Nord-Est	0,69	<b>6</b>
<b>3</b>	Timişoara	307.347	Vest	0,61	<b>4</b>
<b>4</b>	Târgu Mureş	145.943	Centru	0,59	<b>10</b>
<b>5</b>	Piteşti	168.958	Sud Muntenia	0,51	<b>17</b>
<b>6</b>	Sibiu	154.458	Centru	0,5	<b>2</b>
<b>7</b>	Miercurea Ciuc	41.971	Centru	0,47	<b>9</b>
<b>8</b>	Târgovişte	89.773	Sud Muntenia	0,4	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	Bacău	178.203	Nord-Est	0,39	<b>24</b>
<b>10</b>	Botoşani	115.739	Nord-Est	0,38	<b>23</b>
<b>11</b>	Oradea	205.077	Nord-Vest	0,34	<b>12</b>
<b>12</b>	Craiova	299.429	Sud Vest	0,27	<b>13</b>
<b>13</b>	Râmnicu Vâlcea	111.342	Sud Vest	0,25	<b>25</b>
<b>14</b>	Arad	167.238	Vest	0,18	<b>19</b>
<b>15</b>	Sf. Gheorghe	61.704	Centru	0,16	<b>3</b>
<b>16</b>	Ploieşti	230.240	Sud Muntenia	0,16	<b>18</b>
<b>17</b>	Brasov	277.945	Centru	0,13	<b>15</b>
<b>18</b>	Galaţi	293.523	Sud-Est	0,1	<b>21</b>
<b>19</b>	Alba Iulia	66.842	Centru	0,08	<b>5</b>
<b>20</b>	Constanta	304.279	Sud-Est	0,07	<b>11</b>
<b>21</b>	Baia Mare	139.870	Nord-Vest	0,06	<b>20</b>
<b>22</b>	Salu Mare	113.688	Nord-Vest	0	<b>32</b>
<b>23</b>	Reşita	84.678	Vest	-0,01	<b>38</b>

Poziție/ Position	Oraș/City	Populație/Population	Regiunea de dezvoltare/ Development region	Infrastructură/ Infrastructure	Poziția după IVC/ Position based on CVI
24	Zalău	63.642	Nord-Vest	-0,06	42
25	Tulcea	92.379	Sud-Est	-0,09	33
26	Deva	67.508	Vest	-0,11	40
27	Turda	57.381	Nord-Vest	-0,18	26
28	Onești	50.820	Nord-Est	-0,22	31
29	Succava	106.397	Nord-Est	-0,24	16
30	Iărgo Jiu	96.081	Sud Vest	-0,27	35
31	Piatra Neamț	108.085	Nord-Est	-0,29	14
32	Roman	69.058	Nord-Est	-0,29	45
33	Brăila	215.316	Sud-Est	-0,31	41
34	Giurgiu	68.923	Sud Muntenia	-0,33	27
35	Slobozia	52.313	Sud Muntenia	-0,33	29
36	Bistrița	83.039	Nord-Vest	-0,37	7
37	Bărlad	70.064	Nord-Est	-0,38	43
38	Buzău	134.619	Sud-Est	-0,39	28
39	Mediaș	53.564	Centru	-0,4	34
40	Vaslui	70.302	Nord-Est	-0,4	39
41	Focșani	99.907	Sud-Est	-0,41	44
42	Alexandria	50.847	Sud Muntenia	-0,43	30
43	Ilunedoara	71.207	Vest	-0,45	46
44	Slatina	78.570	Sud Vest	-0,49	36
45	Drobeta Turnu Severin	107.882	Sud Vest	-0,51	22
46	Călărași	73.823	Sud Muntenia	-0,58	37

Source: [http://www.culturadata.ro/wpcontent/uploads/2014/05/3\\_Vitalitatea\\_Culturala\\_a\\_Oraşelor\\_2010.pdf](http://www.culturadata.ro/wpcontent/uploads/2014/05/3_Vitalitatea_Culturala_a_Oraşelor_2010.pdf)

## 2. Cultural institutions in Arges County

In Arges County there are more than 300 cultural establishments. Below we listed the most important of them, plus the cultural homes and communal libraries.

- Al. Davila - Pitesti;
- Aschiuta - Pitesti Children and Youth Theater;
- Dinicu Golescu Arges County Library, Public Library of Curtea de Arges, Ion Barbu Municipal Library in Campulung, Town Library of Topoloveni, Mioveni City Library, Costesti Town Library, Luca Paul Communal Library in Domnesti, School Libraries and university;
- Arges County Museum;
- The County Cultural Center;
- People's School of Arts and Crafts in Pitesti;
- Museum of Viticulture and Pomiculture from Golesti;
- The Municipal Museum in Curtea de Arges;
- Campulung Municipal Museum, Campulung History Museum, Musceleana Margareta Ethnography and Folk Art, Lily and Gica Stefanescu, Mausoleum of the Heroes of Mateias;
- Bratianu Culture Center at Vila Florica in Stefanesti;
- Philharmonic in Pitesti;
- Cultural Center of Pitesti;
- The Cultural House of the Trade Unions in Pitesti;
- Student House in Pitesti;
- The Military Circle in Pitesti;

- Tudor Musatescu Municipal House of Culture in Campulung Muscel;
- The Cultural House of the Trade Unions C.D. Aricescu from Campulung Muscel;
- The Military Circle in Campulung Muscel;
- George Toparceanu Center for Culture and Arts from Curtea de Arges Municipality;
- The Military Circle in Curtea de Arges;
- The Cultural Center of Mioveni Town;
- The Union House of Culture of Mioveni;
- The Cultural House of Costesti;
- The Town House of Topoloveni;
- The Cultural House of Stefanesti;

To this is added 102 public libraries and over 200 cultural homes.

The libraries belonged and still belong to local communities, entering into the cultural tradition of the peoples over time. Since its inception, the public library has been permanently reported to the collectivity whose information and information interests it serves and for which it was, moreover, created. Being a cultural institution with traditional valences, its role grows, although the possibilities of permanent education of people have diversified through the emergence of institutions that use multiple modern means of communication.

At the end of 2012 there were 102 public libraries in Arges County: three municipalities, four towns, 95 communes.

The cultural home plays a very important role in preserving the ancestral customs, the song, the game and the beautiful costume. He also organized cultural and artistic activity in the Arges and Muscel villages. Until the cultural home was established, the school pursued cultural and artistic activities among the inhabitants, with the help of teachers. Since the end of the nineteenth century, the beginnings of cultural activities have been recorded. On the occasion of teachers' circles and on holidays, they held various conferences on raising, caring and educating children, the work of the earth, the care of trees, animals, birds, bees, and others attended by many villagers. Periodically, particularly at the end of the school year and on national holidays, successful artistic programs were presented.

### **3. Cultural and artistic activities**

Cultural and artistic activity intensified in the years after the First World War, when both the concerns and the number of pupils, students, as well as the young villagers attracted to this work increased.

After the Great Union of 1918 the cultural homes in the villages of Arges started to take place at the initiative of intellectuals, students and pupils. The beginning period was years of intense and almost permanent cultural activity.

In the years 1920-1935, many cultural homes, associations and cultural societies were founded, the initiators being the village intellectuals, teachers and priests who trained older students from school, graduates, and especially young people interested in culture and art, at organizing and the performance of choral, theater and dance activity to the creation of museum collections. The first beautiful enterprises are found in Mănățești, Domnești, Stroești, Costești, Topoloveni, Brăduleț, Arefu, Rucăr, Dragoslavele, Stoenesti, Boteni, Vulturești, Dobrești, Priboieni, Leordeni, Bogați, Călinești, Căteascăasca, Mozăceni, Slobozia, Vedea, Poiana Lacului , and the enumeration could continue. Cultural and artistic events were organized in which were presented conferences, several voices, recitations and unmistakable plays, written especially by the classics of Romanian dramaturgy. Such achievements are to be remembered at Godeni, Berevoești, Budișteni, Corbeni, Coșești, etc.

After the Second World War, the cultural and artistic activity of the masses was once again a true revival. At the beginning of the 1950s there was the problem of building places of culture in all the villages of Arges.

Today, Arges County has more than two hundred cultural homes, most of them built between 1955 and 1980, but also after 1990 (Albești de Argeș, Ciomăgești, Căpățâneni, Țițești, Negrești, but only a quarter of them have permanent cultural activity, the other being occasioned by certain

events in the life of the community. In these localities the mayoralty appointed an employee as the "opening / closing" of the doors of the cultural home.

In most localities, the librarian is responsible for the cultural home, by the decision of the local councils, only in 25 localities there is a full-time home director, and in less than half have a half-time director. In the last 15 years, 80% of the cultural homes, through the mayoralties and local councils, have been endowed with objects of cultural practice, capital repairs, which look very good inside and outside. exterior.

We must mention the cultural activity of several representative hostels in Argeş County, which have remarked over the years at domestic and international events.

In the north of Arges County, Arefu has been and is a point of reference. Professors Angela and Cezar Bădescu were, through the ensembles they created, pioneers.

In Mioarele, the young people and the children, grouped around the animator Prof. Cezar Neacsu, formed an ensemble of traditional winter customs, "Colinda" (50 people), who became known not only on the scenes of Argeş, but also represented the county and at most of the winter customs festivals in the country, being the messenger of our ancestral customs in the Republic of Moldova, Bulgaria, the Council of Europe in Brussels and London.

The commune of Corbi, through the "Pasture Rhapsody", managed to gather all the twin villages in Sibiu, Gorj, Vâlcea, to a manifestation that has lasted for more than four decades.

In Berevoeşti, "Serbian from Berevoeşti" and the feast "Haz of trouble" have been a symbol for many years. A heartbreaking director who went on to the eternal, Ion Baboi, was the one who enlivened those holidays.

In Vlădeşti, the teachers Ion and Steluţa Stroe succeeded, through the ensemble of the locality "Bratia", and through the rich editorial effort, to make known the village and the beautiful traditions of the locality.

Boteni commune has been established over the years on the Argeian and national cultural scene through the famous festival "Bâteul de la Boteni". The director of the cultural home, Mihai Magureanu, today the longest, kept the flame uninterrupted for decades, thousands of young people crossing the threshold of the hostel to participate in the activities they organize.

The South of Argeş County has brought two neighboring communities to the ramp: Stolnici through "The Intercession of the Cowmen from Arges County", manifested at the "Ascension of the Lord"; and Barla, who, through some stupid people under the choreography of Voicu Dumitrescu, placed on the map of the county the feast "Hora ca la Bârla".

There were also other localities such as: Rucar (Expopastoralis), Coşesti (Țuică Festival), Brăduleţ (Cheese Festival), Retevoieşti (The Feast of the Spring in Podișor), Negrași (The Daffodils Feast), Bascov, Mălureni, Șuici, Slobozia, Bradu, Oarja, Albota, Harsseşti (celebrations of communes). The intellectuals and managers of the cultural homes have found decisive support from the local administrative bodies in their approach. It is also encouraging that in many localities the traditional "meetings of village sons" have been taken over and become permanent, which are becoming more attractive and beneficial for the community.

A significant fact for the spiritual life of the villages in the last 20 years is the appearance of the monographs, the identity card of the localities. More than 30 such works, some of undeniable scientific value, made either by local forces or with the support of the Argeş County Museum or the Center for the Creation of People, have diminished the black spots of this desideratum. Today there are still few communes who, from indolence and passivity, do not want to identify themselves with local communities and especially with foreigners.

#### **4. Conclusions**

The Argesan population has developed a culture of its own, unimaginable originality, but also cared for the maintenance of a spiritual life, raising places of worship in each village, as well as the residences in Campulung and Curtea de Argeş where worshipers and rulers of Wallachia worshiped.

Over the years, the amateur artistic movement in the villages has been highlighted by remarkable results in national confrontations, with prizes and distinctions that legitimate us among the top five counties in the country.

In conclusion, in order to facilitate the transition of young people into a changing society and to achieve a balance between the generations, it is necessary to correlate and harmonize the programs by applying public policies with social and educational impact among young people. The investments will be distributed, in the next period, to the rehabilitation, modernization and consolidation of the cultural infrastructure; the realization, rehabilitation and modernization of the sports infrastructure; realization, rehabilitation and modernization of recreational infrastructure; making green areas in residential neighborhoods.

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