

CULTURAL IP MONTH 2023

Cultural IP Rights are Human Rights

2023 Key Word: *Alliances*

Knowledge drop

Şezătoarea Basarabiei

The community keeps tradition alive

Date: **Saturday 15th April**

You will find the Knowledge Drop here:

<https://www.culturalintellectualproperty.com/library>

What is a "Şezătoare"?

Şezătoarea - in Romanian language - or *Sitting* - in English language - is **a traditional form of gathering, an important socio-cultural institution in village life, a meeting of women and girls that implies cross-generational transmission of knowledge, social cohesion and joint decision-making.**

There are various ethnographic studies that speak about the historic role of the *Sittings* in rural community life and of their resurgence in the past decade. In Romania and the Republic of Moldova, *Şezătorile* (plural form) are the form in which many **custodians of textile-related Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions socialize, weave networks, learn, take collective decisions and craft the future!**

This Knowledge drop has been created by the women in [Şezătoarea Basarabiei](#) for Cultural IP Month 2023. It is a video in Romanian language with English subtitles followed by a series of personal reflections captured as interviews.

Şezătoarea Basarabiei is a community with a vision to reproduce, create and promote traditional clothing from Basarabia, in particular [the traditional blouse with embroidery on the shoulder](#) - *cămaşa cu altiţă*. The art of the traditional blouse with embroidery on the shoulder (*altiţă*) has been inscribed in 2022 on the UNESCO Representative List of the

Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity as an element of cultural identity in Romania and the Republic of Moldova.

Șezătoarea Basarabiei was born in 2016 and, following the customary rules of the traditional *Sittings*, it has a free membership. Anyone can join. An urban *Sitting*, Șezătoarea Basarabiei organizes hybrid gatherings, offline and online. Around 30 members are based in Chișinău, the capital city of the Republic of Moldova, and another 200 members all over the country.

Șezătoarea Basarabiei has organized Traditional Cultural Expression-focused exhibitions in the Republic of Moldova and abroad. They also created and printed their own photo album of the blouses created by the community, and have participated in various events for the promotion of the traditional blouse with embroidery on the shoulder - *cămașa cu alțiță*.

IG: @sezatoareabasarabiei

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