

CULTURAL IP MONTH 2023

Cultural IP Rights are Human Rights
2023 Key Word: *Alliances*

Knowledge drop

Șezătoarea Ciocârlia

A collective journey from inspiration to Creation

Date: **Friday 14th April**

You will find the Knowledge Drop here:

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

What is a "Șezătoare"?

Șezătoarea - 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, *Șezătorile* (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 **Șezătoarea Ciocârlia** for Cultural IP Month 2023. The video is bilingual, in Romanian and English.

Șezătoarea Ciocârlia (in English the *Lark Sitting* or *Lark Community*) is located in Costești, a village about 20 km from the capital city of the Republic of Moldova. The decision to gather outside of the city, in the rural area, came from the desire to include women from the village in a cultural activity of national interest and is part of the resurgence of this socio-cultural institution in village life.



This community includes women of all ages and generations, from children to grandmothers, who create traditional Romanian blouses - [traditional blouses with embroidery on the shoulder](#) (cămăși cu altiță) the way they were made one hundred years ago. The women in the community meet weekly and they come with their daughters to teach them from a young age to stitch, value and honor the Romanian blouse.

Șezătoarea Ciocârlia was founded in February 2020 by Diana Roșca, graphic designer, Tatiana Luca, civil servant, and Tatiana Bortă, teacher, from a deep desire to support the study of Traditional Textile Cultural Expressions - traditional Romanian clothing - as well as the stitching and embroidery of authentic blouses in their village. The main purpose of the community is to research, to learn and to share with others the rules of creating these Traditional Cultural Expressions, the importance of the color, the meaning of the symbols stitched or embroidered, and, in particular, the rich Romanian stitching techniques. **All these elements together - the knowledge, the semiotics, the craftsmanship, the techniques, the artistry - form a complete artistic composition.**

IG: @ciocarlia.sezatoare

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