

# SOROPTIMIST ROMANIA

## RomânIA Soroptimistă

USIR multiannual project closing meeting

2025, November 10

online

19:00 – 21:30 (EEST)



# SOROPTIMIST ROMANIAIA

is a multiannual project of the Soroptimist International Union of Romania (USIR).

In 2025, USIR invited single clubs from the Republic of Moldova to join the project.

Both countries have developed the candidacy of the art of traditional blouse (IA) with embroidery on the shoulder (Alțiță), which was included by UNESCO in the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2022.



# SOROPTIMIST ROMANIA **IA**

brought together under the theme

***“Traditions and meanings: IA (the traditional blouse) sewn in various geographical areas of Romania and the Republic of Moldova”,***

the activities reflect traditional popular culture, its understanding and the transmissibility of intangible cultural heritage elements.

Culture is more than heritage or tradition — it’s the way we connect, create and understand one another. It shapes our identity, drives creativity, and builds resilient, inclusive societies.



# CLUB SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL BRAȘOV

Email: [soroptimistbv@gmail.com](mailto:soroptimistbv@gmail.com)

Facebook: CLUB Soroptimist International Brasov

<https://soroptimistromania.ro/cluburi/brasov>





TRADITIONAL PORT PARADE during the event :

România is ME – Bucurie pentru IE



Soroptimists from Braşov - a parade of costumes and accessories or their adaptations from their own collections (Feldioara, Braşov County, June 21, 2025) and a Mini Exhibition with products made by the Secondary School No. 14 Sfântu Bartolomeu - Braşov, the Secondary School Ticuşu Vechi, the Primary School Cobor village, Ticuşu Vechi commune

More on: <https://soroptimistromania.ro/cluburi/brasov>





Soroptimists at the Blouses (IA) Parade (Brașov, June 24, 2025) together with students from Secondary School no. 14 Brașov who made bookmarks and holders for tea/coffee cups, with traditional Romanian motifs that were presented in the thematic exhibition on the 30th anniversary of the SI Brașov Club establishment.

More on : <https://soroptimistromania.ro/cluburi/brasov>





Launch of the Soroptimist Romania project within the Gymnasium School in Hărman commune, Braşov county (December 17, 2024) where small pieces of traditional folk costume were made with 4th grade students, with which dolls made by students were dressed, following a model from the SI Federation of Europe project “PEACE DOLLS”, presented, together with bookmarks with traditional Romanian and Saxon motifs (TICUŞU VECHI Gymnasium School, Braşov county) in the thematic exhibition on the 30th anniversary of the SI Braşov Club establishment (October 4, 2025)



More on: <https://soroptimistromania.ro/cluburi/brasov>



## SI BRAȘOV CLUB PROJECT TEAM

Aurelia Coman, Camelia Coman, Felicia Costin, Ana Covaci, Mihaela Denk – Florea, Rodica Măciucă, Mihaela Felicia Savu, Constantina Simion, Raluca Șandru together with schools teachers coordinators.





# CLUB

# SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

# BUCHAREST

Email: [soroptimistbuh@gmail.com](mailto:soroptimistbuh@gmail.com)

Facebook: Soroptimist International of Bucharest

<https://soroptimistromania.ro/cluburi/bucuresti>



# IA - the traditional blouse with shoulder embroidery

The SI Club in Bucharest focussed on:

- promoting IA - the traditional blouse in schools
- the traditional blouse, as national identity symbol - the royalty tradition
- thematic exhibitions





# PROMOTING IA - THE TRADITIONAL BLOUSE

Secondary school no. 32,  
sector 2, Bucharest

Drawing contest:

*„IA - the traditional blouse:  
as you see it”*



Coordinators: Maria Alexe, Elena Savu, Madlen Șerban

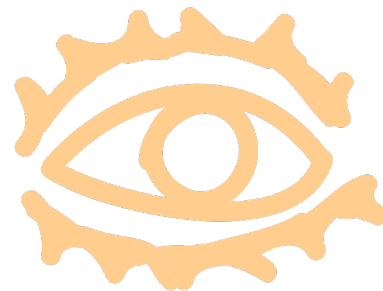


# The traditional blouse, as national identity symbol

## the royalty tradition







# CLUB SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CLUJ-NAPOCA



<https://soroptimistromania.ro/cluburi/cluj-napoca>



The **România Soroptimistă** national project was the 2021 initiative of SI Cluj in partnership with ASDR (Association for Supporting the Rural Development)





Since 2021 we promoted the true values and traditions symbolised by the Romanian blouse ('ia').

One of our dearest soroptimist, Mariana, is styling up the IA concept for almost every club activity and gathering.





For the current year (2025), we tried a new fresh approach: we presented and shared the heritage of some valuable Romanian blouses and accessories during the celebrations of the International Day of the Romanian Blouse.



**Project team:**

**Daniela Sălăgean**

**Greta Ionescu**

**Delia Stan**

[Pagina de facebook a clubului](#)



# CLUB SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CRAIOVA

- *Adress: Strada Imparatul Traian nr 64, Craiova*
- *Email: soroptcraiova@yahoo.com*
- *Site: <https://soroptimistromania.ro/cluburi/craiova>*
- *Facebook: Craiova – Club Soroptimist*



# SI Club Craiova focused on:



Visits at museum



gatherings on  
traditional themes  
(Sezatori)



Exhibitions



visits for information



Mini-symposium



## Visits at Ottenia Museum, Ethnography and folklor section (Casa Baniei, Craiova)



Primary school children from schools in Craiova visited the Ottenia Museum and learned important things about the traditions of Ottenia, the peculiarities of the folk costume from this area. Small artistic moments were also made related to wearing the traditional blouse of Ottenia.

In collaboration with specialized museographers (Ms. Roxana Deca) a documentation was made on the particularity of the Ottenia shirt with altiță:

Raw materials needed to make the shirt:

- Working tools
- The cut of the Ottenia shirt
- The way of structuring the decoration – the decorative composition
- Decorative motifs and their manner of plastic treatment
- Embroidery techniques
- Chromatics

They have been highlighted as heritage values

- The communicational value of the shirt today
- The value as an identity messenger -





## Current folk costumes, information and reinterpretation

An exhibition of folk costumes for children, property of the students' families, was organized at the Dabuleni Secondary School, Dolj County.

The children wore their homemade costumes, which they wear to some events organized in the locality. Several activities were organized related to the importance of preserving local traditions. Together with their mothers, the children tried to use elements of the folk costume in creating modern clothing items





# At the Alexandru and Aristia Aman County Library (located in Craiova)

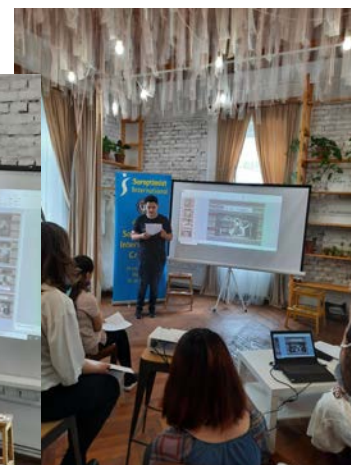
An exhibition was organized with traditional clothing items preserved in our homes from generation to generation.

Artistic moments related to the preservation of traditions were also presented.





In collaboration with the "Gheorghe Chitu" Economic College Craiova, coordinating professor Nicoleta Mihai, the symposium *"Queen Maria – Queen of the Romanian traditional blouse (ia)"* was organized.



# CLUB SOROPTMIST INTERNATIONAL SLATINA

President : GRATIELA POPA , [gratielapp@yahoo.com](mailto:gratielapp@yahoo.com)

Program Manager : VALERIA SOAICA ,  
[soaicavaleric@gmail.com](mailto:soaicavaleric@gmail.com)

<https://sorooptimistromania.ro/cluburi/slatina>



**INTERNATIONAL SOROPTIMIST SLATINA CLUB - BRINGING TRADITION INTO THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD**  
Financed by INTERNATIONAL SOROPTIMIST SLATINA CLUB ARENDAL GRIMSTAD from Norway. It was started in 2019 in Slatina by Gratiela Popa and coordinated for 7 years by Valerica Soaica. The project aimed to bring Oltenian tradition to the attention of children. (the traditional motifs found on towels, tablecloths, and blouses).  
Project partners: Olt County School Inspectorate; 'PS Aurelian' High School; 'Adrian Băran' Children's Palace; General Directorate of Social Assistance and Child Protection Slatina; 'Eugen Ionescu' Secondary School; Olt County Museum; Pleșoiu Secondary School; Secondary School No. 3.

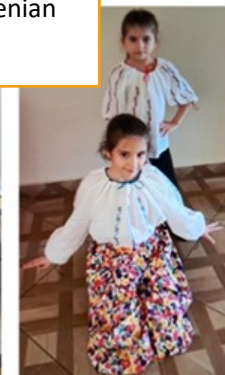






## 1...Lucram si ne

1. We work and present ourselves. As part of the project, in addition to bookmarks and napkins, we also made traditional blouses. The little girls were fitted by their mothers and grandmothers. We created simple patterns inspired by Oltenian blouses.







1. The activity carried out at the Olt County Museum.  
During this activity, the club members learned to  
crochet, knit, and do tapestry embroidery... it was a  
heartfelt activity."







1. The activity held on December 1st, 'I Was and Still Am Romanian.' Together with the children, we made dolls dressed in traditional costumes and explained what each costume consists of; we also presented a beautiful fashion parade.







1. The activity carried out with the group of children from Pleşoiu Secondary School. We cut out patterns for 10 traditional blouses (ii) and worked with the girls on simple traditional embroidery designs from the Oltenia region.
2. Activity carried out at the Pensioners' Club. During this activity, we prepared packages for the 'Charity Carnival,' where we donated 50 handmade items (napkins, bookmarks, miniature traditional costumes) created together with the children as part of the project.



Team project : Valeria Soaica ,  
Gratiela Popa, Carmen  
Bolocan, Rodica Catanescu



# CLUB SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL SUCEAVA

[soroptimistsuceava@gmail.com](mailto:soroptimistsuceava@gmail.com)

<https://soroptimistromania.ro/cluburi/suceava>



# FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF SUCEAVA - NOVEMBER 28, 2024

November 28 is the Bukovina Day,  
the day when, in 1918, this territory united  
with Romania



# ROMÂN-IA Project in Suceava

- lasted from 01.06.2025 till 30.06.2025
- **Partener** : "Constantin Morariu" School , Pătrăuți commune, Suceava county
- **Objectives**: Preserving and passing on traditions ROMÂN-IA





- Within the ROMÂN-IA Project of the Soroptimist International Club of Suceava, through activities within the Secondary School in Pătrăuți commune, Suceava county, a meeting was held with 4th grade students.
- The activity aimed to develop skills to promote local and national cultural values, preserve and transmit traditions - Romanian IA, as well as cultivate the artistic sensitivity of students and discover and develop practical skills of students.
- To this end, with the participation of the "*Bucovina coase ie*" Association, the children were guided to make stitches with traditional Romanian motifs on small wooden breloques for keys.
- Also, on this occasion, the children received a gift from the Soroptimist International Club of Suceava.
- Club members considered this project to be welcome and a great success. We can say this because the children and their teacher Emilia-Ionela Andrei were very receptive and involved in this activity.







Project team members:

Adina Grădinariu, Liliana  
Plămadă and Simona  
Condurache

and

Doina Parascuta, from  
The Association  
*"Bucovina coase ie"*



# CLUB SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL TÂRGOVIȘTE

SCAN ME



[Soroptimist Romania](#)





# PROJECT: ROMANIAN IA - FROM TRADITION TO MODERNITY

*Goal:* Cultivate interest in preserving national traditions and cultural values.

*Objectives:*

- ❖ Stimulate students' interest in national traditions.
- ❖ Presentation of Romanian folk costume.
- ❖ Introduction to sewing motifs on the traditional blouse IA



*Project implementation period: June 2025*



In a world of constant change and globalization, it is essential to return to our roots and remember the Romanian traditions that define our identity.

Preserving and transmission of the Romanian traditions and cultural identity are key missions of both family and the school.

To know about our history, our life, our customs and traditional culture, give us the chance to build the connection with the past, to better understand our values and preserve them.

The project aims to bring to the attention of girls the Romanian IA both as a component piece of the popular costume, and as a clothing item presented at various international fashion exhibitions.

The activity (workshop) took place within the museum with a group of students from the "Paul Banică" secondary school, accompanied by a teacher.





# PROJECT PARTENERS in TÂRGOVIȘTE:



- ❖ “Paul Banica” Secondary School
- ❖ The “Royal Court” National Museum Complex
- ❖ Soroptimist International Club

Venue: The “Royal Court” Museum,  
part of the *“Curtea Domnească”*  
National Museum Complex in  
Târgoviște





## Workshop layout:

### I. Introduction:

- *History of the popular costume;*
- *Significance;*
- *Presentation of the popular costume.*

### II. Practical activity:

- *sewing motifs on the blouse (IA)*

### III. Activity evaluation:

- *Appreciation of the products made*
- *Setting up a mini-exhibition*
- *Awarding(giving diplomas and sweets)*



# CLUB SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL TIMIȘOARA

<https://soroptimistromania.ro/cluburi/timisoara>



**During June 2025, the SI Club in Timiș oara decided to pay visit to the "History of Timisoara Exhibition" at the Banat Village Museum.**

**Project team members:**

- ❖ Balazs Agnet a,**
- ❖ Naltabar Lacramioara**
- ❖ Irhazy Elisabeta**





**The soroptimists admired  
also a child traditional  
costume here in the  
photo.**





# REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL SINGLE CLUBS



# SINGLE Club SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CHIȘINĂU

*“Traditions and meanings: IA (the blouse) sewn in various geographical areas of Romania and the Republic of Moldova”*

## Project coordinators

Stela Axenti, Club President

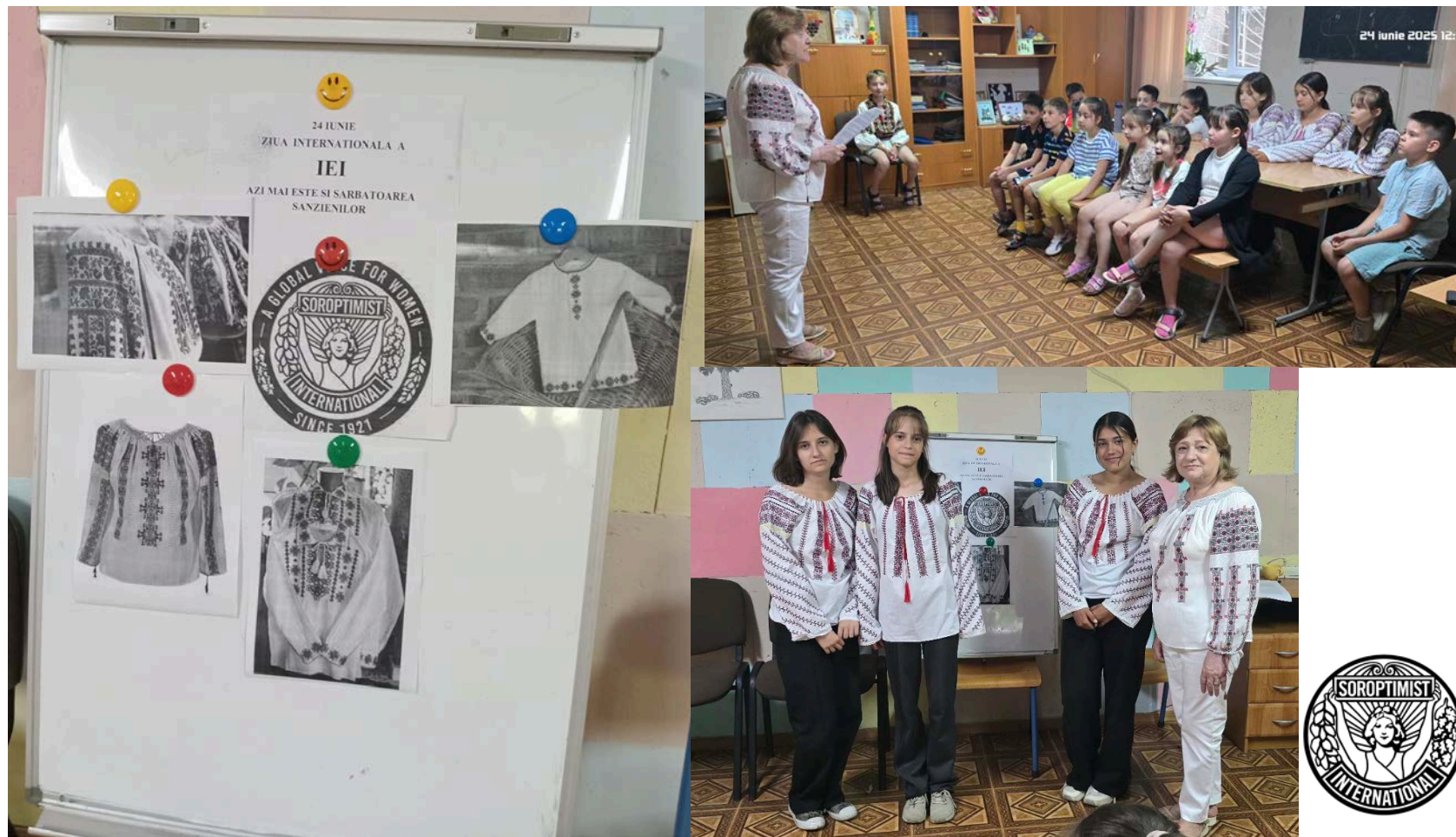
Valentina Bujulea

Tamara Niculiță



## International Day of the Romanian IA- CCCF "Florile Dalbe"

On June 24, the CCCF "Florile Dalbe", together with our member Valentina Bujulea hosted the "International Day of the Romanian IA" event. Children learned about the different types of traditional costumes and their history.





## 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 - National Day of the Traditional Costume

The **Soroptimist International Chişinău** team, guided by our colleague Tamara Niculiţă organized an educational project titled *“Let’s Give Children the Joy of Discovering the Traditional Blouse with Embroidery (cămaşa cu altiţă)”*. Children accompanied by their parents and grandmothers took part in the **Parade of the Traditional Costume**.





**Soroptimist International Chişinău celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2025. In order to honor our traditional costume, our members, including our special guest Grethe Bjørn from Norway put on the Romanian **IA** for the celebration.**



# **SINGLE CLUB SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL EDINET**

Founded in 2007,  
20 members



# “Soroptimist RomaniaIA” 2 Countries-1 Nation, 1 Culture



**IA (the blouse) is our PRIDE, it is our FEAST, our HISTORY,  
the HERITAGE of our NATION  
“Port IE cu MANDRIE” (“I m PROUDLY wearing my IA”)  
just for Very Special Occasions.**





# Happy 100th Birthday, Dear Soroptimist International!!!





# Happy 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary our Dearest Godmothers Sandefjord SI Club!!! (October 2025)



# One of the Greatest Projects of our Club **"Youth for Tomorrow"**

168 National Costumes were manufactured  
in 14 Schools & Kindergardens







# Single Club SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL Nisporeni



President: Angela Carchilan

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Facebook: Soroptimist International Nisporeni

# *„IA” a Tradition From Our Ancestors*

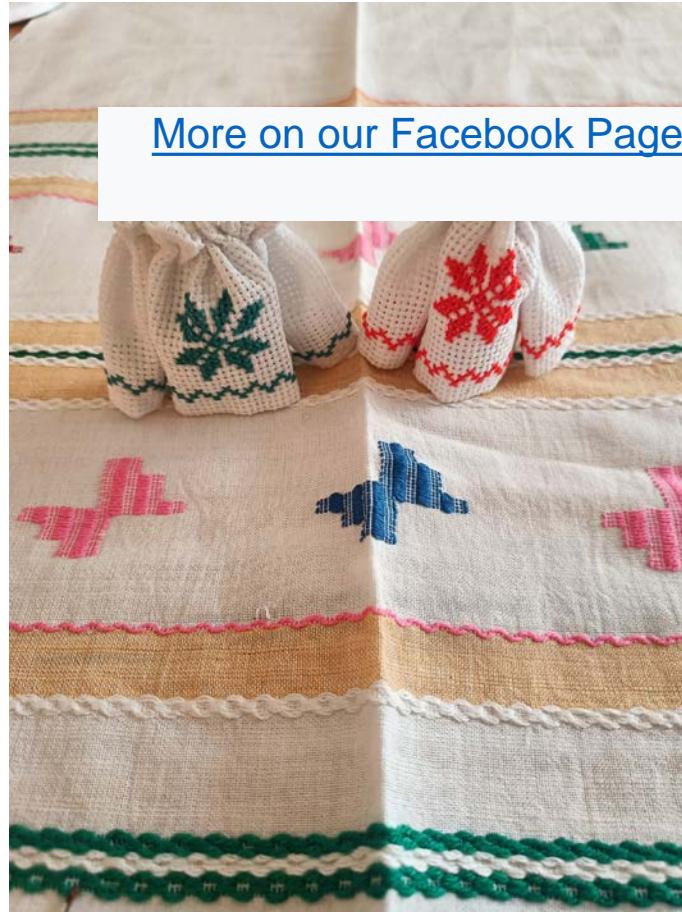
[More on our Facebook Page](#)



The Soroptimist Club of Nisporeni happily joined the initiative of the "Soroptimist International Romania" project, and marked the IE's International Day of the through an embroidery workshop organized at the Museum of History and Ethnography in Nisporeni, in partnership with the Nisporeni District Library, under the guidance of Valera Vranceanu and Georgeta Stroiescu. The members of the club brought back to life traditional symbols sewn with care and soul.



*Products made by Angela Carchilan*  
*presented in Brasov on the Occasion of the 30th Anniversary Ceremony*  
*of the founding of the SI Brasov club (04<sup>th</sup> of October 2025)*





# *Project Team:*

Angela Carchilan  
Daniela Birdan  
Nina Gorea  
Liliana Craciun  
Aurelia Mura  
Zinaida Vrabie  
Rodica Marian  
Angela Muschei

Popular Crafts:  
Valeria Vrinceanu  
Goergeta Stroiescu

# SINGLE Club SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL ȘTEFAN VODĂ



Maria Harcenco - Președintă  
mariaharcenco@mail.ru

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1GhGTE76iT/>

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1MAX1cJWSy/>





Within the international project *“Traditions and meanings – traditional blouse (Romanian: IA) sewn in various geographical areas of Romania and the Republic of Moldova”*, the Soroptimist International Club in Ștefan Vodă, organized several events.

*Participation in the festival of national costumes in Ștefan Vodă district was a wonderful event, where our club exhibited different blouses models of embroidered blouses by our club members with cross stitch and beads.*







A FASCINATING EVENT INCLUDED LESSONS ON MAKING NATIONAL COSTUMES FOR GIRLS AT THE SOROPTIMIST CREATION CLUB ȘTEFAN VODĂ.

TEN GIRLS TAKE LESSONS ON PATTERN MAKING, EMBROIDERY AND SEWING THE MODEL OF THE TRADITIONAL BLOUSE (*Romanian: IA*), THE richly ornamented wrap-around skirt (*Romanian: CATRINȚĂ*) AND THE Petticoat (*Romanian: jupon*) OF THE MOLDOVAN NATIONAL COSTUME. (PHOTO)



TEN COSTUMES WERE MADE FOR GIRLS.





*Lectures on the history of the Moldovan national costume and the distinctive patterns typical to the different district of MOLDOVA.*

*This is a model for the BASSARABIA region.*



# ROMANIA AND REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

## România Soroptimistă

BRAȘOV, 04<sup>TH</sup> October 2025



# SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

## ROMANIA AND REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA



# SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL ROMANIA AND REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

SOROPTIMIST ROMANIA  
IA



The Programme Focus Report (PFR) on the Soroptimist Romania USIR project submitted by Rodica Măciucă, the project coordinator, was validated by the SIE PDFs counterparts.

**The Soroptimist Romania PFR number is SIE-29278 .**

For those not so familiar ***SIE stays for Soroptimist International of Europe***, the Federation including SI clubs from 43 countries.





# Thank you!