



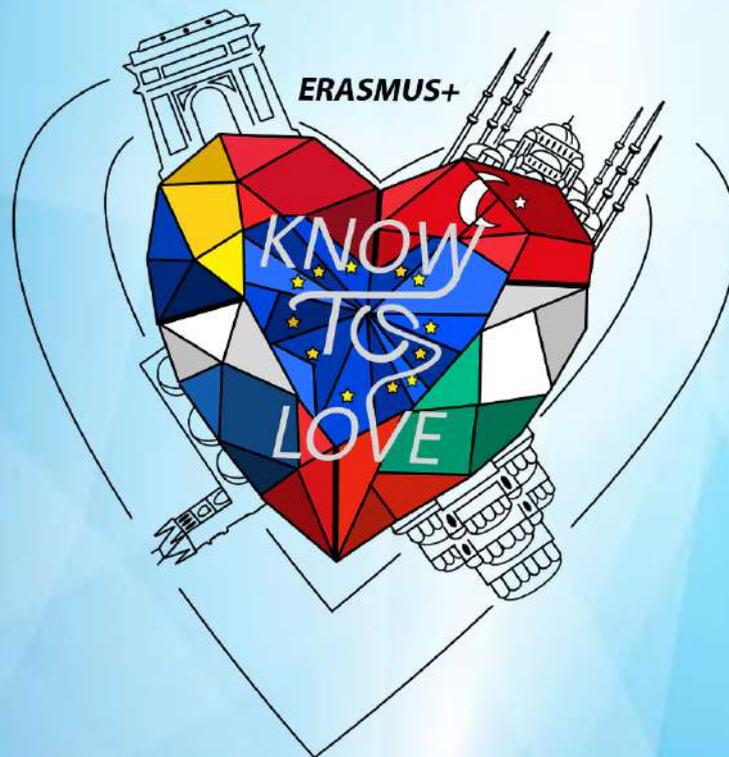
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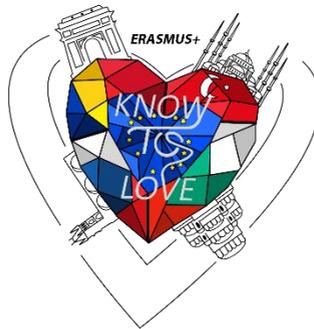


Know To Love România



Liceul Tehnologic „Ion Nistor” Vicovu de Sus
8th-14th March, 2020

Erasmus K229 "The More You Know, The More You Love
No. Ref. 2018-1-RO01-KA229-049134



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TIMETABLE OF THE MEETING IN ROMANIA
from 08th to 14th March 2020

“The More You Know, The More You Love- România”

Date	Time	Activity
8th March		Arrival day
9th March	8:00	Breakfast- Local Restaurant Casa Vicoveană
	9:00	Welcome to LTIN / Open ceremony at school
	9:30	School tour and Town Hall reception.
	11:00	World-café – activity based on answering questions about cultural identity, music and dance.
	13:00	Lunch- Restaurant Casa Vicoveană
	15:00	Discovering Putna
	17:00	Discovering Vicov
	19:00	Dinner and free time
10 th March	8:00	Breakfast- Restaurant Casa Vicoveana
	9:00 - 18:00	Discover Bucovina – a tour of painted monasteries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A visit to Sucevița • Mocănița ride • Lunch in Moldovița • Discover Voroneț • Discover Suceava • History lesson in Suceava Fortress • Dinner at Suceava Mall

11 th March	8:00	Breakfast- Restaurant Casa Vicoveană
	9:00	Power point presentations about folklore. Presentation of the project "10 for Folklore" and of the school optional "Mythology and Romanian Folklore in Literature".
	11:00	At the potter's wheel: Bukovina's traditional black pots – Manufacture of traditional pottery- Marginea
	14:00	Traditional lunch in a sheepfold
	15:30	Open air sports activities
	18:00	Free time
12 th March	8:00	Breakfast- Restaurant Casa Vicoveana
	8:00 – 18:00	Trip to Iași- former capital of Moldova <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A visit to the Palace of Culture • Lunch Iași • Discover the centre of Iasi • A visit to the Botanical Garden • Dinner Rădăuți
13 th March	8:00	Breakfast- Restaurant Casa Vicoveana
	9:00	Workshop: The more we love, the more we know about Romania – making posters and postcards.
	11:00	Șezătoare – traditional painting and decorating eggs, weaving, handmade leather products/ traditional songs and fairy tales.
	14:00	Lunch Casa Vicoveana
	17:00	Farewell party
14 th March		Departure day

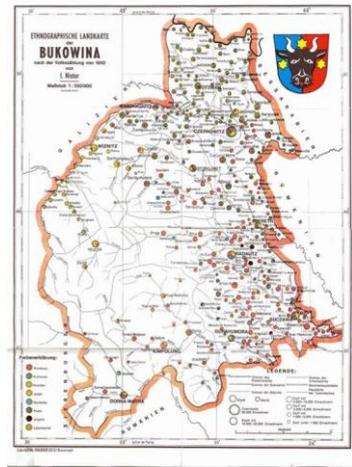
Historical background of *Ion Nistor* Technological High School



Information about the beginnings of school in Vicovu de Sus can be found from the early 1852, written in German by the schoolmaster Ion Moldovan, who presents how the very first school from Vicovu de Sus, under the name of “Trivial Schule”, was established, in a mason’s house, namely Ion Romancziuk. The first teacher of this school was Ion Tălpariu, appointed by the authorities from Cernăuți. The school was established with the support of the priest Vladimir Vasilovici, with that of the mayor and of the cantor.

Education developed gradually, the school was subordinated to the Orthodox Consistory, and an Austrian scholastic statistic from 1865 reveals that there were 4268 Orthodox inhabitants in Vicovu de Sus and 42 pupils attended this school. On the 14th of May 1869, “The imperial public instruction law” was approved and thus the school from Vicovu de Sus was transformed into a primary school with one class, and beginning with 1899, it became a primary school with four classes.

There is not much information recorded about the school activity itself, except that at the end of the school years there were organised scholastic and religious festivities. In the school year 1907-1908, the school building is closed because of the typhoid fever.



Barely starting with 1911, information regarding the development of education in Vicovu de Sus can be found. The chronicle states the attention given by the school management to pupils' religious education, while religion was one of the most important subject matter. Between 1914-1915, classes are suspended because of the war. In 1916, Russia occupied Vicovu de Sus, and the school building is transformed into a bunkhouse, while the library is destroyed. Afterwards, during the interwar period, the cultural and educational activity of the teachers and the students unfolded normally, being presented in praiseworthy terms, the emphasis being placed on the scholastic festivities held on the occasion of national holidays.

In 1933-1934, the class for adults is reopened (it was set in 1923) and 133 people attended it, a school park is landscaped and a school

cooperative named „The bees” is created. In order to help poor children a school canteen was established. Later, initiated by the headmaster Toader Fedoriac, a new school pharmacy is open, being equipped with necessary medicines and first aid tools. Between 1935-1945, the school develops constantly. The number of classes reaches 9 and the teaching staff is formed of 12 teachers.



From 1943 to 1945, the school interrupted its courses due to the Second World War. Classes are reopened in 1945, and the reform of education from 1948 brought important changes, developing the principles of the communist education.

Between 1951-1962, the number of students increased to 370, and the number of classes to 20. It was ensured the literacy of 150 young people up to the age of 21 and over 400 adults who didn't know to write and to read. Because of the increasing number of students, it was necessary to create a proper space to provide good education.

Starting with the school year 1962-1963, the geography teacher Tîpa Ilie was promoted as the headmaster. Afterwards follows a period which brought important changes within the school from Vicovu de Sus. In 1964, under the management of the headmaster, Ilie Tîpa, the construction of



the first building of the high school in the village begins. The construction of the high school began on the 3rd of May, 1964 and ended on the 15th of November 1964. The total value of the construction amounted to 618.533, according to official documents.

The first graduating yeargroup of the Theoretical High School from Vicovu de Sus had 63 students and until 2019 there were



another 51 Classes. Trying to make a comparison with the first promotion, we would mention that the school year 2018-2019 registered 316 graduates. Some of our graduates followed university courses, becoming

teachers, doctors, engineers, military officers, etc., while others followed post-secondary schools. A building designed to be the

school workroom was built in the high school yard between 1976-1977. In the front of the high school a park was arranged in 1977, where trees and flowers were planted. In the 1977-1978 school year, the high school changed its major field of study, becoming an agro-industrial high school. A remarkable event took place on the 18th of December, 1977, celebrating 125 years since the establishment of the first school in Vicovu de Sus. The educational program of this school followed continuous increase of the educational quality through the arrangement of laboratories equipped with modern devices.



Students will benefit from two dormitories and a canteen, having suitable accommodation and dining conditions. On the 1st of September 1979, the secondary school separated from the agro-industrial high school. The number of teachers in the school year 1979-1980 was of 24 and, with 7 foremen instructors, and the 616 students were distributed in 20 classes. In order to stimulate the students to read, the high school library was equipped in 1984 with books that were worth 8.000 lei.

Beginning with 1992, due to the union with the secondary school, the high school becomes the *Ion Nistor* School Group, with a theoretical profile and a vocational school. Starting with 2012, the high school becomes “Ion Nistor” Tehnological High School, with both theoretical and technological profiles. The high school celebrated, in November 2014, 50 years since its establishment, an opportunity to bring together the former teachers and students of the high school with current generations. In recent years, the high school has entered into an extensive modernization process.



In 2016, the Campus and the new buildings of the primary school and kindergarten were inaugurated. The investments were worth 8.000.000 euros, of which 2.000.000 euros came from the local budget of the city of Vicovu de Sus.



School Profile

Ion Nistor Technological High School is located in the northern part of Romania, near the border with Ukraine, in a small urban settlement of about 15.000 inhabitants named Vicovu de Sus, part of Suceava county.



It is the largest institution of this type in the area, providing education for a number of 2141 pupils, most of them coming from the rural areas around Vicovu de Sus (Ulma, Brodina, Falcău, Straja,

Putna, Bilca, Vicovu de Jos and others).

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The main goal of *Ion Nistor* Technological High School is to prepare

young people for a further active integration in society by offering them a proper educational context in which they can reach the maximum development of their potential in order to be successful adults.



Our school aims to offer high quality educational services, adapted to the requirements of the changing society, and to promote equity and inclusion by facilitating the access to education to participants with disadvantaged backgrounds or limited opportunities.



The 2141 students are distributed in 81 classes on the following levels:

- | | |
|--|--|
| - pre-school education:
139 children in 5 groups; | - vocational education:
109 students in 5 classes; |
| - primary education:
227 pupils in 12 classes; | - high school education
with low attendance: 278
students in 6 classes; |
| - secondary education:
225 pupils in 9 classes; | - secondary education
in the programme "The
Second Chance": 37 students. |
| - high school education:
1126 in 41 classes; | |

For the high school education, there are the following specialisations:

1. science:

- mathematics-informatics, intensive informatics;
- natural sciences;
- 2. social sciences:
 - history and social sciences, intensive English;
 - history and social sciences;
 - philology.
- 3. technological disciplines:
 - technician in the textile industry;
 - technician in the leather industry;
 - technician in woodworking.

For vocational education, there are the following qualifications:

- universal carpenter;
- worker with leather articles and its substitutes.



The teaching staff is made up of 96 teachers and a school counsellor. 10 persons work as auxiliary teaching staff and 17 persons as non-teaching staff.

Nowadays, high school's activities are held in 8 buildings, 51 classrooms, 7 laboratories, 2 workshops, 1 library, 1 gym.

Opportunities

Ion Nistor Technological High School is an accredited center of testing for ECDL – European Computer Driving License, a certification of digital skills that is internationally recognized in 148 countries.



From September 2018, *Ion Nistor* Tehnological High School is a beneficiary in two Erasmus+ grants projects of Strategic Partnership in the field of education – projects of school exchanges KA229.

It is a partner in the project entitled „*Muri, ponti e note*” (Ref. no: 204 2018-1-IT02-KA229-048596_4), together with other school-partners from Spain and Finland, the coordinator of the project being Istituto di Istruzione Superiore Peano, Florence, Italy. Other partners are IES



Padre Isla (Leon, Spain) and Kalevan Lukio (Tampere, Finland). The aim of this project is the acquisition of key competences, especially communication in English and digital competences. The project includes two kinds of activities:



in-presence, with 5 workshops:

- 1 initial workshop for teachers to share the philosophy of the project and

work out methodologies, commitment, responsibilities;

- 4 workshops for students (one per country) to develop research and produce materials: written productions, photographs, video, tunes.

activity on a distance: intervals between the four workshops are the links, or bridges, between the meetings. Students will complete online the work started in the workshops.



Ion Nistor Technological High School is the coordinator of the Erasmus+ project K229 entitled ***"The More You Know, The More You Love"*** (Ref. No. 2018-1-RO01-K229049134) which aims to build cultural bridges between different countries, to overcome stereotypes, to promote diversity and cultural cooperation.



Together with other partners from Turkey (Ufuk Arslan Anadolu Lisesi, Estimesgut, Ankara), Bulgaria (Profilirana gimnazia „Hristo Botev”, Popovo) and Czech Republic (Stredni

prumyslova skola chemical, Pardubice), our institution organizes activities that promote the specific cultural background of each participant country and that aim to make students aware of the importance of preserving traditions and cultural identity.





"The More You Know, The More You Love" includes activities that contribute to the personal and social development of both students and teachers implied. There had been planned 4 LTT activities for short-term exchanges of groups of pupils with 7 students and 3 accompanying persons and 1 short-term joint staff training event with 4 teachers from each partner country.

Thanks to this project, participants will increase their confidence, develop language skills, establish international relations, learn different cultures.



Starting from 2019, our school is also the coordinator of a KA102 - VET learner and staff mobility project: **"Leather Workshop"**

- **Tradition and Innovation in Leather Products Processing"** (Ref. no. 2019-1-RO01-KA102- 062782) through which it is intended to increase the attractiveness of professional and technical education among pupils, lowering the dropout rate and increasing the chances of integrating the graduates of our school into the labour market in the country or the European Union. Improving social skills, building professional behaviour based on respect, sociability, communication, openness to partners, and training of students for professional life and fast integration into the labour market are just some of the goals of this project.

Our high school also offers the students a wide variety of extra-curricular activities such as:

The Handball Team



The Football Team





LTIN Debate Club



The Traditional Vocal Group



KNOWING MORE, LOVING MORE...

THE IMPACT OF LTT ACTIVITIES ON STUDENTS

17th -23rd March 2019, Popovo, Bulgaria



Just when you think about the name of this project “ERASMUS+: Know to ❤️” it’s already pretty interesting, but there’s something more than the name itself that makes this project so awesome.

I’ve seen this “student exchanges” between schools from different countries just in movies and I really thought that it must be fun to have one of this experiences , but I never would have thought that it could happen to me, a simple Romanian RO girl, that just enjoys everything about English... Well it happened!!! And it was more than AMAZING!! I really, really enjoy communicating and socialising, especially in English; just imagine how I felt when I found out that I was going to use these abilities in a foreign country!!!

The project I was taking part in included 3 other countries: it was based on the collaboration of the students from Turkey, Czech Republic, Bulgaria and Romania. I couldn’t wait to find out which country I was going to visit: would it be BG (Bulgaria)? TR (Turkey)? Or cz (Czech Republic)...I hoped it was a country that distinguished

itself from our country traditionally, culturally and especially touristically... don't get me wrong, I looove my country, but I was really looking forward to experiencing new customs, new traditions, new food, exploring new roads, new places and all kinds of new things, different things.

The country I was selected to go to was: BULGARIA 🇧🇬 ... at first I thought that, being a neighbouring country of Romania, Bulgaria



wouldn't be so different as I wanted, having the same time zone, being situated in the south of Romania on the same parallel and meridian, and from what I thought, being a lot like Romania, geographically speaking...but I was wrong, especially geographically

wrong...ups. Anyway, what I want to say is that Bulgaria exceeded my expectations!!

As we (me, my teammates and teachers) were entering this new country it all looked familiar to me, but as we started diving into the heart of Popovo (the city where the student from Bulgaria lived) everything became to have that sparkle of a new thing. ✨



Just from a first sight I could already notice their culture, starting with the trees that were so uniquely decorated, with their houses that were placed in gorgeous neighbourhoods, with the hospitality of the people that met me for the very first time, even the nature seemed to be welcoming us into their culture... The mobility took place in March 17-23, exactly when spring begins, the weather was great, it was the perfect temperature to explore the unknown.

The family that hosted me was so open to this project that I felt like I had another family in Bulgaria, my room was amazing, the food was extremely delicious (and I'm not exaggerating) and one of the things I really enjoyed was walking to school, it gave me the opportunity to explore even more. The school was so different from the one I go to, I'll always remember those endless stairs that, I really think, made me lose a pound, at least, and how could you forget the music that started playing when a class ended, instead of that alarm noise that I hear at my school?!...



The teacher and students from the school in Popovo had an impeccable organisation regarding the activities that we were supposed to do during our week in Bulgaria. As the days passed, I was more pleased about the organisation: get to know the other games, sport games, lunch break, after school activities, trips, improvisation games, exploring games and so on...everything was perfectly prepared for us.

The thing that seems quite weird to me was that, even though the project was about

overcoming the cultural boundaries and trying to know the person beside us, in the beginning we weren't doing too much of socialising, everyone



would stick to their group and talk their own language, and I'm talking about the free time that we had, besides the one that we were spending at school...I know that I said that I like socialising and communicating, but how can you talk with someone if they don't listen to you/ don't understand you?!...and here's the point where English made its interventions: we started socialising little by little, beginning with small talks at school and continuing with deep

conversations in the places we met after school(coffee places, restaurants, parks, clubs, or even at home), we had a great idea:



‘what would it be like if, instead of talking in our one language, we would use only English... and I remember that

during one of the trips we had, me and my teammates started playing a game, in English (one would start to tell a sequence of a made up story and after a few sentences he would stop, letting the others continue, the story that turned out at the end being extremely hilarious) and after a few sentences there wasn't only the Romanian group that was playing, but the others joined as well...that's what I'm talking about!!

As I analysed the others, I was also being analysed by them... We had a lot of questions towards each other, most of them sounded like total clichés, but we got closer through those little things, we got so close that at the goodbye party we almost didn't want to leave (I almost teared knowing that my experience in Bulgaria- a country full of mystery that's waiting to be solved, was already ending and I really regretted all those moments, when,

instead of making connections, I stayed comfortable in my corner). And yes, I could go on and talk about all the places I visited and describe you all the little things that caught up my attention, but at the end of this project I realised that my desire of exploring new places that were different from the ones I'm familiar with, was unintentionally replaced by the desire of exploring the unknown of people with cultural differences, with different beliefs and, especially, with different ways of thinking and perceiving the world.

This project not only gave me the opportunity to be involved in something that most people don't get a chance to experience, but it also changed my way of emphasising things and, instead of focusing on the new, different places that I could visit, I became more interested in the human adventure, concentrating myself more on the human side rather than the touristic one, wanting to become an explorer of the unknown human connections that can be established between us and I'm proud of that!!... So, yes, I really can admit that through knowledge you are able to love, to love even more than you might think, because: how could you love something that you aren't even aware of its existence?!... Just take my advice: 'Dare to know in order to be able to love!!'

Estera Costinescu,
XII F, LTIN



20th-26th October, 2019, Ankara, Turkey

Last year, in October, me and 7 of my colleagues had the opportunity to go on a trip to Turkey, more specifically Ankara, with the Erasmus project “The more you know the more you love”. During the 6 days we stayed there we had the chance to visit a bit of the city, some of its surroundings and even all the way south to Cappadocia. However, most importantly of all, we had the chance to discover and interact with a completely different culture from what we were used to. Besides this, we also managed to meet and build friendships with a lot of the students there, friendships which will hopefully last for years to come.

As we were going to the hotel from the airport a lot of us were fairly nervous as no one really knew what to expect. This feeling only got accentuated as we parked in front of it. However, and this surprised all of us, we were actually greeted by one of the students in the lobby and who seemed very excited to finally see us. This made most of us quite a lot more relaxed as it showed that these people were as eager to meet us as we were to meet them. Setting into our rooms took no time and, after going to a nearby mall to get

something to eat, the day was over and we were waiting to see what the morning would bring. The first actual meeting took place as we got to their high schools and we started to present our countries in its auditorium. Things were a bit lukewarm at first as we were still very much strangers to one another but we still managed to talk to a couple of them.



However, things really started to move forward when we had lunch and we were left off to talk and get to know each other better for a couple of hours. In

my and many of my colleague`s opinions, we all felt really well received and everyone was so friendly, enthusiastic and open to discussion that we were all taken aback at how nice everyone was despite only knowing each other for a couple of hours. Everyone was eager to share each other`s cultures, traditions and stories that it honestly felt not like we were talking to strangers, but to old friends that met for the first time again in years. We shared these through music, dancing and telling stories in the park outside their high



school. We ended the day by going to another nearby mall and getting dinner together before we all went back to our places.

The next day, the trips started. That day we went off to Bey pazari. Despite taking a good few hours, the bus ride went by like a breeze as we talked, played music and joked around the whole way there. Soon, it became clear that most of these trips would act as more of a background for our interactions with the other students, at least for me that is as I can't speak for the others.

Going through these streets and talking to each other while taking in the sites was an experience that will sit in my mind for a long while from now. What followed was 2 more trips: 1 to Ankara Castle and its surroundings and the big one, a full day trip to



Cappadocia which was probably the most beautiful place I've ever

seen in person. I do have an experience however that I can recall and that really marked me: So, I got pretty sick during the trip to Cappadocia and the bus ride back was ruined entirely for me.

The next day when we got back to the high school and met up with each other again pretty much everyone I had talked to before came by and asked me if I was feeling better now and if I was ok. Now I know this might not seem like something that special, but to me, having all these people who I've only known for a couple of days show so much genuine care really gave me an idea of how truly honest and friendly these people really were.

We ended the week on a high note, with a party at a really nice lakeside restaurant. We danced, we talked, we



recalled memories and stories from the previous week, it was great! I'm saying it again, but I just have to accentuate how it really felt like we had known each other for a lifetime. Unfortunately, the next morning we had to go back to the airport. When we got there, we noticed that a lot of our friends were actually waiting for us there to

send us off. This made everyone really emotional and to say that we didn't leave with tears in our eyes would be an obvious lie.



All in all, I would say that if you ever do get the chance to get into one of these projects, try to get over the initial anxiety and feeling

of being overwhelmed if you feel that way and please, and I do mean it, give it a shot. And even if you feel like your English might not be that good then don't worry as you don't need a perfect understanding of it to get by and again this is a great opportunity to get better at it as well. As most of my colleagues said, this was a once in a lifetime experience that really changed their outlook on life and gave them a unique occasion to engage and learn about an entirely different but interesting culture.

So, if you're still on the edge about trying to get in, do yourself a favour and go for it. I promise that you'll regret it later if you decide to turn back now.

Schipor Andrei-Daniel
XII A, LTIN

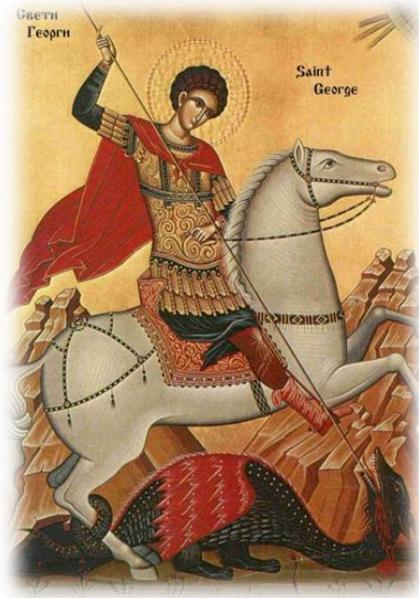
SPRING FESTIVITIES IN PARTNER COUNTRIES

ST. GEORGE'S DAY IN ROMANIA

(April, 23rd)

About the Holy Great Martyr George, The Bearer of Conquering

The Holy Great Martyr George (Gheorghe, in Romanian) is one of the most famous saints of Christianity. However, the history of his life is very little known and many legends in which he is presented as a hero have appeared over time. It is celebrated both by the Orthodox Church and by the Roman Catholic Church (being also the patron saint of England), the image being always associated with the unparalleled bravery and faith in the Christian Church to the supreme sacrifice. The Orthodox tradition states that



the Holy Martyr George was born in Cappadocia, in a Christian family, his father being a Roman general. At the age of 30, St. George became a general in Diocletian's army. The Holy Martyr George's name was linked to a whole history proving his strong faith, so tested by countless and terrible physical and psychic tortures.

After 303, Emperor Diocletian, the heathen, encouraged by his brother-in-law, Galerius, began his persecution against Christians. Until the Milan edict, when Emperor Constantine conferred the legality of Christianity, believers were subjected to harm if they did



not want to leave Christ for idols and a life dedicated to idolatry. Worthy of a martyr's life, St. George shows that the act of Emperor Diocletian will not make him abandon his faith in God, which is why the Emperor threw him in prison. The Great Holy Martyr George, the bearer of victory, was passed through the fortress, Diocletian's servants hitting him either with the spear or with their legs, pushing large stones on his chest, pulling him on the wheel, throwing him in the lime pit or having him run with shoes that had nails in the bottom. The testimonies to which the martyr George was

subjected are many. Only his faith, to the astonishment even of those who beat him without mercy, kept the martyr alive. During his



imprisonment, Saint George resurrected a dead man, which led to the belief of Emperor Alexander. The wonders of St. George are many. He died as a martyr, the king commanding his head to be cut off. The glorious life of St. George, the pain he passed through, turned him into one of the most popular saints.

Beliefs and Superstitions on the Day of St. George's Horse

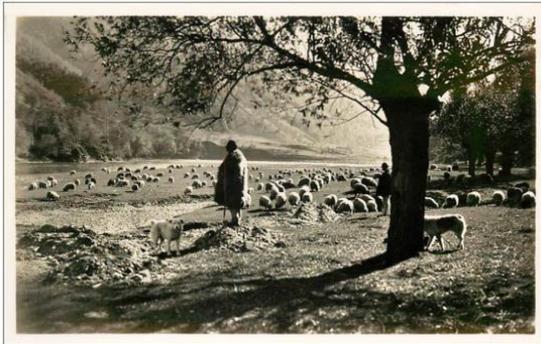
- St. George's Horse is celebrated because, with its' help St. George he could kill the dragon.
- The horse of St. George is celebrated so that work goes well.
- It's celebrated because it is bad for wild animals.

St. Gheorghe's Day

April, 23rd marks the beginning of the pastoral year in the popular calendar. Popularly called *Sângiorz*, Saint George (Gheorghe) is a prestigious celebration with multiple meanings: agrarian, pastoral, spiritual, and augural.

Traditions on St. Gheorghe's Eve

On the eve of the celebration of St. George, on April 22, popularly



called "Sângiorzul vacilor" or "Alesul", there are a series of customs that mark the beginning of the pastoral year, being a

celebration of the shepherds. The customs related to this special day refer to the choice of shepherds, the place of making the *strunga* or *stână*, lamb choosing and



the preparation of the sheep for the first milking, as well as the preparation of the first *caș* (a traditional kind of cheese).

On the eve of the celebration of Saint George, the bucket in which the milk from the first milking is to be put is thoroughly prepared: it has “running water, from the river” or “water not taken from the fountain” poured in alongside with green grass.

The edge of the bucket is decorated, on the eve of St. George, with willow yarn, woven in the shape of a thin wreath, to which a silver money is sometimes added. The plants are then thrown into a fountain, with the purpose of providing an indescribable amount of milk, following the principle of magic by similitude, invoked in the



text accompanying this gesture: *“That’s how the milk flows into the pulp of the sheep, like the water in the fountain”*.

In some areas, on the eve of the Saint George holiday, on the edge of the bucket for the first milking, stands the

“sheep’s curl” in the shape of a crown made of pure wheat flour, water and salt and greased with egg yolk. The curl is then picked up by two pastors pulling on it until it breaks, believing that the one who remains with the bigger part will have more luck in owning sheep. In some areas, on the eve of St. George, at the first milking a crown of green branches is used, instead of the curl, whose purpose is, on the one hand, the assurance of milk and, on the other hand, protection against the evil forces, active during this period.



The eve of St. Gheorghe 's day is a time characterized by the presence of evil spirits and ghosts who walk at night to take the milk



from the cows. Prevention of these actions is done on St. George day through various practices: hiding or anointing *melița* tongues with garlic (with which the spirits use to fight and on which they travel), *bucium* noises, smoking the cattle, sheds and tents and placement of bush branches at the windows and doors of the animal shelters, hanging of thorns at the gate or anointing of the cow's udders with garlic.

In folk spirituality, there is a cosmic understanding between Saint George and Sâmedru (Saint Dumitru). It is said that when the frogs sing for the first time, Saint George takes the keys from Sâmedru to open the path of nature to life. On the morning of Saint George, the head of the family, always a man, hangs green branches on the



gate's and house's pillars, on the windows and doors of the houses and stables, the gardens and the graves in the cemeteries. Thus, it was believed that humans, cattle and seeds were protected from evil forces. The green branches

were kept over the year to be used as a cure for diseases. They were also put into animal feed in the belief that they will be protected

from the power of evil spirits. On the eve of Saint George, unmarried daughters believed they could see their soulmate if they were looking in this night in a jug full of water.

There is also the custom that on the morning of April 23rd, the girls put green furrows, decorated with crowns, to see which lad will walk over them. If the lads they loved did not



ride on the crowns, the girls thought they would marry that year. The furrows and wreaths were kept for the year to make charms of love or to be used as remedies in relieving various diseases.

Also, on the morning of April 23, the girls would sneak into the woods to collect *mătrăguna* (belladonna or mandrake) and *năvalnic* (a kind of fern). These plants were put in the attic or under the roof in the belief that they would bring wealthy suitors. The lads would look for the grass of the beasts on the morning of April 23, the miraculous plant that could break locks. On the eve of the holiday, the youngsters would walk in a grove with a fresh water jug. The jug

was hidden in a place known just by them. At sunrise everyone would stare into the water. If there was a blade of grass in the jug, they thought they would marry their beloved girl. On the contrary, if there was a dry flower in the water, it was a sign that the young man would not get married that year, and if they found land, it was believed that the man would soon die.

The married women went into the woods and picked up herbs known only by them (*mulgătoare*, cow's butter), which they added to animal feed, in the belief that cows would give a lot of good quality milk.

No one was allowed to sleep on this day because it was believed that those who violated the ban would be sleepy for the whole year. *Urzicatul* (*urzică*=nettle) was another habit practiced on this day. There is a belief that through this they would be more agile, more diligent and healthier throughout the summer.



Housekeepers give fire to household rubbish and household waste. The ash from this fire is blended with grease which is then smeared on the doors and windows of the stables to prevent spirits from entering at night to steal their feed. In order for family members to be protected from evil and cruel diseases, they pass through the smoke and the flames of a burning fire; the cattle and houses are also smoked with incense.



So, the celebration of St. George has a special importance in the Romanian traditional culture. This holiday represents our culture and customs in so many different ways that it becomes a crucial point in knowing and understanding our people.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY THE FEAST OF ST. GEORGE DAY OF THE BULGARIAN ARMY

On May 6 Bulgarians celebrate St. George's Day - one of the biggest festivals in the folk calendar, celebrated in honor of St. George and more as the Day of the Bulgarian Army. St. George's name day celebrated Georgi, Gergana, Galia, Ginka, Ganka and more.

According to folk beliefs St. George and St. Demetrius were twin brothers, among which is shared year. From St. George's to



Demetrius is its summer half, the time of Demetrius to St. George's Day marks its winter half. So St. George portends the coming summer and the beginning of the new business year, which is why the holiday is observed many traditions and customs related to agriculture, livestock and health.

St. George is revered by both Christians and Muslims. He grew up in a wealthy Christian family, he became a fervent supporter and defender of the Christian faith,

making it tortured and brutally beheaded in 288 years by Emperor Maximilian. He embodies the ideal warrior, protector of the army. According to folk beliefs and legends is a glorious hero, a man fighting dragons and who rescues a girl from the dragon of the bottom land and it is this his image is reflected in iconography - the saint pierces the dragon with his spear, riding a white horse.

The dishes on the holiday

By old Bulgarian custom of St. George in every home baked lamb and around the festive table collect the whole family. It is obligatory to attend at the table and ritual bread, but it's nice to have another lamb sarma liver, dairy products, green onions, garlic, boiled wheat, pastry and wine. Furthermore, it should be given dairy borrowed.





Ritual bread is decorated with figures of lambs, shepherd's crook and cot. All together at the table, prekazhdat her drink, rejoice and sing songs: "St. George toured the fields," "Zdravec for St. George," "Crown of lambs."

Finally, the day of the lamb bones are buried in the ground

Traditions

The night before the holiday before the first cock roosters, people bathe in the morning dew for health as popular beliefs state that this time everything is "swaddled with good dew." In her bathe and women who believe it will help them to be fruitful. According to another popular belief collected and took home dew St. George's Day has special healing power. To receive healing the sick bathe in the "left water" - the place where the rivers turn left.

Lady of the house gets up early and sweep the yard, then zakichva door with a bouquet of geranium, lilac and flowering branch from a fruit tree. He was allowed to stand until dry, and the custom is observed for health, prosperity and happiness throughout the year.

In this day of the year for the first time at home made fresh cheese, but not salted, not cut short sheep's milk. It, behind garlic, nettle, oak and hawthorn.



Significant place in the rituals of St. George borrow greenery, flowers and blooming twigs that carry symbolic power of nature on humans and domestic animals. So, the houses, business premises and gardens meet the festive morning hung with beech twigs, branches of blossoming apple or other fruit tree.

On this day in Earth buries first red egg from the previous Easter to be a fertile field. Early risers from the house runs up to the meadow to gather nettles, which then flick on the feet all at home, lest evil overtake them throughout the year.

We celebrate George's day at school!



COMMEMORATION OF ATATURK, YOUTH AND SPORTS DAY IN TURKEY

When Is Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day 2019?

Turkey features state ceremonies and sports events throughout the country on May 19 each year. Young Turkish athletes carry the Turkish flag from a Black Sea port to the country's capital to commemorate Turkey's War of Independence (1919–1923).

Is Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day a Public Holiday?

Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day is a public holiday. It is a day off for the general population, and schools and most businesses are closed.



*The Commemoration of
Atatürk, Youth and Sports
Day
is annually celebrated in
Turkey on May 19.*



What Do People Do?

In the run-up to the May 19 celebrations, young Turkish athletes carry the national flag from Samsun, a Black Sea port from where Mustafa Kemal Atatürk started Turkey's War of Independence in 1919, to Ankara, the country's capital.

The marathon usually takes about 10 days. The Turkish president accepts the flag at a ceremony on May 19.

Various sports events take place on May 19 throughout Turkey. Many people celebrate this day by watching athletes perform at their local stadiums or by participating in sports events that are open to the public, such as halfmarathons.

Many Turks also observe May 19th as Atatürk's birthday. Although the exact date of his birth is not known, Atatürk used to say he was born on May 19th (referring to his political career). Many people lay wreaths to Atatürk's monuments and hang Turkish flags outside their windows.

Public Life

The Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day is an official holiday in Turkey. All administration buildings, post offices,

schools, and most businesses are closed on this day. Public transport routes may vary in the event of marathons and similar events.

Background

The founder of the Turkish Republic, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, arrived in Samsun on May 19, 1919, to start a popular uprising against the decision of the World War I allies to divide many territories of the defeated Ottoman Empire. Turkey presently accepts the date of Atatürk's arrival in Samsun as the starting date of the Turkish War of Independence. Following Atatürk's wish, the Turkish government declared May 19 to be Youth and Sports Day and made it an official holiday in 1938. The day received its present name, the "Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day", in 1981, which became the 100th anniversary of Atatürk's birth.



The First of May in Czech Republic



The first day of May is in the Czech Republic Labour day and at the same time, it's a holiday for lovers named lover's day. We have a free day so we took our partner to trip. It could be a cultural trip like go and see some castle or museum. If they like nature, we can make a trip to nature. For example, we can go camping. There's one special thing about this day. We kiss our partner under the tree of love. This day is all about your preferences, and if you like more cultural things, for you is here the day before.

On the thirtieth of April, we are burning witches on the wooden border. It's the tradition of our country and it's very popular. This burning must be under cover of volunteer firefighters, but it's really fun. You can eat grilled meat or Czech classic sausages. A lot of people are costumed like witches or they have a spider web drawn on their faces. There are lots of competitions made for little children

like slalom with the broom between their legs. If you like romantic moments with your love, take her on the first of May on a walk to nature, find a cherry tree and kiss her. It would be beautiful and she will be pleased. 1st May is a little bit like Valentine's day, but not so advertised... It's more beautiful because the first of May is the day of love.





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