



SIBIU/HERMANNSTADT EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2007 PROGRAMME

**The nomination of Sibiu /
Hermannstadt as European Capital
of Culture 2007**

The city of Sibiu was nominated European Capital of Culture 2007 by the European Council's Decision 2004-654-CE, Art. 2, May 27th 2004.

On May the 19th, the Government of Romania established the project as a national priority.

A priority for the Romanian Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs



Sibiu – European Capital of Culture 2007 programme is the most important cultural project ever organized in Romania: dimensions, duration and public communication impact. In this regard, the Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs proposed to the Romanian Government decided the setting up of an operational structure that shall assure the promotion, the planning and the support for the cultural and other related activities in Sibiu, for 2007.

The Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs provides the selection framework for the projects proposed by organizations, institutions and other cultural operators, through the instituted mechanisms and the procedures, in a competitive evaluation.

After the first project selection (some 250 projects submitted, 32 projects selected, 65 projects in evaluation for selection) a new public call for project followed end 2005 with over 150 projects submitted.

Finally the cultural calendar will comprise some 200 projects to be performed, with an opening event on the New Years Eve 2007.



In order to achieve the cultural objectives of 2007, it is necessary to achieve related goals, regarding the restoration of city's monuments, the public communication and the cultural and the urban infrastructure. The Romanian Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs budget for 2005 allocated 2 millions euros for the Sibiu 2007 Program, whereas the budget for 2006 provides some 8,5 million Euros, out of which 6 million will be spent on restoration of the city's historic facades.

By extending the action area of both the central and the local public authorities involved to the rehabilitation of the physical and cultural infrastructure of the town and the county, the program "Sibiu – European Capital of Culture 2007" transcends the dimensions of a strictly cultural project. The rehabilitation of the airport (11 Mil. Euros grant by the Government) and the improvement of the town infrastructure (6 Mil. Euros from the central budget) proves both the scale and the extent of the preparations and the national commitment to the program.



A partnership with Luxemburg and the Grand Region European Capital of Culture 2007

A consistent number of projects are to be implemented on a Luxemburg - Sibiu partnership basis.

National Support On May 19th 2005 the Government of Romania decided that *Sibiu, Cultural Capital of Europe 2007* is a programme of national interest. The president of Romania, HE Mr. Traian Basescu granted his aegis to the project on June the 16th 2005.

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