



*Presentation by Maria Gurscaia:*



International cooperations for improvement of MD Rangers' competences  
and advocating for legalizing Ranger profession in MD



# Maria Gurscaia



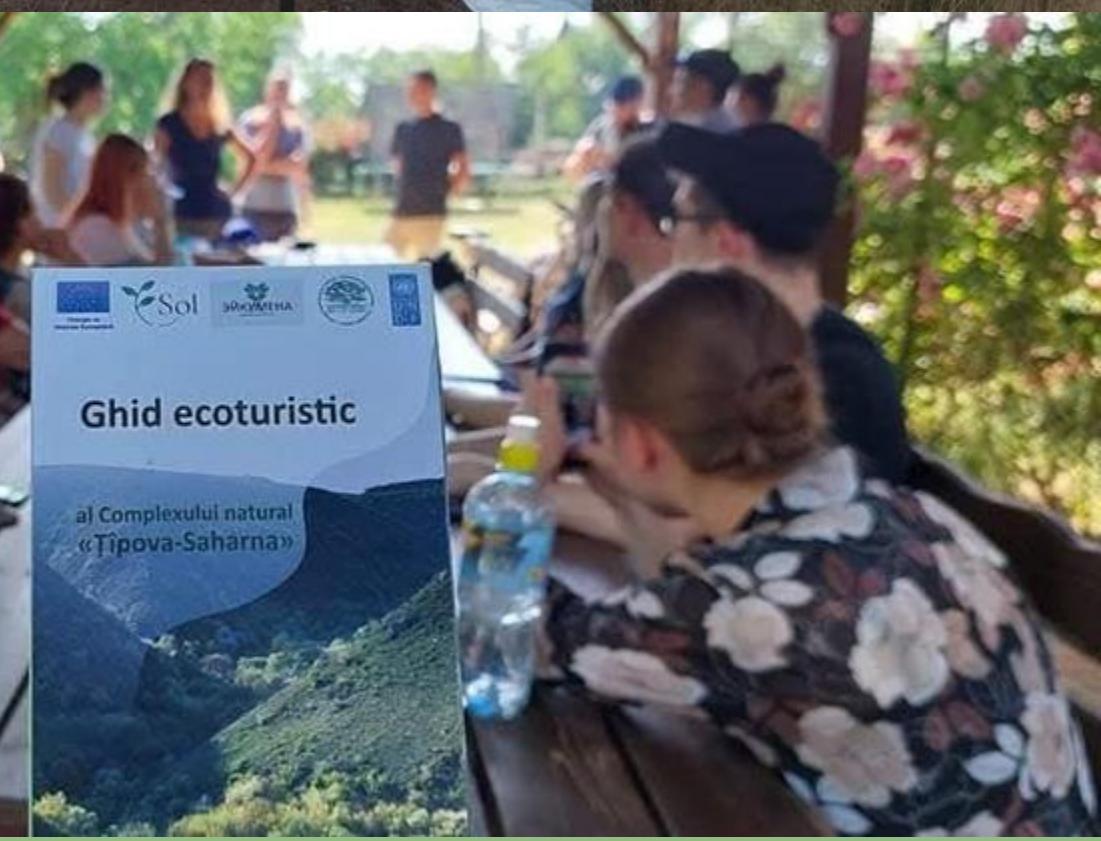
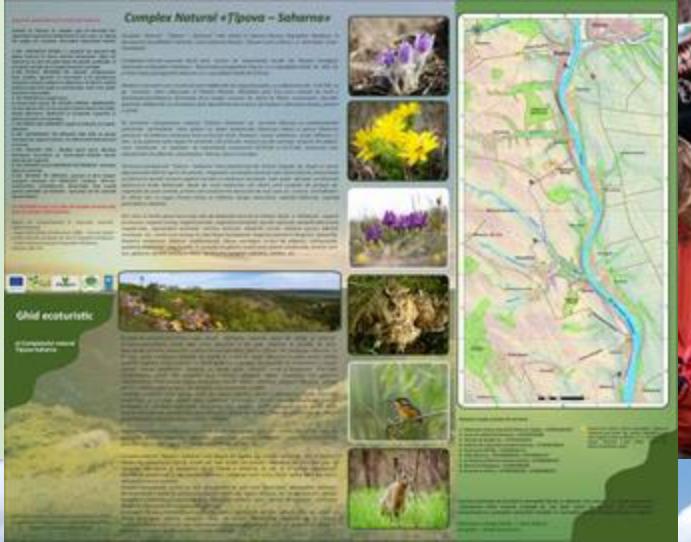
Studied **Social & Cultural Anthropology**

Lives in Tipova and administers the local NGO  
“Center for Local Development “SOL”

Project Coordinator of **MD Ranger Association** - P.A. Environmental Volunteer Inspectors “Rangers” - and its **Speaker to ERF and IRF (and International Twinnings)**

**Secretary of the European Ranger Federation (ERF)**

ERF Coordinator for **European Female Rangers Network**



# Various activities of insp. volunteers in Lower Dniester





**2022-2023** - initiation of a common MD-CZ project (Biotica & Arnika) to develop a **network of Environmental Volunteer Inspectors (Rangers)** in Moldova  
→ basing on large Czech experience!



- **2023** - a new **National Ranger Association (NGO)** is established in **Moldova** (as a result of Moldavian-Czech joint project within Transition Program by CZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

*Most of volunteer rangers - from the new Lower Dniester National Park!*

- **2024** spring - first ERF Training attendance, in **August 2024** - membership in **ERF** (European Ranger Federation) **and IRF** (International Ranger Federation)



**Second ERF training  
2024 where 3 Volunteer  
Rangers and 1 official  
Inspector took part**

—> importance of  
professionalisation for  
Volunteers!

—> importance of  
strengthening cooperation  
with Inspectorate and  
support in their needs





# World Ranger Congress

October 2024, France



**First time** the Republic of Moldova is presented in the International Ranger Community!



## Ceremony Twinning MD & RO World Ranger Congress '24





# Twinning Projects / Partnerships

- Exchanges
- Skill transfer
- Equipment transfer
- Financial support
- Trainings/Workshops



European Ranger Federation, News and Insights



Twinning Project Germany-Israel



Partnership Germany-El Salvador





## MD-RO Twinning Partnership (first plan):



- Orga support
- Legislative expertise (especially on **bringing Ranger profession into the Classifier of occupations in the Republic of Moldova!**)
- Exchanges between RO and MD rangers (internships in RO Protected Areas, common Junior Ranger Program, joint trainings)
- Help with European Ranger Congress attendance



## MD-RO Twinning Partnership (first results!)



**Ranger Course** by  
Propark Romania  
(by Erika Vaida-  
Bela) ->

**5 months of  
blended-learning  
program** with team  
of best trainers ->

**18 RO + 2 MD**  
Rangers get the  
certification as  
rangers by  
Romanian Ministry



# Workshop by Michael Grossmann in Moldova, May 2025: NRA Strategy + Fundraising & Image



Joint development of  
**MD NRA Strategy**  
with the guidance  
from Michael and his  
overview on the  
global nature  
conservation &  
Ranger agenda

4th Workshop by  
ERF in Moldova  
(support young  
National Ranger  
Associations)

+ several Workshops  
by Czech and Slovak  
rangers (by Arnika)  
before



## Challenges and Strategic directions:



**Legislation and Rangers-Volunteers**  
**Legal Statutes** (more juridical power for VR)

**Image and Public Awareness of Moldavian NRA**  
Bringing the termin ad explanation of “Ranger” to Moldavian society consciousness, need in a common uniform – for better identification and perception of VR

**Communication with local communities**

**Environmental education & Junior Ranger Program**

**Monitoring & Patrolling Competences**

Development of a **Basic Ranger Training** for Rangers in Moldova (professionalisation!)



## Importance of Image and Communication work on different levels (also for fundraising)





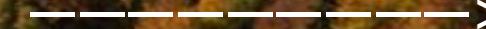
EUROPEAN  
RANGER CONGRESS  
2025 • Romania



ASOCIAȚIA  
RANGERILOR  
DIN ROMÂNIA  
IN SERVICIU NATURII



*Rangers - the Voice of Nature:  
Building a Bridge  
between Local Communities  
and Nature Conservation*





# Signing MD-CZ Sponsorship (Partnership) Agreement at the 6th European Ranger Congress (MD NRA + CZ NRA + Arnika)

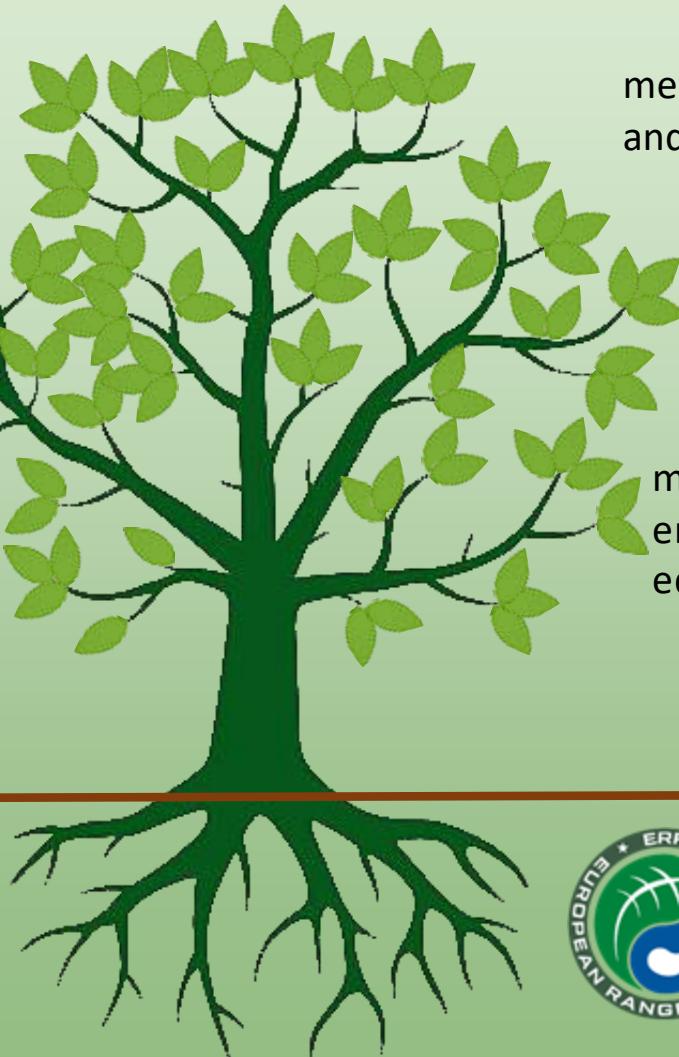




# Accomplishments of the international exchange

learn english & communication

strengthen common goals in nature protection



methods of Rangering and nature conservation

cross border focus expansion

methods of environmental education





## Why Cooperation, why Twinning?



- Intensive **professional exchange**
- **Networking** of the rangers (International Workgroup Female Rangers)
- Joint **training programmes** (Integration Local Populations...)
- Generation of **joint projects**
- Learning on eye-level (from Ranger to Ranger)
- **Integration of local populations** / work for acceptance
- Improvement of the **image** (mutual support and joint initiatives)



... and other will follow!

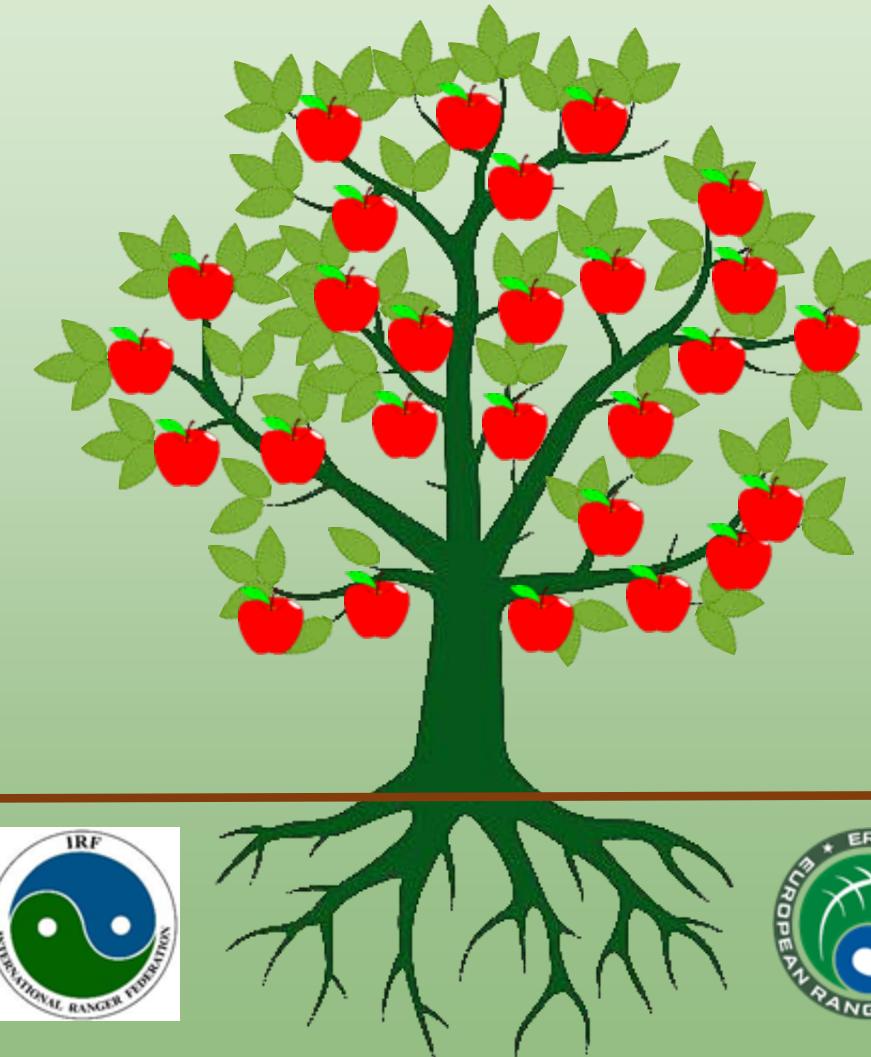


... and more fruits to come...



### Realised common Trainings

- managing large carnivores
- anti-poaching
- communication in nature conservation
- Junior Rangers Programs
- europewide trainings “wolves and livestock protection”
- bird migration
- ....





# Internship of MD Volunteer Rangers in Krkonose National Park (KRNAP), CZ December 1-7, 2025





# Results for 2.5 years:



From 11 to 36 volunteer rangers (2023-2025)

33 male and 3 female rangers

Legitimation card for 3 years (not 1)

Improving financial position (fundraising!)  
- for trainings, equipment, etc.

Signing the 2 Twinning Agreements - between MD and CZ, MD and RO

Attending International internships and trainings

Discussion of including category of “Rangers” into new Moldavian environmental legislation!

Application for a first international project where MD NRA is supposed to be a partner (together with Arnika and Biotica)

