

Presentation by Maria Gurscaia:



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



Maria Gurscaia



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“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



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 term and 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



***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



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learn english &
communication

methods of Rangering
and nature conservation

cross border focus
expansion

strengthen
common goals in
nature protection

methods of
environmental
education



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Liss





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!

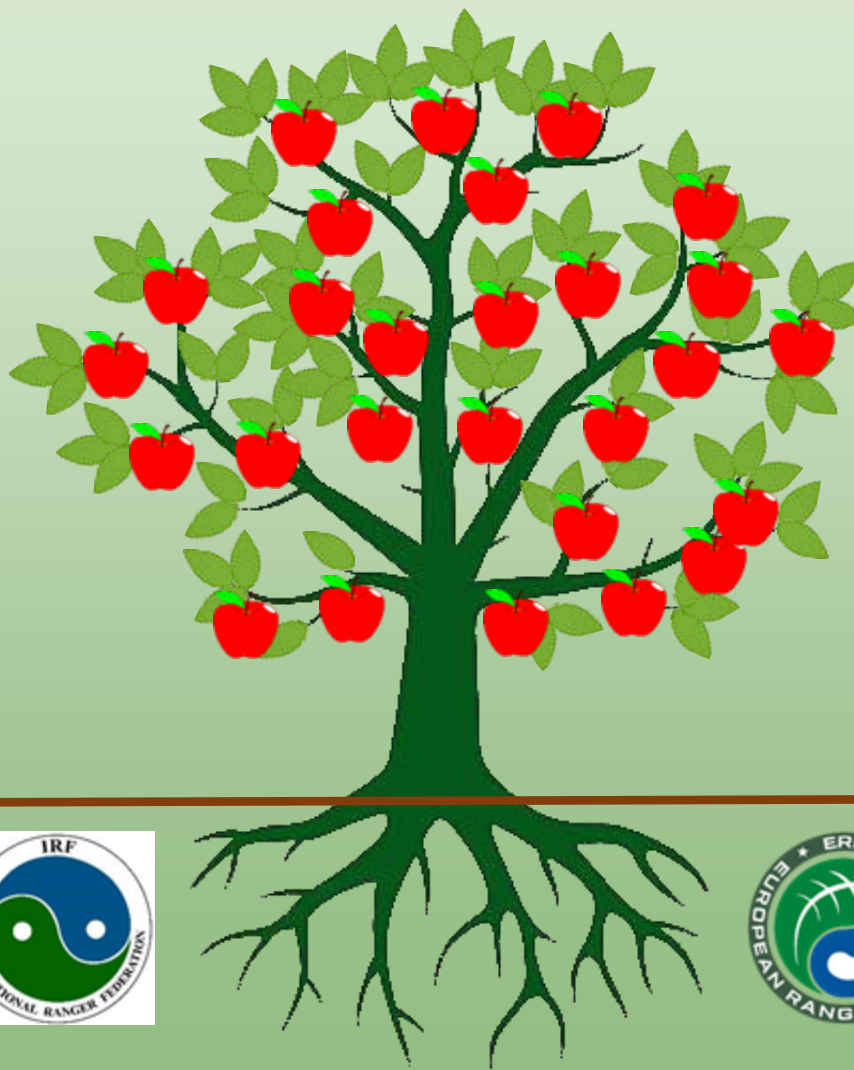


... and more fruits to come...



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)