

CultMin Romascanu: Gov't modifies GO No. 51 on multiannual cultural financing and setting up of non-reimbursable funds register

The Government has modified the Government Ordinance No. 51/1998 on the financing of cultural projects, in order to have multiannual cultural financing, as well as the possibility of setting up the non-reimbursable funds register in the field of culture, the Minister of Culture, Lucian Romascanu, states on Thursday.

Today, we have approved the emergency ordinance modifying the Government Ordinance No. 51 on the financing of cultural projects and GEO No. 42 on "Timisoara - European Capital of Culture 2023." There are a couple of significant changes in both cases. In what concerns the Ordinance No. 51, we have redefined some terms regarding the financing of cultural events and proposed some measures so that we can have multi-annual cultural funding and predictable funding for cultural projects through state aid schemes and de minimis schemes. At the same time, we have now the possibility of setting up the non-reimbursable funds register in the field of culture. This will be a national database that will allow us to monitor the funds, the implementation of the projects and to have concrete data at the end of every year or as often as we need them regarding the cultural phenomenon in Romania," Lucian Romascanu told a press conference held at the Victoria Palace on Thursday.

The Minister of Culture also referred to the modification brought, by the same emergency ordinance, to GEO no. 42/2019 on the establishment of financial measures to support the development of the national cultural programme "Timisoara - European Capital of Culture in 2023."

"Regarding GEO 42, it has been modified in the sense of clearly establishing responsibilities for the three main players, namely the Ministry of Culture, the County Council and the Timisoara City Hall, as well as what the Timisoara Cultural Capital Association should do. It is very important that, at this point, the Ministry of Culture has the role of supporting and approving the projects that are being carried out, and the cultural projects that are being financed from the Government. For everything else, the entire responsibility rests with the City Hall and the County Council, both in terms of the implementation of the cultural projects and for the development of the investment programme necessary for the good development of the programme," Romascanu explained.