**The Institute of Cultural Heritage has summed up its activities for 2015**

On January 21 2016, the Institute of Cultural Heritage has summed up its scientific and innovative activity for 2015 within the sitting of Humanities and Arts Department of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova. The ICH Director, Victor Ghilas, dr. habilitat presented a brief report on the activities of the Institute, which consists of three centres: Archaeology Centre, Ethnology Centre and Study of Arts Centre.

The coordinator of the Department, Victor Tvircun, dr. habilitat, moderated the sitting of Humanities and Arts Department The President of the Academy of Sciences, Academician Gheorghe Duca, the prime vice-president of the Academy, Academician Ion Tighineanu, vice-president of the Academy, member correspondent Ion Guceac participated in the meeting.

Mr. Ghilas mentioned that the 81 full-time scientific researchers, out of whom 45 hold the PhD degree and 9 doctor habilitat degree and 25 are young researchers under the age of 35 (25 %), have conducted in 2015 fundamental scientific research within three institutional projects: *Cultural Structures and Interferences in the East Carpathian Space since Ancient Times to the Modern Era* (project director O. Levitki, dr.hab.); *European Cultural Interferences in the Art of the Republic of Moldova. History and Theory of Art Studies* (project director T. Stavila, dr.hab.); *Pluri-dimensional Enhancement of the Ethno-cultural Patrimony as Factor for the Harmonization and Development of the Moldovan Society* (project director S. Procop). The project for the young researchers *Research of Lozova Christian Necropolis from the period of the Establishment of the Moldovan State* (2014 -2015) (project director Ion Ursu, PhD) and the project *Safeguarding the Immaterial Patrimony of the Roma from the Republic of Moldova threatened by the volatilization of individual unexplored collections* (project director Ion Duminica, PhD) were completed.

We remind that the main beneficiaries of the research results are the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Moldova, the Tourism Agency, the National Archaeological Agency, the Agency for Inspection and Restoration of Monuments, the Bureau of Interethnic Relations, pre-university educational institutions (gymnasiums, lyceums, colleges), universities (Moldova State University, State Pedagogical University named after “I.Creanga”, the Academy of Music, Theatre and Fine Arts, the universities from Balti, Comrat, Tiraspol), the local public administration, the creation unions (the Union of Artists, the Union of Composers and Musicologists, the Union of Musicians, the Association of Ethnologists, etc.), NGOs and public associations, with which we work together at different levels to protect the country’s cultural and artistic heritage, etc.

The researchers started the New Year with great achievements that characterize the activity within projects. Thus, the three journals founded by the Institute were published, and namely “Archaeological Journal”, “Ethnology and Culturology Journal” (volumes XVII-XVIII), the magazine “ARTA” (visual arts and audio-visual series). Also, eight monographic studies were published by national publishing houses, two national collections, including the Summaries of the communications of the international conference “Current Issues of Archaeology, Ethnology and the Study of Arts” (Chisinau, 26-28 May 2015), which is now at its VII edition. One dictionary, 3 textbooks, 112 articles in journals of category B, 1 article in journal of category A and 17 articles in journals of category C were published. Thirty-three articles were published in foreign journals, 28 materials in international collections, 58 presentations at international conferences and 137 conference summaries/theses. The results of the researches were discussed and presented at 103 national scientific meetings and 180 international fora. In total, the researchers of the Institute of Cultural heritage published 581 articles, in this way, the share of each researcher is of about 5.01 scientific publications. The results of the researches were promoted in 166 radio and TV broadcasts and published in 53 articles of science popularization.

Among the most relevant achievements, we mention the monographic studies made by the ICH researchers and namely: Valentin Dergaciov and Olga Larina**. *Памятники культуры Криш Молдовы (с каталогом) (Monuments of Criș culture (with a catalogue)*** (Ch.: Tipografia Centrală, 2015, 500 p.). The study integrates the whole picture of the evolution of Neolithic communities between the Prut and the Nistru. Victor Ghilas in his monograph ***Dimitrie Cantemir the Musician in the Context of World Culture*** (Ch.: Grafema Libris, 2015, 496 p.),carried out a comprehensive study of the little known and investigated Dimitrie Cantemir’s musical heritage. In his work ***Българските преселници в Бесарабия в края на XVIII - първата половина на XIX в. в историографията***(Ch.: Societatea Ştiinţifică a Bulgariştilor, 2015, 444 p.)Ivan Duminica recovers the Bulgarian ethno-cultural heritage.

By means of the bilingual monograph ***Ritualurile calendaristice ale găgăuzilor: studiu etnolingvistic = Gagauzların kalendar adetleri: etnolingvistika aaraştırması*** (Ch.: Gunivas, 2015. 258 p.) Evdochia Soroceanu conducted for the first time a complex research of the Gagauz calendar customs introducing into circuit the terms that reflect them. In collaboration with Tatiana Sarsov, the same author published the dictionary ***Lingvistika Terminneri Danışma Sözlüü: gagauzça-rusça-romınca* / *Pусско-гагаузско-румынский словарь-справочник лингвистических терминов* / *Dicţionar-îndrumar de termeni lingvistici: român-rus-găgăuz*** (Сh.: CEP USM, 2015, 312 p.).. The dictionary includes linguistic terms of the Gagauz, Russian and Romanian languages. The terms of the Gagauz language having been standardized for the newly created written language. We mention the applicative value of the dictionary, which being published in 10,000 copies reached all the libraries and schools from the Gagauz villages.

In 2015, the ICH organized 16 scientific events (conferences, roundtables, book launches), most significant being the international scientific forums: the annual Scientific Conference of the ICH “Current Issues of Archaeology, Ethnology and the Study of Arts”, VII edition (May 26-28, 2015), *the first Moldavian-Hungarian Archaeological Round Table on the Early Medieval Ages in East Europe* (Chisinau, 10 June 2015), the international conference „2015 Gypsy Lore Society Annual Meeting and Conference on Romani Studies” (10-12 September) and the international symposium „The Monument. Tradition and Future”, XVII edition (Iasi-Chisinau-Cernauti, 2-4 October 2015). The works of the Symposium took place on October 2 at the Academy of Science from Moldova.

As for the relations with higher educational institutions and the Doctoral School, we point out that the Institute of Cultural Heritage is a member of the UnAȘM consortium. Twenty-six doctoral students and one postdoctoral student are studying at the Institute. Five doctoral students completed the doctoral study program in 2015. Two PhD theses were defended, specialty 612.01 – *Ethnology* (Natalia Gradinaru, Ludmila Moisei). One PhD thesis in History, which was defended in Bulgaria in 2014 (Ivan Duminica) was confirmed. In 2015, five students were enrolled in doctoral studies (specialties Ethnology, Archaeology, Musical Art) and one postdoctoral student (Theory and History of Architecture). The researchers of ICH developed/taught 25 courses at Moldova State University, Comrat University, Moldova Technical University, State pedagogical University “I. Creanga”, the Academy of Economic Studies, etc. A title of associate professor-researcher was conferred (L.Pirnau), five persons were empowered with the right to be adviser/consultant of doctoral thesis (A.-M. Plămădeală, L. Toma, V. Vornic, A. Ghilas, L. Condraticova).

In 2015 for outstanding merits, the researchers of the Institute of Cultural Heritage obtained: the award of the Academy of Sciences *Valuable Scientific Achievements* (dr. hab. A.-M. Plămădeală, D. Olărescu, V. Tipa)*,* the award of the Academy of Sciences *Valuable Scientific Achievements of Young Researchers* (I. Ursu), the National Award (A.-M. Plămădeală, V. Tipa, L. Toma), the medal “Dmitire Cantemir” (E. Koroliova), Diploma of Gratitude of the ASM (V. Ghilaș, V. Tipa, D. Olărescu, S. Procop), Diploma of Honour of ASM (L. Condraticova), Diploma of Merit (S. Agulnicov), Diploma of ASM (A. Ceastina), the Award for art criticism of the Union of Artists (T. Stavilă), the Municipal Youth Prize in Science (Ethnology) (Ivan Duminica), CNAA Diploma (V. Tipa), the distinction „Паисий Хилендарский” of the Academy of State for the Bulgarians worldwide for the promotion of the history and culture of the Bulgarian people (N. Cara), Laureate of the newspaper “Literatura si Arta” for the year 2015 (D. Olărescu, M. Șlapac) and Laureate of the Ministry of Culture Award „Stefan Ciobanu” (T. Stavilă).

In 2015, the researchers of the Institute responded to the requests of the Government of the Republic of Moldova, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Education, the parliamentary commissions, the Tourism Agency, the local public authorities, the National Commission of Heraldry by writing about 72 opinions and recommendations.

In 2015 in order to jointly organize and conduct international scientific events, to exchange scientific publications and internships of researchers, 10 cooperation agreements were signed between the ICH and the National Museum Complex “Moldova” (Iasi, Romania), the Institute of Archaeology “Vasile Parvan”, the Romanian Academy (Bucharest, Romania), the Ethnography Museum (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation), the Institute of History and Theory of Arts “George Oprescu”, the Romanian Academy (Bucharest, Romania), the faculty of History of the University of Bucharest (Romania), the University from Melitopol, Ukraine, etc.

Stepping into a new year of research, we have outlined a number of research objectives and directions among which are: the strengthening and coordination of efforts for a smooth conduct and realization of institutional research projects for the period 2015-2018 with a focus on meeting the set objectives at national level through “Development Strategy of Research and Innovation 2020: Moldova Knowledge”; harnessing of new opportunities offered by the European framework-programmes “Horizon 2020” and “Creative Europe”; monitoring the research in the scientific research subdivisions (Archaeology, Ethnology, the Study of Arts), tracking the interim results for the purpose of quality control, identification of performance, establishing the scope of application (research-development, culture, education, other professional activities in the field of national cultural heritage), ways of exploring; further promotion of scientific excellence among researchers; ensuring an optimum framework for effective human resource development at the level of institutional research structures (through doctoral and postdoctoral studies); improvement of the managerial capacity of the administrative staff that are in decision-making positions through the promotion of modern management knowledge and tools; permanently keeping under control and checking the efficient use by researchers of the working hours, involvement of each employee in the timely, competitive and qualitative fulfilment of the entrusted tasks; increasing the visibility of the research and of the obtained results through their promotion in the media, the webpage and the website of the institution, etc.