

IMPROVING THE REGIONAL STRATEGIES REGARDING THE ROMANIAN CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

Irina AIRINEI VASILE*

ABSTRACT: *As shown in the Presidential Architecture Commission's Report for 2009, Romania's natural and man-made heritage is in a permanent state of destructive aggression. Disappearance of national heritage due to negligence or destruction is becoming a more frequent phenomenon and reflects a process contrary to sustainable development. Protected areas and historic city centers are under attack by real estate speculation and poorly planned short-term development projects. Decentralization of responsibilities to local authorities was made without providing adequate measures and tools for heritage protection under the law. A major lack of legislative coverage allows circumvention of the law in many cases, interpretation of the law in bad faith, abusive or incompetent application of the law, encouraging abuse and illegality.*

The main purpose of this research is to provide detailed information about the "Regional Cultural Project" for local and regional decision-makers to be used in the process of local economic development planning. This concept successfully employed by the public authorities throughout Europe, is completely unknown in Romania. In Romanian public administration schools, the curriculum does not comprise disciplines such as "cultural heritage law" and it fails to offer interdisciplinary perspectives towards the study of territorial cultural heritage.

KEYWORDS: *cultural heritage, destruction, Regional Cultural Project, shortcomings of higher education*

JEL CLASSIFICATION: *K 00, K 23*