



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR  
THE STUDY OF THE SECURITATE



EDUCATION, AUDIOVISUAL AND  
CULTURE EXECUTIVE AGENCY  
(EACEA – BRUSSELS)

## PROJECT

### LEARNING HISTORY THROUGH PAST EXPERIENCES: *Ordinary Citizens under the Surveillance of Securitate During the 1970s-1980s*

#### ‘EUROPE FOR CITIZENS’ PROGRAMME 2007-2013

Europe for citizens: Promotion of Active European Citizenship  
Action 4 ‘Active European Remembrance’

**The National Council for the Study of the Securitate Archives** is the authority that administrates the archives of the former communist secret services in Romania and develops educational programs and exhibitions with the aim of preserving the memories of victims of the communist regime.

At international level, it is part of the network which comprises other six institutions (Bulgaria - COMDOS, Czech Republic - USTR, Germany - BStU, Poland - IPN, Slovakia - UPN, Hungary - ABTL), trying to facilitate the access to the documents from the archives of former secret services to the citizens who were „under surveillance” in many communist countries.

In 2008, CNSAS initiated the project *Learning History through Past Experiences: Ordinary Citizens under the Surveillance of Securitate during the 1970s-1980s*, co-financed by European Union (E.A.C.E.A.) through the Programme „Europe for citizens” 2007-2013.

The main aim of the of this project is to bring into light the ordinary people experiences surveilled by *Securitate* between 1970-1980, in order to emphasize on the Securitate methods of surveillance and control, but also the way these people recall those memories.

The partners involved in this project are the Faculty of History and Philosophy, the University Babeş-Bolyai from Cluj-Napoca and the Office of the Federal Commissioner (BStU) from Berlin.

## **The outcomes of the project are:**

### ➤ **the documentary film “UNDER THE *SECURITATE* SURVEILLANCE DURING THE 1970S-1980S”**

The movie illustrates mainly through the lens of memory of those placed under surveillance but also with the help of the personal files drawn up by the *Securitate* how ordinary people were monitored and scrutinized by this repressive institution during the 1970s-1980s.

The characters of this movie are the *Securitate* and the ordinary people.

The screen-play is written by recalling the people memories and by using the ex-*Securitate* archive.

The direction is influenced by the superposition of the images from the written past and of those from the present of memories.

The sound belongs to history.

The editing, also.

Thus, fifteen life stories let us know about the “specific ways” in which *Securitate* involved itself in the life of the people: the listening of the private calls, the confiscation of correspondence, the placing of microphones in private homes, the surveillance.

The result is wanted to be a contribution to a deeper and shaded past which seems not to have an end.

#### **The group who contributed at the movie realizing:**

**Direction:** NICOLAE MĂRGINEANU

**Documentation, Interviews and Screenplay:** CRISTINA ANISESCU, VIRGILIU ȚĂRĂU, DENISA BODEANU, LIVIU BURLACU, DANIELA IAMANDI, CIPRIANA MOISA, ADELINA ȘTEFAN, NICOLAE MĂRGINEANU, NITA CHIVULESCU

**Commentary:** VIRGILIU ȚĂRĂU

**Sound assistant:** OCTAVIAN MIREA

**Mixed by:** NICOLAE MĂRGINEANU jr.

**Editing:** NITA CHIVULESCU

**Music:** PETRU MĂRGINEANU

**Camera:** BOGDAN SILVESTRU

**Production:** AGER FILM

#### **With the help of the NATIONAL MOVIE ARCHIVE**

- **an educational book with the title: “Learning History through Past Experiences: *Ordinary Citizens under the Surveillance of Securitate during the 1970s-1980s*”.** The book makes an overview on *Securitate* mechanisms of functioning during the 1970s-1980s and their impact on the everyday life of ordinary citizens. The book will have an educational aim and will contain selected fragments resulted from the oral history interviews and archives files that are accompanied by short tasks.
- The documentary and the educational reader will be disseminated in September 2009 within four workshops which are to be organized in Bucharest, Iași, Cluj-Napoca and Berlin.

Both the movie and the educational reader intend to encourage intercultural and intergeneration interactions concerning the history of the communist regime from Romania and the European countries with similar totalitarian experiences.