

Ioana Otilia Baskerville
PhD, Senior Researcher
Romanian Academy,
Iași Branch

ioana.baskerville@acadiasi.ro
2 Th. Codrescu, 700481, Iași, Romania
<https://acadiasi.org/>

EDUCATION

2010:
PhD in Linguistics and Ethnology
(*Magna cum laude*)

Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, Romania
Doctoral School of Philological Studies
"The Poetics of Romanian Magical Texts"
- linguistic and textual analysis of Romanian magical texts
- comparative studies of European magical traditions and ritual practices
- comparative analysis of textual structures and patterns
- historical analysis of witchcraft, medieval and modern magic, religious imagery

2007:
Masters' degree in Philological Studies
History of literature and cultural hermeneutics
(*Valedictorian*)

Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, Romania
Faculty of Letters
- text interpretation theories
- philosophical and cultural hermeneutics
- world literature, comparative literature, European literatures
- European ethnology

2005:
Bachelor's degree in Romanian language and literature & French language and literature
(*Valedictorian*)

Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, Romania
Faculty of Letters
- general linguistics
- comparative linguistics
- history of Romanian and French languages
- comparative Romance languages
- philosophy of language
- theatre studies, aesthetics, philosophy of art
- cultural anthropology
- comparative mythology

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**2006 – onwards:
Researcher in Ethnology**

**Romanian Academy – Iasi Branch
Alexandru Philippide Institute of Romanian Philology
Department of Ethnology**

Since 2020: department chair and member of the Scientific Council of the Institute: developing the department's strategy and managing research projects

- organize national and international conferences
- custodian of the Folklore Archive of Moldavia and Bucovina
- coordinator of the digitization of the Archive, overseeing the conversion of 300,000 paper, photo, and audio documents from analog to digital storage
- archival research, fieldwork research
- research in Romanian and European ethnology, ethnography, cultural anthropology
- Conducting the individual project "Rituals and folk beliefs within the winter holidays in Romania. Typology, texts, documents"

**2020-onwards:
Associate professor of
Cultural anthropology**

Faculty of Letters, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, Romania

- fieldwork methodology in cultural and social anthropology
- history of anthropological methodology
- visual anthropology
- critical intangible cultural heritage studies
- supervising students' fieldwork individual and team projects

**2025-2027
President of the National
Commission for ICH
Safeguarding of Romania**

Ministry of Culture of Romania

Responsibilities:

- Coordinated the drafting and periodic updating of the National Strategy for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage
- Providing expert advice to government institutions and lawmakers on policies and legislation related to ICH safeguarding
- Fostering collaboration with national and international partners, including cultural institutions, research bodies, and UNESCO-related organizations.

**2025-2028
Coordinator and project
manager
Erasmus+ Project
„From community-based
intangible cultural heritage
to social entrepreneurship.
VET programme in
craftsmanship within the
Neighborhood East
(Moldova and Ukraine)“**

Funded by the European Commission

- consortium of 9 partners (Romania, Spain, Portugal, Ukraine, Moldova)
- Strengthening the capacities of Vocational Education and Training (VET) institutions in Moldova and Ukraine within the crafts sector
- Developing innovative digital teaching materials tailored to the needs of VET providers
- Designing business development solutions that enhance economic opportunities and foster social resilience

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting intercultural collaboration and knowledge exchange among VET institutions, research centers, SMEs, and NGOs from EU Member States and Eastern Neighborhood countries. - Supporting policy dialogue and institutional cooperation between educational, cultural, and economic stakeholders to reinforce the role of crafts in sustainable regional development.
2024-2027 Expert in ESD & Carpathian pastoralism	<p>Project "Carpathian Education for Sustainable Development (ESD): Strengthening the ESD network in the Carpathian Convention via science-policy practice interface" (project number 154791), implemented by the Carpathian Convention of the United Nations, financed by the German Environmental Agency (UBA) (Linking biodiversity, pastoralism and cultural heritage in the Carpathians through Education for Sustainable Development Umweltbundesamt)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing expertise and consultancy on Carpathian pastoralism as intangible cultural heritage, UNESCO 2003 Convention safeguarding strategies
2024-2025 Advisor in multicultural pastoralism	<p>Project "Concevoir des contenus linguistiques et pédagogiques à l'aide des outils de l'intelligence artificielle (IA) dans le domaine de la médecine vétérinaire (LANGVET-IA)", coordinated by the University for Life Sciences "Ion Ionescu de la Brad", Iași (Romania), financed by the International Agency of Francophony</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advising in using digital linguistic tools for multinational projects in animal husbandry
2024-2025 Expert in agricultural ICH & virtual museology	<p>Project "At the cultural mill – virtual museum, ethno-agrarian hub", implemented by Spicul Pan SRL, Rural Research Development Platform, financed by the Ministry of Culture of Romania, through The Agency for the National Cultural Fund</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inventorying community-based agricultural ICH - Developing a virtual agricultural museum
2025-2026 Expert in agricultural cultural heritage	<p>Project "The Traditional Agroecological System of Knowledge and Practices for Cultivating Traditional Vegetables in the Târgu Frumos Area: An Interactive Digital Atlas for Future Generations", financed by the Ministry of Culture of Romania</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inventorying community-based agricultural ICH - Drafting a safeguarding plan for the vegetables growing practices and a file for inscribing this ICH into the National Inventory of ICH

**July 2024:
Trainee in ICH learning
platform**

- Trainee of the pilot training on the UNESCO learning platform for safeguarding living heritage for sustainable development and peace, using Online Learning Management System
- developed in partnership with the International Training Centre of the ILO (ITCILO)

**2024
Facilitator at capacity-
building workshops in ICH
safeguarding**

June 2024: "**The involvement of local communities in the planning and implementation of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in the Republic of Moldova**", organized by the National Museum of Ethnography and Natural History, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, funded by the Regional Category 2 Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Southeastern Europe in Sofia

November 2024: "**Leveraging community-based sustainable development through living heritage: three safeguarding approaches under the framework of the 2003 Convention**", organized by The Ministry of Culture of Romania and the National Museum of the Romanian Peasant in Bucharest, funded by the Regional Category 2 Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Southeastern Europe in Sofia

**2021-2023:
Project manager**

Erasmus+ Project “iINTANGIBLE: Digitizing Intangible Cultural Heritage amidst the Digital Shift” (KA220-VET - Cooperation partnerships in vocational education and training, funded by the EU & the European Commission)

- mapping ICH digitalization projects in the world
- developing training materials and an e-learning platform for professionals in the field of digitizing ICH
- coordinator and main author of a handbook on ICH digitalization (with cases studies from Romania, Croatia, Greece, Cyprus): Ioana Baskerville (coord.), *iINTANGIBLE: Handbook for professionals*, Iași, Editura Palatului Culturii, 2023, 160 p.
- trainer in a capacity-building workshop on ICH digitalization (Iasi, Romania, April 2023)

**April 2023:
Expert**

Participant at the **Category VI expert meeting in the framework of the reflection for a broader implementation of Article 18 of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage** in Stockholm (19-21 April), organized by Living Heritage Entity and the Ministry of Culture of Sweeden

<p>July 2023: National representative</p>	<p>Open-ended intergovernmental working group in the framework of the reflection on a broader implementation of Article 18 of the UNESCO 2003 Convention</p>
<p>2022: Project manager for Romania</p>	<p>UNESCO Project "Assessing the needs of living heritage safeguarding among displaced communities from Ukraine in five countries: Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia", coordinated by The Slovak Academy of Sciences, Institute of Ethnology and Social anthropology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Researching in the anthropology of forced migration - In-depth interviews with Ukrainian war refugees in Romania, participant observation of Ukrainian displaced communities
<p>2019-2023: Intangible cultural heritage expert</p>	<p>Ministry of Culture of Romania (National Commission for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, Department of Cultural Heritage, Department of International and European Affairs, National Institute of Heritage)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - since 2020: national focal point for the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage - expertise in the field of the intangible cultural heritage within national and international projects of the Ministry of Culture, such as coordinating Romanian nomination files on the 2003 UNESCO Convention's lists, moderate and organize awareness-raising events at local and national level, offering consultancy for policy drafting related to intangible cultural heritage - evaluator for national competitions of grants offered by the Ministry of Culture for the intangible cultural heritage domain - member of the Romanian UNESCO delegation at General Assemblies, Intergovernmental Committees, European and regional conferences of the 2003 Convention, international groups of experts - coordinator of the multiannual periodic report of Romania for evaluating the national and local level implementation of the UNESCO 2003 Convention - offering expertise for inter-sectoral reports and policy with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Waters, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development, The Parliament Commission for UNESCO - national coordinator and/or ICH expert of the UNESCO files for the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity:

2019-2021: "[Lipizzan horse breeding traditions](#)" (national coordinator)

- historical and archival research on Lipizzan horses
- fieldwork research on horse husbandry, ethics and animal husbandry, stud farms organization, in-depth interviews with animal husbandry scholars, horse owners, representatives of horse owners organizations in Romania and internationally, experts of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Waters, National Agency for Zootechnics,
- drafting the documentation for inscribing the Lipizzan horse tradition on the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Romania (approved in 2020)
- collaboration with the multinational team for drafting the UNESCO nomination file, facilitator of international focus groups of Lipizzan horse owners (in Croatia and Hungary)

2021-2023: "[Transhumance, the seasonal droving of livestock](#)" (national coordinator)

- drafting the semi-structured interview guide for fieldwork research in mobile pastoralism, in-depth interviews with key informants
- coordination of the national group of experts for drafting the documentation for inscribing the Carpathian Transhumance in Romania on the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage (approved in 2021)
- collaboration with the multinational team for drafting the UNESCO nomination file
- collaboration with Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Development and Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests for assessing the benefits of pastoralism on food chains and biodiversity

2023-2024: "Cobza – traditional knowledge, skills and music" (Romania and Moldova) (coordinator)

- coordination of the binational file, meetings with experts in the 2 countries
- documentation on the role of cobza playing on specific sustainable development goals

2024-2025: "Transhumance – the seasonal droving of livestock" – coordinator of the extension with 16 countries involved

2018-2021:
Postdoctoral researcher

Project “The ethno-linguistic component of identity within the context of migration: Romanian communities in western Europe” – *Migration and identity in the Romanian cultural milieu. A multidisciplinary approach* (PN-III-P1-1.2- PCCDI-2017-0116, financed by UEFISCDI - Executive Unit for the Financing of Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation in Romania)

- Research in the field of migration studies, anthropology of migration, transnational intangible cultural heritage, intercultural education, analysis of migration narratives
- Using mixed method fieldwork (life story interviews, structured and semi-structured interviews, participant observation) in Romania, Republic of Moldova and Spain

2017:
Adjunct professor

Patrick Henry College, Virginia, USA

- liberal arts program
- teaching ancient rhetoric and oratory, speech writing, debate skills

2016:
Visiting research fellow

**Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology
Jagiellonian University, Cracow, Poland, as recipient of
the “Queen Jadwiga” Scholarship**

- Researching of Romanian and Polish ethnology, Romanian-Polish shared heritage
- Teaching South-Eastern European ethnology and Romanian language to undergraduates (the course “Romanian culture – between the Carpathians and the Balkans”)

2011-2013:
Project manager

Postdoctoral project “Elements of folk religiosity within the Romanian water rituals. A socio-anthropological perspective”, financed by UEFISCDI (PN-II-RU-PD-2011-3-0220)

- Research in sociology and anthropology of religion
- Fieldwork on water rituals, traditional ecology, role of rituals on climate change mitigation
- Comparative analysis of water customs and beliefs based on extensive fieldwork on rural communities in Northern-Eastern Romanian Carpathians and on the Danube Romanian shoreline

2012: Visiting research fellow	University of Oxford School of Anthropology Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology - research in French sociology of religion, Durkheimian studies - critical research on religion
2010: Erasmus+ doctoral student	University of Jena, Germany Institute of Romance Languages - comparative Romance languages - history of Romance languages
2007-2008 Research assistant	Project "The computerized record of Romanian literature between 1900-2006. Authors" , funded by the Romanian Academy

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2023: Facilitator for the UNESCO 2003 Convention	Member of the Global Network of Facilitators - supports countries to safeguard intangible cultural heritage and harness its potential for sustainable development, while promoting broad public knowledge and support for the Convention https://ich.unesco.org/en/trainer/baskerville-ioana-otilia-04374
2023 - onwards	Representative of Romania in the Administrative Board of the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of UNESCO in Sofia (Bulgaria)
2022-onwards: Member in the Steering Committee	<u>European Network of Focal Points for the UNESCO 2003 Convention</u> - supporting exchange of good practices, organize meetings for the national experts and representatives involved in the implementation of the UNESCO 2003 Convention in Europe - co-editor of the ENFP Newsletter
2025- 2027 Member in the Board	International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF)

2023- onwards Member	<u>Association for Critical Heritage Studies</u> (ACHS)
2016-onwards Member	Association of Ethnological Sciences in Romania (ASER)
2021-onwards Member of the Scientific Committee	Etnologica Publishing House, Bucharest
2011-onwards Member of the Academic Board	<u>“The Yearly Review of the Ethnographic Museum of Moldavia”</u>
2012-2015 Member of the Editorial Board	<u>“Yearbook of Linguistics and Literary History”, Romanian Academy Publishing House</u>
2022 – onwards Member of the Scientific Board	Iași County Council County Center for the Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture of Iași
LANGUAGES	Romanian (native), English (proficient), French (intermediate)