

Communities and the Chitalishte Institution in the Process of Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage – Regulations and Practices

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(Summary)

The aim of the present study is to explain the role of the Bulgarian *chitalishte* institution in the process of safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage. The analysis focusses on the legal provisions and on the regulations concerning the *chitalishte* (as cultural and educational institution, which is specific for Bulgaria) in the context of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. The author also analyses the different aspects of the relations between this specific institution, the community and the cultural heritage in the context of the *chitalishte* (i.e. as museum artefacts in ethnographic collections, as written, photo, phono or video recordings in *chitalishte* archives, as traditional knowledge, skills and experience diachronically transmitted within the particular local communities).

Keywords: intangible cultural heritage; *chitalishta*; communities

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