

ASPECTS REFLECTED IN STATISTICAL DATA REGARDING THE CULTURAL CONSUMPTION OF ROMANIANS IN THE PERIOD 2013-2024

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Abstract

The consumer behavior can be studied using several data collection methods. One of the methods of data collection is the analysis of secondary data, which includes statistical data. Statistical data presents major advantages, and sometimes it can be the main method of data collection used in a study.

Some aspects of the cultural consumption of Romanians are well reflected in statistical data.

I considered that the analysis of existing national-level statistical data is worth using as the main method of data collection, due to the advantages it offers. One of the advantages is that statistical data is reliable data, and not subjective data.

On the other hand, consumer behavior changes over time, to a certain extent. This fact is also true for the cultural consumption of Romanians during the period 2013-2024. I considered that the 12-year period analyzed is long enough to well reflect some changes regarding the cultural consumption of Romanians.

I analyzed several aspects regarding the cultural consumption of Romanians during the period 2013-2024 and identified several clear changes related to the cultural consumption of Romanians. The most important identified changes are that Romanians read less and less in libraries, visit museums and public collections more and more, go to cinemas more and more, and go more and more to shows or concerts.

The period of the Covid-19 pandemic is a special period, with decreases in almost all analyzed indicators. After the end of the pandemic, there is a clear recovery in in almost all the indicators analyzed.

Keywords: *Cultural consumption, statistical data, change*

JEL Classification: *M31*

1.Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to analyze several aspects concerning the cultural consumption of Romanians in the period 2013-2024, based on national-level statistical data. The period 2013-2024 included the Covid-19 pandemic (i.e., the years 2020-2022).

The methodology used in the paper involved the analysis of available national statistical data, which can highlight some interesting aspects related to the cultural consumption of Romanians.

The statistical data source that I used and the most important source for the elaboration of the paper was the Statistical Yearbook of Romania.

Statistical data sources have some great advantages, such as: they provide reliable data, they provide data at the national level, they mean low costs for users, they can be consulted quickly by users, they can be consulted easily by users, they exist in an online version.

Statistical data sources also have disadvantages, one of the most important being that they cannot reflect the entire complexity of consumer behavior. If they did not have disadvantages, it would mean that statistical data sources would be perfect.

There are also other important sources for the cultural consumption of Romanians, among which it is worth noting the Cultural Consumption Barometers, conducted at the national level, which reflect the cultural consumption of Romanians much more completely than statistical data.

However, the Cultural Consumption Barometers are based on opinion surveys (conducted on a nationally representative sample), which means they use a different data collection method than statistical data analysis [3], [4], [5].

Statistical data sources are part of secondary data sources, used to conduct marketing research. Secondary data present both advantages and disadvantages [1], [2], [7] [9].

It is worth mentioning that secondary data sources have evolved and will continue to evolve, and the emergence of the Internet is a notable fact also in terms of access to many secondary data sources. On the other hand, recently, secondary data have become more important in marketing research, after many years of being considered as having limited value compared to primary data [8].

Some aspects of consumer behavior are well reflected in statistical data, which are a component of secondary data sources.

The recent Covid-19 pandemic affected Romania [17], but it should be added that the entire Planet was affected, not just Romania. The Covid-19 pandemic has influenced the change in the behavior of Romanian consumers [6], and the changes are of several types.

The service sector has been strongly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic [16], being one of the most affected sectors.

In the service industry, it is necessary to study consumer behavior [10], which leads to the need for marketing research.

Cultural consumer behavior is a complex process that includes the choice, purchase, and use of cultural goods and cultural services. Understanding consumer behavior helps cultural institutions adapt their offerings better than their competitors [11].

Some aspects of the cultural consumption of Romanians are well reflected in statistical data.

The objective of the paper was the analysis of several aspects reflected in the statistical data regarding the cultural consumption of Romanians in the period 2013-2024, which includes the Covid-19 pandemic period.

2.Aspects reflected in statistical data regarding the cultural consumption of Romanians in the period 2013-2024

The cultural consumption of Romanians is complex, with several facets. Of all the facets of cultural consumption, statistical data well reflects the following aspects:

- regarding libraries: the number of books issued and the number of active users
- regarding museums and public collections: the number of visitors
- regarding cinemas: the number of spectators
- regarding shows or concerts: the number of spectators or attendees

In Table 1, the total number of active library users during the period 2013-2024 is presented.

Table no. 1.The total number of active library users in the period 2013-2024 (thousands of people)

Year	The total number of active library users
2013	4004
2014	3807
2015	3580
2016	3433
2017	3248
2018	3132
2019	3102
2020	2504
2021	2127
2022	2362
2023	2419
2024	2409

(Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 356; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 322; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 322).

The statistical data clearly show the year-to-year decline in the number of active library users, throughout the period 2013-2018, before the Covid-19 pandemic. The decline continues during the Covid-19 pandemic (2020-2022).

In 2023, after the pandemic, the level of 2022 is exceeded, but by a little (2,419 thousand active library users compared to 2,362 thousand); and the level of 2024 is slightly below the level of 2023.

It is interesting that in the years 2023 and 2024, the number of active library users is below the level of 2020, which was a difficult year due to the pandemic. Also, in the years 2023 and 2024, after the pandemic, the number does not reach the level of 2019, before the pandemic (3,102 thousand).

It can be deduced that, during the period 2020-2022, the main cause for the decrease in the total number of active library users was not the Covid-19 pandemic, but other factors. These other causes existed before the Covid-19 pandemic, and the decline in the number of active library users continues even after the pandemic has ended.

The comparison with the year 2013 for the total number of active library users is presented in Table No. 2.

Table no. 2. Total number of active library users in the period 2013-2024 - comparison to the year 2013 (%)

Year	%
2013	100
2014	95,07
2015	89,41
2016	85,73
2017	81,11
2018	78,22
2019	77,47
2020	62,53
2021	53,12
2022	58,99
2023	60,41
2024	60,16

(Source: Calculated based on data from Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 356; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 322; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 322).

The percentages calculated relative to 2013 more clearly show the year-by-year decline in active library users before the pandemic (i.e., during the period 2013-2018). From 95.07% in 2014 compared to 2013, it drops to 77.47% in 2019 compared to 2013.

The decline continued during the Covid-19 pandemic period, but it is not a very large decrease. The weakest year is 2021, with 53.12% compared to 2013.

The total number of volumes issued in libraries from 2013 to 2024 is presented in Table no. 3.

Table no. 3. The total number of volumes issued in libraries during the period 2013-2024 (thousands of volumes)

Year	The total number of volumes issued in libraries
2013	50177
2014	46503
2015	40638
2016	38240
2017	35803
2018	34228
2019	33264
2020	20574

2021	16339
2022	18643
2023	19245
2024	18995

(Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 356; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 322; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 322).

A clear decrease can be observed from one year to another, before the pandemic, in the total number of volumes released in libraries. The only years with an increase compared to the previous year are 2022 and 2023.

In 2024, there is no return to the pre-pandemic level; in 2024 there is also a decrease compared to 2023.

The weakest year of the Covid-19 pandemic is 2021 (16,339 thousand volumes).

The difference between 2024 and 2013 is significant in absolute terms, with 18,995 thousand volumes in 2024 compared to 50,177 thousand volumes in 2013.

The comparison with the year 2013 for the total number of volumes issued in libraries is shown in Table no. 4.

Table no. 4. The total number of volumes issued in libraries from 2013 to 2024 - comparison to the year 2013 (%)

Year	%
2013	100
2014	92,67
2015	80,98
2016	76,21
2017	71,35
2018	68,21
2019	66,29
2020	41,00
2021	32,56
2022	37,15
2023	38,35
2024	37,85

(Source: Calculated based on data from Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 356; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 322; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 322).

In percentages, the decrease in the total number of volumes issued in libraries is even clearer. In 2021-2024, it reached less than 40% of the volumes issued in 2013.

It is observed that the percentages from the years 2023 and 2024, after the Covid-19 pandemic, are below the year 2020, which was a difficult year due to the pandemic. However, in 2023 and 2024, there was a slight increase compared to 2022.

In 2024, the total number of volumes issued in libraries was only 37.85% of the number of volumes issued in 2013.

I calculated the average number of volumes issued in libraries per active user during the period 2013-2024 (Table no. 5).

Table no.5. Average number of volumes released per active user in the period 2013-2024 (number of volumes)

Year	Media
2013	12,53
2014	12,21
2015	11,35
2016	11,13
2017	11,02
2018	10,92
2019	10,72
2020	8,21

2021	7,68
2022	7,89
2023	7,95
2024	7,88

(Source: Calculated based on data from Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 356; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 322; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 322).

A continuous decrease is observed in the period 2013-2021 in the average number of volumes issued per active user. The decline in the average volumes released in libraries per active user indicates that less is being read from what libraries offer, decreasing from 12.53 volumes in 2013 to nearly 8 volumes in the years 2022, 2023, and 2024.

In 2022 and 2023, the average of the volumes released shows a slight increase compared to 2021. In 2024, there is a small decrease compared to 2023.

It can be deduced that the Covid-19 pandemic was not the cause of the decrease in the average number of volumes issued in libraries per active user. The decline had already existed for many years and therefore has other causes besides the Covid-19 pandemic.

In the years 2023-2024, the average volume of items issued in libraries per active user is below that of the year 2020. The weakest year was 2021 (with an average of 7.68 volumes).

Statistical data also show that the number of books in libraries is decreasing (Table no. 6). This aspect deserves to be analyzed.

Table no. 6. Total number of volumes in libraries in the period 2013-2024 (thousand of volumes)

Year	Total number of volumes in libraries
2013	170482
2014	167336
2015	165450
2016	164475
2017	163300
2018	162844
2019	160854
2020	158359
2021	155733
2022	154391
2023	153346
2024	152515

(Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 356; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 322; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 322).

In absolute terms, from 170,482 thousand volumes in 2013 it reached 152,515 thousand volumes in 2024. Table no. 6 shows the decrease in the total number of volumes in libraries from year to year, throughout the period 2013-2024.

Table no. 7 reflects the percentage of the total number of volumes in libraries compared to the year 2013.

Table no. 7. Total number of volumes in libraries during 2013-2024 - comparison to the year 2013 (%)

Year	%
2013	100
2014	98,15
2015	97,04
2016	96,47
2017	95,78
2018	95,51
2019	94,35
2020	92,88

2021	91,34
2022	90,56
2023	89,94
2024	89,46

(Source: Calculated based on data from Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 356; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 322; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 322).

In percentages, it is observed that the decrease in the library collections is not very large compared to the year 2013.

The total number of volumes in libraries in 2024 represents 89.46% of the total number of volumes in libraries in 2013. However, this does not mean a very large decrease.

The total number of active library users has decreased much more than the total number of volumes in libraries, which reached around 60% in 2024 (Table 2).

Several conclusions can be drawn from this:

-the total number of books available in libraries is not small, even if the total number of books in libraries decreases between 2013-2024.

-Romanians really read fewer books from libraries.

This therefore means a change in the behavior of Romanians over the 12 years.

There are other aspects that need to be mentioned here. An aspect reflected in the statistical data is the reduction in the number of libraries in Romania, which probably has some influence on the decrease in the total number of active library users. Another aspect is that the population of Romania is decreasing.

From all these aspects, it can be concluded that Romanians read fewer and fewer books from libraries, between 2013 and 2024, which means a change in Romanian behavior. However, Romanians would have something to read in libraries, if they wanted to read in libraries.

The total number of visitors to museums and public collections in the period 2013-2024 is presented in Table no. 8.

Table no. 8. The total number of visitors to museums and public collections in the period 2013-2024 (thousands of people)

Year	The total number of visitors
2013	10928
2014	10824
2015	13052
2016	14197
2017	15941
2018	17610
2019	18198
2020	7939
2021	11405
2022	16025
2023	19107
2024	18431

(Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 357; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 323; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 323).

Table no. 8 shows the tendency of increase from year to year, in the period 2013-2019, of the total number of visitors to museums and public collections, with the exception of 2014, when a slight decrease was recorded compared to the year 2013.

The best year was 2019 (18,198 thousand visitors). The weakest year in terms of the total number of visitors to museums and public collections was 2020, the pandemic year (7,939 thousand visitors).

Among the pandemic years, 2022 was a pretty good year, however, above the level of 2017 (16,025 thousand visitors compared to 15,941 thousand visitors); this aspect is worth noting.

In 2023, the total number of visitors to museums and public collections exceeded that of 2019. 2023 is the best year in the entire period 2013-2024 (19,107 thousand visitors). And this aspect deserves to be highlighted. In 2024 there was a decrease compared to 2023, but the level in 2024 remains above the 2019 level, before the pandemic.

The comparison with the year 2013 for the total number of visitors to museums and public collections is presented in Table no. 9.

Table no. 9. Total number of visitors to museums and public collections in the period 2013-2024 - comparison with the year 2013 (%)

Year	%
2013	100
2014	99,04
2015	119,43
2016	129,91
2017	145,87
2018	161,14
2019	166,52
2020	72,64
2021	104,36
2022	146,64
2023	174,84
2024	168,65

(Source: Calculated based on data from Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 357; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 323; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 323).

Between 2015 and 2019, there were significant increases compared to 2013 in the total number of museum visitors and public collections visitors. 2019 was the best year before the pandemic, representing 166.52% compared to 2013.

2020 was the weakest year. The total number of museum visitors and public collections visitors in 2020 amounted to 72.64% of the figures from 2013.

The resumption of the increase in the total number of visitors to museums and public collections is observed in 2023 and 2024, which amounted to 174.84% and 168.65% compared to 2013.

The total number of cinema spectators for the period 2013-2024 appears in Table no. 10.

Table no. 10. The total number of cinema spectators in the period 2013-2024 (thousands of people)

Year	The total number of cinema spectators
2013	9048
2014	10171
2015	11167
2016	13034
2017	13877
2018	13348
2019	13129,951
2020	3302,150
2021	4684,904
2022	11232,999
2023	13020,178
2024	11224,176

(Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 358; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 324; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 324).

In the period 2013-2017, a continuous increase from one year to the next was observed in the total number of cinema spectators. The best year was 2017 (13,877 thousand spectators). In 2018 and 2019 there were slight decreases, below the level of 2017.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the decrease in the total number of spectators in cinemas is very large. For the pandemic period, the weakest year is 2020, and the best year is 2022. In 2020, the decrease is significant compared to 2019 (3302 thousand spectators compared to 13,129.95 thousand spectators).

For the years 2023-2024, a clear recovery is observed after the pandemic period, and the level in 2023 (post-pandemic) is almost at the level of 2019 (pre-pandemic). However, in 2024 a decrease was recorded, even below the level in 2022.

It is worth noting the change after the end of the Covid-19 pandemic (2023 and 2024), in the sense that the levels of the pre-pandemic years are no longer reached; the best year remains 2019, for the total number of cinema spectators.

The comparison with the year 2013 of the total number of cinema spectators is included in Table no. 11.

Table no. 11. Total number of cinema spectators in the period 2013-2024 - comparison to the year 2013 (%)

Year	%
2013	100
2014	112,41
2015	123,41
2016	144,05
2017	153,37
2018	147,52
2019	145,11
2020	36,49
2021	51,77
2022	124,14
2023	143,9
2024	124,05

(Source: Calculated based on data from Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 358; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 324; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 324).

The percentages in table no. 11 clearly show the increases compared to the year 2013 in the total number of cinema audiences. The best year is 2017, which represents 153.37% compared to the year 2013.

The best period was from 2016 to 2019.

The total number of cinema spectators in 2020 is only 36.49% of that in 2013; 2020 was the weakest year.

The 2023 and 2024 levels represent 143.9% and 124.05% compared to the 2013 level. They show the return of the number of spectators in cinemas after the Covid-19 pandemic period, without reaching the level of 2016-2019.

The total number of spectators or audiences in institutions and in performing arts or concert companies from 2013 to 2024 is presented in Table no. 12.

Table no. 12. The total number of spectators or audiences in institutions and in performing arts or concert companies from 2013 to 2024 (thousands of people)

Year	The total number of spectators or audiences
2013	5717
2014	6237

2015	5807
2016	5749
2017	6425
2018	7921
2019	8074
2020	1506
2021	1940
2022	4241
2023	6148
2024	6889

(Source: Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 359; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 325; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 325).

During the period 2013-2019, some oscillations in the total number of spectators or audiences in institutions and in performance or concert companies can be noted.

In 2015 and 2016 there were decreases compared to the previous year. In the last 3 years before the pandemic (2017, 2018, 2019) there were increases compared to the previous year, and 2018 and 2019 were the best (7921 thousand and 8074 thousand).

In the year 2020, a large decrease in the total number of spectators or audience in institutions and companies of shows or concerts is observed due to Covid (1,506 thousand spectators) compared to the year 2019 (8,074 thousand spectators).

All three years of the Covid pandemic period are below the level of all previous years, and the year 2022 is a better year than 2020 or 2021.

Interesting is that in the years after the pandemic, namely 2023 and 2024, the level from the pandemic period has been surpassed, but the total number of spectators or audiences in institutions and in performance or concert companies did not reach the levels of 2018 or 2019.

The comparison with the year 2013 regarding the total number of spectators or audiences in institutions and in performing arts or concert companies appears in Table no. 13.

Table no.13. Total number of spectators or audiences in institutions and in performing arts or concert companies in the period 2013-2024 - comparison to the year 2013 (%)

Year	%
2013	100
2014	109,09
2015	101,57
2016	100,55
2017	112,38
2018	138,55
2019	141,22
2020	26,34
2021	33,93
2022	74,18
2023	107,53
2024	120,50

(Source: Calculated based on data from Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2019, p. 359; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2022, p. 325; Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2025, p. 325).

The years 2018 and 2019 were the best years in terms of the total number of spectators or auditors in institutions and companies of performances or concerts, meaning 138.55% and 141.22% compared to 2013.

In 2020, the total number of spectators or auditors in institutions and in performing arts or concert companies represents only 26.34% compared to 2013.

And 2021 was a weak year, with only 33.93% compared to 2013. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic was therefore significant, especially in 2020 and 2021.

The total number of spectators or auditors in 2023 and 2024 amounted to 107.53% and 120.50% compared to 2013, indicating a recovery after the Covid-19 period, although these years are not the best in the 2013-2024 period.

3. Conclusions

Statistical data analysis, as a data collection method, presents advantages and disadvantages. It should be noted that statistical data are reliable data, not subjective data.

The main conclusions are:

-there are some fluctuations between years (increases and decreases) in almost all the aspects analyzed.

-in the years 2023-2024, that is, after the Covid-19 pandemic, not all aspects analyzed have returned to the pre-pandemic situation, but only some aspects.

-the total number of active library users decreases in the period 2013-2024 (in absolute terms, from 4004 thousand people in 2013 to 2409 thousand people in 2024). In percentage terms, it reached 60.16% in 2024 compared to 2013. The weakest year was 2021, with 53.12% compared to 2013.

-the total number of volumes issued in libraries decreases in the period 2013-2024 (from 50,177 thousand volumes in 2013 to 18,995 thousand volumes in 2024).

In percentage terms, the total number of volumes issued in libraries in 2024 represents 37.85% compared to 2013. The worst situation was in 2021, with 32.56% compared to 2013.

-the average volumes released per active user decreases during the period 2013-2024, from 12.53 volumes in 2013 to 7.88 volumes in 2024. The lowest average was in 2021, at 7.68 volumes.

-the total number of visitors to museums and public collections increases in the period 2013-2024 (from 10,928 thousand in 2013 to 18,431 in 2024). There are also some fluctuations between years; the years 2014, 2020, 2024 are years of decrease compared to the previous year.

In percentage terms, the total number of visitors to museums and public collections in 2023 is 174.84% compared to 2013, and in 2024 it is 168.65% compared to 2013.

-the total number of spectators in cinemas increases, during the period 2013-2024, except for the years 2020-2021.

In absolute terms, the number of spectators in cinemas increased from 9,048 thousand in 2013 to over 11,224 thousand in 2024. In 2017, the maximum of 13,877 thousand spectators was reached.

In percentages, the total number of cinema spectators in 2023 means 143.9% compared to the year 2013. In 2017 it was 153.37% compared to the year 2013. Exceptions are the years 2020 and 2021, with only 36.49% and 51.77% compared to 2013.

Some fluctuations between years can also be observed, except for the period 2013-2017, during which there was a continuous increase from year to year in the total number of cinema spectators. It is also interesting that 2024 was a weaker year than 2023.

-the total number of spectators or auditors in institutions and in performance or concert companies increases during the period 2013-2024, except for the period of the Covid-19 pandemic.

From 5717 thousand in 2013 it reached 6889 thousand in 2024. The best situation was in 2018 (7921 thousand) and in 2019 (8074 thousand). The worst situation was in 2020 (1506 thousand), 2021 (1940 thousand), 2022 (4241 thousand).

In percentage terms, the total number of spectators or auditors in institutions and performance or concert companies in 2018 was 138.55% compared to 2013, and in 2019 was 141.22% compared to 2013. The pandemic years (2020-2022) had levels well below 2013 (i.e. 26.34%, 33.93%, 74.18%). Here too there were some fluctuations between years; 2015 and 2016 are below the 2014 level.

Analyzing the statistical data from the period 2013-2024, some quite clear changes can be found related to the cultural consumption of Romanians. In short, it can be stated that statistical data from 2013-2024 show that Romanians use libraries less and less; read less and less in libraries;

visit museums and public collections more and more; go to cinemas more and more; go to shows or concerts more and more.

The Covid-19 pandemic period meant declines in almost all the indicators analyzed. However, a few separate aspects are worth noting even for the pandemic period. However, it is worth noting a few special aspects for the pandemic period. In terms of the number of active library users, 2020 was better than 2023-2024, after the pandemic. In terms of the total number of volumes released in libraries, 2020 was better than 2023-2024, after the pandemic. In terms of the total number of cinema spectators, the year 2022 is above the level in the years 2013, 2014, 2015.

After the end of the Covid-19 pandemic, there is an obvious return in many of the analyzed indicators. The most important recovery is in the total number of visitors to museums and public collections. In 2023 and 2024, there was the highest annual number of visitors in the entire period from 2013-2024.

In all the aspects mentioned, Romania is not in a leading position in the European Union. In almost everything that involves participation in cultural activities, Romania is in the last places in the European Union [12].

The most worrying aspect that the statistical data shows seems to be that Romanians read fewer and fewer books from libraries, between 2013 and 2024, which means a change in Romanians' behavior. However, Romanians would have something to read in libraries, if they wanted to read in libraries.

This problem, however, is a complex one and is influenced by several factors. On one hand, today there is the influence of the Internet; on the other hand, there is also a problem that depends on education, income, lifestyle, and available leisure time.

The question arises of what should be done in the future, based on the changes shown by statistical data both about the cultural consumption of Romanians in the period 2013-2024, and about the changes in the cultural consumption of Romanians in the period 2013-2024.

The state can play an important role in guiding the cultural consumption of Romanians in a positive direction, through better funding of culture and education. The purpose of the state should be to encourage reading in general (including reading in libraries), but also other cultural activities. Another direction of action for the state should be the emphasis on the digitalization of culture.

It remains to be seen what the Romanian state will be able to do in the future, because between the state's desire to act and reality there can be a great distance.

Currently, in the year 2026, the Romanian state is faced with the problem of reducing the too large budget deficit, the resolution of which will probably take a few years. Unfortunately, reducing the budget deficit also means measures that negatively affect culture and education.

People can also have a role related to the aforementioned cultural aspects, separate from the role of the state, although the role of people depends on several factors, including people's available time, income and education.

The fact that Romanians no longer want to read in libraries but prefer to read online, and that they enjoy visiting museums, attending shows, and going to the cinema to relax, is a decision that belongs to them too.

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