

# HUMAN RIGHTS SUPPRESSED

*Apartheid, cultural genocide  
and planned annihilation of millions  
in Ceausescu's Rumania*



**SAVE TRANSYLVANIA**  
*(formerly Hungary, today part of Rumania)*  
**the ancestral homeland of 2.2 million Hungarians**

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**THE HUNGARIAN COUNCIL OF  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

## What is happening in Rumania ?

President Ceausescu of Rumania has directed his Government to raze 7-8000 of Rumania's 13,000 villages, including their churches and cemeteries. The land is to be ploughed and utilized for crops. The dispossessed inhabitants, who for many years endured great hardships, among them hunger and cold, are to be herded together and relocated in urban ghettos.

( *Save Transylvania Committee, Budapest* )

The homes and villages of about 2.5 million ethnic Hungarians are threatened with demolition by Rumanian authorities... Now, the area regarded as the cradle of Hungary's history and culture faces destruction. Plans to turn about 8000 of Transylvania's 13,000 villages into agricultural land would mean the removal of houses, churches and cemeteries and the grouping of the 2.5 million ethnic Hungarians and some ethnic Germans and Serbs in 500 urban centres.

( *Canberra Times, 8 July 1988* )



NAGYENYED

A majority of the villagers affected are Hungarian or German speakers. This „bulldozer plan“ is the most striking manifestation of Mr. Ceausescu's 17 year old policy of „Romanisation“: the systematic assimilation of Rumania's large minorities.

( *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 July 1988 )

### Economic reasons?

The Ceausescu regime pretends to justify this cruel action by spurious „economic“ arguments: the mass-deportation will improve the country's agricultural and industrial production especially in (formerly) mineral-rich Transylvania. By resettling peasant-farmers in „agro-industrial centres“, agricultural production will be „industrialised“ as it were. At the same time, the regime expects an increase in the (secondary) industrial work-force by channelling former farmers into factories.

These arguments are false and deceitful: the revitalisation of the badly mismanaged Rumanian mining and secondary industries, and of the (formerly profitable) agriculture needs more than the reluctant, unskilled slave labour of ex-farmers, rural peasants torn away from their ancestral homes, resettled in an unfamiliar, unfriendly, inhuman concentration-camp environment.



BRASSÓ

The real reason is, of course, the forced assimilation or obliteration of the numerous minorities, especially of the 2.5 million-strong Hungarian group — the original inhabitants of Transylvania and the largest national minority in Europe.

## What does the Ceausescu plan mean ?

It is not easy for us Australians to grasp the enormity of Ceausescu's plan: the demolition of buildings, villages does not seem to be a particularly sinister activity. We have to look at the socio-economic environment of Central Europe in general and Rumania, or Transylvania in particular.

### Cultural genocide

The realisation of Ceausescu's plan means the cultural and even physical genocide of the 2.5 million strong Hungarian minority of Rumania.



SEGESVÁR