

**Presentation Ceremony of the
1st Costa Carras European Citizens Award for
the Safeguard of Endangered Heritage**

European Cultural Centre of Delphi, Greece
26 April 2023

**Congratulatory message by Adriana Ciamba
Chargé d’Affaires of Romania**

We are proud that the first Costa Carras European Citizens Award goes to Romania, to Roşia Montană, which Costa Carras himself cherished and whose heritage he highly valued. He even visited the site shortly after the start of the programme “Adopt a House” by the winners of tonight, the Romanian association “ARA - Architecture. Restoration. Archaeology”.

Warm congratulations to the team of ARA, to all the volunteers of the “Adopt a House” programme who have contributed in the last ten years to putting Roşia Montană in the spotlight. A different spotlight, that of deep care for its extraordinary natural, cultural, historical, architectural and human heritage.

Roşia Montană is a sort of “little Romania” due to its multicultural character and millenary history. Thanks to the hard work of ARA and their supporters, thanks to their enthusiasm and dedication, the recent history of Roşia Montană is that of civic participation, of involvement in ensuring it a sustainable future. Roşia Montană has become a reference for positive examples of restoration and preservation with the active participation of the local community and authorities.

We are convinced that the Costa Carras Award, which recompenses these efforts, will further inspire their priceless work!

We are honoured that Her Excellency the President of the Hellenic Republic has generously agreed to attend this ceremony, a proof of her commitment to the preservation of our common treasure: the rich, unique cultural and natural heritage of Europe.

Congratulations to the Jury presided by Guy Clause, to the teams of Europa Nostra and Elliniki Etairia, and to all the nominees!