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## **MONUMENT TO VICTIMS OF STALINIST REGIME BLESSED IN CHIȘINĂU**



A monument to victims of the Stalinist regime in Moldova was recently reopened and blessed in Chișinău.

On Sunday, October 25, the Day of the Romanian Army, His Eminence Metropolitan Petru of Chișinău of the Romanian Orthodox Church blessed the General Georgescu P. Ion monument in the capital city's Vale Morilor Park, dedicated to those who were killed in the basement of the city's former Italian Consulate in 1941, report the Basilica News Agency.

With occupation of eastern Romania by the Bolshevik army, executions orchestrated by the NKVD immediately began in Chișinău. One execution site was located very near to where the monument stands today.

The event was attended by the Romanian Ambassador to Moldova.

The monument was erected by the Monumentum Association and the Iași Association of Romanian Orthodox Christian Students, with the support of the Chișinău City Hall and the Romanian government. The monument was restored based on an archival photograph from 1942 and moved 75 feet to a more accessible spot.

During the inauguration ceremony, a memorial service was served for Romanian soldiers who gave their lives for the defense and reunification of the country, reports the Metropolis of Bessarabia.

In July, the first monument commemorating the anti-communist resistance in Bukovina was inaugurated in the Romanian commune of Vicovu de Jos.

And last month, a monument to the victims of the Nazi Ustašas at the Jasenovac concentration camp was blessed in Croatia.

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