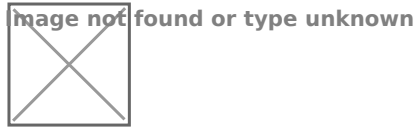


## **Patriarch Daniel bestows church distinction on Maramureş gendarme for reaching 100th blood donation**



Cosmin Barabaş, a gendarme in the county of Maramureş in northern Romania, attained his 101st blood donation milestone as part of the Romanian Patriarchate's "Donate blood, save a life!" campaign.

His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel presented the gendarme with the "Sanctus Stephanus Magnus" Order of the Romanian Patriarchate as a token of gratitude for his dedication.

On March 17, 2023, Father Ciprian Ioniţă, patriarchal adviser in charge of the Social-Philanthropic Sector of the Patriarchal Administration, presented the award during a ceremony in the Chapel of the Baia Mare Gendarmerie Inspectorate.

Chief Adjutant Cosmin Barabaş has served for nearly 26 years as a non-commissioned officer in the Maramureş Gendarmerie County Inspectorate. Since 1999, he has donated blood around four times each year.

"For our colleague, the presence at the Transfusion Centre is not something out of the ordinary. He exceeded the threshold of 100 blood donations and has no intention of stopping there, being aware of the importance of this benevolent gesture. Cosmin is not a singular example of voluntary involvement. Like him, many other colleagues can be proud of their donor card."

"The Maramureş gendarmes proposed to donate as much blood as possible to replenish the national reserves, understanding that this support is vital to treating seriously ill people, for whom every drop of blood is equal to life," the Maramureş County Gendarmerie Inspectorate noted.

The gendarme was praised during an event honouring the Maramures gendarmes' participation in blood donation campaigns.

The event was attended by Mrs Crina Chilat, sub-prefect of Maramureş county, Mr

Dr Pop Bogdan from the Maramureș Public Health Directorate, Mrs Daniela Veber, director of the Maramureș Blood Transfusion Centre, father Ciprian Ioniță, patriarchal adviser, and Fr. Pop Andrei, adviser at the Diocese of Maramureș and Sătmăr.

The Romanian Gendarmerie is a partner of the Romanian Patriarchate in the “Donate blood, save a life!” campaign.



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