

## **INVOLVEMENT OF DECISION MAKERS IN THE DECISIONS OF THE LOCAL COUNCILS OF GORJ COUNTY**

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**Abstract:** *The paper highlights the activity of local councils of the county, completed by adopting council decisions, with chronological landmark, 2018. In the statistics are shown: minimum and maximum indicators on the volume of administrative acts issued by local councils, both at the level of the entire county, as well as on each administrative unit, separately. Statistics is a practical tool, which is numerically mirrored the activity of the seventy local councils, in parallel being used information on the number of persons domiciled in each locality. For an easy understanding of the volume of administrative documents issued, a schematic content was attached to the paper, which sets out the information that was the topic of statistical research. Being local deliberative structures, often either the public opinion or the media will undersize the role and place in the local public administration of the local council, although nominated as an autonomous administrative authority in the fundamental normative text. In practice, the authority of the mayor is the one who positions in a niche area, the contribution of the local council. Without the intention of creating hierarchies or using SWOT analysis tools, we synthesized statistical indicators on the decisions taken by local councils during 2018.*

**KEY WORDS:** *local council, administrative authorities, mayor, municipality, legal reform.*

**JEL CLASSIFICATION:** *K0, K4.*

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Gorj county represents one of the county-category territorial administrative units that has existed and been known for a longtime on the administrative maps of both the country and the region. Its denomination has Slavic origins, referring to the Mountain Jiu or Upper Jiu, while in the old archived records the name Gorjiu has been

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kept, resulted from the assimilation of the two terms referring to the heights and the flow of water that crosses them.

Under a historic aspect, the land was administratively part of the territory of the *Romanian Country* and for a short period (1718-1739) of the Habsburg Empire, later becoming a component part of Romania. For a while, according with the regional territorial administrative separation, the county was part of the Oltenia region, together with several other counties. It used to be, for a long period of time, a border county for Valahia (*Romanian Country*).

At present, it is situated in the south-vest area of the country and is made-up, administratively, of 70 localities, as follows:

- 2 – municipalities;
- 7 – towns;
- 61 – communes.

The administrative center is Târgu Jiu (municipality), city attested for over six centuries. Its administrative limitations have varied to a small degree over time and some localities have belonged, between the time when an administrative reform took place and another administrative separation that followed, either to this county or to neighboring counties and vice versa.

The 70 administrative territorial units (localities) are at present: Albeni, Alimpești, Aninoasa, Arcani, Baia de Fier, Bălănești, Bălești, Bărbătești, Bengești-Ciocadia, Berlești, Bâlteni, Bolboși, Borăscu, Brănești, Bumbesti-Jiu, Bumbesti-Pițic, Bustuchin, Călnic, Căpreni, Cătunele, Ciuperceni, Crasna, Crușeț, Dănciulești, Dănești, Drăgotești, Drăguțești, Fărcăsești, Glogova, Godinești, Hurezani, Ionești, Jupânești, Lelești, Licurici, Logrești, Mătăsari, Motru, Mușetești, Negomir, Novaci, Padeș, Peștișani, Plopșoru, Polovragi, Prigoria, Roșia de Amaradia, Rovinari, Runcu, Săcelu, Samarinești, Săulești, Schela, Scoarța, Slivilești, Stănești, Stejari, Stoina, Târgu Cărbunescu, Târgu Jiu, Telești, Tismana, Turburea, Turceni, Turcinești, Țânțăreni, Țicleni, Urdari, Văgiulești and Vladimir.

## 2. LOCAL COUNCIL DECISIONS ANALYSIS

Over the course of 2018, at the level of all component localities, the local councils of these issued a total of **5847** local council decisions<sup>1</sup>, resulting an average of almost **84** local council decisions per each locality. At the level of the municipalities, the average number of decisions adopted by the local councils is of **387** decisions throughout the reference year, while at the level of towns the average is of **219** decisions and finally at the level of communes, the average is situated a little above **58** council decision adopted.

Most of the decisions adopted in the urban environment, at the level of municipalities, have been issued by Târgu Jiu local municipal council, while the number of local council decisions issued by the second municipality in the county, the municipality of Motru, is under half the number of those adopted by the local council

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<sup>1</sup>gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro – Report on the activity of the Institution of the Prefect of Gorj County for the year 2018, p.40.

of the county's residence city. At the level of towns, Bumbești Jiu detaches itself by far from the rest of the localities from the same category.

At the opposite pole we find the city of Tismana, its local council having adopted the least number of decisions from all urban localities of the Gorj county throughout 2018. In the rural environment, from all the local councils of the communes, the one that adopted the greatest number of decisions is the local council of Țânțăreni, while the fewest number of local council decisions have been adopted over the course of 2018 by Ploșșoru local council.

At the level of each locality, besides indicating the statistics concerning the issued local council decisions, we will also show the number of its inhabitants, having set as reference the date of 10<sup>th</sup> of february 2018<sup>2</sup>. The situation of the decisions issued by each local council is as follows.

Albeni is a commune, comprising in its territorial range villages such as: *Albeni, Bârzeiu de Gilort, Bolbocești, Doseni, Mirosloveni* and *Prunești*.<sup>3</sup> Throughout 2018, at the level of the local deliberative body, that is the local council, 47 council decisions have been adopted<sup>4</sup> over the course of ten months, while during the months of may and august no local council decisions have been adopted. The majority of the administrative acts from this category received the votes needed for their adoption in the month of july, while during february, june, october and december only three local council decisions have been adopted, per each month in question. The population of the commune at the end of the first decade of the second month of the year was of 2865 individuals.

Alimpești is a commune made-up of more villages, such as: *Alimpești, Corșoru, Ciupercenii de Olteț, Nistorești, Sârbești*, situated alongside the course of the river Olteț. The local council has adopted throughout the year 2018 a number of 51 council decisions<sup>5</sup>, finalizing its activity over 2018 with at least one administrative act of this category issued in each month of the year. The most local council decisions were adopted in the month of february while the least in the months of april and august, these months recording merely one single local council decision per month. The population residing in this commune exceeded 1786 towards the middle of the forth month.

Aninoasa has the administrative status of a commune and in its structures the following villages are found: *Aninoasa, Bobaia, Costești, Groșerea* and *Sterpoaia*.<sup>6</sup> The local council of this commune had adopted throughout the year 2018 a relatively small number of local council decisions, totalizing 30<sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> According to the Address no. 1628/04.06.2019 issued by the Gorj County Community Directorate for Persons Records/Gorj County Council.

<sup>3</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>4</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro - Report on the activity of the Institution of the Prefect of Gorj County for the year 2018, p.32.

<sup>5</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>6</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>7</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.32.

The greatest number of decisions were adopted by the deliberative authority in the very last month of the year, while the lowest number of administrative acts issued by the local council were registered in the months of may and july. The population of the commune at the above-indicated reference date was of 3873 inhabitants.

Arcani is one of the communes of the county with a lower population and is made –up of the villages: *Arcani*, *Câmpofeni*, *Sănătești* and *Stroiești*<sup>8</sup>. In 2018, the local council adopted 69 decisions. The most of these were adopted in the month of march, while the fewest in the month of july. The number of the inhabitants that reside there is 1258 individuals.

Baia de Fier is a commune composed of the villages: *Baia de Fier* and *Cernădia*, the second being, up until approximately a half a century ago, the central village, from an administrative role, of another commune having the same denomination as the village in question. In 2018, a total of 81 local council decisions have been adopted, most issued by the local council in the month of march and the fewest in the month of november. The number of its inhabitants is 4250.

Bălănești is a commune made up of more villages, as follows: *Bălănești*, *Blidari*, *Cânepești*, *Glodeni*, *Ohaba*, *Voiteștii din Deal* and *Voiteștii din Vale*.<sup>9</sup> In the year 2018, the local council adopted a number of 46 decisions<sup>10</sup>, most of which were voted in november, while in february a single decision was adopted by the local council. The inhabitants of the commune were 2105.

Bălești is a commune located in the central part of the county, next to the municipality of the county, consisting of several villages: *Bălești*, *Ceauru*, *Cornești*, *Găvănești*, *Rasova*, *Stolojani*, *Tălpășești*, *Tămășești* and *Voinigeșt*.<sup>11</sup> In the year 2018, the Local Council of Bălești adopted a number of 148 decisions<sup>12</sup>, a large number compared to other rural localities in Gorj County. Most of the decisions were issued in the month of june, and at the opposite pole, the month in which the fewest decisions were adopted was february. The population of the commune counted 7528 inhabitants residing.

Bărbătești is a commune made-up, similar to others, of several villages, such as: *Bărbătești*, *Musculești*, *Petrești* and *Socu*.<sup>13</sup> During the year 2018, the local council adopted 45 decisions<sup>14</sup>. Most were issued in march, while in june a single decision was adopted. The number of persons residing in the commune is 1605.

Bengești-Ciocadia is a commune composed of several villages: *Bălcești*, *Bengești*, *Bircii* and *Ciocadia*. At the level of 2018, 55 decisions<sup>15</sup> were adopted by the local council of the commune. Most were issued in may, while the months when the activity of the local deliberative authority materialized in the fewest acts of this

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<sup>8</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>9</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>10</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.33.

<sup>11</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>12</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.33.

<sup>13</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>14</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.33.

<sup>15</sup> Ibidem.

category were: february, june, july and november. In the commune, the number of inhabiting residents was 3236.

Berlești also has the statute of commune, as in the case of the before-analyzed localities, being composed of several villages: *Bârzeiu, Berlești, Gâlcești, Lihulești, Pârâu Viu, Scrada* and *Scurtu*.<sup>16</sup> A number of 69 local council decisions<sup>17</sup> have been adopted by the local administration enjoying competences to this end throughout the year 2018. The total number of inhabitants residing in this commune is of 2040 persons.

Bâlteni is one of the communes with a greater number of inhabitants, compared to other localities and is composed of several villages: *Bâlteni, Cocoreni, Moi, Peșteanu-Jiu* and *Vlădueni*.<sup>18</sup> The local council of the commune issued, in 2018, 57 decisions<sup>19</sup>, most of which were voted in the month of january, while in august the local council did not adopt any decision. The number of inhabitants of the commune was 7636 persons.

Bolboși has the statute of commune and in its composition there are several villages, such as: *Bălăcești, Bolboasa, Bolboși, Igirosu, Micloșu, Ohaba-Jiu* and *Valea*.<sup>20</sup> In this locality, the local council adopted, in the previous year, a number of 44 council decisions<sup>21</sup>. Most were adopted in the months october and november. On the contrary, during another two months of the same year, more specifically january and june, the local council adopted merely one local council decision. The population of the commune rises to 3277 persons.

Borăscu is a commune in Gorj County, having in its administrative structure villages such as: *Baniu, Borăscu, Calapăru, Gura-Menți, Menții din Dos, Miluta* and *Scorușu*.<sup>22</sup> In 2018, Borăscu Local Council adopted a number of 27 decisions<sup>23</sup>. Most decisions were voted in march, while at the opposite pole, in the course of five months, the local deliberative authority did not adopt more than one council decision. The population of the commune rises to the number of 3294 individuals.

Brănești is a commune on the border of Dolj County, composed of several villages: *Bădești, Brănești, Brebenei, Capu Dealului, Gilortu* and *Pârâu*.<sup>24</sup> In the previous year, the Local Council of Brănești adopted 39 local council decisions<sup>25</sup>. Most of these were adopted by the local councilors in january, while in the months of may and june the local council did not adopt any decisions, as administrative acts. The population of the commune added-up to 2297 inhabitants.

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<sup>16</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>17</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.33.

<sup>18</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>19</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.33.

<sup>20</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>21</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.33.

<sup>22</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>23</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.34.

<sup>24</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>25</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.34.

Bumbeşti-Jiu is a locality enjoying a city status. In addition to the urban area usually raised in the parts called Bumbeşti and Valea Sadului and not only, in the composition of the locality we also find villages such as: *Curtișoara, Lăzărești, Pleșa* and *Tetila*<sup>26</sup>. During the year 2018, the Bumbeşti Jiu Local Council adopted no less than 481 local council decisions<sup>27</sup>. The busiest month, from the perspective of the administrative acts adopted, was august, the number of council decisions adopted only in this month of the year far exceeding the decisions adopted by other local councils throughout the entire year. The month registering the fewest administrative acts adopted was the month of june. The city's population recorded a number of 9818 persons.

Bumbeşti-Pițic is a commune composed of several villages, of which: *Bumbești-Pițic, Cârligei* and *Poienari*.<sup>28</sup> Last year, the local council of the commune adopted a number of 41 council decisions<sup>29</sup>. The months with the most administrative acts adopted were march and may, while the months with the fewest decisions adopted were april and june. The population of the commune rises to the number of 2078 persons.

Bustuchin is a commune made-up of several villages, amongst which the following can be found: *Bustuchin, Cionți, Motorgi, Nămete, Poiana-Seciuri, Poienița, Pojaru* and *Valea Pojarului*.<sup>30</sup> In the year 2018, Bustuchin Local Council adopted 64 local council decisions<sup>31</sup>. The months with the most council decisions adopted were february and march, while the months with the fewest administrative acts of this kind adopted were: april, may, june, july, august. The population of the commune is of 3313 persons.

Câlnic is another locality with a commune status composed of villages, such as: *Câlnic, Câlnicu de Sus, Didilești, Găleșoia, Hodoreasca, Pieptani, Pinoasa, Stejerei* and *Vâlcea*.<sup>32</sup> In 2018, the local council of Câlnic, in its sessions, adopted 48 council decisions<sup>33</sup>. The month registering the greatest number of administrative acts adopted was december, while the fewest decisions adopted were registered in the following months: march, may, june, august. The number of residents inhabiting this commune adds-up to 2246 persons.

Căpreni is a commune located in the south-eastern part of the county and in its composition are the villages: *Aluniș, Brătești, Bulbuceni, Căpreni, Cetatea, Cornetu, Dealu Spirei* and *Satu Nou*<sup>34</sup>. Last year, 72 council decisions<sup>35</sup> were adopted by the local council of the locality. The months in which the most decisions were adopted are:

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<sup>26</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>27</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.31.

<sup>28</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>29</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.34.

<sup>30</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>31</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.34.

<sup>32</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>33</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.35.

<sup>34</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>35</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.34.

january, july and december. At the opposite pole are the months of june and august. The population of the commune rises to the number of 2040 inhabitants.

Cătunele is another commune in Gorj County. In its composition we find villages such as: *Cătunele, Dealu Viilor, Lupoiaia, Steic, Valea Mănăstirii* and *Valea Perilor*.<sup>36</sup> In 2018, a number of 50 decisions were issued by the local council<sup>37</sup>. Most of the administrative acts adopted by the local council were registered in december, while in january the local deliberative authority voted for only one local decision. At the level of the village 2688 persons resided at the reference date.

Ciuperceni is a commune made up, like the other localities so far analyzed, of several villages, including: *Boboiești, Ciuperceni, Peșteana-Vulcan, Priporu, Strâmba-Vulcan, Vârtopu* and *Zorzila*.<sup>38</sup> At the level of this administrative-territorial unit, the local council voted throughout the year 2018 a number of 32 council decisions<sup>39</sup>. The month with the most decisions adopted was february, but there were also other months in which the local council did not issue any decisions, these being the months of january and july. The locality counted on the reference date 1480 persons.

Crasna is one of the communes located in the northern part of the county, to the mountainous boundary, administratively the boundary with Hunedoara County. Several villages are found in the commune: *Aniniș, Buzești, Cărpiniș, Crasna, Drăgoiești, Dumbrăveni, Radoși*. The Local Council of Crasna issued a total of 66 council decisions during the year 2018<sup>40</sup>. Of these, most were voted by the local public administration in march, while in april and october fewer administrative acts were adopted by the local council. The population of the commune was of 4801 inhabitants.

Crușeț is a commune situated in the southern part of the county and composed of several villages, as follows: *Bojinu, Crușeț, Marinești, Măiag, Mierea, Miericeaua, Slămnești, Slăvuța, Urda de Jos* and *Văluța*.<sup>41</sup> In the year 2018, 48 local council decisions were adopted at the level of this locality<sup>42</sup>. Out of the 12 months of the year, the most decisions were issued in october and december, while at the opposite pole are the months: april, june and august. The population of the commune rises to 3163 inhabitants.

Dănciulești is a commune located in the south-eastern part of Gorj County and composed of several villages. Among them we can list: *Bibulești, Dănciulești, Hălăngești, Obârșia, Petrăchei, Rădinești* and *Zăicoi*.<sup>43</sup> At local level, the council of this commune, in the year 2018, issued 32 council decisions<sup>44</sup>. In March, the local council voted for and hence adopted most decisions. On the contrary, in two consecutive months, april and may, the same local council did not adopt any decisions. The population of the commune rises to a total of 1974 inhabitants.

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<sup>36</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>37</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.34.

<sup>38</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>39</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.34.

<sup>40</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>41</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>42</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.35.

<sup>43</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>44</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.35.

Dănești is a commune located not far from the county residence. It consists of several villages, such as: *Barza, Botorogi, Brătuia, Bucureasa, Dănești, Merfulești, Șasa, Trocani, Țârculești, Ungureni* and *Văcarea*.<sup>45</sup> Throughout the year 2018, the Local Council of Dănești voted a number of 76 council decisions<sup>46</sup>. The most administrative acts of this nature were voted by the local deliberative authority in december, while the months of september and november are at the lower limit. At the reference date, a total of 3707 inhabitants were resident in the locality.

Drăgotești is a commune composed of several villages, as follows: *Corobăi, Drăgotești* and *Trestioara*.<sup>47</sup> From the point of view of the activities carried out by the local deliberative body, at the level of 2018, a total of 71 decisions were adopted by the local council<sup>48</sup>. The months with the most decisions adopted were february and december, and in the months april and june the fewer decisions were issued by the local public administration. The population rises to 2518 inhabitants.

Drăguțești is a municipality in the southern vicinity of the county residence and is composed of villages such as: *Cârbești, Dâmbova, Drăguțești, Iași, Tâlvești, and Urechești*.<sup>49</sup> During the year 2018, Drăguțești Local Council adopted a number of 106 council decisions<sup>50</sup>, a high number compared to other rural localities of the county. Most of the decisions were issued by the local council in may, while the fewer decisions were adopted in october. The population of the commune was, at the reference date, of 4950 persons.

Fărcășești is a commune structured on several villages, namely *Fărcășești, Fărcășești-Moșneni, Peșteana de Jos, Rogojel, Roșia-Jiu, Timișeni* and *Valea cu Apă*.<sup>51</sup> In the year 2018, at the level of the local authority having deliberative competences, 89 decisions were issued by the local council<sup>52</sup>. The period of the year with most such administrative acts adopted was september, while the fewer decisions adopted by the council were in the months march and august. The commune had a total of 3188 inhabitants at the reference date.

Glogova is a commune composed of several villages, in its composition being found: *Cămuiești, Cleșnești, Glogova, Iormănești* and *Olteanu*.<sup>53</sup> At last year's level (2018), the Glogova Local Council adopted 44 council decisions<sup>54</sup>. In september and november most of the decisions were voted by the local council in question. An interesting statistical situation can be observed at the lower limit. There is no month in which no council decision has been adopted at the level of the local public administration, but in five consecutive months: march, april, may, june and july,

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<sup>45</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>46</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.35.

<sup>47</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>48</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.35.

<sup>49</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>50</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.35.

<sup>51</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>52</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.35.

<sup>53</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>54</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.35.



merely one council decision has been voted for. The number of residents of the commune rises to 1930 people.

Godinești is a commune composed of villages like: *Arjoci, Câlcești, Chiliu, Godinești, Pârâu de Pripor, Pârâu de Vale, and Rătez*.<sup>55</sup> In the year 2018, 41 decisions were adopted at the level of the local public administration by the local council<sup>56</sup>. From a statistics per month perspective, most decisions were adopted in march, and in july and august the local council of the locality adopted one decision each month. The population of the commune at the reference date indicates a number of 1932 inhabitants.

Hurezani is a locality consisting of several villages, as follows: *Busuioci, Hurezani, Pegeni, Plopu and Totea de Hurezani*.<sup>57</sup> From the perspective of the activity carried out by the local council, it issued a number of 31 council decisions in the year 2018<sup>58</sup>. Most administrative acts were issued by the local deliberative authority in march, while in the months: july, october and november only one local council decision was adopted each month. The population of the commune was of 1592 persons.

Ionești is a commune located on the southern tip of the county and composed of several villages, such as: *Gura Șușiței, Iliști, Ionești and Picu*.<sup>59</sup> Throughout the year 2018, the Local Council of Ionești issued 49 council decisions<sup>60</sup>. In its activity, the local council adopted the most council decisions in november, while in january and august the authority issued less administrative acts. The population of the commune amounted to 2321 people.

Jupânești is a commune consisting of several villages, thus finding in its composition the following: *Boia, Jupânești, Pârâu Boia, Vidin and Vierșani*.<sup>61</sup> In 2018, in the locality the local authority voted a number of 40 local council decisions<sup>62</sup>. Most of the administrative acts of this nature were issued in january, while the fewest were recorded in september. The locality had, on the indicated date, 2097 persons residing in its territory.

Lelești is a commune in the vicinity of the municipality that is the county residence city. It is composed of villages, such as: *Frătești, Lelești, Rasovița*.<sup>63</sup> The Local Council of Lelești adopted in the year 2018 during its sessions a number of 62 council decisions<sup>64</sup>. The local council issued in january the highest number of administrative acts, while in june the lowest number of local council decisions have been adopted. The number of inhabitants of the commune registered in the reference period was of 1735 inhabitants.

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<sup>55</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>56</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.36.

<sup>57</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>58</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.36.

<sup>59</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>60</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.36.

<sup>61</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>62</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.36.

<sup>63</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>64</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.36.

Licurici is a locality which consists of several villages, like: *Frumușei, Licurici, Negreni, Totea*.<sup>65</sup> Last year, 42 local council decisions were adopted by the local public administration<sup>66</sup>. Most administrative acts of this kind were voted for in february and june, while in the month of december the council registered the lowest rate of issuing council decisions for that year. The inhabitants of the commune were on that date in the number of 2165 persons.

Logrești is a locality situated in the eastern part of the county, at the administrative boundary with Vâlcea County. Several villages are found in its structure, such as: *Colțești, Frunza, Logrești-Moșteni, Măru, Popești, Seaca* and *Târgu Logrești*.<sup>67</sup> The Local Council of Logrești issued a number of 34 council decisions during the year 2018<sup>68</sup>. In the months: may, july, august, november and december, the deliberative authority of the commune issued the highest number of decisions. On the other hand, in october the local council did not take any council decisions. The population of the commune registered a total of 2581 persons residing in its territory.

Mătășari is a commune which is structurally composed of several villages, such as: *Brădet, Brădețel, Croici, Mătășari* and *Runcurel*.<sup>69</sup> At the level of the locality, during the year 2018, the local administrative authority, with attributions to that effect, adopted 34 council decisions<sup>70</sup>. The months in which the most acts of this kind were adopted were: may, july, august, november and december. On the other hand, no decision was issued by the local council in october. The number of residents of the commune registered at the indicated date amounted to 5147 individuals.

Motru is a town enjoying the status of municipality. It is practically the second municipality of Gorj County, since the other municipality is also the residence-city of the county.

The city is composed of several districts, usually located in the central area or in its vicinity. Also, under an administrative aspect, we find in its structure other parts, such as the following settlements: *Dealul Pomilor, Horăști, Însurăței, Leurda, Lupoița, Ploștina, Râpa* and *Roșița*.<sup>71</sup> Throughout the chronological range of 2018, the Municipal Council of Motru adopted 217 council decisions<sup>72</sup>.

Bearing in mind the status of the city, the higher number of administrative acts issued by the local authority empowered to do so is explainable. However, although it has just been stated that this is the second city of the county, both as a statute as well as demographically, there are urban localities that have issued a higher number of local council decisions, within the mentioned timeframe, as it can already be concluded from the previous sections dedicated to other localities in this material.

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<sup>65</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>66</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.36.

<sup>67</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>68</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.36.

<sup>69</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>70</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.36.

<sup>71</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>72</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.31.

The local council adopted most of its decisions in march while the activity of issuing this type of administrative acts recorded the lowest number in may. The population of the municipality of Motru, at the reference date from 2018 chosen for this work, was of 22198 inhabitants.

Mușetești is a commune located in the northern area of the county and in its structure there are several villages, as follows: *Arșeni, Bârcaciu, Gămani, Grui, Mușetești, Stăncești* and *Stăncești-Larga*.<sup>73</sup> In the commune, in the year 2018, at the level of the local public administration 60 decisions were adopted by the local council<sup>74</sup>. Most were voted in the months of january and march. At the opposite pole there is the month of may, when the fewest council decisions were voted. The population of the commune rises to 1940 inhabitants.

Negomir is a commune composed of several villages, such as: *Artanu, Bohorel, Condeiești, Negomir, Nucetu, Orzu, Paltinu, Raci, Ursoaia* and *Valea Racilor*.<sup>75</sup> In the year 2018, the Negomir Local Council issued a number of 74 decisions<sup>76</sup>. Most administrative acts of this kind were adopted in january, and the fewer were voted by the local council in the months of april and october. The population of the commune registered a number of 3534 persons.

Novaci is one of the seven cities of the county and is located in the north or north east part of Gorj county. Similar to other localities of this category, in addition to the streets crossing the locality, there are also four component villages, such as: *Bercești, Hirișești, Pociovaliștea* and *Sitești*, all originating from other former communes, administratively merged, inwhole or partly, with Novaci. In the year 2018, the Local Council of Novaci issued a number of 174 decisions<sup>77</sup>. Most were voted in october, and the fewer were issued in september. The population of the locality counted 5671 persons.

Padeș is one of the vast localities, not only in the county, but also in the country. From an administrative point of view, the municipality is based on several villages, such as: *Apa Neagră, Călugăreni, Cerna-Sat, Cloșani, Motru Sec, Orzești, Padeș* and *Văieni*.<sup>78</sup> In the year 2018, the local administration adopted, on its local council sessions, a total of 50 decisions<sup>79</sup>. The month in which the highest number of decisions were voted by the council was march, and the fewer administrative acts of this kind were voted in the months of june, july and september. The municipality had a number of 4878 persons residing on its territory.

Peștișani is a commune composed of several villages, finding in its structure: *Boroșteni, Brădiceni, Frâncești, Gureni, Hobița, Peștișani* and *Seuca*.<sup>80</sup> During the year 2018, the Peștișani Local Council, reunited in its sessions, adopted 93 council

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<sup>73</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>74</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.36.

<sup>75</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>76</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.37.

<sup>77</sup> Ibidem, p.31.

<sup>78</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>79</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.37.

<sup>80</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

decisions<sup>81</sup>. Of these, most were voted in november, while the fewest council decisions were approved in july. The population of the commune reached the number of 3750 people.

Ploșoru is a commune located in the south of the county and consists of several villages: *Broșteni, Broștenii de Sus, Ceplea, Cursaru, Deleni, Izvoarele, Olari, Piscuri, Ploșoru, Sărdănești* and *Văleni*.<sup>82</sup> The year 2018 was one in which the activity of the local council materialized in a number of 15 decisions issued<sup>83</sup>. Most were voted in february, while in january and august the local council in question did not adopt any decision. The population of the commune rises to 6594 inhabitants.

Polovragi is a commune located on the north-eastern boundary of the county, on the administrative border with Vâlcea County. The commune is composed of the villages *Polovragi* and *Racovița*. Within the year 2018, the Polovragi Local Council, as part of its activity, adopted 100 judgments<sup>84</sup>. In december the highest number of decisions were voted, while in april the local council issued the lowest number of decisions. The population of the commune was 2748 inhabitants.

Prigoria is a commune consisting of several villages, in its composition being: *Bucșana, Burlani, Călugăreasa, Dobrana, Negoiești, Prigoria* and *Zorlești*.<sup>85</sup> In 2018, a number of 85 local council decisions were adopted at the level of the local public administration<sup>86</sup>. The month registering most administrative acts of this type issued was december, and the fewer council decisions were voted by the local council in the months: march, april and july. The population of the commune registered, on the date envisaged in this material and fixed at the beginning of last year, a number of 2921 inhabitants.

Roșia de Amaradia is a commune located on the eastern boundary of the county, including the boundary with Vâlcea County, the neighboring county, and consists of villages such as: *Becheni, Dealu Viei, Roșia de Amaradia, Ruget, Seciurile, Stejaru* and *Șitoaia*.<sup>87</sup> In the year 2018, the Local Council of Roșia de Amaradia issued 90 council decisions<sup>88</sup>. In january, most of the administrative acts were voted by the council, and the fewer decisions were adopted by the local council in august. At the level of that year, at the time indicated, 3081 persons were resident in the locality.

Rovinari is one of the county's towns, consisting of several streets and situated near the Jiu river, a few kilometers south of the county's residence municipality. We find as component parts of the city Rovinari and Vârț<sup>89</sup>. Throughout the year 2018, in the sessions of the local council, convened every month of the year, a number of 351 council decisions were adopted<sup>90</sup>.

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<sup>81</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.37.

<sup>82</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>83</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.37.

<sup>84</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>85</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>86</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.37.

<sup>87</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>88</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.37.

<sup>89</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>90</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.32.

As regards their distribution to the two quantitative poles, the month in which the local administration issued most of this type of administrative acts was february. In may, the local public administration authority enjoying deliberative competences issued a fewer number of decisions. The city's population rises to 13372 people.

Runcu is a commune composed of several villages, in its administrative structure being villages such as: *Bâlta, Bâlțișoara, Dobrița, Râchiți, Runcu, Suseni* and *Valea Mare*.<sup>91</sup> Throughout the year 2018, the administration of the commune issued a number of 52 local council decisions<sup>92</sup>. Most decisions were issued in june while at the opposite pole was the month of may. The population of the commune rises to the number of 5071 inhabitants residing in this commune.

Samarinești is a commune located in the southwest of Gorj county, on the administrative boundary with Mehedinți County and is composed of several villages, as follows: *Băzăvani, Boca, Duculești, Larga, Samarinești, Țirioi, Valea Bisericii, Valea Mică* and *Valea Poienii*.<sup>93</sup> In 2018, 28 local council decisions were issued at the level of this community<sup>94</sup>. The month in which the local administration adopted the highest number of decisions is december, while the lowest number of decisions were voted by the local council in the following months: february, june, july and november. The population of the commune, at the reference date chosen for this work, indicates a number of 1765 inhabitants.

Săcelu is a commune composed of several villages, finding the following: *Blahnița de Sus, Hăiești, Jeriștea, Magherești* and *Săcelu*.<sup>95</sup> In the year 2018, the Local Council of Săcelu adopted 42 council decisions<sup>96</sup>. Most of the decisions adopted were voted by the members of the local council in january, while in july and august the local administration issued the lowest number of local council decisions. The number of inhabitants of the commune was of 1418 persons residing.

Săulești is a commune composed of villages such as: *Bibești, Dolcești, Purcaru* and *Săulești*.<sup>97</sup> During the year 2018, in the sessions held at the level of the local council, 70 decisions were voted by the local council of this commune<sup>98</sup>. In the last month of the year (December) the highest number of decisions issued by the local council was registered, while the fewer were adopted in june. The population of the commune amounted to 2172 people.

Schela is a commune composed of several villages, as follows: *Arsuri, Gornăcel, Pajiștele, Sâmbotin* and *Schela*.<sup>99</sup> In 2018, the Local Council of Schela adopted 26 judgments<sup>100</sup>. Most were issued in the months of october and november,

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<sup>91</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>92</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.38.

<sup>93</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>94</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.38.

<sup>95</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>96</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.38.

<sup>97</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>98</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.38.

<sup>99</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>100</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.38.

while in april and august no local council decisions were issued. The population of the commune registered a number of 1712 inhabitants.

Scoarța is a commune structured on several villages, as: *Bobu, Budieni, Câmpu Mare, Cerātu de Copăcioasa, Colibași, Copăcioasa, Lazuri, Lintea, Mogoșani, Pișteștii din Deal, and Scoarța*.<sup>101</sup> During the year 2018, in the commune, the local public administration issued 69 local council decisions<sup>102</sup>. The deliberative activity resulted in the most council decisions adopted in may, while the fewer administrative acts of this kind were issued in june. The commune had a population of 4613 inhabitants.

Slivilești is a commune made up of villages, such as: *Cojmănești, Miculești, Slivilești, Strâmtu, Șiacu, Știucani, Șura and Tehomir*.<sup>103</sup> The Local Council of Slivilești adopted a number of 28 decisions in the year 2018<sup>104</sup>. In march and september the highest number of council decisions were issued, while in august and october no such administrative act was adopted. Under a demographic aspect, 3216 people lived in the commune.

Stănești is a commune located north of the municipality-city of the county and is composed of several villages, such as: *Alexeni, Bălani, Călești, Curpen, Măzăroi, Obreja, Pârvulești, Stănești, Vaidei and Vălari*.<sup>105</sup> In the year 2018, at the level of the local administration, a total of 27 council decisions were adopted<sup>106</sup>. Of these, most were voted in january, while at the opposite pole are found the months of february, april, august, october and november. The number of residents in the commune indicates 2202 people.

Stejari is a commune of which the following villages are part: *Baloșani, Băcești, Dealu Leului, Piscoiu, Popești-Stejari and Stejari*.<sup>107</sup> The Stejari Local Council issued a total of 76 council decisions during the year 2018<sup>108</sup>. Most council decisions were voted in december while the month at the opposite pole, i.e. registering the lowest number of administrative acts of this kind adopted was august. At the reference date, the population of the commune indicates a total of 2368 persons.

Stoina is a commune made up, like the other localities, of several villages. Between them we find the villages: *Ciorari, Mielușei, Păișani, Stoina, Toiaga, Ulmet and Urda de Sus*.<sup>109</sup> In the year 2018, a number of 43 decisions were adopted by the local council<sup>110</sup>. Most were issued in march, while the fewest were approved in the months january and february. In total, 2287 inhabitants were resident in the locality.

<sup>101</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>102</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.38.

<sup>103</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>104</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.38.

<sup>105</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>106</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.39.

<sup>107</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>108</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.39.

<sup>109</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>110</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.39.

Târgu Cărbunești is one of the towns of the county. Apart from the streets of the locality, the following settlements are also found in its structure: *Blahnița de Jos, Cărbunești-Sat, Cojani, Crețești, Curteana, Floreșteni, Măceșu, Pojogeni, Rogojeni* and *Ștefănești*.<sup>111</sup> In the year 2018, the Local Council of Tg-Cărbunești issued a number of 125 council decisions<sup>112</sup>. The work of the local counselors resulted in the highest number of council decisions adopted in the months of january and november. The local deliberative authority voted for the fewest decisions in july. The population of the city reached the number of 8663 inhabitants.

Târgu Jiu is the municipality enjoying the status of Gorj county residence-city. It is located in the central area of the county and is composed of many districts and several settlements: *Bârsești, Drăgoieni, Iezureni, Polata, Preajba Mare, Romanești, Slobozia* and *Ursați*.<sup>113</sup> Târgu Jiu Municipal council consists of 21 local councilors, and throughout the year 2018, it has adopted a number of 557 council decisions in its sessions<sup>114</sup>. It was therefore the locality with the most council decisions adopted. In march, the municipal council adopted the highest number of council decisions, while in february the lowest number of decisions adopted was registered. At the reference date, a total of 95929 persons were residing in the municipality.

Telești is a commune composed of villages, such as: *Buduhală, Șomănești* and *Telești*.<sup>115</sup> In the year 2018, at the level of the local public administration, 64 decisions were issued by the local council<sup>116</sup>. The deliberative work resulted in the adoption of the most council decisions in december, while in the months of april, may, july and november fewer administrative acts of this category were adopted. The population of the commune rises to a total of 2772 inhabitants.

Tismana is one of the county's seven cities and is composed, besides its own streets, also from other component settlements, as follows: *Celei, Costeni, Gornovița, Isvarna, Pocruia, Racoți, Sohodol, Topești, Vâlcele* and *Vânăta*.<sup>117</sup> The Local Council of Tismana, reunited in its sessions throughout 2018, adopted 77 council decisions<sup>118</sup>. The months when the most council decisions were issued were may and august, while the fewer were voted in march. The city registered a number of 6997 persons residing in its territory

Turburea is a commune consisting of several villages, as are: *Cocorova, Poiana, Spahii, Șipot* and *Turburea*.<sup>119</sup> In 2018, the local administration issued a number of 93 local council decisions<sup>120</sup>. The month with the most administrative acts of this kind adopted was january, and the fewer were voted in july. The population of the commune at the reference date used in this work was of 4226 inhabitants.

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<sup>111</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>112</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.32.

<sup>113</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>114</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.31.

<sup>115</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>116</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p39.

<sup>117</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>118</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.32.

<sup>119</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>120</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.39.

Turceni is one of the cities of Gorj County, which has acquired this status in the last two decades. In addition to its streets, the city also brings together in its territorial area other settlements also, such as: *Gârbovu*, *Jilțu*, *Murgești*, *Strâmba-Jiu* and *Valea Viei*.<sup>121</sup> In the year 2018, the Turceni Local Council issued a number of 246 council decisions<sup>122</sup>. The Council's work resulted in most such administrative acts in the month of february, while the fewest council decisions were voted in the following months: january, july, september and november. The city registered a number of 8053 persons residing on its territory.

Turcinești is a commune composed of several villages: *Cartiu*, *Horezu*, *Rugi* and *Turcinești*.<sup>123</sup> In the year 2018, the public administration of the commune issued 61 local council decisions<sup>124</sup>. The months in which most were adopted were january and february, while in the months of march, may and august the fewest decisions were adopted. In the commune, a number of 2099 inhabitants are registered as residing.

Țânțăreni is a commune in the southern part of the county, on the boundary with the neighboring Dolj County. It is composed of villages, such as: *Arpadia*, *Chiciora*, *Florești* and *Țânțăreni*.<sup>125</sup> In the year 2018, the local public administration issued a number of 164 council decisions<sup>126</sup>. Most of the acts of this category were adopted in february, while the fewer in august. The population of the commune amounted to 5573 people.

Țicleni is one of the cities of Gorj County. Here we find one of the most famous urban streets, known due to its length. The so-called Petroliștilor street is one of the longest urban streets, according to some sources perhaps the longest in the country, most of the inhabitants of the city having their homes on this street. The Local Council of Țicleni adopted a number of 79 council decisions in the year 2018. January was the month when the highest number of council decisions was adopted while the local administration issued the lowest number of council decisions in the months of april and october. The population of the city amounted to 4695 inhabitants residing on its territory.

Urdari is a commune composed of villages like: *Fântânele*, *Hotăroasa* and *Urdari*.<sup>127</sup> In 2018, at the level of this commune, 55 decisions were adopted by the local council<sup>128</sup>. Of these, most were voted in march, while the fewest in february. The commune had a total of 3109 inhabitants.

Văgiulești is a commune in the southwest area of the county, at the boundary with the neighboring Mehedinți County. The villages composing the commune are: *Cârciu*, *Covrigi*, *Murgilești*, *Valea Motrului* and *Văgiulești*.<sup>129</sup>

<sup>121</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>122</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.32.

<sup>123</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>124</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.39.

<sup>125</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>126</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.39.

<sup>127</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.

<sup>128</sup> gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro, cited above, p.39.

<sup>129</sup> ro.m.Wikipedia.org.



The Local Council of Văgiulești adopted through vote, in 2018, a number of 46 council decisions<sup>130</sup>. In January were adopted most council decisions, while the months with the fewer such administrative acts issued were: March, June and September. The population of the commune indicates a number of 2463 people.

Vladimir is a commune composed of several villages, such as: *Andreești, Frasin, Valea Deșului și Vladimir*.<sup>131</sup> In the year 2018, at local level, the public administration of the locality issued a number of 39 local council decisions<sup>132</sup>. Most of the council's decisions were voted in January, while the fewer in February. The population of the commune reunited 2728 inhabitants.

In 2018, Gorj County Council issued a number of 178 county council decisions<sup>133</sup>. Most of these were adopted in April, while the fewest county council decisions were adopted in July. The county population at the reference date was of 361332 inhabitants.

### 3. CONCLUSION

It is noticeable, throughout the year 2018, a decrease in the activity of local councils, at least under the aspect of the number of council decisions adopted, in the summer period, while in the beginning or end of the year, at the level of certain localities, the number of administrative acts issued is increased compared to other periods of the year.

The demographic criterion, although important, does not represent a decisive element in the frequency of acts issued by local councils. As it can be concluded from the statistics presented, there are localities with a higher number of inhabitants where the local administration adopted fewer council decisions, compared with other localities of the same rank, where a lower number of inhabitants did not prevent the administration from adopting a relatively meaningful number of local council decisions.

According to their competences, local councils deliberate and adopt decisions. Concerning the issue of the initiative behind the decisions adopted, it has been found, including at national level, that in a very large proportion, draft decisions are initiated by mayors, although mayors are not members of the local councils. Perhaps another approach, even from a legislative perspective, but also from the perspective of the effects, would result in more draft decisions initiated by local councilors appearing on the agenda of the councils from which they are part of.

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<sup>130</sup> [gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro](http://gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro), cited above, p.39.

<sup>131</sup> [ro.m.wikipedia.org](http://ro.m.wikipedia.org).

<sup>132</sup> [gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro](http://gj.prefectura.mai.gov.ro), cited above, p.40.

<sup>133</sup> *Ibidem*, p.31.

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