

**PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE FACULTY OF GEOGRAPHY – ENVIRONMENT  
AT CROSSROADS: SMART APPROACHES FOR A SUSTAINABLE  
FUTURE – ECOSMART, NOVEMBER 12-15, 2015**

**IOAN CRISTIAN IOJA<sup>1</sup>, MIHAI RĂZVAN NIȚĂ<sup>1</sup>**

The Annual Conference 2015 entitled *Environment at Crossroads: SMART approaches for a sustainable future – ECOSMART* was organized at the National Military Centre during November 12-15, and dedicated to the 25 years anniversary for the establishment of the Faculty of Geography and the 115<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of geography teaching at the University of Bucharest. The conference was organized by the Faculty of Geography – University of Bucharest and its partners: National Military Centre, Universitur Association, Intergraph Computers Services, Multidimension SRL, Society for Urban Ecology, International Geographic Union, Bucharest Student Culture House and Econat. In addition, the manifestation was sponsored by Integraph Computers Services, Multidimension and Domeniile Samburesti.

The conference included a wide range of topics: Applied geomorphology and pedology, GIS applications and remote sensing, Climate changes, Challenges in water management, Environmental sciences, Demographic research, Sustainable territorial planning, Urbanization and territorial cohesion, Tourism as a tool of sustainable development and New strategies in education.

The manifestation opened with a speech of Professor Daniela Burghilă from the Ministry of National Education who awarded the Faculty of geography a diploma of excellence in higher education. Welcoming speeches were given by Professor Mircea Dumitru – Rector, University of Bucharest; Professor Laura Comanescu – Dean, Faculty of Geography; Professor Cristian Ioja – Director, Department of Regional Geography and Environment, president of the Organizing Committee. The Ecosmart Conference proved that the Faculty of Geography poses nucleus of educational and scientific performance capable of preparing alumni adjusted to the requirements of a changing society and

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Regional Geography and Environment, Faculty of Geography, University of Bucharest, cristian.ioja@g.unibuc.ro, mihairazvan.nita@g.unibuc.ro

producing the necessary knowledge for the feasibility of key decision-making in the evolution of the Romanian society.

The Conference was attended by 182 participants with 196 papers (of which 52 poster presentations and 144 oral presentations) representing the academic community (university teaching staff, scientific researchers, PhD students), experts in environmental sciences, geography, territorial and urban planning, geographical informational systems, tourism and education, non-governmental organization. The event recorded a special interest from the international academic community, represented by participants from Germany, United States, Russian Federation, Austria, France, Slovenia, China, Poland, Georgia, Croatia, Algeria, Slovak Republic, Switzerland, Great Britain, Italy, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Turkey or Australia.

The Conference included 8 plenary sessions sustained by: Emmanuel Reynard, University of Lausanne (*The heritage value of landforms*), Dagmar Haase, Humboldt Universitat zu Berlin (*Scenarios for sustainable European cities securing human well-being and biodiversity*), Changsee He, Western Michigan University (*Development of a Watershed Science for Sustainable Water Resources Management*), Gerard Beltrando, Université Denis Diderot Paris (*The Crau plain (west of Provence), a land of economic and ecological issues changing*), Jurgen Breuste, University of Salzburg (*The concept of eco-cities – Implementing the ecosystem service approach and reduce resource consumption*), Ibrahim Atalay, Docuz Eylül University of Izmir (*A New Approach on the Land Capability Classification*), Dan Bălțeanu, Romanian Academy (*Geography in a Global Environmental Change Context*) and Ioan Ianoș, University of Bucharest (*What does rural smart development means for Romania*).

In addition, the conference schedule included:

- Two workshops on themes of great practical novelty: Challenges in the evaluation of urban ecosystem services (organized with the support of Society of Urban Ecology – president Jurgen Breuste and president SEE Chapter Cristian Ioja) and geography of Health – spatial disparities and inequities in the health and medical services (organized with the support of the International Geographic Union – professor Liliana Dumitrache).
- Ceremonies for the honorary titles of Profesor honoris causa to the professors Jurgen Breuste, University of Salzburg and Emmanuel Reynard, University of Lausanne.
- Photographic exposition of the Foto Circle Vasile Sencu, containing over 100 pictures of various geographic themes realized by the students and staff of the Faculty of geography.
- Products and services presentation by the companies ESRI, Prosensor, TeamNet and Integraph Computers Services, in the four presentation stands (including products such as sensors, environmental monitoring equipment, drones, GIS and mapping services).

- Anniversary moment for the 115 years of geography teaching at the University of Bucharest and 25 years from the establishment of the Faculty of Geography. This section included honors for the emeritus professors, collaborators of the Faculty (educational and research) and Faculties of Geography from Romania.
- Field trips in Bucharest (in the Vacaresti area and historical centre), Oltenia-Banat and the Rucar-Bran passage.
- Networking meeting for international funding in the field of urban ecology in preparation of the next calls of the Horizon 2020 projects.

Abstracts of all the papers from the conference were published in a Book of Abstracts on optical support (CD) and available on the official conference website (<http://geo.unibuc.ro/ecosmart>). Full papers can be published according to their topic at authors choice in journals such as: *Procedia Environmental Sciences* (Elsevier, special Ecosmart conference number), *Forum Geografic*, *Human Geographies – Journal of Studies and Research in Human Geography*, *Comunicări de Geografie*, *Analele Universității din București – Seria Geografie*.



**18<sup>TH</sup> JOINT GEOMORPHOLOGICAL MEETING,  
CHAMBERY, FRANCE, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> –29<sup>TH</sup>, 2016**

**BOGDAN MIHAI<sup>1</sup>**

The conference is a traditional scientific event, recognized by the IAG (International Association of Geomorphologists) and organized every two years by one member of the joint group of geomorphological associations from France (GFG), Italy (AIGeo), Belgium (BAG), Greece (HCGE), Romania (AGR) and from this year, Switzerland (SGmG-SSGm).

The 18<sup>th</sup> edition was organized by the French Geomorphological Group (Groupe Français de Géomorphologie), at Chambéry – department of Savoie, in the Northern French Alps, by the University of Savoie- Mont Blanc and the EDYTEM research laboratory (Environnement – Dynamiques – Territoires – Montagne), under the auspices of the CNRS and the French Ministry of Culture and Communication.

For this edition, the JGM was the first part of a more complex geomorphological topics related conferences, organized by our French colleagues, followed by the conference of young geomorphologists (Journées des Jeunes Géomorphologues) and a special conference on periglacial phenomena (Journée de l'Association Française du Périglaciaire).

The topic for this edition was focused on erosion and sedimentation phenomena (Source to sink, from erosion to sedimentary archives), but the accepted papers and posters followed a large spectra of derived subjects, from dating of deposits, mapping and modelling and up to applied geomorphology issues.

There were five invited lectures from France (E. Cossart – modelling of sediment fluxes in mountain catchments), Italy (M. Gugliemini – Italian rock glaciers and landscape evolution), Greece (S. Pechlivanidou – source to sink in tectonically active areas catchments in the Aegean region), Switzerland (C. Scapozza – sediment transfer in Southern Swiss Alps after the last glaciation) and Belgium (V. Vanacker – antropogenic disturbances in morphodynamics in Western Mediterranean regions).

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<sup>1</sup> Prof. dr., University of Bucharest, Faculty of Geography, Department of Geomorphology-Pedology-Geomatics, bogdan@geo.unibuc.ro

Seven lectures followed these presentation. We mention the participation of Romanian group of geomorphologists, represented by Bogdan Olariu in collaboration with Bogdan Mihai and Ionuț Săvulescu, from University of Bucharest, Faculty of Geography, Department of Geomorphology, Pedology and Geomatics (Human-induced soil degradation in Bucegi Natural Park, Romanian Carpathians).

Following the tradition of past events, the JGM had a special poster session (25 papers), a part of them presented by the authors in the conference auditorium.

The Romanian delegation was represented by geographers from the University of Bucharest, mainly from the Faculty of Geography-Department of Geomorphology-Pedology-Geomatics (Prof. Florina Grecu, Prof. Laura Comănescu, Prof. Alexandru Nedelea, Prof. Bogdan Mihai, Assoc. Prof. Ionuț Săvulescu, Lect.dr. Robert Dobre, Assist. Mădălina Teodor), lect.dr. Daniela Strat from the Department of Meteorology and Hidrology and the doctoral school “Simion Mehedinți” at the Faculty of Geography (Marina Rujoiu-Mare, Bogdan Olariu – PhD students). From the University of Iași, assoc. prof. Dan Dumitriu also joined the conference. There were nine papers from Romania, presented during this session.

The scientific programme was followed by two days of fieldtrips, organized by our French colleagues. Their main target was to follow the essential geomorphic issues from the Northern French Alps: the first trip focused on Bauges prealpine Massif – 2217 m, East of Chambéry (karst landscapes, cave morphology and evolution, glacial and periglacial morphodynamics) and the second focused on the high alpine morphodynamics under glacial and periglacial regimes (Mont Blanc Massif – 4810 m with Chamonix Valley and Mer de Glace Glacier with the severe glacial retreat and the active dynamics of granite rock slopes around the highest peaks, at 3000-4800 m).

The conference was an successful event, a new occasion for scientific exchanges between geomorphologists and geographers, an opportunity for possible future projects. The colleagues from the EDYTEM laboratory (L. Astrade, P. Deline, S. Jaillet, L. Ravel, F. Hobléa) organized a high-level scientific meeting and hosted us with the traditional French and Alpine hospitality and friendship.



**THE 23<sup>ND</sup> NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC STUDENT SYMPOSIUM,  
BUCHAREST, 26-27 MARCH 2016**

**DIANA ONOSE<sup>1</sup>**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the National Geographic Student Symposium took place between 26 and 27 March 2016 at the Faculty of Geography, University of Bucharest, in George Vâlsan amphitheater.

The National Geographic Student Symposium is a traditional annual event organized by the Centre for Environmental Research and Impact Studies (CCMESI), supported this year by the Faculty of Geography, the NGO Carpatho Danubian Geocology Centre (CCDG), the Association of Romanian Geographers and the Institute of Geography (Romanian Academy), Romsilva and the Society for Urban Ecology – South East Europe Chapter.

The event is an institution in itself, used by the young geographers to present and debate their research results, ideas, methods and concepts. For many, the Symposium proved to be a practical opportunity to obtain grants or employment, along the knowledge and improved professional image.



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<sup>1</sup> Centre for Environmental Research and Impact Studies, University of Bucharest, [diana.onose@gmail.com](mailto:diana.onose@gmail.com)

Over the 23 years, the Symposium had over 1300 participants, the majority coming from Romania. Guests from France or the Republic of Moldova were also present. Three university centers (Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca and Iași) were the most active in sending participants, but students from Craiova, Oradea, Suceava, Târgoviște and Timișoara were also well represented, forming a true national network of future professionals.

This year, the Symposium topics focused on methods for environmental quality assessment in urban and rural ecosystems, landscape spatial and temporal dynamic, aquatic ecosystems quality, Nature 2000 network of protected areas and biodiversity conservation in Romania, ecological education and GIS.

Over 100 undergraduate, master's and PhD students, researchers and university teachers attended the event. The opening ceremony, was honored with speeches presented, in order, by Professor Maria Patroescu, the president of the organizing committee, Assistant Professor Mioara Clius, Prodean of the Faculty of Geography and Professor Cristian Iojă, Head of the Department of Regional Geography and Environment. They highlighted the role the Symposium has in forming professionals and the career opportunities that nowadays are rather important. During the plenary session that followed, Nicolae Cristian Bădescu presented his journey in Maroc and the social and environmental aspects that characterize this African state.



During the event, 35 presentations were submitted to the attention of a large and knowledgeable public. The comments and suggestions that were made represent an important incentive to further the researches and also the scientific development of the participants. The presentations impressed by their variety, quality, originality and the modern methods used (GIS, remote sensing, multi-criteria assessments and factorial analysis).

The best works were selected by public voting and the award ceremony was held on Sunday, March 27. This year the rewards consisted of 3 awards, 5 special prizes (CCMESI, Vintilă Mihăilescu special award of the Institute of Geography, ROMSILVA, and Society for Urban Ecology, Gabriela Apostol



Award), 3 mentions, 10 training courses offered by ESRI Romania and 3 prizes consisting of the qualification in the National Final of the ESRI Young Scholar Contest. The awards were assigned as it follows:

Gabriela Apostol Award was awarded to the presentation with the highest score realized by a group of students from the University of Bucharest - Bianca Laura Erimia, Andreea Ionescu, Ana-Maria Ignățoiu, Iancu Lazăr, Benjamin Stoica-Fuchs, Alexandru Ginel Vija, Andreea Popa – *A different kind of geography – a innovative didactic experiment*;

1<sup>st</sup> place was assigned to Florin Alexandru Zaharia, Răzvan Andrei Voicu, Radu Dumitru (University of Bucharest) with the paper – *Geo-statistical assessment of the relationship between the functional structure of the urban landscape and the connectivity of the transportation network in Bucharest*;

2<sup>nd</sup> place was gained by Bogdan Eugen Dolean (Babes- Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca) with the paper – *Assessment of the susceptibility of landslide production in Cluj-Napoca Metropolitan Area using GIS and spatial analysis*;

3<sup>rd</sup> place was assigned to Adriana Bianca Ovreiu, Iulian Andrei Bârsoianu (University of Bucharest), with the paper – *Long term evolution of land use change in Romanian Plain – Central Bărăgan*;

1<sup>st</sup> mention – Marga Elene Avram (University of Craiova),

2<sup>nd</sup> mention – Alin Ionuț Pleșoianu (University of Bucharest)

3<sup>rd</sup> mention – Alexandra Cehan (University Al.I. Cuza, Iași)

CCMESI special award – Sorin Hadrian Petrescu with the paper – *Structural and functional analysis model of the Caransebeș regional system*;

ROMSILVA special award – Mădălina Georgiana Mihai with the paper – *Multicriteria assessment of mountain touristic paths in Bucegi Mountains*;

Vintilă Muhăilescu special award – Mihai Mustățea with the paper *The utility of certain indicators in the elaboration of a landscape diagnosis. Case study – Botoroaga LAU, Teleorman County*;

SURE – Society of Urban Ecology - special award – Mihai Teodor Zetu with the paper *Evaluation of the green infrastructure development potential in Fetești – Ialomița County*



The prizes consisted of scientific works (books, journals) to encourage the scientific activity of students.

ESRI Romania, represented by Assistant Professor Ionuț Șandric and Roxana Nazarie, granted 10 training courses to participants that proved skill and interest in the use of GIS techniques: Ionuț Șorea, Mirela-Alina Bejenaru, Ioan Andrei Vodă-Marc, Emanuel Cristian Adorean, Ana Maria Popa, Mihai Mustătea, Vladimir Panait, Bianca Laura Erimia, Alexandru Ginel Vija, Andreea Popa. The best three papers based on GIS technologies and applications won 3 prizes represented by the qualification in the National Final of the ESRI Young Scholars Contest (Bogdan Eugen Dolean, Alin Ionuț Pleșoianu, Alexandra Cehan).

The long standing success of the symposium was made possible this year as always by the efforts of the organizing committee and also thanks to the volunteers of the Faculty of Geography, University of Bucharest.

**TEZE DE DOCTORAT  
SUSȚINUTE ÎN PERIOADA APRILIE 2015 – FEBRUARIE 2016  
– SISTEMUL BOLOGNA –**

OANA PUIA<sup>1</sup>

<b>Nr. crt.</b>	<b>Numele și prenumele doctorandului</b>	<b>Data susținerii publice</b>	<b>Titlul tezei de doctorat</b>	<b>Profesor coordonator</b>
1	Grigorie Ștefania	Aprilie 2015	Valea Dunării între Oltenița și Călărași. Studiu hidrogeomorfologic	Prof. univ. dr. Floare Grecu
2	Vasile Mirela	Iulie 2015	Procese și forme de dezagregare fizică a rocilor în areale din Carpații Meridionali și Munții Măcin	Prof. univ. dr. Floare Grecu
3	Vînă George Mihai	Iulie 2015	Soluții WebGIS Open Source în managementul spațiului urban. Studiu de caz Municipiul Slatina	Prof. univ. dr. Mihai Bogdan
4	Grădinaru Simona Raluca	Iulie 2015	Expansiunea urbană în România: caracteristici spațiale și consecințe asupra planificării peisajului	Prof. univ. dr. Ileana Pătru-Stupariu
5	Irimia Radu-Petru	Septembrie 2015	Evaluarea hazardului la alunecări de teren în bazinul Luncavățului	Prof. univ. dr. Mihai Bogdan
6	Bucurică Vaviluța	Septembrie 2015	Municipiul Giurgiu. Studiu de geografie urbană	Prof. univ. dr. Melinda Căndea
7	Popescu Răzvan Andrei	Septembrie 2015	Fenomenologia permafrostului din Carpații Românești	Prof. univ. dr. Mihai Bogdan
8	Spiridon Claudiu	Septembrie 2015	Dinamica și structura zonei de influență a orașului Târgu-Jiu	Prof. univ. dr. Ioan Ianoș
9	Gavrea Claudiu Vasile	Septembrie 2015	Funcțiile geo-economice ale Municipiului Mediaș	Prof. univ. dr. Ion Velcea
10	Ferbinte Alexandra Olguța (căs. Capră)	Septembrie 2015	Evaluarea și valorificarea resurselor turistice din depresiunea Vrancei	Prof. univ. dr. Cristian Tălângă
11	Mardale Iuliana Valentina	Septembrie 2015	Transformări geodemografice în Moldova în perioada postcomunistă	Prof. univ. dr. Liliana Dumitrache
12	Constantin Sorin	Septembrie 2015	Analiza turbidității apei de mare în zona costieră românească, pe baza datelor satelitare	Prof. univ. dr. Floare Grecu

<sup>1</sup> Phd., Faculty of Geography, University of Bucharest

13	Buterez Cezar Iulian	Septembrie 2015	Fenomenul monahal în Subcarpații dintre Râmnicu Sărat și Teleajen. Studiu de geografie istorică	Prof. univ. dr. Ion Nicolae
14	Iorgulescu Monica Adriana (căs. Oprea)	Octombrie 2015	Așezările umane din bazinul subcarpatic al Cricovului Sărat	Prof. univ. dr. Cristian Braghină
15	Taloș Ana Maria	Octombrie 2015	Stilul de viață și impactul acestuia asupra stării de sănătate a populației din județul Ialomița	Prof. univ. dr. Liliana Dumitrache
16	Saghin Irina	Noiembrie 2015	Metode și instrumente de implementare a coeziunii teritoriale în România	Prof. univ. dr. Cristian Braghină
17	Radu Aurelia Petruța	Noiembrie 2015	Dimensiunea economică și socio-culturală a calității vieții în orașul Pitești	Prof. univ. dr. George Erdeli
18	Dorobanțu Raluca Hermina	Noiembrie 2015	Efectele suburbanizării în apariția și dezvoltarea structurilor emergente în zona metropolitană a municipiului București. Studiu de caz: Bolintin Vale	Prof. univ. dr. Ioan Ianoș
19	Chirileasa Ionela Corina (căs. Dediță)	Noiembrie 2015	Rolul universității în creșterea capacității orașului Suceava de structurare a spațiului	Prof. univ. dr. Ioan Ianoș
20	Șchiopu Cosmin Liviu	Noiembrie 2015	Asigurarea meteorologică a zborului în zona de responsabilitate și interes a aerodromurilor din aria metropolitană București	Prof. univ. dr. Nicoleta Ionac
21	Nenciu Cristina (căs. Posner)	Noiembrie 2015	Analiza strategiilor de adaptare la inundații ale comunităților locale prin folosirea metodelor tradiționale și participative de cercetare. Studiu de caz: Valea Dunării între Giurgiu și Gostinu	Prof. univ. dr. Iuliana Armaș
22	Ilieș Talita (căs. Pascu)	Noiembrie 2015	Dezvoltarea așezărilor rurale din Podișul Hârtibaciului prin perspectiva turismului	Prof. univ. dr. Cristian Tălângă
23	Ghioca Silvia	Decembrie 2015	Dinamica peisajului urban al Municipiului Brăila în contextul dezvoltării durabile	Prof. univ. dr. George Erdeli
24	Purcăreață Georgian Ionuț	Decembrie 2015	Pretabilitatea terenurilor pentru infrastructura de transport în Țara Bârsei	Prof. univ. dr. Mihai Bogdan
25	Chivu Cristina	Februarie 2016	Piața turismului de afaceri din Municipiul București	Prof. univ. dr. George Erdeli