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## REVIEW

*Ilovan Oana-Ramona (ed.), „Territorial Identities in Action” / „Identități teritoriale în acțiune”, Presa Universitară Clujeană, 2021, 186 p.*

The volume entitled *Territorial Identities in Action* is focused on an interesting and current topic approached from different perspectives, thus highlighting its interdisciplinary nature, due to the fact that this topic is at the crossroads of several fields of study (geography, sociology, history, urbanism). The volume, edited by associate professor Oana-Ramona Ilovan, registered in the Constructing Territorial Identities. Theory and Practice Collection, illustrates the constant concerns of the editor to analyze the complexity of this current topic. It should be noted the contribution of the editor to the development of this theme that she approached from the perspective of territorial development in various previous studies, a new approach that reflects the role of geography in the complex analysis of territorial development.

The present volume, organized in five chapters, stands out due to significant scientific contributions, capturing various ways of approaching territorial identity, from those of theoretical and methodological importance, to applicative approaches, by reporting to a series of very interesting case studies from several countries (Romania, Republic of Moldova, and Italy). At the same time, the territorial identity is approached within the volume also by reporting to different levels of analysis: from local, regional, to national and macro-regional.

The first chapter, “Towards a Methodology for Constructing Local Territorial Identities”, is elaborated by professor Tiziana Banini from Sapienza University of Rome, coordinator of the National Research Group “Territorial Identities” within the Association of Italian

Geographers. Professor Tiziana Banini's approach is a significant contribution to the development of this topic, highlighting the most important aspects related to the definition of territorial identity, to the multiple methods used in its analysis. At the same time, the author emphasizes the importance of geography in the analysis of both the physical space and the quantifiable qualities of the territories and the population.

The second chapter represents an approach to the territorial identity from a realistic perspective, of national identity under the impact of political abuse and its influence on the construction of identity narratives, respectively. The historian dr. Valeria Chelaru from Babeş-Bolyai University analyzes with remarkable depth the Bessarabian nationalism and the union with Greater Romania in 1918, considering the concept of identity, based on the analysis of public discourse and social identities (ethnicity, nationality, etc.).

Lisa Gohlke from the University of Eastern Finland, Joensuu, analyzes the territorial identity from the perspective of populism, selecting the Republic of Moldova as a case study. On the one hand, the author highlights the influence of the political factor in building territorial identity (e.g. the influence of various political actors in representing the population of the current territory of the Republic of Moldova, outlining the Moldovan or Romanian national narrative to gain support for their political projects). On the other hand, Lisa Gohlke points out the link between territorial identity and geopolitical narratives, influenced by the enlargement of the European Union in 2004. This context was exploited by the representatives of the political parties by comparing the cultural, political and geographical ties of the territory of the Republic of Moldova with those of Europe, in order to receive support for their political goals.

Another important scientific contribution belongs to the author Valentina Albanese, from the University of Pisa, focused on the analysis of the role of territorial identities in social mobilization and on diverse forms, on experiences and practices of digital activism in debates on environmental management and climate changes. The author analyzes the information presented in social networks that she considers participatory

tools of territorial representation to interpret the narratives related to the effects generated by the environmental crisis and climate changes in Italy. The analysis elaborated by the author consisted of a research of 30 selected sources from a number of over 200 sources in total, their selection being made according to the degree of intensity of the debate on this topic.

The complexity of the territorial identity is also underlined in the fifth chapter, by interpreting it from the perspective of sustainable tourism forms. Ioana Alexandra Ciupe, from the Territorial Identities and Development Research Centre, of Babeş-Bolyai University, offers as an example the tourism related to secondary residences, as an alternative solution to preserving the local character of an important nature reserve in Romania (Apuseni Natural Park). Thus, the author highlighted the importance of local services and products in preserving the local character, drawing attention to the creation of links between consumers and the local population.

We consider that this volume represents a valuable contribution to the development of the theme of territorial identity, both theoretically and applicatively, presenting to the readers various approaches in connection with other current topics deepened through a rigorous methodology.

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