

THE 4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



BABEŞ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF GEOGRAPHY

CENTRE FOR REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY

in collaboration with

INSTITUTE FOR REGIONAL STUDIES

**REGIONAL DISPARITIES:
*TYPOLGY, IMPACT, MANAGEMENT***

23rd – 24th October 2010

Cluj-Napoca

ROMANIA

THE 4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

REGIONAL DISPARITIES: TYPOLOGY, IMPACT, MANAGEMENT

23rd - 24th October 2010

CLUJ-NAPOCA, ROMANIA

Organizing Committee:

Professor **Pompei COCEAN**, PhD, *Vice-Rector of Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca*

Professor **Dănuţ PETREA**, PhD, *Dean of the Faculty of Geography, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca*

Professor **Dumitru MATIŞ**, PhD, *Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca*

Professor **Ladislau GYÉMÁNT**, PhD, *Dean of the Faculty of European Studies, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca*

Professor **Ion VELCEA**, PhD, *Dean of the Faculty of Tourism Geography, "Dimitrie Cantemir" Christian University, Sibiu*

Engineer **Claudiu N. COŞIER**, *Director of the North-West Regional Development Agency, Cluj-Napoca*

Professor **József BENEDEK**, PhD, *Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Geography, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca*

Associated Professor **Wilfried SCHREIBER**, PhD, *Faculty of Geography, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca*

Conference Secretariat:

Associated Professor Wilfried SCHREIBER, PhD

Teaching Assistant Lelia PAPP, PhD Student

Scientific Researcher III Ana-Maria POP, PhD

Conference Programme

Saturday, 23rd October 2010

8⁰⁰ - 9⁰⁰ Registration of participants/ Înregistrarea participanților

9⁰⁰ - 9⁴⁰ Official opening of the conference/ Deschiderea oficială a conferinței
Room/ Sala 43: Amfiteatrul de Geografie „George Vâlsan”

Professor **Dănuț PETREA**, PhD, *Dean of the Faculty of Geography, Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca*

Professor **Pompei COCEAN**, PhD, *Vice-Rector of Babeș-Bolyai University, Institute for Regional Studies, Cluj-Napoca*

Professor **Dan BĂLTEANU**, PhD, *Member of the Romanian Academy, Director of the Institute of Geography of the Romanian Academy, Bucharest*

Economist **László BORBÉLY**, *Minister of Environment and Forests, Bucharest*

Engineer **Claudiu N. COȘIER**, *Director of the North-West Regional Development Agency, Cluj-Napoca*

Professor **Dumitru MATIȘ**, PhD, *Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Institute for Regional Studies, Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca*

Professor **Maria-Magdolna VINCZE**, PhD, *Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Institute for Regional Studies, Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca*

Professor **Ladislau GYÉMÁNT**, PhD, *Dean of the Faculty of European Studies, Institute for Regional Studies, Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca*

9⁴⁰ - 10⁰⁰ Coffee break/ Pauză de cafea
Room/ Sala 10 and GEONET

10⁰⁰ - 13⁰⁰ Workshop sessions/ Lucrări pe secțiuni
Room/ Sala 43: Amfiteatrul de Geografie “George Vâlsan”
Room/ Sala 22: Parter Nord
Room/ Sala 27: Parter Sud

13⁰⁰ - 15⁰⁰ Lunch/ Prânz
Room/ Sala 10 and GEONET

15⁰⁰ - 18³⁰ Workshop sessions/ Lucrări pe secțiuni
Room/ Sala 43: Amfiteatrul de Geografie “George Vâlsan”
Room/ Sala 22: Parter Nord
Room/ Sala 27: Parter Sud

18³⁰ - 19⁰⁰ Conclusions/ Concluzii
Room/ Sala 43: Amfiteatrul de Geografie “George Vâlsan”

20⁰⁰ - Gala Dinner/ Cina festivă

Sunday, 24th October 2010

7⁰⁰ - 19⁰⁰ Field trip on the route:/ Aplicație de teren pe traseul:
Cluj-Napoca - Mărginimea Sibiului (Săliște - Sibiel - Gura Râului) - Sibiu - Cisnădioara - Cristian - Miercurea Băi - Cluj-Napoca

Section I/ Secțiunea I

Room/ Sala 43: Amfiteatrul de Geografie „George Vâlsan”

Moderators:/ Moderatori:

Professor Alexandru ILIEȘ, PhD, Associate Professor Nicolae BOAR, PhD

10⁰⁰ - 13⁰⁰

Alexandru ILIEȘ¹, Milan BUFON², Dorina Camelia ILIEȘ¹, Vesna MARKELJ², Vasile GRAMA¹ (¹Oradea, Romania and ²Koper, Slovenia)

The Role of the State Border Support in the Development of Functional Crossborder Territorial Systems. Romania and Slovenia Study Case [*Rolul suportului frontierei de stat în dezvoltarea unor sisteme teritoriale transfrontaliere funcționale. Studiu de caz: România și Slovenia*]

Akos JAKOBI, (Budapest, Hungary)

Examining Neighbourhood Effects in Regional Inequalities of Hungary: a GIS-based Approach from Topological Relations to Neighbourhood Heterogeneity [*Evaluarea efectelor vecinătății în disparitățile regionale din Ungaria: o abordare GIS de la relațiile topologice la eterogenitatea vecinătății*]

József BENEDEK, Ibolya KURKO (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Regional Disparities in Central-Eastern Europe. Testing the Williamson Hypothesis [*Disparități regionale în Europa Central-Estică. Testarea ipotezei Williamson*]

Hajnalka LŐCSEI (Budapest, Hungary)

Regional Disparities and the Global Crisis in Hungary [*Disparitățile regionale și criza globală în Ungaria*]

Radu Cristian BARNA (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Is Territorial Cohesion a Necessary Condition for the Sustainable Development of European Regions? [*Este coeziunea teritorială o condiție pentru dezvoltarea durabilă a regiunilor europene?*] **Poster**

Nicolae BOAR, Sorin KOSINSZKI (Sighetu-Marmației, Romania)

The Importance of the Neighbourhood Programme Romania - Republic of Moldova 2004-2006 [*Importanța programului de vecinătate România-Republica Moldova 2004-2006*]

Octavian MÂNDRUȚ (Bucharest, Romania)

The Geographical Description of Romania at European Scale [*Definirea geografică a României la scară europeană*]

Diana-Elena ALEXANDRU, Vasile ZOTIC (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

SAPARD Programme – A Contribution to Reducing Disparities in Romania [*Programul SAPARD – O contribuție la reducerea disparităților în România*]

Michaela Dora MIHĂILESCU, Gergely TÓRÓK (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Plan4all - The European Approach to Spatial Data Used in Territorial Planning [*Plan4all – O abordare europeană a datelor spațiale utilizate în planificarea teritorială*]

Despina VASILCU (Suceava, Romania)

The Exodus of the White Coats - A Phenomenon That Will Heighten the Discrepancies at a National and European Level [*Exodul halatelor albe - un fenomen care va accentua disparitățile la nivel național și european*]

Egon NAGY (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

New Aspects of Territorial Disparities along the Hungarian-Romanian Border Region [*Noi aspecte ale disparităților teritoriale în regiunea transfrontalieră româno-ungară*]

László BORBÉLY (Bucharest, Romania)

Regional Development from the Perspective of Policentricity [*Dezvoltare regională prin prisma dezvoltării policentrice*]

Ibolya KURKÓ (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

The Territorial Differences of Human Capital in Romania [*Diferențele teritoriale ale capitalului uman în România*]

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Room/ Sala 43: Amfiteatrul de Geografie „George Vâlsan”

Moderators:/ Moderatori:

Professor Nicolae POPA, PhD, Associate Professor Radu Călin SPÂNU, PhD

15⁰⁰ - 18³⁰

Gergely TÖRÖK (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

The Territorial Differences of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises in Romania [*Diferențe teritoriale ale întreprinderilor mici și mijlocii din România*]

Nicolae POPA (Timișoara, Romania)

Identity Stakes and Regional Disparities in the Banat and West Region of Romania [*Mize identitare și disparități regionale în Banat și Regiunea de Vest a României*]

Gilles ARDINAT (Montpellier, France)

The European Policy Against Regional Disparities Facing the Requirement of Competitiveness [*Politica europeană împotriva disparităților regionale în fața cerinței de competitivitate*]

Cătălina CÂRSTEA, Florentina ION, Petronela NOVĂCESCU (Bucharest, Romania)

Forecast on the Impact of Bucharest - Brașov Highway upon the Economic and Functional Structure of Human Settlements in Ilfov County [*Proгноза impactului autostrăzii București - Brașov asupra structurii economice și funcționale a așezărilor umane din județul Ilfov*]

Radu Călin SPÂNU (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Management of Contaminated Industrial Sites and Their Conversion to New Functions [*Managementul siturilor industriale contaminate și reconversia lor spre noi funcțiuni*]

Anna HORVÁTH (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Romanian Regions: Towards Cohesion or Competitiveness? [*Regiunile din România: spre coeziune sau competitivitate?*]

Gabriela-Alina MUREȘAN, Raluca-Mihaela ROGOJAN (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)
The Consequences of Applying the Disadvantaged Area Policy in the Mining Area of Baia Mare
[Consecințele aplicării politicii zonelor defavorizate în zona minieră Baia Mare]

Lelia PAPP (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)
Spatial Disparities in Transport Accessibility in Cluj County *[Disparități spațiale ale accesibilității transportului în județul Cluj]*

Rozalia BENEDEK (Zalău, Romania)
Economic and Geographic Disparities and Railways, from Their Building until Nowadays. Case Study Applied to the North-West Region of Romania *[Disparitățile economico-geografice și căile ferate, de la edificare și până în prezent. Studiu de caz aplicat pentru Regiunea de Nord-Vest]*

Alina-Elena HUZUI, Delia Adriana MIREA, Robert Cristian STOICULESCU (Bucharest, Romania)
The Perception of the Industrial Landscape Reconversion Within the Urban Structure. Case Study – the Industrial Units of Belvedere Cigarette Factory, Bucharest and S.C. MEFIN S.A. Sinaia *[Percepția reconversiei peisajului industrial în cadrul structurii urbane. Studiu de caz: unitatea industrială Fabrica de Țigări Belvedere, București și S.C. Mefin S.A., Sinaia]*

Crina Sînziana TURTOI (Bucharest, Romania)
Coordinates for the Dissemination of Agricultural Census Results Needed for Regional Disparities Analysis *[Coordonate pentru diseminarea rezultatelor recensământului agricol necesare analizei disparităților regionale]*

Alexandru MUREȘAN, Gabriela Adina LAZĂR, Olivia-Ioana MUREȘAN (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)
Premises for Agricultural Development in the Zăbala River Basin *[Premisele dezvoltării agriculturii în Bazinul Zăbalei]*

Elisabeta CIOCAN (Segarcea, Romania)
Human Pressure Through Agricultural Land Use in the Desnățui Plain *[Presiunea umană prin modul de utilizare a terenurilor agricole în Câmpia Desnățuiului]*

Raularian RUSU (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)
Disparities in the Distribution of Banks in Banat (Romania) *[Disparități ale distribuției băncilor din Banat (România)]*

Ana PUNCIOIU (Bucharest, Romania)
The Effect of Nehoiu and Pogoanele Social and Economic Restructuring *[Efectele restructurării în plan socio-economic asupra orașelor Nehoiu și Pogoanele]*

Ionela RADU (Oradea, Romania)
Regional Disparities in the Japanese Development Model *[Disparități regionale în modelul de dezvoltare japonez]*

Section II/ Secțiunea II

Room/ Sala 27: Parter Sud

Moderators:/ Moderatori:

Associate Professor Wilfried SCHREIBER, PhD,
Assistant Professor Cristian Nicolae BOȚAN, PhD

10⁰⁰ - 13⁰⁰

Oana-Elena BLAGA (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

The Evolution of Some Demographic Indicators of the Towns of Alba County [*Evoluția unor indicatori demografici ai orașelor județului Alba*]

Cristian Nicolae BOȚAN (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Public Health in the Inner City Area – Sinaia-Bușteni-Azuga-Predeal-Râșnov-Brașov (Poiana Brașov) – Current Status, Malfunctions and Strategic Aspects [*Componenta de sănătate publică în teritoriul zonal inter-orășenesc – Sinaia, Bușteni, Azuga, Predeal, Râșnov, Brașov (Poian Brașov) - situația existentă, disfuncționalități și elemente de strategie*]

Gabriel CAMARĂ (Iași, Romania)

Demographic Evolution of the Small Towns from the North-East Development Region in the Postcommunist Period [*Evoluția demografică a orașelor mici din Regiunea de Dezvoltare Nord-Est în perioada postcomunistă*]

Erika DÁNÉL (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Geodemographical and Economic Disparities in the Suburban Area of Cluj-Napoca [*Disparități geodemografice și economice în zona suburbană Cluj-Napoca*]

Alina HERCIOG, Gabriel RĂDULESCU (Bucharest, Romania)

The Impact of Industrial Restructuring on Population Dynamics in the City of Călărași [*Impactul restructurării industriale asupra dinamicii populației în Municipiul Călărași*]

Cristiana VÎLCEA (University of Craiova, Romania)

Spatial Disparities within the Educational System in the Land of Severin [*Disparități teritoriale în sistemul educațional al Țării Severinului*]

Florentina ION, Petronela NOVACESCU (Bucharest, Romania)

Territorial Disparities in the Population Dynamics – Comparative Analysis Between Bucharest-Ploiești Corridor and Bucharest-Pitești Corridor [*Disparități teritoriale ale dinamicii populației- analiză comparativă între axa București- Ploiești și axa București- Pitești*]

Ionuț ATUDOREI (Iași, Romania)

The Religious Identity of the Catholics from Moldovia [*Identitatea religioasă a catolicilor din Moldova*]

Adelin NEDELEA, Ana PUNCIOIU (Bucharest, Romania)

Evolution of the Population in Pitești. Trends and Characteristics [*Evoluția populației în municipiul Pitești. Tendințe și caracteristici*]

Elena-Livia VIȘAN, Ileana PĂTRU-STUPARIU (Bucharest, Romania)

Landscape Management in the Process of Urbanization in the Subcarpathian Sector of the Prahova Valley [*Gestionarea peisajului în procesul de urbanizare din sectorul subcarpatic al văii Prahova*]

Călin Cornel POP (Zalău, Romania)

Intelligent Geographic Structures: Load, Capacity and Behaviour [*Structuri geografice inteligente: încărcătură, capacitate, comportament*]

Adrian NICOLAE (Bucharest, Romania)

Cultural Landscape Between the Perspectives of Identity and Globalization in Giurgiu and Călărași Cities [*Peisajul cultural - între perspectivele identitare și cele de globalizare la nivelul orașelor Giurgiu și Călărași*]

Camelia-Ina GAVRA, Ileana Cristina CRĂCIUN (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Cultural Landscapes in Brad Depression [*Peisaje culturale în Depresiunea Brad*]

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Room/ Sala 27: Parter Sud

Moderators:/ Moderatori:

Professor Pompei COCEAN, PhD, Assistant Professor Sorin FILIP, PHD

15⁰⁰ - 18³⁰

Pompei COCEAN (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

An Efficient Model for Spatial Planning: Territories at the Heads of Axes [*Un model eficient de amenajare spațială: teritoriile din capete de axe*]

Cătălina CÂRSTEA (Bucharest, Romania)

Evolution of Regional Disparities in the Rural Area of Muscelele Argeșului [*Evoluția disparităților teritoriale din zona rurală a Muscelelor Argeșului*]

Radu Cristian BARNĂ (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Could Rural Development Be Influenced by the Improvement of Bicycle Infrastructure? [*Dezvoltarea rurală poate fi influențată de îmbunătățirea infrastructurii dedicată bicicliștilor?*]

Ciprian ALUPULUI (Iași, Romania)

The Role of Territorial Partnerships at Local Level – The Case of “Cotnari Local Action Group” [*Rolul parteneriatelor teritoriale la nivel local – cazul Grupului de Acțiune Locală Cotnari*]

Sorin FILIP, Ștefan BILAȘCO (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

A Model of Territorial Balancing in Maramureș - Chioar Region [*Model de echilibrare teritorială în Regiunea Maramureș-Chioar*]

Daniel COSTEA (Sibiu, Romania)

Demographic Disparities in the Development Microregion of Țara Secașelor (Ținutul Secaș)
[Disparități demografice în cadrul microregiunii de dezvoltare Țara Secașelor (Ținutul Secaș)]

Ion-Horațiu PAVEL (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Misfunctions of the Settlement System in the Land of Amlaș *[Disfuncționalitățile sistemului de așezări al Țării Amlașului]*

Iuliana Nicoleta IONIȚĂ (Găești, Romania)

Selection Factors in Planning Brezoele-Dâmbovița Territory *[Factori de selecție în amenajarea teritoriului Brezoele-Dâmbovița]*

Izabela Amalia MIHALCA (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Dysfunctions in Spatial Mycosystems. Case Study: Chinteni Village *[Disfuncții în microsisteme spațiale. Studiu de caz: comuna Chinteni]*

Marinela RĂDUȚĂ (Caransebeș, Romania)

Dynamics of Rural Space in the Upper Basin of the Bistra Valley *[Dinamica spațiului rural în bazinul superior al Văii Bistra]*

Maria-Magdalena LUPCHIAN (Suceava, Romania)

Aspects Regarding Life Quality in Suceava County *[Aspecte privind calitatea vieții în județul Suceava]*

Alexandru BĂNICĂ (Iași, Romania)

Indicators of Recent Dynamics in Quality of Housing for the Moldavian Small Towns *[Indicatori ai dinamicii recente a calității locuirii în orașele mici din Moldova]*

Simona FOLEA (Bran, Romania)

The Impact of the Metropolitan Area of Brașov on the Sustainable Development of Râșnov Town *[Impactul Zonei Metropolitane Brașov asupra dezvoltării durabile a orașului Râșnov]*

Magdalena DRĂGAN (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Resilience of the Rural Settlements in the Apuseni Mountains *[Aspecte ale rezilienței așezărilor rurale din Munții Apuseni]*

Simona Elena BOROGEAN (CĂS. MIHĂESCU) (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Mental Disparities in the Land of Lovișteța *[Disparități mentale în Țara Loviștei]*

Ioana SCRIDON, Matei DOMNIȚA (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

The Centrality of Vișeu de Sus Town *[Centralitatea orașului Vișeu de Sus]*

Section III/ Secțiunea III

Room/ Sala 22: Parter Nord

Moderators:/ Moderatori:

Associate Professor Rădița ALEXE, PhD, Associate Professor Gheorghe ȘERBAN, PhD

10⁰⁰ - 13⁰⁰

Maria Ioana VLAD, Dragoș BRĂTĂȘANU (Bucharest, Romania)

Quality of Life Assessment Based on Spatial and Temporal Analysis of the Vegetation Areas Derived from Satellite Images [*Evaluarea calității vieții bazată pe analiza spațio-temporală a zonelor de vegetație derivată din imagini satelitare*]

Rădița ALEXE (Târgoviște, Romania)

The Landscape of the Canyon Parks of the Colorado Plateau (USA) [*Peisajul Parcurilor Canioanelor din Platoul Colorado (SUA)*]

Mihai DUMITRESCU (Bucharest, Romania)

Geographical Landscape Regionalization in the Bratia Basin [*Regionarea peisajului geografic în Bazinul Bratia*]

Diana Cristina BRĂDĂU (Oradea, Romania)

The Impact of Relief upon the Dynamics of Air Masses in Deva Area [*Impactul reliefului asupra dinamicii maselor de aer în arealul orașului Deva*]

Răzvan-Horațiu BĂTINAȘ, Gheorghe ȘERBAN, Victor SOROCOVSCHI (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Ecological Typology of Surface Waters from the Romanian Side of the Tisa Catchment Area [*Tipologia ecologică a rețelei hidrografice din bazinul românesc al Tisei*]

Ioana CÂMPEAN, Ovidiu CÂMPEAN (Sibiu, Romania)

The Pluviometric Situation of the Month of June 2010 and the Impact on the Environment in the Centre Region [*Situația pluviometrică din luna iunie 2010 și impactul asupra mediului în Regiunea Centru*]

Adina CROITORU¹, Iulian HOLOBĂCĂ¹, Cătălin LAZĂR², Florin MOLDOVAN¹, Alexandru IMBROANE¹ (¹Cluj-Napoca, Romania, ²Fundulea, Romania)

Trends in Temperature in Romania and Their Effect on Winter Wheat Crops [*Tendența temperaturii aerului în România și efectul asupra culturii grâului de toamnă*]

Gabriela Adina LAZĂR (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

The Typology and Current Structure of the Geosystems in the Southern Part of the Trascău Mountains [*Tipologia și structura actuală a geosistemelor în sudul Munților Trascău*]

Gheorghe ȘERBAN, Răzvan-Horațiu BĂTINAȘ, Victor SOROCOVSCHI (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Flood System Prevention in the Romanian Side of the Tisa River Catchment Area [*Sisteme de prevenire a inundațiilor în bazinul românesc al Tisei*]

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Room/ Sala 22: Parter Nord

Moderators:/ Moderatori:

Professor Nicolae CIANGĂ, PhD, Associate Professor Marin ILIEȘ, PhD

15⁰⁰ - 18³⁰

Nicolae CIANGĂ (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Territorial Concentrations and Types of Tourist Facilities in the North-West Development Region [*Concentrări teritoriale și tipuri de amenajări turistice în Regiunea de Dezvoltare Nord-Vest*]

Francesca REGOLI (Bologna, Italy)

Can Rural Tourism Boost Green Livelihoods? Empirical Evidences From Maramureș [*Poate turismul rural stimula traiul verde? Dovezi empirice din Maramureș*]

Iacob ALTMAN (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

North-West Region - Investment Efficiency in Tourism [*Regiunea de Nord-Vest - Eficiența investițiilor în turism*]

Zsolt Norbert BANTO (Oradea, Romania)

Basic Research on Those Factors Which Influence the Tourists' Decision from Bihor County to Visit Hajdúszoboszló [*Studiu preliminar privind motivația turiștilor din județul Bihor de a vizita stațiunea Hajdúszoboszló*]

Marin ILIEȘ, Gabriela ILIEȘ, Mihai HOTEA (Sighetu-Marmației, Romania)

Applied Geospatial Analysis in R&D Projects on Romanian Traditional Village [*Analiza geospațială aplicată în proiectele de cercetare-dezvoltare asupra satului tradițional românesc*]

Ioana CÂMPEAN, Cristina MIHAI, Corina ONEA (Sibiu, Romania)

“Speleotherapeutic” Tourist Offer of Ocna Dej (Cluj County) and Ocnele Mari (Vâlcea County) Salt Mines - A New Possibility of Socio-Economic Recovery [*Oferta turistică speleoterapeutică a salinelor Ocna Dej (jud. Cluj) și Ocnele Mari (jud. Vâlcea) – o nouă posibilitate de relansare socio-economică*]

Viorel PUIU¹, Ana-Maria POP² (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Territorial Disparities Conditioned by (Non) Preservation and (Non)Refurbishment of Some Historical Monuments [*Disparități teritoriale condiționate de (non)conservarea și (non)amenajarea unor monumente istorice*]

Laurențiu-Marius DINU (Bucharest, Romania)

Impact of Tourism Development on the Environment. Case Study: Lepșa Area [*Impactul dezvoltării turistice asupra mediului înconjurător. Studiu de caz: Zona Lepșa*]

Silviu-Florin FONOGEA¹, **Mihaela VRABETE**², **Viorel PUIU**¹ (¹Cluj-Napoca, Romania, ²Bucharest, Romania)

The Perspective of a Regional Tourism Cluster for Colibița Resort [*Stățiunea Colibița și perspectiva unui cluster turistic regional*]

Gabriel MINEA (Bucharest, Romania)

Agrotourism - Potential Factor in the Revitalization of the Demographic Decline in Gura Teghii [Agroturismul - potențial factor de revitalizarea a declinului demografic în comuna Gura Teghii]

Iuliu VESCAN, Ștefan BILAȘCO (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Assessment of the Potential for Developing Winter Sports in Maramureș County [*Determinarea potențialului de amenajare pentru sporturi de iarnă în județul Maramureș*]

Maria-Cristina ONET (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Territorial Differences Regarding the Tourist Planning and Knowledge of the Apuseni Natural Park Due To the Involvement of the NGOs and the Allotment of Funds [*Diferențieri teritoriale asupra cunoașterii și amenajării Parcului Natural Apuseni reflectate de implicarea ONG-urilor și a fondurilor structurale aferente*]

George-Bogdan TOFAN (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Main Aspects of Rehabilitation and Touristic Remodelling in Borsec Resort [*Aspecte privind reabilitarea și remodelarea turistică în stațiunea Borsec*]

Section IV/ Secțiunea IV

Posters/ Postere

Cătălina ANCUȚA (Timișoara, Romania)

Aspects Regarding the Theory and Methodology Related to Territorial Disparities [*Aspecte teoretice și metodologice privind disparitățile teritoriale*]

Radu Cristian BARNA (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Is Territorial Cohesion a Necessary Condition for the Sustainable Development of European Regions? [*Este coeziunea teritorială o condiție pentru dezvoltarea durabilă a regiunilor europene?*]

Daniela DRĂGAN (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Medical Polarization of the City of Cluj-Napoca [*Polarizarea medicală a municipiului Cluj-Napoca*]

Mihai DUMITRESCU (Bucharest, Romania)

The Impact Which the Close of the Mining Centres and the Forest Railroad in the Bratia River Basin Had upon Landscape [*Impactul asupra peisajului produs de închiderea centrelor miniere și a căii ferate forestiere din Bazinul Bratia*]

Cristina ȘOȘEA (Craiova, Romania)

Spatial-Functional Dynamics of Craiova Municipality's Periphery [*Dinamica spațial-funcțională a periferiei municipiului Craiova*]

Abstracts / Rezumate

SAPARD PROGRAMME – A CONTRIBUTION TO REDUCING DISPARITIES IN ROMANIA [PROGRAMUL SAPARD – O CONTRIBUȚIE LA REDUCEREA DISPARITĂȚILOR ÎN ROMÂNIA]

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The ultimate aim of the European funds has been the adjustment of newcomers to the minimal European standards of development. Hence, the fundamental scope of the pre-accession period and its related financial assistance was to help Romania comply with the rules and regulations of the *Aquis Communautaire*, under all socio-economic aspects. Besides the overall great extension of rural areas, characterized by the need for imperative improvement, both social and economic, the existence of a specific category of less-developed areas, legally established since 1998, brings out the necessity to analyze the spatial dissimilarities determined by their status. As they represent fragile geographic, economic and social environments, their development is marked by unpredictability. This vulnerability, induced by complex structural modifications, proves to increase the necessity for administrative and financial support so as to regenerate the less-developed areas. Much more, it might be the reason for which in Romania we registered such a low financial absorption during the pre-accession period. The answer to the current status, be it legislative, social or economic, is that the state should (directly) get involved in the implementation of the current and upcoming structural funds, taking into consideration that the organisation of both human capital and economic structures is vulnerable and **fragile**.

THE LANDSCAPE OF THE CANYON PARKS OF THE COLORADO PLATEAU (USA) [PEISAJUL PARCURILOR CANIOANELOR DIN PLATOUL COLORADO (SUA)]

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The Canyons of the Colorado Plateau, where the landscape is shaped continually, there are unparalleled miracles of nature and truly open windows of time on Earth. The Canyons National Parks were created to protect various vestiges of erosion which provide a unique landscape with plateaux, abysses, peaks, arches and other forms of rocks which cannot be seen anywhere else in the world. Arches National Park contains the largest concentration of natural rock spans in the world, containing over 2,000 arches. In the Fiery Furnace labyrinth the peaks and towers are ready to “catch on fire” at sunset.

Canyonlands National Parks offers visitors views of the unusual rock formations in three distinct sectors, shaped in the heart of the Colorado Plateau, namely: North - Island in the Sky, West - The Maze and East - The Needles. Grand Canyon is, paraphrasing President Theodore Roosevelt, one of the wonders of nature that every man should see; astronauts in orbit can see this beautiful landscape. Glen Canyon Dam and Lake Powell, a maze of water and rock, complete the landscape as seen from a helicopter.

Bryce National Park is distinguished by magnificent scenery of the fourteen amphitheatres and the Cathedral, the Natural Bridge and numerous hoodoos.

The attention paid to the protected areas sincerely invites any tourist to enjoy the beauties of nature and to explore and protect them at the same time.

NORTH-WEST REGION - INVESTMENT EFFICIENCY IN TOURISM
[REGIUNEA DE NORD-VEST - EFICIENȚA INVESTIȚIILOR ÎN TURISM]

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Along with the birth of the North-West region, idea that included Bihor, Bistrița-Năsăud, Cluj, Maramureș, Satu Mare and Sălaj counties, raised a social-economic foundation that integrated in the national system and with high interest in collaborating with similar regions of the three surrounding countries, involving the starting use of tourist resources with a higher efficiency. The efficiency of any activity in tourism is measured by comparing the results with the means used (Effect over Effort).

THE ROLE OF TERRITORIAL PARTNERSHIPS AT LOCAL LEVEL – THE CASE OF
“COTNARI LOCAL ACTION GROUP” [ROLUL PARTENERIATELOR TERITORIALE LA
NIVEL LOCAL – CAZUL GRUPULUI DE ACȚIUNE LOCALĂ COTNARI]

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The objective of this paper is to analyze new forms of local territorial partnerships developed under the territorial cohesion policy promoted by the European Union. In this context, the future of cohesion policy and the growing importance of territorial cohesion led to the initiating of the micro-regional projects in order to reduce economic and social disparities.

The promotion of regional policies based on local agreement is dedicated to create partnerships in order to start projects for local development that involve civil society, municipalities, regions, private sector, experts, or private citizens. These partnerships are presented as informal organizations, created by cooperation at local level of public institutions, with social and economic actors stated aim to develop community consistently using all the resources offered by their territory.

Such forms of cooperation can be found in several places in the world, but with a greater focus in Europe, and their main purpose is to promote community participation and sustainable development, engaging citizens and organizations in taking decisions at local level.

The study aims to clarify the concept of “local action group” and to analyse the effects of public - private partnership on territorial development for the project initiated in the Hârlău region. This project groups 12 administrative-territorial units from Iași County, developed with the support from the European program LEADER.

ASPECTS REGARDING THE THEORY AND METHODOLOGY RELATED TO
TERRITORIAL DISPARITIES
[ASPECTE TEORETICE SI METODOLOGICE PRIVIND DISPARITĂȚILE TERITORIALE]

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The presentation proposes a method for approaching territorial disparities, starting from the theoretical paradigm and from the examples offered by the international literature on this topic. The main conclusion are as follows: the analysis of territorial disparities suppose the study of three types of aspects – social, economic, and those of quality of life; the analysis of each category reveals *elementary* disparities; the synthetic analysis of global function of the system – through a global index of development - reveals the *territorial* disparities. A statistic approach in terms of *dispersion* and analysis of characteristic intervals helps to the understanding of the dimensions of the heterogeneity of the territory. The analysis of the dynamic of the disparities, also studying the divergence/convergence

tendency reveals the future evolution of the system towards cohesion or further polarization. The method is applied at the south-west of Romania (a part of Banat region), using social indices (the share of aging people, the share of graduated people, social-economic indices (the share of employees, the share of unemployment), economic indices (turnover per capita), indices of quality of life (inhabitable surface, connection to telephone), and a global index of development. The main conclusion is that in the south-west of Romania, the *social* disparities diminished, while the *economic* disparities and those regarding the *quality of the life* increased. The coherence of the territorial system is, thus, threatened.

**THE EUROPEAN POLICY AGAINST REGIONAL DISPARITIES FACING THE
REQUIREMENT OF COMPETITIVENESS [POLITICA EUROPEANĂ ÎMPOTRIVA
DISPARITĂȚILOR REGIONALE ÎN FAȚA CERINȚEI DE COMPETITIVITATE]**

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From the Treaty of Rome (1957), the European Community has established a financial instrument (the European Social Fund) to reduce disparities in wealth between regions. That determination was affirmed throughout the European construction: in 1975, creation of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the Single European Act in 1986, the Cohesion Fund in 1994. The financial adjustments to less developed areas have been at the heart of regional policy.

However, this egalitarian ideal is no longer the sole objective of regional policy. Mass unemployment and the new competition created by globalization have led the EU to reconsider its economic and social objectives. With the Lisbon Strategy (2000), the EU aims to become “the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion” by 2010.

Competitiveness, applied to nations, is an elitist concept who calls to promote growth poles of international dimension. Europe wants to improve human assets and existing infrastructures and create places of excellence and technology. But what role to give to regions in difficulty in this space of competition? How to change the structural funds, so that regional policy is, with 43% of expenditure, the first budget of the EU (more than the Common Agricultural Policy)?

As a matter of fact, the Lisbon strategy is a political compromise that seeks to promote the competitiveness of Europe but without calling into question the egalitarian basis of the regional policy (the struggle against regional disparities).

**THE RELIGIOUS IDENTITY OF THE CATHOLICS FROM MOLDOVIA [IDENTITATEA
RELIGIOASĂ A CATOLICILOR DIN MOLDOVA]**

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The Catholics represent almost 5% of the total population of Moldavia. Their spiritual identity was formed in opposition to that of the Orthodox majority and according to the universal church dogmata, preached by the missionary priests who reached the territory surrounded by the Carpathians, the Nister, the Black Sea, the Danube and the Milcov as early as the 14th century.

In the Middle Ages, **religion** was the means of differentiating oneself from the others and not ethnicity. Therefore, the large Catholic communities around Roman and Bacău of mixed ethnic origin (Hungarian and Romanian) and of different ages (due to the Transcarpathian movement of the population from Transylvania) considered themselves to be Catholics and nothing else until the modern period. Once the ideas of nation and nationality appeared, these biethnic groups were gradually involved in the process of formation of the modern states (Romania and Hungary). The

Catholics of other origins, like Polish, German, Armenian, Roma, French and Italian are very few and some even became completely Romanian, preserving only their religious identity.

As many of the speakers of Hungarian and Romanian (called Csangos by the Hungarians and the Szecklers) lived in Moldavia, it was inevitable for them to be subjected to a natural process of becoming Romanian, through school, army and church for the past 150 years. Yet, they managed to preserve unaltered their laws, customs and superstitions, supported by the active participation in the spiritual and social life of the community.

**BASIC RESEARCH ON THOSE FACTORS WHICH INFLUENCE THE TOURISTS'
DECISION FROM BIHOR COUNTY VISIT HAJDÚSZOBOSZLÓ**
*[STUDIUL PRELIMINAR PRIVIND MOTIVAȚIA TURIȘTILOR DIN JUDEȚUL BIHOR DE A
VIZITA STAȚIUNEA HAJDÚSZOBOSZLÓ]*

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In the area of Bihor- Hajdú-Bihar euroregion there can be found different forms of relief, which show both similarities and differences on the each sides of the Romanian-Hungarian border. These natural conditions created specific tourist motion. I would like to present the east-west projection of this euroregion. The central topic of my research is the tourism extending over the border in Bihor-Hajdú-Bihar euroregion. We can notice specific tourism movements complementing each other reciprocally on this area, because the Hungarian tourists visit mainly the highlands of Bihor county, while the local tourists prefer visiting the spas in Hajdú-Bihar county, the most popular being Hajdúszoboszló. All these facts were found out by the help of a questionnaire, made in January 2010, when I asked 200 people who had been in Hajdúszoboszló in the last 4 years. In my opinion, most of the tourists of Bihor county prefer going to the spas in Hajdú-Bihar county to staying in Romania, despite of the fact that we can find popular spas also in Bihor county, such as Felix spa, which is a holiday resort centre with a similar character and similar services. The aim of the questionnaire was to point out those factors which influence the tourists' decision. After processing the questionnaires, it was proved that tourists preferred as destination the more diverse and qualitative wellness services, the better recreation opportunities, the better quality-price proportion, the better hygiene circumstances and the aqua park of Hajdúszoboszló with the abundant supply.

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**COULD RURAL DEVELOPMENT BE INFLUENCED BY THE IMPROVEMENT OF
BICYCLE INFRASTRUCTURE? [AR PUTEA FI DEZVOLTAREA RURALĂ INFLUENȚATĂ
DE ÎMBUNĂȚĂȚIREA INFRASTRUCTURII CICLISTE?]**

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The interest for the bicycle is today known and recognized: bicycle consumes little space, it is not very costly, is good for health, more effective for the short movements and presents a reduced level of risk. Also evident, but less known, is the direct economic profit bicycle could produce. And it can be very well combined, in the case of an investment in bicycle infrastructure, with the sustainable development of rural areas. Here, the benefits are more likely to appear because often, tourism is the only possible economic activity. We will thus analyze in the herein paper some of these aspects, that do the relation between bicycle touring, tourist development and sustainable development; the analysis makes obvious the interest that certain regions have to invest in cycling facilities, as a factor of differentiation on the vast market of tourism products.

**IS TERRITORIAL COHESION A NECESSARY CONDITION FOR THE SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPEAN REGIONS?
[ESTE COEZIUNEA TERITORIALĂ O CONDIȚIE PENTRU DEZVOLTAREA DURABILĂ A
REGIUNILOR EUROPENE?]**

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The Regional policy of the EU is pursuing the harmonious development of the European territory, necessary condition for generating a favourable environment for the convergence of Union's policies. But in order these policies to converge, the existence of common objectives is a necessity, which can arise only from the existence of common needs. It is obvious that a very different level of development leads to different needs for people and territories and as a result, to the pursuit of different objectives. The introduction of the territorial cohesion as an objective of the European Union through the Lisbon Treaty has concluded many years of debate over the essence and future of the EU. But is this a prerequisite for the sustainable development of EU regions? To answer this question we will try in the herein paper to show the importance of the territorial cohesion in the EU and for that, we will place the evolution of this concept in parallel with that of development, and also with the process of enlargement and of deepening of the EU. We will thus try to determine the influence that territorial cohesion has on regions and on the European construction, in order to be able at the end, to explain the effects it has on their sustainable development.

**INDICATORS OF RECENT DYNAMICS IN QUALITY OF HOUSING FOR THE
MOLDAVIAN SMALL TOWNS [INDICATORI AI DINAMICII RECENTE A CALITĂȚII
LOCUIRII ÎN ORAȘELE MICI DIN MOLDOVA]**

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Having both urban and rural patterns, the Moldavian small towns are confronting dramatic changes in recent period. Polarising centres for the local rural environment, but peripheral within the urban regional and national system, these localities do not always fulfil their territorial mission. After 1989, their number has grown, new units being added by political decision without a serious base in housing and amenities criteria, which made them structurally and functionally fragile. The quality of habitation in the utilitarian and functional approach depends on the accessibility and the comfort offered by the dwellings and by the access to the main amenities, services and general urban infrastructure. The analysis takes into account the lack of functionality in housing field, but also the recent processes of modernization by national social programmes, by local enterprise initiatives and by accessing European funds. The technical development of the urban territory was a discontinued process, sometimes depending on the urban morphology and the streets plan configuration, the degree of integration respecting the rural localities included into the town's administrative territory that have a role in facilitating or delaying the modernisation of the infrastructure. Having *adequate housing* as a key concept, the study proposes a set of indicators concerning the habitability and the access to houses and urban amenities. In order to have a grounded diagnosis of the last 20 years dynamics, the density of habitation, the need for houses and the endowment of the households will be put in relation to demographic and social-economical indicators that individuate the Moldavian small towns.

**ECOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY OF SURFACE WATERS FROM THE ROMANIAN SIDE
OF TISA CATCHMENT AREA [TIPOLOGIA ECOLOGICĂ A REȚELEI HIDROGRAFICE DIN
BAZINUL ROMÂNESC AL TISEI]**

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Water Framework Directive, drafted in 2000, at the initiative of the European Community includes among other subjects, the methodology for determining the ecological typology of the surface waters system. It envisages the establishment of ecoregion units, which are defined by a series of factors specific to surface waters. Thus, for the rivers' system the following parameters were used: altitude of the basin, geological features, surface water catchment area, the bed lithological structure, the specifically multiannual average flow, the minimum monthly average flow with annual probability of 95%, climate characteristics, average slope of the watercourse. Lake units were considered by analyzing four major factors: altitude where the lake is located, the receiving basin geology of the lake, mean depth and retention time of water into the lake. The widespread development of the Tisa River basin over geographical regions with distinct features required mapping of a large number of water bodies, as required by water cadastral nomenclature. After the analysis, we have detected 15 types and subtypes of bodies associated with rivers and 18 types associated with lakes (three types for natural lakes and 15 types for reservoirs). The distribution of water bodies by their specific typology, claims a certain regionalization, but also captures some areas of "hot spot" phenomena caused by aquatic pollution.

**REGIONAL DISPARITIES IN CENTRAL-EASTERN EUROPE. TESTING THE WILLIAMSON
HYPOTHESIS [DISPARITĂȚI REGIONALE ÎN EUROPA CENTRAL-ESTICĂ. TESTAREA
IPOTEZEI WILLIAMSON]**

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The Williamson hypothesis is a comparative analysis of regional disparities within countries, in which the author identifies the existence of a relationship between the national income per capita and the level of regional disparities. According to this theory, disparities grow rapidly during the first phases of development and diminish once a certain level of development is reached. The results of the author's analysis lead to an "inversed U" model, meaning that the first stages of economic development (which coincide with a lower-intermediate level of development) disparities between regions are growing (divergence), after which (the stage is not determined precisely) there is a period of decrease regarding the regional disparities (convergence). The present paper tries to analyze the existence of convergence or divergence in national income per capita in case of the Central Eastern Europe counties.

**ECONOMIC AND GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES AND RAILWAYS, FROM THEIR BUILDING
UNTIL NOWADAYS. CASE STUDY APPLIED TO THE NORTH-WEST REGION OF
ROMANIA [DISPARITĂȚILE ECONOMICO-GEOGRAFICE ȘI CĂILE FERATE, DE LA
EDIFICARE ȘI PÂNĂ ÎN PREZENT. STUDIU DE CAZ APLICAT PENTRU REGIUNEA DE
NORD-VEST]**

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The descendent trend of the railway transport in the last two decades is synchronous with that of increase in road traffic and transport, and the transition to a market economy. Obviously, 140 years ago, the intensification of transport as result of the edification of the "iron road" represents a

precondition of the economic development compared to the one offered by the caravans and diligence of that time. Strategically, it was proved to be a temporary solution in diminishing the economic and geographical disparities, revealed in several stages.

This paper is focused on showing the impact of these stages in the evolution of the economic and geographical disparities, and, at the same time, on presenting the socio-political and economic context.

Research faces sometimes difficulties in terms of statistics, or even in getting information of any kind related to railways, to the economic context specific to the above-mentioned steps, respectively, the difficulties being overcome by interpolation to other fields.

**THE EVOLUTION OF SOME DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS OF THE TOWNS IN
ALBA COUNTY [EVOLUȚIA UNOR INDICATORI DEMOGRAFICI AI ORAȘELOR
JUDEȚULUI ALBA]**

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The demographic evolution of the towns from Alba county can be analyzed if we compare some demographic and social indicators, those for which data is available, such as: infant mortality, natality, or the green area per person. The results obtained reveal important differences between towns, but at the level of Alba district they are similar with the general trend the rest of the country follows.

Interpreting the results, low birth rates reveal important information about fertility, marriage rate and the future demographic potential of the cities, while the infant mortality is a good indicator for analyzing the health system. The green area per person indicator is important for the future demographic politics and for the future strategies adopted by the local authorities and must raise some questions if it is lower than the national or international (EU) approved standard.

On the other hand, these demographic indicators offer not only information about the future evolution of the urban population, but also aspects regarding the principles and the values the population from this part of Transylvanian region adopt and believe in, aspects that should be taken in consideration in a demographic study.

The discrepancies between cities suggest their different level of evolution, strongly related with the level of equipment of the urban center, and their human potential with direct consequences for their socio-economic evolution.

**THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PROGRAMME ROMANIA-
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA 2004-2006 [IMPORTANȚA PROGRAMULUI DE VECINĂTATE
ROMÂNIA-REPUBLICA MOLDOVA 2004-2006]**

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Borders represent the vertical planes that determine the territory of two neighbouring countries. In situ, the border becomes a space that includes the “border corridor” of 5 m out of each country’s territory and the 20-meter long border “security strip”. Border police exert their professional obligations in the “border zone”, stretching over 25-30 km along the borders, which is to say that the actual border is more complex than the “red line” drawn on maps. After two world wars, aimed at solving border problems, proved that imposing force is not the best option, there is a new tendency emerging in Western Europe to optimize cooperation across the borders through the association of regional or local entities, known as Euroregions. After the deep changes that took place in the early 90s in Eastern Europe countries, several Euroregions appeared across their borders. The European unification allotted significant funds for strengthening the cross-border cooperation at its eastern

border. The present study aims at analyzing the present-day situation and the prospects of Romanian-Moldovan cross-border relations, through the development Phase of CBC projects.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF POLICENTRICITY
[DEZVOLTARE REGIONALĂ PRIN PRISMA DEZVOLTĂRII POLICENTRICE]

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The study proposes an integrated approach of policentricity taking into consideration the evaluation aspects of the Romanian urban and rural spaces, with the scope of defining a new regional and territorial development policy, according to the specification of all entities.

The first step was the definition of a few evaluation indicators of the policentricity level for rural and urban spaces and a general indicator, which is aggregating them.

The analyses that were realized for each development region have focused on the specific components of defining the level of policentricity, on the one hand, and on the possibility to cover each used indicator with official statistical data, on the other.

It is important to mention that:

- Specific policentricity evaluation indicators have been identified
- The indicator realization process is based on an original methodology – using latest findings and speciality literature
- The identified indicators could represent a new spatial planning instrument in Romania, taking into account the importance of rural spaces in the regional approach. As such, a balanced vision of urban and rural spaces in the context of sustainable spatial development can be ensured. In a country, where 45 percent of the population lives in rural area, the analysis of urban-rural relation has to be primordial.

These indicators could be used in the preparation of the new Regional Development Plan for the upcoming period of 2014-2020, which has to be based on the Improvement Territorial Regional Plans and Metropolitan and Regional Development Strategies.

MENTAL DISPARITIES IN THE LAND OF LOVIȘTEA
[DISPARITĂȚI MENTALE ÎN ȚARA LOVIȘTEI]

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The purpose of the study is to present the specific disparities (understood as differences) of the mental space belonging to the Land of Loviștea (*Loviștean* mental space), most of them imposed by the physical and administrative conditions of the region. Although we are talking about a territorial division of *land* type, characterized by unity in every way, the mental space presents a double separation: the traditional one (its inhabitants have a conservative attitude, their existence is governed by ancient laws and custom) and the innovative mental space, characterized by different attitudes and concepts, able to integrate novelty in its value scale. As specific subunits of the Loviștean mental space we identify the Depression of Loviștea itself (the traditional space) and the Lotru Valley (the innovative mental space).

Starting from the definition of the concept, "the territory which a community, but also an individual belonging to it, is integrating it into its own scale of values by existential perception, feelings and imagination" (P. Cocean, 2005), the complexity and diversity of forms taken by Loviștean mental space, defines specific attributes which makes this space unique in the Oltean mental space. If for territorial demarcation the morphometric elements were emphasized, the mental delimitation of the Land entails human attributes: experiences, perceptions and assumptions.

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This action in effect extracts the individual perception about the territory belonging to him/community considering the mental and spiritual values governing its existence.

To value the specific mental space as a component of sustainable development of the Land of Lovișteea is a means of launching into the region's socio-cultural future, an objective that can be achieved by preserving its identity and cultural uniqueness.

**PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE INNER CITY AREA – SINAIA-BUȘTENI-AZUGA-PREDEAL-
RÂȘNOV-BRAȘOV (POIANA BRAȘOV) – CURRENT STATUS, MALFUNCTIONS AND
STRATEGIC ASPECTS**

**[COMPONENTA DE SĂNĂTATE PUBLICĂ ÎN TERITORIUL ZONAL INTER-ORĂȘENESC –
SINAIA, BUȘTENI, AZUGA, PREDEAL, RÂȘNOV, BRAȘOV (POIANA BRAȘOV) - SITUAȚIA
EXISTENTĂ, DISFUNȚIONALITĂȚI ȘI ELEMENTE DE STRATEGIE]**

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The state of health of any particular nation is a reliable measure of its level of development and culture. Following its accession to the European Union, Romania has been trying to make up for the substantial shortcomings that separate it from the more developed European states. A valid analysis of the Public Health element must be based on a series of objective indicators that accurately reflect the current state of affairs: *the presence and the number of institutions which operate in the field; the number of employees in the medical field and their level of preparation; the most widely spread diseases and their consequences (main medical indicators); the most important demographical indicators, and so on.* The situation in the region under our examination reveals strong similarities with the national average, public health-wise, as well as a number of weaknesses which most EU members have overcome. This paper is set out to thoroughly scan the public health element in the aforementioned region, and to make suggestions which could lead to significant improvement if implemented as soon as possible.

THE IMPACT OF RELIEF UPON THE DYNAMICS OF AIR MASSES IN DEVA AREA
**[IMPACTUL RELIEFULUI ASUPRA DINAMICII MASELOR DE AER ÎN AREALUL ORAȘULUI
DEVA]**

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The features of the relief in the area of Deva causes a particular movement of air masses characterized by the appearance of a circular system in dynamic masses, a real whirlwind, which is crossed by Deva Citadel Hill. This is based on the presence of three corridors: the Mureș valley Corridor, the stream corridor of Cerna and Chișcădaga Corridor.

**DEMOGRAPHIC EVOLUTION OF THE SMALL TOWNS FROM THE NORTH-
EAST REGION IN THE POSTCOMUNIST PERIOD [EVOLUȚIA DEMOGRAFICĂ A
ORAȘELOR MICI DIN REGIUNEA DE NORD-EST ÎN PERIOADA POSTCOMUNISTĂ]**

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The Romania's population is constantly decreasing from 23.2 million inhabitants in 1990 to 21.5 million inhabitants in 2007. This general decline is not entirely true for the North-East Region, in the same period both population declines and increases being recorded in the area because of the

natural balance, positive in most counties. This region (partially overlapping the historical region of Moldova) is considered the poorest region of the European Union and a deprived area. The small towns in the region, with role in local urban system, likely to be depopulated, it could see an overall aging population as well as drain. Moldovan rural space is a reserve with young population who leaves to the cities and especially to the big cities. In these conditions and in a market economy, the small towns from the North-East Region are still searching for balance (demographic, economic, functional). This paper analyses the demographic evolution of small towns in the above-mentioned area through statistical methods, illustrating the types of demographic change and demographic imminent risk likely to occur in the near future, despite a slight increase of the population nationwide in recent years.

THE PLUVIOMETRIC SITUATION OF THE MONTH OF JUNE 2010 AND THE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE CENTRE REGION [SITUAȚIA PLUVIOMETRICĂ DIN LUNA IUNIE 2010 ȘI IMPACTUL ASUPRA MEDIULUI ÎN REGIUNEA CENTRU]

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Extreme meteorological phenomena are felt more and more frequently on global and regional level, with considerable social and material damages. This was the situation of the month of June 2010, too, when the rainfall quantities have been much over the average of this month, accompanied by hail stone, stormy phenomena, and strong wind. All these had a negative impact on the environment, hectares of crops being destroyed, riverbeds flooded, trees grounded, houses destroyed and human victims, too. The present paper presents the pluviometric situation of the month of June in the Centre region and the consequences of the rainfall quantities on the environment both on regional level and on county level.

“SPELEOTHERAPEUTIC” TOURIST OFFER OF OCNA DEJ (CLUJ COUNTY) AND OCNELE MARI (VÂLCEA COUNTY) SALT MINES - A NEW POSSIBILITY OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC RECOVERY [OFERTA TURISTICĂ SPELEOTERAPEUTICĂ A SALINELOR OCNA DEJ (JUD. CLUJ) ȘI OCNELE MARI (JUD. VÂLCEA) – O NOUĂ POSIBILITATE DE RELANSARE SOCIO-ECONOMICĂ]

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Speleotherapy was and is an extensively used treatment of respiratory pathology, the beneficial effects of the salt microclimate being recognized in this way. If until recently this form of travel was specific only to the closed salt mines, e.g. the salt mines in Turda, Târgu Ocna, Praid (Romania), now speleotherapy is practiced by industrial activity and salt extraction salt - Ocna Dej and Ocnele Mari, speleotherapeutic tourism activity proved to be not only practical, in terms of economic benefits, but also a future recovery of this areas affected by industrial exploitation. This study presents the comparative socio-economic benefits of speleotherapy and offers a proposal for a future conversion of specified areas within.

**EVOLUTION OF REGIONAL DISPARITIES IN THE RURAL AREA OF MUSCELELE
ARGEȘULUI [EVOLUȚIA DISPARITĂȚILOR TERITORIALE DIN
ZONA RURALĂ A MUSCELELOR ARGEȘULUI]**

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Regional disparities are clearly a significant challenge to the new European construction. Disparities are often sources of instability but are also the sources of antagonism and unrest. Regarding Muscele Argeșului, they were a unitary area in the past, in terms of economic and social development, the two Middle Ages royal seats keeping the balance of this area.

After the 50's, the situation changed radically and the uneven development of towns and villages begins to widen. Some villages were collectivized; others were industrialized, while others were simply omitted from the development plans. As a consequence, development disparities evolved and became common during the 80's. After 1992, around the towns of Curtea de Argeș and Câmpulung, two relatively more developed regions emerged, while regions to the north and central part of the area were disadvantaged.

Since 2002, we are witnessing a reduction in disparities because the underdeveloped areas are increasing and incorporate previously developed areas. The area is starting to become a huge underdeveloped area and one of the main factors that led to this situation is the decay of the two poles of regional development, as well as the closing of the coal mines.

Today, the entire area is experiencing a rebirth and the entrepreneurial activities are playing an important role. The huge number of small hotels and accommodation establishments constructed in the last five years in the western part of the area, coupled with several investment projects in Curtea de Argeș have led to the increased regional importance of the town to the expense of Câmpulung.

In the meantime, former mining centres that were the engines of growth for the region became rather underdeveloped. The main cause of this is the fact that the region does not have perspectives and lacks the so much needed entrepreneurial activities.

**FORECAST THE IMPACT OF BUCHAREST - BRAȘOV HIGHWAY UPON THE
ECONOMIC AND FUNCTIONAL STRUCTURE OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS IN ILFOV
COUNTY [PROGNOZA IMPACTULUI AUTOSTRĂZII BUCUREȘTI - BRAȘOV ASUPRA
STRUCTURII ECONOMICE ȘI FUNCȚIONALE A AȘEZĂRILOR UMANE
DIN JUDEȚUL ILFOV]**

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One of the most publicized issues concerning the infrastructure of Romania is the Bucharest-Brașov highway. The long-awaited project aims to streamline the traffic between the Capital and the central part of the country, representing the central area of Pan - European Road Corridor IV. The length of highway on the territory of Ilfov County is 31 km, representing 17% of the total length of Bucharest-Brașov highway. Starting the highway will have strong effects on economic structure and on the way the Bucharest Metropolitan Area will work. We can expect an increase in the disparities between the settlements of Ilfov County.

This pattern is also observable on the Bucharest-Ploiești axis where, in recent years, much of the Ilfov county's economic activities have migrated to the north, especially along that axis.

Besides economic migration, intense residential migration followed the Bucharest-Ploiești axis, residents of the Bucharest itself moving out to the north of Ilfov County.

Probably, the future Bucharest-Brașov highway will lead both to an increased suburbanization and periurbanization, this in turn giving way to the crowding of the area by businesses eager to have access to the highway. This project will likely increase the gap between north and south of Ilfov County.

In addition to changes that may occur at the county level, changes will also have an impact within the localities themselves as areas located near the highway will have an economic and demographic growth rate superior to more remote areas.

In this sense, we conducted a comparative analysis between eight human settlements of the Ilfov County crossed by the Bucharest-Braşov highway in order to assess the impact.

This analysis was based on the information obtained from site and statistical indicators that were processed to obtain a clear picture of the situation in the territory examined.

**TERRITORIAL CONCENTRATIONS AND TYPES OF TOURIST FACILITIES IN THE
NORTH-WEST DEVELOPMENT REGION [CONCENTRĂRI TERITORIALE ŞI TIPURI DE
AMENAJĂRI TURISTICE ÎN REGIUNEA DE DEZVOLTARE NORD-VEST]**

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They represent the result of the valorisation over time, from the second half of the 19th century, of the resources with tourist attractiveness belonging to the natural environment and of anthropogenic origin. The first tourist facilities were the ones related to mineral and thermal waters, a typical example being Băile Hebe – the later Sângeorz Băi, Băile Episcopiei (1 Mai), Băile Felix and Geoagiu Băi, followed by the tourist facilities in the small local saltwater resorts. The mountain area became the destination of a particular type of tourism, requiring facilities related to accommodation and access possibilities. Urban localities imposed themselves through the facilities consisting mainly in hotels, having a special dynamics, especially in the second half of the previous century. After 1990, rural space became the most dynamic example of private initiative and materialization of the market economy, leading to the enforcement of a particular type of tourist facility – tourist boarding house – seldom a family business, multiplied at the level of localities and areas, with a genuine cultural legacy. In this context, territorial concentrations of tourist facilities have developed, with a different degree of complexity, reflected in particular typologies, representative at the level of the counties included in the North-West Development Region or even for Romania.

**HUMAN PRESSURE THROUGH AGRICULTURAL LAND USE IN THE DESNĂŢUI PLAIN
[PRESIUNEA UMANĂ PRIN MODUL DE UTILIZARE A TERENURILOR AGRICOLE ÎN
CÂMPIA DESNĂŢUIULUI]**

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Each individual, through the activities it carries, leaves more or less its fingerprint on the environment. The Desnăţui Plain is an important agricultural region, characteristic confirmed by the large number of rural settlements and the high percentage of arable lands. Following the practice of agriculture, pressure is set on the environment through various forms of land use: arable land, vineyards, orchards, pastures, and meadows. To analyze the results of the interaction between humans and the environment, we used the mathematical relation $P = S / N$, where P is the human pressure (ha / locality), S = area considered (ha), and N = number of inhabitants of the area considered (locality). Data were collected from the Dolj Regional Directorate of Statistics, processed and interpreted using mathematical formulas based on maps.

AN EFFICIENT MODEL FOR SPATIAL PLANNING: TERRITORIES AT THE HEADS OF AXES [UN MODEL EFICIENT DE AMENAJARE SPAȚIALĂ: TERITORIILE DIN CAPETE DE AXE]

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Anisotropic spatial structures of development axes or corridors exert their influence upon the adjacent territory in a specific manner, through a series of vectors that act in parallel or in transverse in rapport with their own development. Their planning will take into consideration the peculiarities of this action, in the sense of differentiating its catalyzing aspects that must be amplified and turned over an area as extended as possible. In this respect, the planning of territories at heads of axes has multiple functional valences, besides their own affirmation, they induce, directly or indirectly, active principles in the system, through the transit of raw materials, persons, goods, and interests. They become genuine “bridgeheads” of the interconnection with the adjacent spatial systems, ramparts for increasing the territorial cohesion and diminishing the economic and social disparities by alleviating or removing the peripherization phenomena.

DEMOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT MICROREGION OF ȚARA SECAȘELOR (ȚINUTUL SECAȘ) [DISPARITĂȚI DEMOGRAFICE ÎN CADRUL MICROREGIUNII DE DEZVOLTARE ȚARA SECAȘELOR (ȚINUTUL SECAȘ)]

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The existence of the development of microorganisms at NUTS 4 Level in the future represents an important aspect for the organization and development of new territories, but especially for the attraction of European funds. Starting with October 2010, more than 100 development microregions will be legalized at national level, where the approach will be made from the lowest regions to the highest regions. And one of these will be Țara Secașelor (proposed by the local authorities) or Ținutul Secaș (by the geographical researchers). It is located on the territory of two counties, Alba and Sibiu.

The development microregion of “Țara Secașelor” is made of 22 communes and a town, covering an area of 1,268 square metres and a population of approximately 50,000 inhabitants, according to the data for 2008. The importance of the demographic resource is given by one of the eligibility conditions of the microregion, but also by the demographic study made this year, to update the actual data but also in order to detect demographic problems from the microregion.

One of the main problems is represented by the geographical disparities, which appear at the level of the development microregion of Țara Secașelor, especially between the central part and the marginal areas, but also between the existent communes and villages. Disparities appear at the level of general density, agricultural density, population migration problems, structures on age groups and especially the existent demographic risks.

Regarding the last approached problem, that of the demographic risks, the most frequent are related to:

- The accelerated aging of the population;
- The feminization of the population;
- The decrease of the young population ;
- The emergence of some areas of demographic poverty;
- The strong migration of the active manpower;
- The increase in the number of pensioners;
- The increase in the number of unemployed people.

In the future, it is necessary to find solutions for as many economic activities as necessary in the Țara Secașelor, plus the clarification of the problem of the territorial infrastructure. All these will have a positive impact on the human factor.

TRENDS IN TEMPERATURE IN ROMANIA AND THEIR EFFECT ON WINTER WHEAT CROPS [TENDINȚA TEMPERATURII AERULUI ÎN ROMÂNIA ȘI EFECTUL ASUPRA CULTURII GRÂULUI DE TOAMNĂ]

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Air temperature variability and trends were analyzed using 106 years monthly, seasonal, and annual data sets in 10 weather stations from Romania. The weather stations are located in plain and hilly areas. Data sets were checked for homogeneity with sequential version of Man-Kendall test. As methods, the Mann-Kendall test, Sen's slope estimates, sequential version of Mann-Kendall test and spatial and temporal hierarchical cluster analyses were used. The 106 years period was divided into two long periods of 100 years each (1901-2000 and 1907-2006) to check the importance of a very short interval in changing the general trends and then, it was divided into three shorter periods of 35/36 years each (1901-1935, 1936-1970, 1971-2006), to identify if there is a similar behaviour or not for the whole interval. The main conclusions are: the 6 years that make the difference between the two long periods are very important in pointing out the important recent global warming; the three shorter periods are not similar, and they can prove rather some fluctuations than a continuous warming. The latest of them is the most relevant for the global warming, while the second one seems to be characterized by stationary temperature trends or even negative. The spatial hierarchical cluster analysis indicates the existence of two distinctive groups. One of them, including stations in the south-east of the country, seems to be influenced by the Black Sea surface temperature. The temporal hierarchical cluster analysis reveals that annual data series have their best connection with summer data series. The impact of the temperature changes on winter wheat phenology was simulated with the winter wheat model from DSSAT 4.0.2.0 platform (Hoogenboom et al., 2003) and anticipations of anthesis and maturity were noticed for several locations.

GEODEMOGRAPHICAL AND ECONOMIC DISPARITIES IN THE SUBURBAN AREA OF CLUJ-NAPOCA [DISPARITĂȚI GEODEMOGRAFICE ȘI ECONOMICE ÎN ZONA SUBURBANĂ CLUJ-NAPOCA]

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The process of suburbanization represents a migration of the population and the economic factors from the centre of the city towards the periphery and the surrounding rural areas. Most of the scientists in this domain approve the fact that these processes take place after a certain development level of the economy, the settlement system, and socio-economic factors. According to this fact, the cities and the society undergoes an evolution, during which, at a certain level, it reaches the suburbanization level. The Romanian economy, as in case of other East-European countries, presents a characteristic development. Until the political changes in 1989, Romanian economy was characterized by intensive urbanization and industrialization. Political influence determined demographic growth in the cities, so they soon became major industrial centers. As a consequence of the city growth, the peripheral rural spaces gradually got desolated. Only after 1990 can we speak about the process of suburbanization.

The city of Cluj-Napoca determines the economic and cultural evolution of the whole region. In 2007, the Cluj-Napoca Metropolitan Area was established, which includes the city of Cluj-Napoca and 18 surrounding villages: Aiton, Apahida, Baci, Bonțida, Borșa, Căianu, Chinteni, Ciurila, Cojocna, Feleacu, Florești, Gârbău, Gilău, Jucu, Petrești de Jos, Sânpaul, Tureni and Vultureni. The delimitation of the metropolitan area was realized by the County Council and the local councils. In the

impoundment of the area economic, political, and social criteria were taken into consideration. But these rural areas present different levels of development. Economic factors generate disparities between rural areas. The development of the suburban villages is determined by economic factors such as infrastructure, economic sectors, level of implementation, etc. This is the reason why the rural area closer to the urban area presents higher level of development.

**IMPACT OF TOURISM DEVELOPMENT ON THE ENVIRONMENT. CASE STUDY:
LEPȘA AREA [IMPACTUL DEZVOLTĂRII TURISTICE ASUPRA MEDIULUI
ÎNCONJURĂTOR. STUDIU DE CAZ: ZONA LEPȘA]**

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After induced effects in all components of the natural environment and in villages, anthropic impact may be positive or negative. Positive impacts include those actions that have beneficial effects on the natural environment and human society, which restore equilibrium seen by systematic gains or minimized losses. Negative impacts are those actions that cause long term disturbance of the relationship between man and nature without possibility of recovery, but by large investments of time and resources.

Causes of rural tourism impact on the environment are many: locals' and tourists' education, tourist-resident ratio, the involvement in various environmental programs, access routes, and environmental carrying capacity. It is necessary to develop a national program for environmental rehabilitation and protection, whereas it should not compromise the environment for future generations.

Rural tourism should be seen as a positive, complex activity to the benefit of the environment, local communities and of course, tourists. The relationship between the environment and tourism can be developed so that the work environment to support long-term tourism and tourism development, help protect and conserve it.

From a socio-cultural point of view, rural tourism has advantages by increasing local income, contact with other cultures, the possibility to recover the health status and human labour, etc. Rural tourism acts as a stimulating factor of the economic system and has great importance in the structure of the economic mechanism and an active role in the process of developing and modernization the local economy by diversifying it, through the revitalization and development of handicraft industries.

In conclusion, extreme trends in rural tourism have no chance of success, as increased environmental protection diminished by too many restrictions the touristic act or, on the contrary, the environmental ignorance contributes to the disappearance of an interest in rural tourism. It is necessary the implementation of some ecotourism models in developing programs for tourist activities in rural areas with tourism potential.

MEDICAL POLARIZATION OF THE CITY OF CLUJ-NAPOCA
[POLARIZAREA MEDICALĂ A MUNICIPIULUI CLUJ-NAPOCA]

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Using methodological instruments specific to the medical geography, the medical polarization of the town of Cluj-Napoca allowed us to define medical polarization as the result of the functionality of the medical system in Cluj, as well as the structure of these polarization forms. Medical polarization is a specific type influence on the environment, performed by a polarizing centre, throughout it excess of medical resources.

The analysis of the medical polarization led to a structure of polarizing types and forms induced by factors such as: educational and medical institutions, the traditions of medical school in

Cluj, medical residencies, the quality of the human resources and of the medical-sanitary infrastructure. All these criteria describe the degree of appropriateness and usage of the medical resources that the “centre”- represented by the medical system in Cluj – has and uses in the manifestation of its medical function. In order to perform a systemic approach, we endeavoured to unfold, in the first instance, a series of references to the elements “centre” and “area of influence”, from a theoretical-conceptual point of view, and secondly, throughout a system of quantification and value determination of the flows and complex relationships established between the centre and the area of influence.

The analysis of the medical polarization led to a structure of polarizing types and forms induced by the following factors: educational medical institutions, cultural and multicultural institutions, medical residencies, traditions of the medical school in Cluj, high quality of the medical-sanitary infrastructure, high quality of the medical assistance (human resources), reputed specialists.

All these polarization forms were studied in the purpose of obtaining a more precise image of the amplitude of the medical flows and the degree of appropriateness and usage of the medical resources that the “centre” has and uses in the manifestation of its medical function.

Through the power of tradition and as an actual estate created by the interaction of some objective factors, the town of Cluj-Napoca is one of the largest medical-sanitary centre in our country, both from the point of view of the extremely high volume of health-related services offered to the population, and from the point of view of their diversity and quality. Due to all these, it is perceived as a gravity centre towards which, principally, the population of the rural environment of the country of Cluj-Napoca is directed, but also the population of the north western regions, of Transylvania and of other counties in the country.

RESILIENCE OF THE RURAL SETTLEMENTS IN THE APUSENI MOUNTAINS
[ASPECTE ALE REZILIENȚEI AȘEZĂRIILOR RURALE DIN MUNȚII APUSENI]

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The last fifty years, the demographic and economic evolution of the Apuseni Mountains region had very important impact at the settlement level. The villages in this area have known important changes as regards their demographic size, functions and look. The industrialization in the 20th century gave a rapid growth to some villages and triggered the migration from the neighbouring rural areas. The immigration areas slowly deteriorated in age structure and the percent of elder population rose in the majority of the settlements: this led to some endangered small villages. Will this be the destiny of all small villages from this area?

In the present paper we describe three ways in which such villages express resilience: by preserving a percent of young people above the regional average; by functional transformation (from agriculture towards tourism) and by external administrative actions (electrification, construction of roads and other facilities).

GEOGRAPHICAL LANDSCAPE REGIONALIZATION IN THE BRATIA BASIN
[REGIONAREA PEISAJULUI GEOGRAFIC ÎN BAZINUL BRATIA]

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Bratia is a river which flows in the Târgului river from its right side. It has its springs in the Iezer Mountains, under the Obârșia peak, crosses in the middle part of its course through the Argeș Musceles, and then merges with the Târgului River in the Gruiurile Argeșului region, south from Stâlpeni. The landscape alongside the river has three main regions:

The mountain regions: having two parts. The first one corresponds to the southern peaks of the Iezer Mountains, which are made up of crystalline schists and Leaota series. The main peaks are: Danciu – Capra –Portăreasa in the eastern part, Voievoda – Plesnitoarea – Culmea Viorelelor between Bratia and Bratioara. In the western side: Băneasa – Păpău –Șețu and Păpău – Jupâneasa between Râușor and Bratia. Their heights vary from 1,713 m, the Jupaneasa peak and 2,296 m, the Obârșia peak. They are covered by forests, either of hardwood or conifers, as well as by alpine meadows. The second part is represented by the Platicea Mountains, which are made up of Helvetian rocks, with heights which vary from 980m near the hills, and 1,150m in the Platicea and Dealuri peaks. Their landscape reveals high and parallel peaks in the Slănic basin, and high but converging peaks in the Râușor basin, all covered by forests.

The region of the so-called Muscele – is bordered to the north by the peaks of: Slănic – Piscul Bradului – Piscul Rogoazei – Piscul Ulmului, and includes the Căndești basin and the Stânișoara-Țarina Neacșului peak. Its southern limit is represented by the alignment formed by the hills of Dealu Prislop, 690m and Plaiul Lung, 700m. The peaks are parallel with the valleys, revealing cuestas made up of Miocen-Pliocen structures. Upon the slopes which are not covered by forests, active processes of erosion take place, which leads to the forming of badlands. There are also some bigin and land slidings caused by mining. On the right bank of the Bratia river, there are some terraces, and, after the confluence with the Slănic river, the valley becomes much broader. Orchards and meadows alternate with forests which cover the tallest peaks, while in the valleys we can see meadows or cultivated grounds.

In the Gruiurilor region, which lies to the south of the previous one, the peaks are parallel with the Bratia river valley, and the terraces are located both on the right and left sides of the valley, which is much broader. The peaks are covered by hardwood forests and in the valley there are orchards and cultivated fields.

**THE IMPACT WHICH THE CLOSE OF THE MINING CENTRES AND THE FOREST
RAILROAD IN THE BRATIA RIVER BASIN HAD UPON LANDSCAPE [IMPACTUL
ASUPRA PEISAJULUI PRODUS DE ÎNCHIDEREA CENTRELOR MINIERE ȘI A CĂII
FERATE FORESTIERE DIN BAZINUL BRATIA]**

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In the Bratia river basin, the most common types of landscapes are the Carpathian, Sub-Carpathian and piedmont ones. The upper part of the basin has developed on the southern peaks of the Iezer-Papușa Mountains, the middle part is located in the area known as Muscelele Argeșului (that is, the hills of Argeș) while the lower part corresponds to the Gruiurile Argeșului (Argeș hillocks) area (that is the round the Argeș river).

The Sub-Carpathian area located on the line between Berevoiești and Slănic corresponds to the Pontian and Dacian geological structures, which include coal that has been exploited between 1901 and 1997. The natural landscape has been altered by this action, because the waste material from the Berevoiesti mine has been stored along the Bratia river between Berevoiești and Aninoasa, while the waste material from the Slănic I and II mines has been stored in the valleys named Țigăncii and Dobrești, both of them tributary to the Slănic valley. Along with the mines, the natural balance of the slopes is destroyed, which leads to land slidings.

After the closing of the mines, some relics of all the industrial activity can still be seen, such as the roofs which protected the highway located under the path of the funicular, the buildings, and some of the machines from the old mines, and also the openings of the access tunnels, which have been covered with concrete.

In the mountain area, the wood from the forests of the Bratia river basin has been exploited, at the beginning with wagons pulled by animals and with decovile until 1934, when a forest railroad was created. It was a narrow railroad, which led from Stâlpeni, along the Bratia river, up in the mountains, and which divided into two near the Bratia river, one branch going on the Râușor valley, up to the Crețu mountain, and the other following the Capra valley. All in all, there were around 60 km of

railroad. But because of the lack of funds and investments, and also because of the unfair competition, the railroad was closed in 1994. After this moment, the landscape remained marked by human actions, an anthropic landscape characterized by: the railroad with embankment excavation, bridges, or at least bridge posts, some of which have been stolen. The buildings which once were the stations for this forest railroad have been used as homes, while some parts of the old railroad, such as bridges, are now used for road traffic.

A MODEL OF TERRITORIAL BALANCING IN MARAMUREȘ - CHIOAR REGION
[MODEL DE ECHILIBRARE TERITORIALĂ ÎN REGIUNEA MARAMUREȘ-CHIOAR]

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The topic of this paper is focused on territorial disparities as part of territorial development practice. The general goal of the study is to offer a diagnosis model and a planned developing model of a functional region. Territorial diagnosis is accomplished by taking account of two groups of indicators: economic indicators (number of employments, number of companies, business revenue, etc.), and transport infrastructure indicators (length, density, connectivity). These indicators are analyzed for each administrative territorial units and the result is the identification of underdeveloped areas. Interventional model is set to reduce the territorial disparities by some specific actions, according to main weaknesses and problems of each area.

THE IMPACT OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA OF BRAȘOV ON THE SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT OF RÂȘNOV TOWN
[IMPACTUL ZONEI METROPOLITANE BRAȘOV ASUPA DEZVOLTĂRII DURABILE A
ORAȘULUI RÂȘNOV]

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The sustainable local development has in view both the dynamics of the economic, social and environmental changes and the need to adapt to such changes, to anticipate them and to turn them from risks into opportunities of development. The impact of the metropolitan area of Brașov on Râșnov town can be perceived in the determination of the priorities of local economic development that have to be in harmony with the economic development of the entire area, in the elaboration and application of the public policies concerning the efficient arrangement of the territory, in the determination of the actions of environmental protection and in the actualization of certain social measures assuring a positive demographic evolution and the development of the labour force.

The developmental projects under way of the local community of Râșnov take place in crucial domains for the increase of the standard of living and of civilization, like education, tourism, and the administrative and recreational infrastructure.

In order to assure a European standard of living, as part of the metropolitan area of Brașov, in the future, the inhabitants of Râșnov town will need projects able to support the development of the infrastructure and of the social services, the correlation of life long learning to the labour market, the improvement of the educational infrastructure for the development of a competitive educational system, the reduction of environmental pollution and an increased efficiency in all the activity domains.

THE PERSPECTIVE OF A REGIONAL TOURISM CLUSTER FOR COLIBIȚA RESORT
[STAȚIUNEA COLIBIȚA ȘI PERSPECTIVA UNUI CLUSTER TURISTIC REGIONAL]

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The problem (the existence) of Colibița resort is among the latest interests for the local authorities. Colibița is placed on the administrative territory of Bistrița Bârgăului village and the status of the resort is quite uncertain for the moment. Due to the common efforts of the authorities, the resort is now being accredited as a tourist resort of local interest. With an exceptional business card, due to its natural context, the resort is far from reaching up to the expectations of this superior position. It has never been introduced in a management plan that should have dealt with this exceptionally offering territory and it has developed chaotically from an urbanistic and functional point of view. To this, we can add the regional isolation, which is an extremely difficult situation to surpass. What is really missing here is an efficient reorganisation strategy, which should meet with the natural needs of local development. The solution, in our opinion, is the integration of the resort in a tourist cluster, hardly present here, which, with the help of an adequate management, can constitute itself in the “thin red line” of a sustainable development in this area.

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE IN BRAD DEPRESSION
[PEISAJE CULTURALE IN DEPRESIUNEA BRAD]

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The article highlights, through the various categories of cultural landscape elements, the types of cultural landscapes in Brad Depression (held on the upper Crișul Alb river and framed by the Bihor Mountains, and the Metaliferi Mountains) occurred as a result of the constant changes in the past, induced by the action and the interaction of natural and human factors. Natural elements such as relief from (depression and high hills), a moderate temperate continental climate and rich soil and subsoil resources, represented a favourable environment for development of the human communities in the area. Today, they still bear the visible imprint of the past through traditional household image and also by traditional activities practiced, harmoniously intertwined with those of the present time, implying thereby local differences on the cultural landscape, highlighted by the specific elements of setting, land use and infrastructure.

THE IMPACT OF INDUSTRIAL RESTRUCTURING ON POPULATION DYNAMICS IN THE CITY OF CĂLĂRAȘI
[IMPACTUL RESTRUCTURĂRII INDUSTRIALE ASUPRA DINAMICII POPULAȚIEI ÎN MUNICIPIUL CĂLĂRAȘI]

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The present paper focuses on a geographical study on industrial restructuring of the Călărași city, in terms of economic and human potential. To develop this working paper, the physical-geographical aspects of the region were taken into account, mainly economic, social and demographic analyzing the main features of each component.

Industrial restructuring phenomenon has been studied in the literature of recent years, especially in the context of a global orientation direction towards tertiary sectors, and regional crises.

In this sense, by the process of industrial restructuring in the city of Călărași one can understand a drop in occupancy rates in the industry as a percentage of total employees. It is therefore possible to argue that a decreasing in the number of employees in industry can simply reflect the share of the industry sector in GDP.

Furthermore, the paper analyzes the situation of Călărași industry before and after 1989. Industrialization before 1989 had a strong impact on population, in the idea that the evolution of population has had a significant boost, this being due to permanent migration of a significant part of rural population to urban areas. Călărași industry after 1989 did not register a very positive trend, the revolution signifying the "beginning of the end" for the most powerful industrial units in the city of Călărași. Though, what there is in Călărași is an excellent infrastructure for industrial development.

Analysis showed that Călărași is currently a centre polarizing all fields of activity, its attractiveness power exceeding its area of direct influence. However, due to the location near the border to Bulgaria, Călărași city can be characterized as a multi-functional contact centre - "the gate of Romania to the South-East." It is hard to predict, in current conditions, which the future of the city of Călărași will be in terms of economic development.

**ROMANIAN REGIONS: TOWARDS COHESION OR COMPETITIVENESS? [REGIUNILE
DIN ROMÂNIA: SPRE COEZIUNE SAU COMPETITIVITATE?]**

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In my study I aim to draw a picture of the evolution of territorial disparities, inter- and intra-regional economic and social cohesion, competitiveness, in the case of the Romanian regions. The first part of the study is aimed to be a synthesis on the recent evolutions of European cohesion policy. In the second part I intended to analyze the construction process of regions and the evolution of regional development in Romania between 1998 to 2007 - ten years of European financings –, taking into account economic and social indicators. I will also apply a typology developed by Prof. Nemes Nagy József for the Romanian regions based on the values of the analyzed indicators, classifying in regions with long or short term competitive advantage/ competitive disadvantage positions.

**THE PERCEPTION OF THE INDUSTRIAL LANDSCAPE RECONVERSION WITHIN THE
URBAN STRUCTURE. CASE STUDY – THE INDUSTRIAL UNITS BELVEDERE
CIGARETTE FACTORY, BUCHAREST AND S.C. MEFIN S.A. SINAIA**
**[PERCEPȚIA RECONVERSIEI PEISAJULUI INDUSTRIAL ÎN CADRUL STRUCTURII
URBANE STUDIU DE CAZ: UNITATEA INDUSTRIALĂ FABRICA DE ȚIGĂRI BELVEDERE,
BUCUREȘTI ȘI S.C.MEFIN S.A., SINAIA]**

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Many Romanian cities are confronted with difficulties regarding the insertion of redundant industrial objectives in the present urban structure. This study focuses on two industrial units that have created a certain place identity through time, both undergoing a reconversion process, due to relict or underused industrial structures. These industrial units are reclaimed by the increasingly public demand of new construction spaces that are adapted to the cultural, social, economic and ecological context.

Belvedere Cigarette Factory was an important factory from Bucharest, because there began the tobacco manufacturing in the Romanian capital. The cigarette factory buildings that are constructed from the late 19th century and early 20th century and are considered heritage objectives. Currently some factory buildings and annexes were demolished and in their place were built a store and a disco.

S.C. MEFIN S.A. Sinaia was established on a preexisting industrial unit in 1953 and since 2007 it is decided to be integrated into the services sector (tourist accommodation, commercial spaces, sports and leisure) in order to raise the attractiveness of the area. However the reconversion of this unit can't be dissociated from the industrial heritage dimension.

The methods applied in this study are the case study research and the survey that allows the comparison of the reconversion perception of the industrial units. The need to return these productive areas to the urban context recognizes people (residents and user groups, tourists) as active participants in the transformation of industrial landscapes.

**THE ROLE OF THE STATE BORDER SUPPORT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF
FUNCTIONAL CROSSBORDER TERRITORIAL SYSTEMS. ROMANIA AND SLOVENIA
STUDY CASE [ROLUL SUPTULUI FRONTIEREI DE STAT ÎN DEZVOLTAREA UNOR
SISTEME TERITORIALE TRANSFRONTALIERE FUNCTIONALE.
STUDIUL DE CAZ: ROMANIA SI SLOVENIA]**

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The contents of this material deals with a segment of the European borders system according with Romania and Slovenia borders, over 4.000 km. By applying tested tools and methods from the specialized literature in areas with similar characteristics, we aimed to identify in quantitative, qualitative and functional-systemic terms the factors that determine and the elements that comprise the operating mechanisms of Romanian and Slovenia and neighbours contiguous border areas in order to generate new strategies to change them into a cross-border territorial system with high functionality. The content of the scientific approach is focused on highlighting the role and impact of the main decisive factors in this context, such as: geographical (absolute) position and the marginal (circumstantial) marginal position; the natural environment and implications of morpho-structural features in shaping systems with tourist function, the morphological profile of the state border support; border permeability; the legal framework and administrative-territorial compatibility; the role of local and regional actors and freedom of action in cross-border cooperation; systems of means of transport and communications - intra-systemic connections and other contiguous systems; historical, social and cultural issues, especially the role of mass media in promoting an integrated tourism. Such a cross-border system plays an important role in the process of social and economic integration and the elimination of traditional functions of political borders generating juxtaposed territorial systems.

**APPLIED GEOSPATIAL ANALYSIS IN R&D PROJECTS ON ROMANIAN TRADITIONAL
VILLAGE [ANALIZA GEOSPAȚIALĂ APLICATĂ ÎN PROIECTELE DE CERCETARE-
DEZVOLTARE ASUPRA SATULUI TRADIȚIONAL ROMÂNESC]**

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Carrying out a project focused on the traditional Romanian village at the level of the nine historical regions of Romania led to the processing of high a volume of data, enabling a continuous improvement of work methodology. Through methods of geospatial analysis of the data, very valuable information was obtained, information which would be difficult or impossible to identify by other methods. This present work approaches some representative issues regarding the phases of work, methodology, strategy and decision.

TERRITORIAL DISPARITIES IN THE POPULATION DYNAMICS – COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS BETWEEN BUCHAREST- PLOIEȘTI CORRIDOR AND BUCUREȘTI- PITEȘTI CORRIDOR *[DISPARITĂȚI TERITORIALE ALE DINAMICII POPULAȚIEI- ANALIZĂ COMPARATIVĂ ÎNTRE AXA BUCUREȘTI- PLOIEȘTI ȘI AXA BUCUREȘTI- PITEȘTI]*

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This study is a comparative analysis of territorial disparities in the population dynamics in the localities along two corridors of major national importance.

The objective is to prove that a key corridor starting in the capital of a country has both positive and negative effects on the network of localities it goes through. The capital influence is considerably felt in both areas studied, nevertheless there are differences which were analysed starting from the premise that the borders of Bucharest metropolitan area are currently up to 50 km around the capital but as well that the area of influence is continuously expanding territorially.

These differences are determined by the fact that although Bucharest is a major pole of social-economic phenomena, its influence on the localities in the neighbouring area varies in intensity because urbanisation, development and modernisation are intense, but within a limited area.

The two corridors existence impacted on the configuration of localities by the extension of the buildable areas in the localities close to the roadway, especially parallel to it, particularly related to the increase in the supply of/ demand for land plots earmarked for building dwellings of a higher standard – main or secondary residences, but not only.

The evolution of the population dynamics in the localities alongside the two corridors is closely related to the social-economic changes occurred in the area influenced by the 3 cities and to the intensification of urbanisation.

The study is based on field surveys (observation, mapping and photographs) and consultation of the bibliography, followed by the analysis of the statistical data about the population in the localities alongside the two corridors between 1991- 2009.

SELECTION FACTORS IN PLANNING BREZOAELE-DAMBOVITA TERRITORY
[FACTORI DE SELECȚIE ÎN AMENAJAREA TERITORIULUI BREZOAELE-DÂMBOVIȚA]

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Territory planning involves a systematic process which aims: to ensure efficient use of planning, the full realization of its natural potential and resources, achieving decent standard of living for the residents, the rational and economical use of resources, whatever their origin, the prevention and elimination of environmental degradation, and the harmonization of society's short and long term interests.

Selection factors in planning Brezoele territory, located in southern Dambovița County consist of: the natural conditions of the territory, rich cultural and historical, socio-economic conditions, infrastructure, existing facilities for recreation and culture and laws and regulations.

It appears that each selection factor plays a crucial role, its quality and characteristics determine the value, the attraction force and the typology of planning. In selecting the territory it is taken into account the presence of elements of culture, originality and value, status of their conservation, opportunities and risks of including them in the tourist circuit. Considering the previous mentioned factors, Brezoele territory contains royal villages, estates of Lord Constantin Brâncoveanu with old churches, monuments of heroes, and local traditions (celebrations, festivals) and architecture.

Modernization and structural improvement of Brezoele territory in the context of its balanced development will take into account: the increase of the territorial competitiveness in the region that the territory belongs to, halting population decline, the capitalization of the natural potential and the development and improvement of land by combating soil degradation phenomena.

EXAMINING NEIGHBOURHOOD EFFECTS IN REGIONAL INEQUALITIES OF HUNGARY: A GIS-BASED APPROACH FROM TOPOLOGICAL RELATIONS TO NEIGHBOURHOOD HETEROGENEITY
[EVALUAREA EFECTELOR VECINĂȚII ÎN DISPARITĂȚILE REGIONALE DIN UNGARIA: O ABORDARE GIS DE LA RELAȚIILE TOPOLOGICE LA ETEROGENITATEA VECINĂȚII]

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According to the international literature there is an increasing number of popular works, which explain regional inequalities of the economy and the society with spatial location. Techniques like spatial autocorrelation or spatial clustering became basic methods of mainstream examinations. These methods put geographical location, or more precisely the neighbourhood effects in the focus of the researches. The typical research questions are originated from Waldo Tobler's classical law of geography, namely that "everything is related to everything else, but closer things are more closely related". According to research assumptions the regions, which are neighbouring in geographical space are usually similar to each other also in socio-economic sense.

For the examination of neighbourhood effects GIS (Geographical Information Systems) may serve as a quite useful tool. By the application of GIS programmes the topological relation of the examined objects can be straightforwardly defined. Additionally results of examinations with different methodological approach can be also easily compared.

This paper on the one hand introduces both different methods of defining neighbourhood relations and the application of GIS in determining contiguity. On the other hand it reflects how varied or same consequences can be drawn by the application of different techniques. In the analysis of neighbourhood effects the most deterministic factors of the Hungarian regional inequalities are examined: the level of personal income and the unemployment rate. The examination points out where stable social and regional clusters were formed in Hungary in the mirror of the different methodological approaches.

THE TERRITORIAL DIFFERENCES OF HUMAN CAPITAL IN ROMANIA [DIFERENȚE TERITORIALE ALE CAPITALULUI UMAN ÎN ROMÂNIA]

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The measuring of human capital, human development from both a quantitative and a qualitative point of view is difficult, the problem being further complicated if we consider regional and territorial approaches as well. At an international level, the Human Development Index is usually used for measuring and comparing these issues. This index addresses the most complex level of development of a region through the aggregation of the three indices from demographic (life expectancy at birth), social (education level) and the economic sphere (GDP per capita) with which we can have a much more complex picture about living standards of the population as well as the development level of a country. Because the applicability of this index has caused serious debates since its introduction, this study also focuses on selecting the right indicators for measuring human development.

**THE TYPOLOGY AND CURRENT STRUCTURE OF THE GEOSYSTEMS IN THE
SOUTHERN PART OF THE TRASCĂU MOUNTAINS [TIPOLOGIA ȘI STRUCTURA
ACTUALĂ A GEOSISTEMELOR ÎN SUDUL MUNȚILOR TRASCĂU]**

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The geocological complexity of the Trascău Mountains is revealed not only by means of its natural components but also by means of its existing interactions and inter-dependences with the anthropic element identified within the region where a combination of geosystems in biostasy, rhexistazy or parastazy can be observed. The current paper represents an overview and a small scale analysis of the existing types of geosystems identified in the southern part of the Trascău Mountains, mainly along the Ampoi River valley, as well as of the type of existing interactions between the anthropic elements with the natural environment materialized by means of land utilization carried out in order to sustain the existence and development of agricultural activities, as a basis for the development of the local communities. Throughout the time, the human communities have modified the natural environment in such a manner that they have altered the nature's ability to restore its initial equilibrium, many of the current types of landforms (especially those located alongside the water courses) being the result of the interference of man. The development of the human communities resulted in an increase of the demand for more resources which materialized in an increase of the cultivated surfaces, development of more settlements, and modification of the land utilization with a more pronounced development of crops and hayfields to the detriment of the natural vegetation. In the southern part of the Trascău Mountains, a symbiosis between the natural and anthropic vegetation can be observed, the lower parts of the analyzed area being occupied by crops, while the slopes and covered mostly with forestry vegetation in combination with grass lands or hayfields. Also, in regards to the existing human settlements the spreading of the households along the Ampoi River valley and along its tributaries can be observed, the villages thus possessing a congregate shape.

**REGIONAL DISPARITIES AND THE GLOBAL CRISIS IN HUNGARY [DISPARITĂȚILE
REGIONALE ȘI CRIZA GLOBALĂ DIN UNGARIA]**

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Regional disparities of Hungarian economy had been increasing during the '90s. One of the most important reasons of this polarisation was the inflow of foreign direct investment into certain regions of the country. Namely, FDI used to settle down not randomly in space but prefers places with favourable geographical location and agglomeration advantages. A bit simplistic, Hungary is divided into two parts: the one is the developed core region, formed by the agglomeration zone of Budapest and the Northern part of Transdanubia, and the other one is the underdeveloped rest of the country, which is not attractive for foreign investments. This spatial duality has not abated since joining the EU in 2004.

Recent global economic crisis affected the regions of Hungary not equally; moreover it seemed to be rather spatially concentrated. Using industrial output and employment data, which might grab the main changes in spatial structure of economy, this paper aims to discover the regional consequences of the global crisis. At first sight crisis is taking effect in the direction of one important aim of regional policy: the regional equalisation. However, the change is still not gladsome, since it is not the consequence of catching up of backward regions but the result of deeper recession of the more developed ones. Only differences between Budapest and the rest of the country have been increased. Additionally, some kind of a renewing of polarisation can be expected after the crisis.

ASPECTS REGARDING LIFE QUALITY IN SUCEAVA DISTRICT
[ASPECTE PRIVIND CALITATEA VIEȚII ÎN JUDEȚUL SUCEAVA]

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The present study deals with some aspects regarding life quality in Suceava district both from the territorial (at the commune level) and from the time evolution (the period between 1990 and 2008) point of view. The analysis refers to aspects concerning the living quality (the inhabited surface per inhabitant, number of rooms in a dwelling, the number of persons living in a room, urbanistic facilities) and also to aspects concerning the social services (number of patients per doctor, number of pupils per teacher, distribution of sanitary and education system) In order to explain the disparities we analyzed demographic aspects and also the accessibility of the dwellings. In the end we tried to get a general view upon life quality in Suceava district by means of the analyzed indicators and also through the identification of the changes that have occurred in the last 20 years from this point of view. Our study is also meant to highlight the role played by the different administrative belonging of the Suceava district (to Moldavia and Bucovina) through the induced cultural pattern on life quality matters.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF ROMANIA AT EUROPEAN SCALE
[DEFINIREA GEOGRAFICĂ A ROMÂNIEI LA SCARĂ EUROPEANĂ]

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At European, regional level, Romania is defined as a territorial entity, a Carpathian-Danubian-Pontic country (region) (V. Mihailescu, 1936). To these, the idea of a continuous habitation of the territory by a neo-Latin population, forming „The Oriental Romanity”, must be added (V. Tufescu, 1974). If this attribute generally overlaps to the country’s territory, the natural Carpathian-Danubian-Pontic dimension has a limited validity.

This paper presents and supports with arguments two other dimensions, referring to the nature of the places, namely:

- the Pannonian dimension – as a consequence of the Western part of country’s position;
- the Ponto– Baltic dimension – as a consequence of the Eastern part of country’s position, close to the Ponto-Baltic isthmus.

This extended interpretation allows a more comprehensive description of Romania as a territorial unit – country:

- a) generally overlapping “The Oriental Romanity” island;
- b) a Carpathian-Danubian-Pontic country, situated in the proximity of the transition space between Central and Eastern Europe (the Ponto-Baltic area).

DYSFUNCTIONS IN SPATIAL MYCROSYSTEMS. CASE STUDY: CHINTENI VILLAGE
[DISFUNCTII ÎN MICROSISTEME SPAȚIALE. STUDIU DE CAZ: COMUNA CHINTENI]

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The location of Chinteni village nearby Cluj-Napoca (12 km) represents a positive aspect for the future perspectives of the village development. The manner of organizing human settlements, as well as their trajectories, is mostly influenced by the economic development of the discussed system and by its capacity to adapt to changes, to imposed policies, and to the environment.

The positive elements of the analyzed space in terms of accessibility, natural support, natural resources, human resources, and existing traditions have represented the main attractiveness of Chinteni, opposed to existing dysfunctions that create the fundamental problems in this area.

Dysfunctions appear when some elements of the system manifest reduced adaptation and functionality. In this case we mean the area of the village of Chinteni. The causes of these unstable situations are determined by natural, social, political, administrative, and conjunctural or by economic factors (the last one represents the piles of a functional settlement).

The dysfunctions of the village can be grouped into few categories, such as:

- Dysfunctions of the natural environment (phenomena of massive landslides, surface erosion processes and formation of ravines, the quality of environment)
- Dysfunctions of the human settlements and human resource (isolated settlements, migration, depopulation and aging, low birth rate, lose of the local traditions and customs)
- Dysfunctions of technical infrastructure (road infrastructure degradation, lack of water supply system, lack of water sewerage system, lack of methane gas and thermal power plants)
- Economic dysfunctions (type of activity, placing below the regional mean of SMEs)
- Social dysfunctions (teacher/student rate below the regional average, lack of school supplies in educational establishments, physician/patient rate below the regional average, medical assistance below standards, assimilation of elements that are not fully integrated into the landscape resulting visual pollution)

All these have causes and effects which impose searching for measures of controlling them. These measures tend to revitalize the area and to produce an economic and social equilibrium by emphasizing the elements that will lead to the system functionality.

**PLAN4ALL - THE EUROPEAN APPROACH TO SPATIAL DATA USED IN
TERRITORIAL PLANNING [PLAN4ALL – O ABORDARE EUROPEANĂ A DATELOR
SPAȚIALE UTILIZATE ÎN PLANIFICAREA TERITORIALĂ]**

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In order to ensure the increased efficiency of European policies and the implementation of Structural Funds in a more balanced manner in the different territories of the country, a number of eight development regions have been established in Romania at NUTS II level. In between these regions, as well as within each of them, a major concern is the diminution of economic and social disparities. Moreover, these disparities can manifest themselves in a cross-border context, jumping the administrative boundaries of regions and even neighbouring countries. In this sense development plans provide certain measures in order to stimulate a more balanced development of the territories, using spatial planning as the actual support in identifying factors that lead to the emergence and intensifying of regional disparities.

Significant efforts have been made to harmonize spatial planning data sets for sharing, accessing and using them in order to compare the impact of different policies and planning strategies. Spatial planning and related information are important not only from the point of view of national, regional and local development, but they also have a cross-border and even an international dimension, especially in situations related to environmental protection and natural disaster risk prevention.

To guarantee the interoperability of spatial data infrastructures and to ensure that they can be accessed by users from all EU member states, the European Parliament and the Council has issued the Directive 2007/2/EC entitled *INSPIRE*. The Directive establishes the guidelines for an infrastructure for spatial information in the European Community in order to support the elaboration, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and activities which have a direct or indirect impact on the environment.

The present paper focuses on these aspects related to spatial planning data in the context of the recent European initiatives, through the activities of the *Plan4all* project that is being implemented by a consortium of 24 partners from 15 European countries, Romania being represented by the North-

West Regional Development Agency (North-West RDA). The paper presents the achievements of the running *Plan4all* project until the present day, as well as the involvement and the contributions of the North-West RDA so far.

**THE AGROTOURISM POTENTIAL A FACTOR OF REVIVAL OF DEMOGRAPHIC
DECLINE IN GURA TEGHII [AGROTURISMUL POTENTIAL FACTOR DE
REVITALIZAREA A DECLINULUI DEMOGRAFIC IN COMUNA GURA TEGHII]**

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The purpose of this paper is to investigate and analyze demographic decline and agro tourism potential through the factor of revival in the Gura Teghii mountain village. The analysis focuses on human population variability and agritourism potential of these mountains.

Gura Teghii Village is extended over a surface of 47.079,0 sq km in the Curvature Carpathians, and into the administrative organizations belonging to Buzău County.

Population is distributed in seven sticks (Gura Teghii, Furtunești, Păltiniș, Varlaam, Nemertea, Vadu Oii and Secuiu). Demographical data (1838-2009) has showed variability, especially the process of increasing and after the year of 1975 this demographical index has suffered a continuous decreasing. Maximum number of inhabitants has been reached in the year of 1975 and it was 5.542. Nowadays (1 July 2009) the number of population is 3.480 inhabitants.

A good solution, probably, of demographical revival is the economical activities based on agro tourism, mainly. The economical areas of activities of local profile are focused on tree cutting from the forest and primary processed seasonal activity of pastoral and harvest of therapeutically herbs. A very good potential to stabilize the demographical decline, likely, will be development of the agritourism. Nowadays Gura Teghii Village has a rich culture heritage based on local traditions (e.g.: Ciobănașul ensemble, Ghiorghilaș festival). Another way of development and a strengthening for this village is Penteleu Mountains (Penteleu Peak 1.772m asl). The activities of Mountain Tourism may generate new opportunities for stability of inhabitants (e.g.: hosting, itinerary routes and souvenir).

The research was accomplished within the doctoral training programme and supported by a POSDRU grant, financed by the Social European Fund (SEF).

PREMISES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE ZĂBALA RIVER BASIN
[PREMISELE DEZVOLTĂRII AGRICULTURII ÎN BAZINUL ZĂBALEI]

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The most important right-bank tributary of the Putna river in Vrancea, the Zăbala river, rises in the main orographic node of the Vrancea Mountains, crossing them and forming a depression area at the contact between the mountains and the Sub-Carpathians, which has represented the habitational and the economic support in the forming of the Land of Vrancea. One of the main economic activities in the Zăbala river basin is represented by agriculture, traditional occupation and, at the same time, the basis for a possible sustainable development. The present paper is focused on the factors that influence the practising of agriculture and the possibility of developing different agricultural activities depending on the peculiarities of the land fund, the technological facilities, and the human resource available, taking into consideration the current structure and characteristics of the two branches of the primary sector.

**THE CONSEQUENCES OF DECLARING BAIJA MARE A DISADVANTAGED AREA ON
THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF BAIJA MARE CITY AND ITS NEIGHBOURING
SETTLEMENTS**
*[CONSECINŢELE APLICĂRII POLITICII ZONELOR DEFAVORIZATE ÎN ZONA MINIERĂ
BAIA MARE]*

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The policy of disadvantaged areas constituted a distinctive component of the policy of regional development in Romania between 1998 and 2010. Within this policy, the point was to delimit those areas which suffered from difficult economic and social problems, generated mainly by industrial restructuring. The goal was to apply specific measures to help their redress. Baia Mare mining area represents one of the 38 disadvantaged areas identified in Romania. The paper aims at highlighting the manner in which this status had repercussions on the economic development of Baia Mare City and the other settlements included in the disadvantaged area. In this purpose, we analyzed the companies which invested after the declaration of the disadvantaged area, the number of newly-created jobs, the given facilities, the total value of investments, as well as the way in which these were reflected (positively or negatively) in the decrease of the unemployment rate and the economic rejuvenation by activities developed in new economic fields. One may state that a high number of companies invested in the disadvantaged area throughout its existence, but the effects they had on economic development are more obvious in Baia Mare City. The poor quality of the transport and business infrastructure limits the economic potential of the other settlements of the area, which registered very low investments.

**NEW ASPECTS OF TERRITORIAL DISPARITIES ALONG THE HUNGARIAN-
ROMANIAN BORDER REGION [NOI ASPECTE ALE DISPARITĂŢILOR TERITORIALE ÎN
REGIUNEA TRANSFRONTALIERĂ ROMÂNNO-UNGARĂ]**

EGON NAGY

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The Hungarian-Romanian border was the space of a levelling off procedure in the first decade of the new millennium from socio-economical point of view. Using a statistical methodology (factor analysis, principal component analysis) we tried to demonstrate synthetically the structuring of the space in the terms of generally rendered development. The results of the analysis are emphasizing the main difference between the two part of the frontier, namely the structuring of the disparities on area level on the Hungarian part, and the differentiation of the space along the urban-rural dichotomy on the Romanian side. Thus we can distinguish a contrasting territorial order in Hungary between the larger area surrounding the capital cities of the two analyzed counties on the one hand and the border strip on the other hand. In the same time on the Romanian side the isles of the advanced socio-economical state are overlapping the cities and towns in an isolated way.

EVOLUTION OF THE POPULATION IN PITESTI. TRENDS AND CHARACTERISTICS
[EVOLUȚIA POPULAȚIEI ÎN MUNICIPIUL PITEȘTI. TENDINȚE ȘI CARACTERISTICI]

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The city, depending on its size, represents a pole of attraction for different groups of people situated both near and far from the city. The causes which lead to the movement towards the city of population living in the rural area are related to a more developed economical activity, the possibility of finding a job (especially for middle-aged persons), the presence of learning institutions, hospitals, cultural centres and better living conditions. The city's power of attraction is proportional to its size: the larger the city, the more people come to it from great distances or smaller cities whilst a small city attracts only the population from the neighbouring settlements. Presently in large cities the population shifts from the urban area towards the rural one through the development of the suburban settlements and residential districts. For the city of Pitești this migration is available thus in its peripheral districts residential neighbourhoods appeared within the adjacent settlements a fact which caused the decline of the city population opposite to the growth of the rural population. A major influence on the evolution of the city's population is the natural movement of the population and the industrial restructuration which forced the affected population to move to the rural area or to work in a foreign country. Between 1990 and 2010 the city's population recorded three evolution periods: a slight growth between 1990 and 1997 followed by a period of stagnation between 1997 and 2001 and a period of regression between 2002 and 2009. These periods were influenced by the economical activities, which grew then declined, the natural movement of the population and the migration towards adjacent settlements and beyond the borders.

THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE BETWEEN THE PERSPECTIVES OF IDENTITY AND
GLOBALIZATION ON GIURGIU AND CALARASI CITIES
[PEISAJUL CULTURAL - ÎNTRE PERSPECTIVELE IDENTITARE ȘI CELE DE
GLOBALIZARE LA NIVELUL ORAȘELOR GIURGIU ȘI CĂLĂRAȘI]

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The cultural landscape is one of the major entities able to sustain every identity of any type of space (urban and rural) towards the actual and in a way natural process of global interfering of word cultural. But this cultural landscape especially in cities like those two (Călărași and Giurgiu) is strongly affected by this globalization because the identity and especially the history is not often celebrated, but most important fact is that the space does not have in the way of architecture the signs of regional and national culture and aspects of construction and the way of national being. This study propose it to observe what is still genuine in a historical view of keeping it the culture of the region, with all the intervention of the Otoman empire especially in the city of Giurgiu, even those aspects from the former builders of the city at the beginning of the last millenium, and the ones from the medieval Romanians. Also, the evidence of the global interfering that is being everywhere all over the world with all the major facts and physical evidence.

TERRITORIAL DIFFERENCES REGARDING THE TOURIST PLANNING AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF APUSENI NATURAL PARK DUE TO THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE NGO'S AND THE ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS
[DIFERENȚIERI TERITORIALE ASUPRA CUNOAȘTERII ȘI AMENAJĂRII PARCULUI NATURAL APUSENI REFLECTATE DE IMPLICAREA ONG-URILOR ȘI A FONDURILOR STRUCTURALE AFERENTE]

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Apuseni Natural Park is one of the most important tourist destination from our country and thus in 2009 it was chosen European Destination of Excellence alongside of other 21 destinations from other European countries. During the last few years, the NGO-s have become more and more important in the tourism's field, influencing it's evolution and, due to their activities, creating various differences upon the involved landmarks. More than 150 NGO-s develop their projects and programs inside the Apuseni Natural Park borders, thus emphasizing the special category of NGO-s: NGO-s interested in developing tourism.

Regarding the territorial differences that Apuseni Natural Park faces, they can be spread into three different types, in accordance with the main factors that generate them. First of all, we have territorial differences regarding the knowledge of our analyzed area. Thus, due to the richness and the variety of the natural tourist potential, some parts of the Apuseni Natural Park are well known while others are not. On the other hand, regarding the spreading of the NGO-s as part of the Apuseni Natural Park consisting of three different counties we are facing a new territorial difference and an obvious lack of poise between the number of NGO-s and the number of some of the most important landmarks administrated by each county. In the end we must also take into account the funds. The NGO-s, after analyzing different parts of the Apuseni Natural Park, suggest several activities and programs, which require funds in order to become practical and improve the tourism's image in the area. But again we are facing a difference in allotting the funds, thus influencing the entire tourist and economic evolution of the area.

As a conclusion, the Apuseni Natural Park is affected by a complex series of problems and territorial differences which burden the park's attempt of becoming an international brand.

SPATIAL DISPARITIES IN TRANSPORT ACCESSIBILITY IN CLUJ COUNTY
[DISPARITĂȚI SPAȚIALE ALE ACCESIBILITĂȚII TRANSPORTULUI ÎN JUDEȚUL CLUJ]

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Accessibility, understood in regional geography as the relative ease of reaching a particular location or area, is widely acknowledged as being a key variable for territorial development and planning and also a key factor in the achievement of the cohesion objective of the European Union. In this context, the assessment of the spatial distribution of accessibility offers planners and authorities improved possibilities for alleviating the dysfunctions arisen from an unequal degree of accessibility.

The main objective of the present paper is to assess the inter-county transport accessibility by using a GIS-based methodology, taking Cluj County as a case study area. The analysis comprised several stages: data preparation, construction of the accessibility model by taking into consideration the relief features (slope), number and density of served population, road and rail network, the location of airports and highway entrance/exit points, as well as location of cities, seen as main traffic nodes. Both cost surface modelling and interpolation were used. The third stage included the analysis of accessibility and the identification of spatial disparities.

**MISFUNCTIONS OF AMLAS LAND SETTLEMENTS SYSTEM [DISFUNCȚIONALITĂȚILE
SISTEMULUI DE AȘEZĂRI AL ȚĂRII AMLAȘULUI]**

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The Land of Almaș is one of the regions in the beginning of the Middle Ages on today Romania's territory which has a different evolution compared to the other similar "lands" because it was permanently under the pressure of Hungarian and later German (Saxons) administration in the Southern part of Transylvania. Even so, a group of six villages kept its unity despite a series of attempts to undertake and politically control them. Furthermore, the effect of those attempts was to strengthen the relations between these six villages and other surrounding villages totalling 14 villages based on ethnic, skills, and cultural similarities. Today, under the difficult social economical and political conditions, the Land of Almaș is dealing with a series of problems caused by national and regional conditions. Few urban communities, lack of utility infrastructure, aging of the population and the alarming negative growth rate are some of the problems that need an urgent resolution in order to maintain the normal function of the region, which ultimately affect the well being of the population.

INTELLIGENT GEOGRAPHIC STRUCTURE: LOAD, CAPACITY AND BEHAVIOR
[STRUCTURI GEOGRAFICE INTELIGENTE: ÎNCĂRCĂTURĂ, CAPACITATE,
COMPORAMENT]

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Knowing the inhabited territories as well as the uninhabited has represented a real challenge for the human, a necessity, something useful. The analysis basis has evolved in time so that, from the simple observation of the phenomenon and the suitable decisions for the respective ages, we have now reached a permanent study of the territories belonging to the geographical reality. Geography has had its role which has materialised properly into studies with general or particular substance. Whether we talk about geographical analysis or physical, economic or social, political, the information it is made of has constituted the starting for the following approaching. Geography can not make abstraction from any science offer in its studies, science that gets bigger in its structure and contents; it can only live together with it. So we can say that geography has an unlimited informational basis, but we also can observe that geography stands as an unlimited informational basis for other domains. The singular knowledge has been replaced along time with the totally knowledge, multidisciplinary, interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity have become paths for the geographic study. We can say that, from the structural knowledge point of view, there are at least two sets of elements: an indirectly knowledgeable set, based upon intuition, hypothesis, comparison etc., and a directly, knowledgeable set, through measurements, calculus, human perception etc. In time, the geographical studies have combined both approaches, the difference being their proportion within these, this being determined by request, documentation, freedom of speech, capability of comprehension, the extent of perception etc. After all, all that we do is nothing lent to express what has already been registered, what will presently happen in succession, or what will possibly happen. Historians, economists, ecologists, architects, geographer, ecologists are not be excluded from this circle, because they de mould what has already been moulded in a certain shape and they by a peculiar method, by observing the shifts on prognosis and by establishing possible models to what, they believe, is possible to show up.

**IDENTITY STAKES AND REGIONAL DISPARITIES IN THE BANAT AND WEST REGION
OF ROMANIA [MIZE IDENTITARE ŞI DISPARITĂŢI REGIONALE ÎN BANAT ŞI
REGIUNEA DE VEST A ROMÂNIEI]**

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Changes in the last century in the ethno-cultural structure of the Romanian Banat population, the gradual consolidation of Romanian presence and almost complete loss of the German component, were made amid the conservation of valuable historical heritage, identity marked in particular by German and Hungarian communities. In the socialist period (1947-1989), the discussion of identity has been obscured by ideological discourse, which has made issues of identity communities out of date. Democratization and openness of Romania after 1989, then his European integration, have brought issues of identity in public discourse, in different terms from traditional ones. Stakes are multiple: from the preservation, upgrading and reinventing places of memory (the heritage identity), to the identity appropriation of the economic success and its symbols. Differences between the mountainous Banat, ethnically homogeneous, picturesque but depopulated, and the lowland Banat, cosmopolitan and dynamic, is widening. Their internal and external connections are reorienting. Disparities of economic performance from one locality to another are becoming increasingly apparent. With the establishment of development regions (2004), Arad and Hunedoara counties were joined in the Banat province, to form the West Region, which introduced an additional complexity in the analysis of regional disparities: the legacy of identity is partly different between the counties of Hunedoara and Arad, on the one hand, Caras-Severin and Timis respectively, on the other hand. Despite this historical disparity, the competitive couple Timișoara - Arad emerges gradually throughout the Hunedoara – Caraș Severin heterogeneous mountain space; this latter area remains, however, essential that the relationship with space inside the country. Industrial-tertiary performance and urban dynamics, creating a bipolar concentration in lowland districts, contrasts with the urban dispersion and rural crisis in almost all mountain - hilly area of the region. A number of demographic, economic and social indicators highlight this various differences; their development in recent years that looming future trends, that regional development planning must take into account.

**TERRITORIAL DISPARITIES CONDITIONED BY (NON) PRESERVATION AND
(NON)REFURBISHMENT OF SOME HISTORICAL MONUMENTS
[DISPARITĂŢI TERITORIALE CONDIŢIONATE DE (NON)CONSERVAREA ŞI
(NON)AMENAJAREA UNOR MONUMENTE ISTORICE]**

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The preservation and the refurbishment of sites and territories has always been a challenge for the involved stakeholders, irrespective of their role, functionality and interest. Serving as places of residence, the high rank dignitaries noble estates of the time were the centre of the life and activities of the inhabitants of a given space, who cultivated, depending on sources of inspiration, the aesthetics of the beauty, where the contribution of balanced spatial planning is needless.

When the Historic Monuments Commission was set up, part of these estates were acknowledged according to their real value, benefiting from the status of historical monument, still at the level of principle, the succession of political and legislative regimes, the indifference of the new owners (public or private), the long process of giving properties back to their initial owners characterising the new order of things. This has turned the preservation and refurbishment of these estates into a slow, uncertain and inefficient process.

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The identification of deficiencies in the historical monuments spatial plans (eg. study case: *Bonțida Estate – Bánffy Castle, Cluj County; Avrig Estate, Samuel von Brukenthal Summer Residence, Sibiu County; Criș Estate, Bethlen Castle, Mureș County*), with repercussions on the local and/or regional territorial development, the possibility of turning them to best account later on by recognising past values represent the focal point of this study. Consultation and spatial reproduction of the various spatial plans and projects, by means of satellite images included, and the comprehension of the beneficiaries' points of view are the means address these aspects.

**THE EFFECT OF NEHOIU AND POGOANELE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC
RESTRUCTURING [EFECTELE RESTRUCTURĂRII ÎN PLAN SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASUPRA
ORAȘELOR NEHOIU ȘI POGOANELE]**

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Since early 1989, Nehoiu and Pogoanele small settlements, located in south-eastern that north Buzău county, cities declared in the same year, entering a new stage of evolution. After a long period of evolution of socialism, the people and especially the authorities decide to adjust the evolution and development of settlements, which will change not only have repercussions on the entire economic base but also on the population and thereby assist in its descendents evolution. Economic restructuring is felt on the quality of life, purchasing power is increasingly small, many families are poor, with the possibility of living only one day to another.

Industry and agriculture have suffered the biggest change in the sense that the labour pool/force in these two areas has steadily declined. Current development opportunities include: increasing the share of active population in the tertiary sector and attracting investors from the private sector.

**CAN RURAL TOURISM BOOST GREEN LIVELIHOODS? EMPIRICAL
EVIDENCES FROM MARAMUREȘ [POATE TURISMUL RURAL STIMULA TRAIUL
VERDE? DOVEZI EMPIRICE DIN MARAMUREȘ]**

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The European rural policy is shifting from the concept of multifunctionality to the one of public goods with a growing attention to environmental concerns and green livelihoods.

In Maramureș this approach is only partially explored: as diversification strategy, several tourist accommodation facilities have been developed by local farmers, but those services are not integrated to the territorial amenities. Consequently the current farm structure, the lack of consolidated non-farm activities, as well as of participatory approaches cause migration and land abandonment phenomena.

The research aims to investigate how tourist initiatives can contribute to the promotion of green livelihoods through the valorisation of local assets. Tourism can foster the enhancement of the territorial capital (natural, cultural social, institutional and economic ones), the preservation of public goods (i.e. forestry, land management) and the promotion of a more environmental oriented livelihood.

A development strategy based on the recognition of the specificity embedded in the territorial capital can move the traditional heritage and local assets back to the core of the policy debate, recognizing their role for the socio- economic and environmental development of the area.

Methodologically the work is based on an extensive literature review conducted on the existing policy papers, reports and documents focused on the promotion of a sustainable development for remote rural areas in Romania.

Moreover, a number of interviews to the representatives of the local community (farmers offering accommodation structures, handicraftsmen, local administration and associations aimed at the promotion of the territory) are carried out to collect primary data concerning the perceptions of local stakeholders on the concept of public goods and on the adopted strategies to manage and valorise the territorial capital. Collected data, classified through a cluster analysis, served as a basis for the identification of possible development strategies and good practices for the local communities.

DISPARITIES IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF BANKS IN BANAT (ROMANIA)
[DISPARITĂȚI ALE DISTRIBUȚIEI BĂNCILOR DIN BANAT (ROMÂNIA)]

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In Romania, the post-communist period is dominated by several economic features, and one of them is the emergence of a high number of banking institutions. Nevertheless, their territorial distribution is not homogeneous, as many of these banks tend to set up branches and agencies only in the large cities, where they can attract enough clients to ensure a certain profit. However, due to this policy, they create an even larger economic gap between the urban and rural communities and contribute to the increasing polarization manifested by the large cities. As the urban market is close to saturation, few banks also decided to open up agencies in rural areas, but this process is still in progress. In Banat, most banks are located in the two large cities, Timișoara and Arad, while middle-sized cities and small towns are targeted only by a number of banks (BCR, Raiffeisen Bank, BRD, BT, Bancpost, Carpatica) which extended their network in the recent years. In rural areas, the only substantial presence is that of CEC (Romanian Savings Bank), which was the only bank open to public in the communist era and inherited a vast network of branches.

THE CENTRALITY OF VIȘEU DE SUS TOWN
[CENTRALITATEA ORASULUI VIȘEU DE SUS]

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The centrality of a town in a region, in the central places theory is defined in economic terms of regional service in connection with the report between the urban centre and the rural space around it. The main function of the Vișeu de Sus town is to assure the necessary services for the surrounding villages. The function or the activities of central place are those urban services of which efficiency depends of the centrality of the town where they are situated. According to W. Christaller, the bigger the town from the number of person's point of view, the bigger is the number of the central places functions. The influence area of the Vișeu de Sus town is proved though many ways of administrative, commercial, medical, judiciary, educational or religious importance. The Vișeu de Sus's centrality and influence in the region was proved evens since the period of district administrative entity. Since October 2000, Vișeu de Sus town has become local resort which will certainly have a good influence on territorial development of the area.

FLOOD SYSTEM PREVENTION IN THE ROMANIAN SIDE OF CATCHMENT AREA OF TISA RIVER
[SISTEME DE PREVENIRE A INUNDAȚIILOR ÎN BAZINUL ROMÂNESC AL TISEI]

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Physical and geographical diversity of the Romanian side of Tisa basin and particular anthropogenic footprint, requires a detailed analysis of water risk determined by floods. The growing frequency and magnitude of this type of phenomenon, requires complex and time interventions (structural and non-structural measures) on river water that are affected. The most effective measures have proved to be *the point* and *area type*, which allow the management of large volumes of water, propagated in river-beds in flooding and high waters periods, using as storage facilities the permanent lakes and flooded premises. Beside the specific functions that are assigned on the project phases of a permanent accumulation, there are rare cases when they have not been provided with a volume layer used for flood waves mitigating or other dam facilities which are not operated for this purpose, during the events of extreme running waters. This study provides a record of reservoirs with a capacity to mitigate flooding waves, and also non-permanent reservoirs and flooded premises. The presence of hydrotechnical facilities in various areas of relief has required the achievement of specific technical solutions, with adapted dimensions to local conditions. Also, the locations of these facilities were chosen in the upper part of catchment areas, often upstream of the areas with high vulnerability to flooding. The second type of flood protection measures, *the linear type*, is less effective and often unique in the areas of flooding occurrence. They are present either in the lowlands, plains or meadows with very low slope, or those with "*markets of water concentration*" located in the vicinity of the mountain areas.

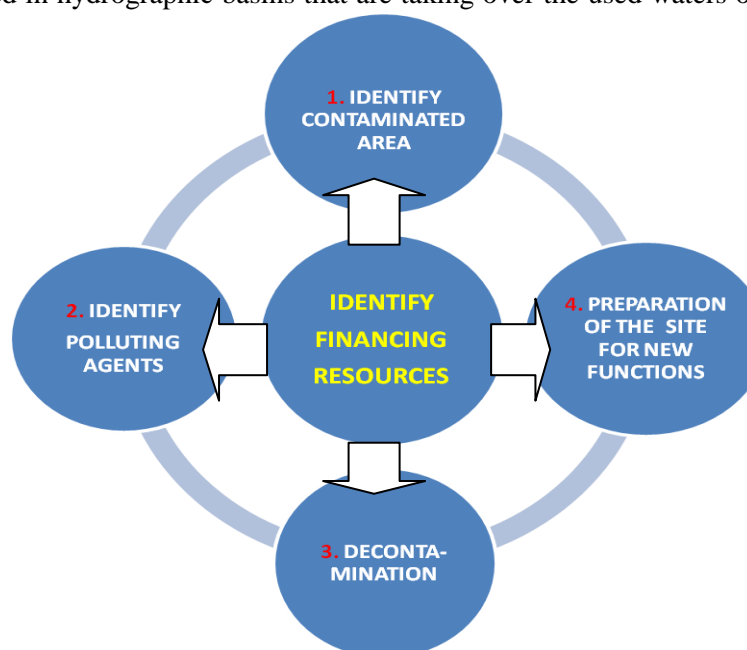
MANAGEMENT OF CONTAMINATED INDUSTRIAL SITES AND THEIR CONVERSION TO NEW FUNCTIONS [MANAGEMENTUL SITURILOR INDUSTRIALE CONTAMINATE ȘI RECONVERSIA LOR SPRE NOI FUNCȚIUNI]

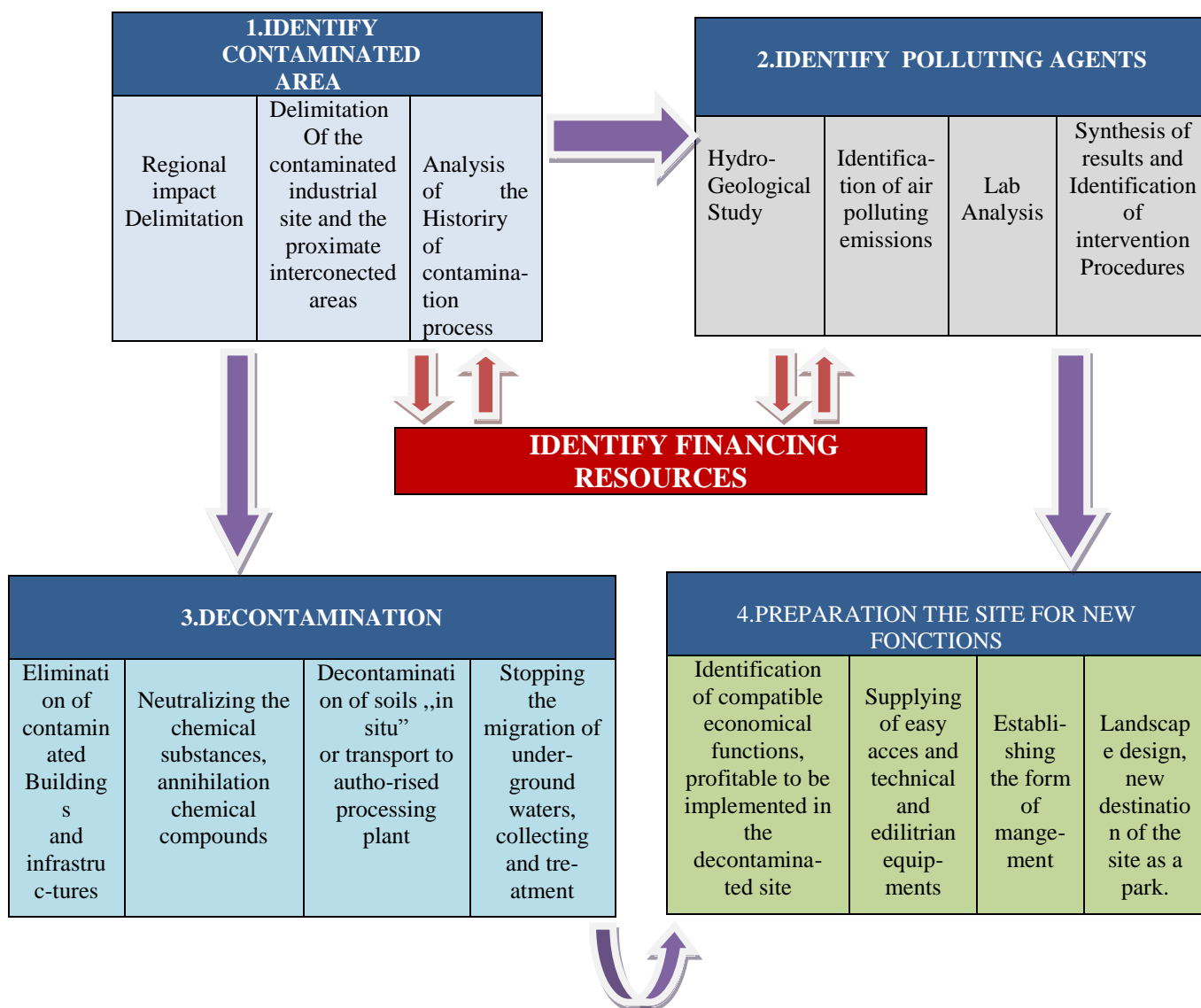
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Călan, Hunedoara, Copșa Mică, Mandenburg Rothensee from Saxonia – Amhalt Germany, Milwaukee – Wisconsin U.S.A., are some of the industrial areas that need rehabilitation as the environmental conditions and the economically utilization are concerned. The local dimension of the negative impact upon the environment and the human settlements and communities caused by the contaminated areas of former industrial activities is obvious.

The contaminated sites are situated in hydrographic basins that are taking over the used waters of the human settlements but also part of longterm contaminated underground waters. The soil and the buildings that are under demolition - are also more or less contaminated and the powder resulting from this process spread by dominant winds to great distances, as well as the toxic emissions from the storage grounds for dangerous toxic waste. Therefore the negativ impact on the environment gains a larger scale, a regional dimension.

Based on the European experience - in treatment of the toxic waste - , there is a possible model of intervention on the affected areas of the former polluted industrial stes in Romania, as it follows:





**SPATIAL-FUNCTIONAL DYNAMICS OF CRAIOVA MUNICIPALITY’S PERIPHERY
 [DINAMICA SPAȚIAL-FUNCȚIONALĂ A PERIFERIEI MUNICIPIULUI CRAIOVA]**

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While during the Middle Ages Craiova municipality went through a pre-urban phase, associated with an extension of vineyards and orchards, at the beginning of modern times the diversification of commercial activities determined an all-important urban development and a spatial extension of the town, augmenting, in the same time, the social contrasts between the centre of the town and its slums. Beginning with the second half of the 20th century, the massive industrialization induces major functional changes at the periphery of the city by the existence of extensive industrial platforms, which, together with a positive migratory growth lead again to an increase in population and a spatial extension of Craiova. In the years following 1989, specific problems of dwelling construction appeared in different peripheral areas of the city, as a result of dissimilar economic and social evolution. Given the chaotic territorial development of the city, there can be identified spatial

and social-cultural distinctions, if not even segregation phenomena, especially between the North-Eastern and Southern residential areas. Moreover, the spatial extension of the city came to reach and afterwards integrate villages formerly suburban. Fragmentarily, mainly concentrated in the Western and Eastern extremities, services areas occupied these areas, resulting in a large consumption of once functional agricultural lands. In the same time, the spatial extension of some residential neighbourhoods does not rigorously follow an organized planning and developed to the detriment of industrial platforms, nowadays widely affected by restructuring processes.

**MAIN ASPECTS OF REHABILITATION AND TOURISTIC REMODELING IN THE
BORSEC RESORT [ASPECTE PRIVIND REABILITAREA ȘI REMODELAREA TURISTICĂ
ÎN STAȚIUNEA BORSEC]**

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Borsec is a well known resort in Transylvania, its fame transcends the Romanian borders. The place owes its fame to its mineral water which won first, second and third prizes at several world exhibitions. This justifies its name of „*queen of mineral waters*” and „*the pearl of the Oriental Carpathians*”.

Borsec, a volcanic barrage depression is situated in the Oriental Carpathians, in their central group, 850-930 m altitude, at a distance of 26 kilometers from Toplița, at equal distance (130km) from Piatra –Neamț, Miercurea –Ciuc and Târgu- Mureș. Since 1953 functions as a town and it has two parts: upper Borsec (the spa resort) and lower Borsec, the administrative centre of the town.

The legend says 400 years ago a shepherd had found here a spring, the water of which had cured him from his bleeding stomach disease. However, many decades have passed until the settlement became a well known resort.

**THE TERRITORIAL DIFFERENCES OF SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED ENTERPRISES IN
ROMANIA [DIFERENȚE TERITORIALE ALE ÎNȚREPRINDERILOR MICI ȘI MIJLOCII
DIN ROMÂNIA]**

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Romania, following the abolishment of the communist regime has entered a new stage of development, not just on a social dimension, but from a political and economic point of view as well, this process being the so called transition. As a result many of the state owned companies have been transferred into the private sector, a process that has closely been followed by the emergence of enterprises established entirely with private capital. The increase of their numbers was anything but linear, with many oscillations correlated with the state of the economy and the changes in the legislation. Furthermore, these changes have taken place at a different pace in the different parts of the country, contributing to the rise of disparities regarding the number and development of SMEs in the whole territory of the country. These property transfers, besides the aspects mentioned earlier, have dramatically influenced the number of the occupied population, resulting – around the middle of the nineties – in the increasing rate of unemployment, which has gradually started to decrease due to new jobs created by newly established private firms on one hand and also because of the way the Romanian State keeps evidence of the unemployed people on the other.

This study will mainly concentrate on analyzing the changes that have taken place in the last years as regards the number of SMEs in Romania, on measuring inequalities in the different areas of the country from this point of view as well as their tendency and their effect on occupying the country's workforce.

**COORDINATES FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF AGRICULTURAL CENSUS RESULTS
NEEDED FOR REGIONAL DISPARITIES ANALYSIS**
*[COORDONATE PENTRU DISEMINAREA REZULTATELOR RECENSĂMÂNTULUI
AGRICOL NECESARE ANALIZEI DISPARITĂȚILOR REGIONALE]*

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The appreciable potential of information resulting from an agricultural census is not always sufficiently exploited and is generally limited to the printed volumes with the final results, which are typically extensive volumes of interconnected tables. Statistical offices are mainly using the Internet, CD-ROMs and other technical tools as main dissemination channels for the very complex amount of information resulting from census data collection. One of the major users' requests when using statistical information is metadata, or data about the data. The EU New Member States are confronted with the ongoing requirements for harmonized and comparable data in the field of agricultural statistics, while data users do not always know the definitions of indicators. The new concepts deriving from the implementation of the new statistical system highlight the need for providing comprehensive metadata to the users of statistical products. The purpose of this paper is to draw attention on the difficulties in analyzing regional disparities in the absence of information breakdown, and to present the main application features of a Query System for the dissemination of agricultural census information in order to respond to users' requests for high quality statistical products, that mean not only data but also metadata.

**THE EXODUS OF THE WHITE COATS - A PHENOMENON THAT WILL HEIGHTEN
THE DISCREPANCIES AT A NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LEVEL**
*[EXODUL HALATELOR ALBE - UN FENOMEN CARE VA ACCENTUA DISPARITĂȚILE LA
NIVEL NAȚIONAL ȘI EUROPEAN]*

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The right to free circulation and the major discrepancies concerning the standard of living are likely to deepen even more the gap between the Eastern and Western parts of EU. At the same time, the demand for health professionals triggered by the demographic and health professionals aging process in the developed countries will favour the emigration of the Romanian doctors. As a consequence, Romania is facing the risk of experiencing a shortage of the medical staff, even if the foreign doctors coming from other countries could cover part of this shortage. We may also look for solutions within the Romanian borders. One of the directions to follow could be that of the decentralisation. The other countries' experience in this domain shows that the proximity of the local administration and of the users leads to an awareness of the population's health needs and to answers which are sometimes more adequate than the ones habitually proposed by national health plans. But how can we take the step from identifying the needs to implementing adequate healthcare services? The guarantee by the public authorities in Romania for equal access to treatments all over the national territory seems to be difficult to attain because of the decrease in the number of health professionals (particularly of the doctors) on account of the emigration process.

**ASSESSING THE POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPING WINTER SPORTS IN MARAMUREȘ
COUNTY [DETERMINAREA POTENȚIALULUI DE AMENAJARE PENTRU SPORTURI DE
IARNĂ ÎN JUDEȚUL MARAMUREȘ]**

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This study aims at developing a model for analyzing the conditionings that make the facilities for winter sports possible to be located in a given area, in this case Maramureș County. County is not a natural unit, homogeneous in terms of location conditionings; however, if the management of the funds necessary for potential facilities is taken into consideration, it can be accepted as study area. In recent years, many local communities have regarded tourism as a chance for their development, including the construction/location of some facilities specific to winter sports. These local initiatives have overlapped with the central-level interventions identified by the existence of national programs such as Super-ski in the Carpathians, Focus ski, etc. In this context, in this study, we will analyze within a model the conditionings/parameters that define the potential location of ski slopes. The main elements considered are relief (slope, exposition, slope length), climate (snow), vegetation cover, neighborhood (forms of communication and localities). The theoretical sites resulted from the spatial analysis will be compared with the existent facilities, as well as with the projects in various stages of implementation.

**LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT IN THE PROCESS OF URBANIZATION IN THE
SUBCARPATHIAN SECTOR OF THE PRAHOVA VALLEY [GESTIONAREA PEISAJULUI
ÎN PROCESUL DE URBANIZARE DIN SECTORUL SUBCARPATIC AL VĂII PRAHOVA]**

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In the Subcarpathian sector of the Prahova valley settlements form a group urban linear, extended along the valley, with obvious nucleus decentralized, usually in areas of confluence for major tributary valleys.

Opening and modernization transcarpathian road, which were allowed to locate and enhance operational planning and human settlements, geographical landscape is altered through the practice of multiple economic activities, forestry, industrial and recreational-tourism in particular.

This process of urbanization is due to change land use, infrastructure development, relief modification or modification of waterways, especially microrelief by leveling, terracing, etc.

Urbanization is a process in this sector that is characterized by population growth and by the rural transformation in urban areas. Part of the increasingly important population living further away from the usual urban cores, and during congestion accuses a growing percentage of dispersion.

The urbanization process has not occurred at the same rate and has not reached the same scale so that the flow of new construction reached the old villages on the periphery, encompasses urban planning and exceeds them, especially in the Breaza city.

The methodology used is represented by the database used in GIS with the cartographic maps, statistics and image field.

For landscape management is acting in terms of sustainable development to ensure regular maintenance of the landscape, so that it directs and harmonizes the changes that occur as a result of social processes, economic and environmental.

SPATIAL DISPARITIES WITHIN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN THE LAND OF SEVERIN [DISPARITĂȚI TERITORIALE ÎN SISTEMUL EDUCAȚIONAL AL ȚĂRII SEVERINULUI]

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The development and the diversification of the economy, especially in the rural space, in the Land of Severin depend on the level of education, knowledge and skill. Though the improvement and the maintenance of an adequate level of basic infrastructure is an important element in the social-economic development, the professional skill are the “engine” for a good development. The difficulties registered by the educational system are mainly generated by the lack of material and human resources, a fact which negatively influenced the level of education and the distribution of educational services within the two areas, urban and rural. Education and formation are essential for the human community living in the Land of Severin, but regarding the scholar infrastructure there are evident discrepancies between the rural and urban space: the quality of education is reduced, on one hand because of the poor endowment of educational infrastructure and, on the other hand, due to the teachers’ level of experience/ skill, another problem faced by the system of educational services being the difficulty to attract skilled personnel in rural areas. Besides the poor material basis existent in the rural space from the Land of Severin, the population reduced incomes also contribute to the increase in number of persons (between 4-19 years) who are not even registered in the system of compulsory education or to the school abandoning phenomenon. Nevertheless, the reduced level of education is reflected in the quality of labour force from the rural space, this representing a restrictive factor for the economic development within the region. Also, the reduced level of qualification decrease even more the persons’ possibility to get a job. The diversification of economic activities, which can ultimately contribute to the development of the analyzed region, is not supported by workers with a qualification or experience specific to various types of jobs, because the educational system was not adapted to the requests specific to rural space.

QUALITY OF LIFE ASSESSEMENT BASED ON SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL ANALYSIS OF THE VEGETATION AREAS DERIVED FROM SATELLITE IMAGES [EVALUAREA CALITĂȚII VIEȚII BAZATĂ PE ANALIZA SPAȚIO-TEMPORALĂ A ZONELOR DE VEGETAȚIE DERIVATĂ DIN IMAGINI SATELITARE]

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The quality of life in urban areas is a function of many parameters among which, one highly important is the number and quality of green areas for people and wildlife to thrive. The quality of life is also a political concept often used to describe citizen satisfaction within different residential locations. In only the last decades the green areas have suffered an advanced decrease in quality, pointing out the ecological urban risk with a negative impact on the standard of living and population health status.

This paper presents the evolution of green areas within the last 10 years in cities of South-Eastern Romania and sets forth the current state of quality of life from the perspective of vegetation reference. By using state-of-the-art processing tools applied on high-resolution satellite images, we derive knowledge about the spatial and temporal expansion of urbanized region. Our semi-automatic technologies for analysis of remote sensing data such as Landsat 7 ETM+ and Spot-5, correlated with statistical information inferred from urban charts demonstrate a negative trend in the distribution of green areas within the analyzed cities, with long-term implications on multiple areas in our lives.

FIELD TRIP

Itinerary: Cluj-Napoca - Mărginimea Sibiului (Săliște - Sibiel - Gura Râului) - Sibiu
- Cisnădioara - Cristian - Miercurea Băi - Cluj-Napoca

In accordance with the theme of the conference – *Regional Disparities: Typology, Impact, Management* – a distinct region in the Romanian landscape was chosen to be visited, *Mărginimea Sibiului*, a territorial unit with significant mental valences. Considered, in a hazardous manner, a periphery of the urban centre of Sibiu, *Mărginimea Sibiului* transcends this syntagm, being characterized by a natural and human support basis, an ethnographic mental space, with strong reverberations at national level, a continuous dynamics assured by fluxes convergent towards the neighbouring areas and a territory marked by a reconversion of economic activities. The relations present between *Mărginimea* and Sibiu, based on mutual exchanges of goods and information, are undeniable.



Gura Râului Reservoir



Jina



Tilișca



Sadu

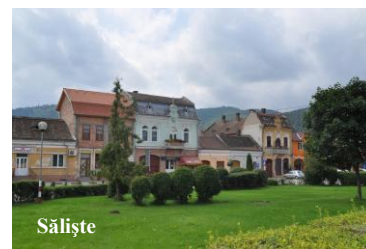


Rustic painted furniture,
Rășinari

Mărginimea Sibiului – major regional coordinates:

- ✓ **The geographical position** of Mărginimea Sibiului in the centre of the country ► transport network convergence area
- ✓ **Diversity of landforms** ► support for agricultural crops, development of the inhabited area and infrastructure
- ✓ **Ski area** (average annual temperature of 4.6°C, average annual precipitation of 935.6 mm, average snow cover thickness – between 0.9 cm (May) and 37.0 cm (February) ► possibility of economic recovery of Mărginimea Sibiului, by modernizing Păltiniș resort
- ✓ **Water resources**
- ✓ **Forest resources** (73,076 ha forest fund, 54% of the total area of the region) ► an important agricultural and shepherding area
- ✓ **Human resource**, with a high degree of educational and professional
- ✓ **Compact Romanian** fund, combined with a strong multiculturalism
- ✓ **Extent of pasture and hayfields and the millenary shepherding tradition** ► factor for asserting livestock breeding
- ✓ **Territorial biodiversity**, ensured by the presence of protected areas (Cindrel and Dumbrava Sibiului nature parks, Iezerele Cindrelului and Șuvara Sașilor nature reserves, Masa Jidovului, La Grumaji, Pintenii of Coasta Jinei nature monuments, Cretaceous limestone of Cisnădioara, SCI Frumoasa, SCI Oltul Mijlociu-Cibin-Hârtibaciu, SPA Frumoasa)
- ✓ **Diverse natural and anthropogenic tourist resources** (123 historic monuments included in the List of Historical Monuments) ► different forms and types of tourism
- ✓ **High degree of accessibility to settlements** (E81, railway)
- ✓ **Ethnographical mental space** (partially overlying the Land of Amlaș) ► affirmation of an own conscience, of a pronounced territorial identity.

An agricultural and shepherding centre par excellence, **Săliște** has earned its position as central place of Mărginimea Sibiului, through the convergence exerted on the small villages nearby. Due to the relative closeness to the urban settlement of Miercurea Sibiului, Săliște is found in competition relations with the former, its activity being conferred by the diversity of its functions. However, urban development is still at an early stage.



Well-known as an illustrative region for the presence of folk art painting, Mărginimea Sibiului demonstrates its inherited attributes through the centre at Sibiel, the **Priest Zosim Oancea Museum of Icons on Glass** hosting the greatest exhibition of icons on glass in Transylvania (about 600 icons).



Situated at the foot of the Cindrel Mountains, the village of **Gura Râului**, with an existence dictated by the capitalisation of wool and wood, has known a growth in the development of tourist guesthouses in the recent years, the combination of traditional wood processing with the use of their own household resources representing a response of the local community to the harmonisation with the present economic challenges, namely the revival of tourism.



Sibiu – urban landmarks:

- ✓ important Roman settlement (*Cibiniensis*)
- ✓ one of the main centres of establishment and residence of the Saxon colonists and also their seat
- ✓ a strong craftsmanship activity in the Middle Ages (40 guilds in the 18th century)
- ✓ a convergence point for the merchants coming from Walachia and Transylvania
- ✓ capital city of Transylvania during the Habsburg Period
- ✓ the experience “Sibiu European Cultural Capital” (2007)
- ✓ historical centre proposed for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List

Despite the more balanced urban structure of Mărginimea Sibiului, the settlement network is strongly competed by the city of **Sibiu**, as county seat whose medieval administrative and commercial functions were transferred to a mosaic of functions during the modern period. The initial organisation manner of the city, over which the initiatives for extending the built-up area and revitalizing the city centre were overlaid, leads any native or tourist footsteps within the city walls, in the old city centre.

A short journey in the medieval streets highlights three city squares as landmarks:

- **Piața Mare (Great Square)** ↔ the historical centre of Sibiu, mentioned as cereal marked in 1411 (**Tourist objectives of local interest: Casa Albastră, Samuel von Brukenthal Palace, City Hall, Haller House**);
- **Piața Mică (Small Square)** ↔ the buildings here date back in the 14th – 16th centuries and are characterized by the presence of the ground floor loggia, vaulted and semi-open towards the market, a space formerly favourable for the exhibition of goods (**Tourist objectives of local interest: The Pharmacy Museum, Town Hall Tower, The Bridge of Lies, Hermes House**);
- **Piața Huet (Huet Square)** ↔ formed on the route of the first fortified precinct of Sibiu, dating back from the 12th century (**Tourist objective of local interest: Evangelical Church, the Tower of Stairs, “S. von Brukenthal” Gymnasium**).

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REGIONAL DISPARITIES: TYPOLOGY, IMPACT, MANAGEMENT



A particular feature of Mărginimea Sibiului and, at the same time, a timeless witness of the interferences between the members of the local community, is represented by the presence of **fortified churches**, temporarily inhabited, with a functionality dictated by the need to protect and shelter the population. The material culture left by the Saxons shows visible, sometimes irreversible marks of degradation, the chances for the survival of the existent built heritage being conditioned by the existence of concrete measures for conservation and restoration. **The Romanesque Basilica of St. Michael in Cisnădioara**, with the oldest functional pipe organ in Romania, dominates from the hilltop the homonym settlement, today shifted to rural tourism.



Basilica in Cisnădioara



Fortified Church in Cristian



Salt baths in Miercurea Băi

Cristian, a settlement attested in 1223, together with the first wave of Saxons colonized at the request of Géza II, King of Hungary, has preserved the typical Saxon architecture, with houses lined up along the street and enclosed courtyards, bordered by tall gates. Built on the site of a former Romanesque basilica, the **Evangelical Church of Cristian** was reconstructed at the end of the 15th century, in late Gothic style, becoming a strong fortress around 1500, made of the fortified church and the defence precincts, surrounded by towers. In the first half of the 19th century, the church experienced another wave of reconstruction, the neoclassical style mixing in an harmonious manner with the previous architectural styles.

Miercurea Băi resort, currently inoperative and non-homologated, with mineral chloride, sodium and iodine waters, with therapeutic effect, is exploited only by the services offered by an accommodation and public food unit. The former archaeological site (in the place called Albele), used as a Roman spa complex, awaits modest tourists, postponing to “tomorrow” the concretisation of a local entrepreneurial initiative that could bring this resort in the regional and national tourist circuit.

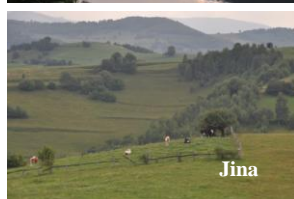
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We strongly affirm that *Mărginimea Sibiului* is getting out of the shadow created by the urban centre of Sibiu, due to the dynamics of its growth poles, the emphasis of some gravity axes, the presence of some convergence axes, through an own support base and even through a counter-balance of the isolated settlements due to the affirmation of some areas with a high development potential.

APLICAȚIE DE TEREN

Itinerar: Cluj-Napoca - Mărginimea Sibiului (Săliște - Sibiel - Gura Râului) - Sibiu - Cisnădioara - Cristian - Miercurea Băi - Cluj-Napoca

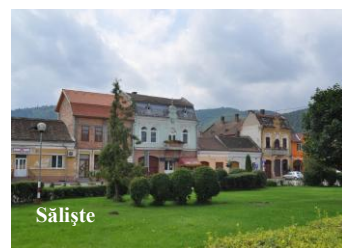
În concordanță cu tema conferinței – *Disparități regionale: tipologie, impact, management* – s-a optat pentru vizitarea unei regiuni distincte în peisajul regional românesc, *Mărginimea Sibiului*, o unitate teritorială cu importante valențe mentale. Considerată, hazardat, o periferie a centrului urban Sibiu, Mărginimea Sibiului depășește această sintagmă, individualizându-se printr-o bază de susținere naturală și umană proprie, un spațiu mental de tip etnografic, cu puternice reverberații la nivel național, o dinamică continuă asigurată de fluxurile convergente spre arealele învecinate și un teritoriu marcat de o reconversie a activităților economice. De netăgăduit sunt relațiile existente între Mărginime și Sibiu, bazate pe schimburi reciproce de bunuri și informație.



Mărginimea Sibiului - coordonate regionale majore:

- ✓ **Poziția geografică centrală** a Mărginimii Sibiului, raportată la scară națională ► arie de convergență a căilor de comunicații
- ✓ **Diversitatea formelor de relief** ► suport pentru culturile agricole, dezvoltarea spațiului oicumenic și a infrastructurii
- ✓ **Domeniul schiabil** (temperatura medie anuală de 4,6°C, 935,6 mm cantitatea anuală de precipitații, grosimea medie a stratului de zăpadă – între 0,9 cm (luna mai) și 37,0 cm (luna februarie) ► variantă de revigorare economică a Mărginimii Sibiului, prin modernizarea stațiunii Păltiniș
- ✓ **Resurse hidrice**
- ✓ **Resurse forestiere** (73076 ha fond forestier, 54% din suprafața totală a regiunii) ► o importantă zonă agro-pastorală
- ✓ **Resursa umană**, cu un grad înalt de pregătire educațională și profesională
- ✓ **Fond compact românesc**, îmbinat cu un **pronunțat multiculturalism**
- ✓ **Extensiunea pășunilor și fânețelor și tradiția pastorală milenară** ► factor de afirmare a creșterii animalelor
- ✓ **Biodiversitatea teritorială**, asigurată de prezența arealelor protejate (parcurile naturale Cindrel și Dumbrava Sibiului, rezervațiile naturale Iezerele Cindrelului și Șuvara Sașilor, monumentele naturale Masa Jidovului, La Grumaji, Pintenii din Coasta Jinei, calcarele cretaceice de la Cisnădioara, SCI Frumoasa, SCI Oltul Mijlociu-Cibin-Hârtibaciu, SPA Frumoasa)
- ✓ **Resurse turistice naturale și antropice variate** (123 monumente istorice înscrise LMI) ► practicarea unor forme și tipuri variate de turism
- ✓ **Grad ridicat de accesibilitate a așezărilor** (E81, calea ferată)
- ✓ **Spațiu mental etnografic** (suprapus parțial Țării Amlășului) ► afirmarea unei conștiințe proprii, a unei identități teritoriale pregnante.

Centru agro-pastoral prin excelență, **Săliște** și-a câștigat poziția de loc central al Mărginimii Sibiului, prin convergența exercitată asupra satelor mai mici din împrejurime. Datorită relativei apropieri de așezarea urbană Miercurea Sibiului, Săliște se află într-o relație de concurență cu aceasta, atractivitatea acestuia fiind conferită de diversitatea funcțiilor deținute. Cu toate acestea, dezvoltarea urbană se află încă într-un stadiu incipient.



Recunoscută și ca o regiune ilustrativă a prezenței picturii populare, Mărginimea Sibiului își demonstrează atribuțiile primite prin centrul de la Sibiel, **Muzeul icoanelor pe sticlă pr. Zosim Oancea** adăpostind cea mai mare expoziție de icoane pe sticlă din Transilvania (aprox. 600 icoane).



Situată la poalele Munților Cindrel, localitatea **Gura Râului**, cu o existență dictată de valorificarea lânii și a lemnului, a cunoscut ultimii ani o amploare în ceea ce privește dezvoltarea pensiunilor turistice, îmbinarea prelucrării tradiționale a lemnului cu utilizarea resurselor din gospodăria proprie reprezentând un răspuns al comunității locale la armonizarea cu actualele provocări economice, respectiv cele de revigorare turistică.



Sibiu – repere urbane:

- ✓ importantă așezare romană (*Cibiniensis*)
- ✓ unul din principalele centre de stabilire a coloniștilor sași și reședință de scaun
- ✓ o puternică activitate meșteșugărească în Evul Mediu (40 bresle în sec. XVIII)
- ✓ punct de convergență pentru negustorii din Țara Românească și Transilvania
- ✓ capitală a Transilvaniei în perioada habsburgică
- ✓ experiența „Sibiu-capitală culturală europeană” (2007)
- ✓ centru istoric propus pentru înscrierea în cadrul patrimoniului mondial UNESCO

În pofida structurii urbane mai echilibrate a Mărginimii Sibiului, sistemul de așezări mărginean este puternic concurat de orașul **Sibiu**, municipiu reședință de județ, ale cărui funcții administrative și comerciale medievale au fost transferate în perioada modernă unui mozaic de funcții. Modul inițial de organizare al orașului, peste care s-au calat inițiativele de extindere ale intravilanului și revitalizare a centrului istoric, poartă pașii oricărui băștinăș sau turist în interiorul zidurilor cetății, în vechiul centru istoric.

O incursiune scurtă pe străzile medievale scoate în evidență ca repere trei piețe:

- **Piața Mare** ↔ centrul istoric al Sibiului, menționat în 1411 ca piață de cereale (**Obiective de interes local: Casa Albastră, Palatul Samuel von Brukenthal, Primăria, Casa Haller**);
- **Piața Mică** ↔ clădirile de aici datează din sec. XIV-XVI și prezintă, ca și caracteristică, loggia de la parter, boltită și semideschisă spre piață, spațiu favorabil odinioară etalării mărfurilor (**Obiective de interes local: Muzeul Farmaciei, Turnul Sfatului, Podul Minciunilor, Casa Hermes**);
- **Piața Huet** ↔ formată pe traseul primei incinte fortificate a Sibiului, cu datare de la sfârșitul secolului al XII-lea (**Obiective de interes local: Biserica evanghelică, Turnul Scărilor, Gimnaziul „S. von Brukenthal”**).



O caracteristică particulară a Mărginimii Sibiului, și în același timp un martor atemporal al interferențelor dintre membrii comunității locale, o constituie prezența **bisericilor fortificate**, nelocuite permanent, cu o funcționalitate dictată de nevoia de apărare și adăpostire a populației.



Bazilica de la Cisnădioara

Cultura materială lăsată de sași cunoaște urme vizibile, uneori ireversibile, ale degradării, șansele de supraviețuire ale patrimoniului construit existent fiind condiționate de existența unor măsuri concrete de conservare și restaurare. **Bazilica în stil romanic Sf. Mihail din Cisnădioara**, cu cea mai veche orgă cu tuburi, funcțională, din România, domină de pe vârful dealului cu același nume așezarea sibiană, reorientată astăzi spre practicarea turismului rural.



Biserica fortificată din Cristian

Așezare atestată documentar în 1223, odată cu colonizarea primului val de coloniști germani, la solicitarea regelui Ungariei Géza II, *Cristian* a păstrat tipica arhitectură săsească, cu case aliniate de-a lungul străzii și curți închise, străjuite de porți înalte. Construită pe locul unei foste bazilici romanice, **biserica evanghelică din Cristian** va fi reconstruită spre sfârșitul secolului XV, în stilul goticului târziu, urmând ca în jurul anului 1500 să ajungă o puternică cetate, alcătuită din biserică fortificată și incinta de apărare, înconjurată de turnuri. În prima jumătate a secolului al XIX-lea, biserică va cunoaște un alt val de reconstrucție, stilul neoclasic îmbinându-se în chip armonios cu stilurile arhitectonice anterioare.



Băile sărate din Miercurea Băi

Stațiunea **Miercurea Băi**, nefuncțională actualmente și neomologată, cu ape minerale clorurate, sodice și iodate, cu efect terapeutic, este exploatată doar prin serviciile oferite de

o unitate de cazare și alimentație publică. Fostul sit arheologic (în locul numit Albele), utilizat drept complex balnear roman, își așteaptă astăzi vizitatorii modești, lăsând în sarcina zilei de „mâine” concretizarea unei inițiative antreprenoriale locale ce ar putea readuce această stațiune în circuitul turistic regional și național.

* * *

Afirmăm, fără rezerve, că *Mărginimea Sibiului* iese din conul de umbră al centrului urban Sibiu, prin dinamica polilor săi de creștere, a evidențierii unor axe de gravitație, a prezenței unor axe de convergență, printr-o bază de susținere proprie sau chiar printr-o contrabalansare a așezărilor izolate prin afirmarea unor areale cu un potențial crescut de dezvoltare.

Author Guidelines

The conference papers will be selected and published in **Romanian Review of Regional Studies**, the journal of the **Centre for Regional Geography**, accredited by the **National University Research Council, B category**, as well as on the journal's website, in full-text electronic format:

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Authors are invited to submit their papers typewritten entirely in *English*, according to the specified format, until **1st February 2011**, at the following e-mail address:

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* * *

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THE 4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
REGIONAL DISPARITIES: TYPOLOGY, IMPACT, MANAGEMENT

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