

**ANNALS
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CRAIOVA
- SERIES GEOGRAPHY -**



**Volume released in honor of a century
since the birth of Nicolae Al. Rădulescu,
personality of the Romanian science**

EUC

EDITURA UNIVERSITARIA

2005

ANNALS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CRAIOVA SERIES GEOGRAPHY

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ISSN: 1224-4112

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**100 YEARS SINCE THE BIRTH OF NICOLAE AL.
RĂDULESCU, PERSONALITY OF THE ROMANIAN SCIENCE**

Viorica TOMESCU¹

Abstract: Nicolae Al. Rădulescu's entire work and activity have given prominence to his name, placing him among the great Romanian geographers who contributed to the development of the Romanian science, during the second part of the 20th century. Professor Rădulescu tackled complex fields of study and he dedicated himself to these domains, showing profound professionalism and remarkable passion. One of the important domains to which N. Al. Rădulescu contributed is represented by the didactics of geography, in which he continued the application of the ideas and of the principles elaborated by the scholar Simion Mehedinți – his first mentor and the reference model in the geographical science. In the scientific research domain, Nicolae Al. Rădulescu excelled in human and economic geography projects and thematics, these ideas and subjects being developed through his activity of master's degree mentor at the University of Craiova, where he carried on the most laborious activity of the last part of his life. He organized and guided certain scientific manifestations (group discussions, symposiums, meetings) of national importance, which were accompanied by field trips. Within the framework of the international scientific meetings, Professor Rădulescu participated in conferences and symposiums, where his opinions aroused great interest, while the recognition of his competencies was confirmed through his election as a correspondent member of the International Geographic Union.

Key words: Romanian geographers, N. Al. Rădulescu

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**A REFUGE OF THE ROMANIAN GEOGRAPHY A
CENTURY AFTER THE BIRTH OF PROFESSOR TIBERIU
MORARIU**

Lucian BADEA²

For the wise and honest persons, unlike the ambitious ones, the past represents cumulated experience that can be used in order to build the future. Consequently, at certain times, it is necessary, even compulsory, to return towards the remote past or the more recent history, not with the desire of finding a refuge in the memories or of plunging in nostalgic retrospectives, but with the aim of renewing our terms of comparison, in order to correctly recognize our departure point and what we relied on, to judge and to sincerely show what precisely do we owe to our forerunners (contrary to the scourge in fashion, aberrantly extended lately through practices which would suggest that the real history can only begin with each person).

It seems rather strange (especially for those who are less convinced of the continuity's necessity) to try and say that we would not have accomplished very much without our predecessors and our successors owe them just as much as we do or even more, that is to appreciate the true value of the deeds. This assertion may seem an exaggeration, but this is a risk that must be taken.

Let's return with more than 50 years in the past, namely during the years 1949-1950. The Romanian geography had already begun to feel the effects of the East's outflow towards West, phenomenon which was sustained by the force of the tanks (but with the tacit support in the post-war conjuncture); this outflow relied upon the so-called exclusive Marxist-Leninist teaching, with Stalinist applications of maximal efficiency. The devastation of the autochthonous science and culture had begun (under the astonishing pretext of its creation by the bourgeoisie and the landed gentry, in order to serve their exploitation and domination interests) and the Romanian geography, even more than other scientific disciplines (maybe also because geography appears to represent a more accessible branch of knowledge, certainly being more tempting through the diversity of its subjects and the expression manner), was to be easier penetrated by the ambitious persons and submitted to a pressure that was sustained by a particular violence from the inside.

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The Academy Membership of Simion Mehedinți, Vintilă Mihăilescu and N. Al. Rădulescu was annulled; Vintilă Mihăilescu and Ion Conea were dismissed from the university education (from the institution that had been known, since 1948, under the name of *The Faculty of History and Geography*) and the same thing happened to the younger geographers I. Vintilescu, Anastasie Bârsan, Gh. Nimigeanu, Ana Rădulescu-Conea. Nicolae Popp had been formerly eliminated. This represented a clear decapitation of the faculty in Bucharest as well as of the recent Institute of Geographical Research (which had been set up a few years before, under V. Mihăilescu's leadership). N. Al. Rădulescu was to have the same fate three years later. The Universities of Iași and Cluj experienced similar actions; nevertheless, the shade of a chance – maybe a random one - could be glimpsed in Cluj, this being possibly due to the fact that Cluj was the symbolic place of the second reintegration after the Northern Ardeal report. This chance was represented by the fact that Professor Tiberiu Morariu remained the exponent of geography in Cluj and, due to the gap that had been created, he would very soon become also the exponent of the Romanian geography. The strokes that had brought about a real disaster for the Bucharest School were parried to a certain extent at the University of Cluj. This represented an important chance of survival and of continuity, an opportunity which was to be essential in the following years, offering, in the first place, a primary open gate through the Institute of Geographical Research.

The reestablishment, in 1952, of the Institute of Geographical Research, with branches in Cluj and Iași, represented a first step towards the reconstruction of the road that led to the development of national geography research. And this step began to have important signification (although the Institute was subject to the assault of the half-time functioning, recently and unexpectedly appeared in the geographical research) because the activity of the Institute involved several geographers who really knew the meaning of the authentic research and they had already created conditions for the geographical research to actually become an independent profession.

Of the geographers with a rich experience at that time, there were received at the Institute: I. Conea, R. Călinescu, P. Coteț – in Bucharest, T. Morariu - in Cluj, C. Martiniuc -in Iași, fact which gave hope after the exclusions that took place during the previous years.

There is no doubt that Professor Tiberiu Morariu's presence had an important part, not so much through the actual contribution to what was called "a research plan", but through the maintenance at a certain level of what can be termed the realism of research (or guaranteeing the concordance among wishes, engagements and possibilities); he also contributed to the preservation of the atmosphere specific to the Romanian geography's past, which was confronted, at that time, with the national imposture and with the tendencies of intrusion and domination of some imported ideology and conceptions (exacerbated under the mask of the so-called criticism of the unique geography).

Let us not forget the fact that this represents the period when Simion Mehedinți was ruthlessly repudiated, even in writing, for "his geographic

determinism” “*which had hindered geography’s development as a science*” (Geographical monograph of the R.P.R., 1960, p. 27), for the intentions of “*subordinating geography to his political convictions*”, for his geographical thinking, which led him to “*geopolitics*”, the most reactionary manifestation of the Romanian geography (quoted work, p.26).

This is the period of acute “scientific” criticism of Emm. de Moartonne’s work; he saw the relief as “the result of the long interaction between the internal and external agents, in time and space, *yet, considering it wrongly as a circular movement* (the cycle)” (quoted work, p.29). This is also the period when, on the occasion of a paper presentation meeting at the Institute of Geographical Research, the same de Martonne was considered as “an exponent of the French imperialism”, sent in the Romanian Carpathians. It was stated, as well, that: “*the geomorphologic research preoccupy more the Romanian geographers, to other geographical branches’ detriment*”(quoted work, p.34). Still, the fact that the Institute began to function, having a precise organizational structure and a clearly defined goal, was a good sign.

Nevertheless, the crucial moment for the future of the Romanian geographical research (and thinking) was to arrive a year later, in 1953. After the 1948 abeyance of the doctorate, in 1953 this was reestablished (under the form of the so-called post-graduation), not for receiving the title of Doctor in geography, but the title of candidate in geographical sciences - after the Soviet model - and Professor T. Morariu become a scientific master. It appeared, thus, the possibility of renewing the scientific tradition of the Romanian geography, through all those who were ready to work hard in order to acquire a serious education and to creatively apply the knowledge in the research of many regions that were only knew from the wholly general references found in the university lectures (they were almost white spots on the map of the profound geographical knowledge of the country).

In this way, all the approaches from the part of those belonging to the new generation of geographers who wished to be recognized (realizing something for the Romanian geography) were directed towards Cluj. Thus, under the guidance of Professor T. Morariu, the geographical school of Cluj became a real “*refuge-station*” for the traditions of Romanian geography.

A serious error would be committed if that situation was judged after the present conditions, because the entire activity was carried on under two essential coordinates: *the lack of competencies* (as a consequence of eliminating the existent ones) and *the pressures of the foreign influence* (which sometimes became decisive). This latter element was meant to dislocate the specificity of the Romanian way of thinking, leading it towards a certain ideological-political conformism (which was actually imposed to the entire Romanian science). In the imposed process towards an ideological and politicized geography (without any deviation to its human sides), Cluj became, thus, the only place for finding the way that was almost lost in the immediate post-war years, for a new rise, like the Phoenix bird, from its own ashes.

It is not appropriate either to accuse, to bring severe criticism concerning the state of geography during that period, or to exaggerate certain actions using great

words. Nevertheless, we must admit that without the geographical Cluj of the post-1953 - post-1958 period, without the stimulating attributions of Professor Tiberiu Morariu, the critical period (which began after 1948) within the geographical activity would have been even longer, bringing on unfavorable consequences; on the other hand, the connection between the past and the following period would have been realized with much more difficulties and, certainly, at another level.

The stimulating part must not be limited only to the formation of a generation of geographers and to their recognition through doctorship. It was also a stimulus for research, for the profound understanding of the Romanian geographical reality and it did not regard a narrow field of study, but a complex knowledge. Moreover, it encouraged the capitalization of the results in the numerous published works, in studies concerning Țara Lăpușului (Lăpuș Country), the Bucegi Mountains, the Godeanu Mountains, the Romania's lakes, Țara Oașului (Oaș Country), the Căndești Piedmont, the Oltenian SubCarpathians and, later on, the Transylvanian SubCarpathians, the Bistrița Valley, the Moldavian Plain, the Tutova Hills and many other papers, which generally appeared a few years later, in an important number of volumes that launched and sustained a research direction, which would subsequently widen in order to become a representative part of the post-1960 Romanian geographical bibliography.

Furthermore, it is to be underlined the restored academic atmosphere, which was based on the idea of forming and training the competencies that are meant to guarantee, through detachment and even avoidance of the official line's tendencies, the progress of the Romanian geographical school, relying on the autochthonous geography's system of thinking and traditions. Despite the numerous difficulties, this was a period when a certain behavior of the researcher was formed and acknowledged: a behavior of probity and of professional competence, which was directly reflected in the great achievements of Romanian geography.

Professor T. Morariu was the one who - besides his obligations of responsible editor of the Academy's geographical magazines, which he accomplished almost with obstinacy - handled the young researchers' contributions, presenting them on the occasion of the meetings held by the Section of geological, geophysical and geographical sciences, in order to be subsequently published in the Academy's Annals. The stimulating effect cannot be questioned, even if sometimes the communications were done through imperative - but totally beneficial - demands.

In this manner it was formed a generation of geographers, which were present in all the centers that had geographical institutions of higher education and research. The attributions of this generation would soon take the shape (besides the numerous individual and collective works) of the great works that designate an epoch and a stage in the Romanian geography's development. This period was marked by the great collective works: *The Geography of the Romanian Danube Valley*, *The National Atlas* and *The Romanian Geography Treaty*.

And if we have recently passed through a period that has witnessed certain intentions of minimizing somehow the past and present deeds as well as what we represent, leading thus to a sort of recurrence of the challenging history of the '50,

that does not mean that the generation which was formed in the above mentioned manner must not continue its mission. Moreover, this generation is required to fulfill the task of giving the history its due: *complete acknowledgement of the past as well as gratitude for the precursors.*

**EVALUATION OF THE UNDERGROUND WATER
RESOURCES THAT CAN BE EXPLOITED WITHIN THE
OLTENIA PLAIN (THE DANUBE-JIU SECTOR)**

Vasile PLENICEANU³

Abstract: The present analysis meets today's necessities, if taking into account the hydrographic and hydrologic features of such a geographic area as well as the need for fundamental parameters in projecting certain works for water management and sustainable development. According to the regional and local hydrological features, there are recommended certain technical conditions for phreatic and ground water catchment and exploitation.

Key words: resources that can be exploited, hydrographical and hydrogeological characteristics, water-catchment, phreatic waters, underground deep waters,

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**SOME ASPECTS CONCERNING URBAN SUSTAINABILITY RISK IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF CRAIOVA**

Ioan MARINESCU⁴, John WOOLNER⁵

Abstract: The paper focuses on the analysis of local risk and opportunities conditions in the area of Craiova Municipality at micro-scale level, seen as basic elements for a sustainable city. Urban sustainability is based on positive interactions among three different sub-systems of the city, such as social, economic and physical. The social well-being is based on economic development and environmental quality. The study aims at redefining the risk by producing a set of maps that represent the multidimensional aspects of urban sustainability in the Municipality of Craiova..

Key-words: risk, urban sustainability, interactions, Municipality of Craiova

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AGRITOURISM'S DEVELOPMENT IN CERNĂUȚI REGION

Eleonora KALMUTSKAIA⁶

Abstract: The focus is laid upon the role held by natural and social-cultural conditions in the development of the agrotourism (rural holidays) in the Cernăuți region. First, a characterisation of the present-day development of this type of tourism is realised, then the problematic elements are brought forward, as well as the author's concrete suggestions relative to the prospect of the agrotourism development.

Key words: agrotourism, rural tourism, ecotourism, natural conditions, social-cultural conditions, rural households, financial difficulties, tourism popularisation, tourists' flux, personnel, transit tourism, conclusions.

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**SOME DATA REGARDING THE FEATURES OF THE PHAEZEMS
WITHIN THE ARAD PLAIN**

Constantin GRIGORAȘ¹, Sandu BOENGIU¹, Alina VLĂDUȚ⁷

Abstract: Arad Plain is one of the plains the Mureș built when it passes the Zarandului Mountains and Lipovei Hills. The Phaeozems within this area formed on fluvial, fluvial-limnic and wind reshuffled sandy deposits. There have been separated a few sub-types of Phaeozems. Among them, the cambic, argic, pelic and cambic-psamic ones cover the most important surfaces, while the Gleyic Phaeozems are less extended. Their texture is predominantly loamy, they have a small to mean content of humus and total nitrate, the reaction is slowly acid-neutral within Am horizon and neutral-slowly alkaline within deeper horizons. The depletion of bases is reduced, as the soils are eubasic within the upper horizon.

Key words: phaeozems, Arad Plaine

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**GEOGRAPHICAL ASPECTS CONCERNING THE FEEDING
SOURCES WITHIN THE HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN OF
THE JIU RIVER**

Cornel GOLEA⁸, Mihaela LICURICI⁹

Abstract: The feeding sources that form, develop and contribute to the growth of the Jiu water course are represented by the liquid precipitation (the rains), the melting of the snows and of the ice, the trickling waters, the lakes and the marshes, to which the underground water is added. It is to be mentioned the fact that the annual average volume of water flowed within the Jiu river basin has (according to the data provided by the *The Administration of the Jiu Hydrographic Basin, Craiova*) an estimated value of about 2.67 billions m³. The feeding of the rivers from rains is realized in accordance with the liquid precipitation's duration and quantity (the surface feeding regime and that of the flow have frequent and accentuated level variations, in accordance with the frequency of the showers). The snow melting represents a source of water supply only in the areas where the snow layer accumulated during winter melts, giving rise to high spring waters, which sometimes reach maximal levels, up to the flooding level; certain winter-spring freshets that have exceptional character are likely to result in this way. The underground feeding represents the *complementary* feeding source, which can function in any season, during the periods when the feeding from the superficial sources stops; the underground feeding is realized from two depth levels (from the free/phreatic aquifer and from the middle depth/karstic aquifer).

Key words: high floods, levels admitted flows, maximal admitted flows, feeding sources, the Jiu hydrographic basin, Romania

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**THE IMPACT OF THE ATMOSPHERIC PRECIPITATION ON WHEAT
PRODUCTION WITHIN DOLJ COUNTY BETWEEN
1965 AND 2000**

Alina VLĂDUȚ¹⁰, Emil MARINESCU¹

Abstract: Wheat represents a cereal that is relatively well adapted to the bio-pedo-climatic conditions from our county. The necessary water can be supplied by precipitation in those years considered normal from the pluviometric point of view (quantities higher than 30 mm even in the driest months), as well as in those years categorized as dry, if rains fall during the wheat critical phase.

Key words: atmospheric precipitation, wheat production, Oltenia

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**OBSERVATIONS ON THE CAUSES THAT LED TO THE
CARPATHIAN OROGEN'S TORSION**

Constantin ENACHE¹¹

Abstract: The closing of the Tethys Ocean, with the creation of the Alpine-Carpathian-Balkan orogen, took place at a latitude that was close to the Tropic of Cancer. Subsequently, through the opening of the North Atlantic Ocean, the alignment of the forming orogen was pushed towards northeast, at northerner latitude, where the terrestrial circumference is smaller, this fact causing the torsion of the mountainous chain which was forming.

Key words: the Carpathian orogen, the paleogeographic evolution, the curving of the Carpathian Mountains.

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**DYNAMICS OF LAND USE AND THEIR REFLECTION
IN THE QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT WITHIN
BUCHAREST'S METROPOLITAN AREA**

Cristian IOJĂ¹², Simona TOMA¹³

Abstract: Land use dynamic and their impact in the environmental quality of Bucharest's metropolitan area. The paper was made within the PhD student projects (Td), financed by CNCSIS. The land use in the metropolitan area of Bucharest City recorded in the period 1970-2002 an accentuated evolution under the direct effect of the socio-economical transformations. Thus, the increase of constructed areas and of areas occupied by different categories of infrastructure, the decrease of agricultural and forested areas, the accentuation of all problems related to the management of all degraded areas are just a few of the transformations in this space characterized by a special mobility. The significant impact in social, economic and ecologic plans affecting a wide territory makes necessary some urgent measures in order to reduce the urban sprawl and the unplanned dispersion of the different land cover categories.

Keys words: metropolitan area, land use change, Bucharest.

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**DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF
ROMANIAN NATURAL PARKS**

Radu NECȘULIU¹⁴, Gabriela NECȘULIU¹⁵

Abstract: We are presenting a comparative analysis of the demographic characteristics of local communities inhabiting the 13 natural parks of Romania and underlines the negative phenomena that occur in the protected cultural landscapes. The population decrease, the demographic ageing and the negative natural balance affect most of the natural parks. This is a critical issue, as the natural parks aim to protect not only the natural heritage but also the human communities and the traditional activities, which are endangered by the demographic decrease and ageing. We calculated a synthetic fragility index that indicates the areas needing priority interventions.

Key words: population decrease, demographic ageing, natural movement, migration balance, natural parks.

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**PAST AND PRESENT IN THE ZOOGEOGRAPHY OF THE EUROPEAN
BISON (*BISON BONASUS L.*) IN ROMANIA**

Sorin GEACU¹⁶

Zusammenfassung: Wegen der unmittelbaren und mittelbaren anthropischen Tätigkeiten hat sich eine starke Beschränkung des Areals und sogar das Verschwinden des Wisents aus der Fauna Rumäniens stattgefunden (der letzte Exemplar war im Jahre 1852 umgebracht). Dieser Wirbeltier wurde aber mit dem ästhetischen und wissenschaftlichen Zweck nach mehr als einen Jahrhundert (1958) wiedereingeführt. Der Wisentbestand in Rumänien beträgt heute 51 Exemplare, das sich in 3 Reservaten befinden: Slivuț-Hațeg (Kreis Hunedoara), Vânători (Kreis Neamț) und Bucșani (Kreis Dâmbovița), sowie in 2 Tiergärten (București und Târgoviște). Die grösste gegenwärtige Wisentbevölkerung befindet sich in Bucșani. Der Wisent ist in Rumänien eine Schutzart, da er ein boreo-montaner zoogeographischer Element, als auch ein biogeographischer Quatärrelikt ist. Die Wisents von Rumänien sind in "European Bison Pedigree Book" eingeschrieben, das jährlich in Białowieza (Polen) erscheint. Das Herbeibringen etlicher Exemplare von Wisent sowohl in Polen, Russland und Bulgarien, als auch die Austausch in verschiedenen Reservate von Rumänien haben der Zweck die Aufrechterhaltung der genetischen Bevölkerungs diversität dieser Art. Heute hat der Wisent nur ein faunistischer Wert.

Key-words : European bison, zoogeography, Romania.

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**GLOBALIZATION AND ITS CONSEQUENCES
WITHIN THE CIVIL SOCIETY AND
THE SECURITY ENVIRONMENT**

Ion PĂLȘOIU¹⁷

Abstract: “Globalization” means a process of making something worldwide in scope, by intensifying and accelerating social, political, economic and cultural change. As a matter of fact, the economic development regardless spatial or cultural boundaries is the driving force of globalization. This phenomenon has a great impact over the civil society, influencing the multiple forms of its expression. Civil society tries to cope with globalization and respond to legitimate social concerns, through transformation and internationalization processes.

Globalization has important security implications. It changes regional power relations, shifts the mixture of interests and redefines long-standing alliances, due to the new asymmetric threats. It will greatly influence the shape, content and legitimacy of the future regional and global security strategies. The effects of globalization will certainly affect Romania’s security in the future.

Key-words: civil society, security, globalization

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**DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA OF INFLUENCE OF THE
TOWN STREHAIA AFTER 1989**

Mihaela Daniela HUREZEANU¹⁸

Abstract: City, the most complex geographical system, establishes relations between its and adjacent space, relations who determine, in time, appearance of its influence area. Economical, demographical, social, cultural or political-administrative changes are in fact connections between urban settlement and the rural space under his influence.

These changes assure the existence and prosperity of the urban centre who had been the collector of the entries (agro alimentary products, workforce, etc.) and the exits (processed products, information, specialized workforce) at the same time. In a city, we could talk about two types of influences areas: one theoretical and the other practical.. Last one has a smaller extension. City, by its functions' complexity and endowment nature, is a polarizer center, for the rural areas and for urban centers of inferior rank, too.

Key words: town, area of influence, restructuring, index, connections, Strehaia, Romania

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