

WARSAW REGIONAL FORUM 2017 *Space of flows*, POLAND

OCTOBER 18–20, 2017

The WARSAW REGIONAL FORUM is a prestigious scientific event which relates science and practice in the field of local and regional development. It takes place every two years in Warsaw, Poland since 2004. The WARSAW REGIONAL FORUM 2017, with the sub-title *Space of Flows*, was held between 18 and 20 October, 2018 and was organized by the Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization of the Polish Academy of Sciences together with the Ministry of Development, the Committee of Geographical Sciences and the Polish Geographical Society.

The foremost topic of the Conference was concentrated on such issues as: flows of capital, information, technology, notions, sounds, and symbols. These flows have grown into a process that shaped the economy, politics and primarily the space. The spatial structure is not determined only by places, but also by the network of mutual linkages and by flows developing between these places. The problem of linkages and flows has become a subject that combines many different fields of science, including mainly the disciplines that deal with spatial aspects (such as geography, spatial management and regional economy). The Conference topic fits well into the current debates over spatial development that take place in the EU, combining academic discussion with present territorial policies, including the policy of flows, in particular.

The nine Sessions of the Forum focused on discussions regarding the following dilemmas and research questions: Infrastructure for flows; Economic flows; Inequalities and flows; Urban and suburban flows; Circular economy; Spatial planning and territorial governance.

The Conference was attended by participants from several countries: Poland, Holland, Germany, United Kingdom, Italy, Russian Federation, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Lithuania, Ukraine, as well as from different fields, such as geography, economy, sociology, regional studies, spatial planning, environmental studies, etc. Two papers were presented by authors from the Institute of Geography of the Romanian Academy: *Territorial disparities in the social development of Romania with focus on social disadvantaged areas* (Bianca Mitrică, Irena Mocanu, Ines Grigorescu, Nicoleta Damian, Paul Șerban, Monica Dumitrașcu), *Rural-urban interactions. Influences on the development of the suburban rural areas in Romania* (Ines Grigorescu, Gheorghe Kucsicsa, Bianca Mitrică, Irena Mocanu, Monica Dumitrașcu).

The field trip, organized on October 18<sup>th</sup>, provided the possibility to discuss issues related to population flows (urban sprawl and commuting to work places), transport flows (road, rail and air), flows of ideas (co-operation between local government territorial units within the Warsaw agglomeration), and flows of natural environment resources (specific water system around Warsaw).

*Bianca Mitrică, Ines Grigorescu*

## 9<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOMORPHOLOGY

NOVEMBER 6–11, 2017, VIGYAN BHAWAN, NEW DELHI, INDIA

Between November 6–11, 2017, the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG), the Indian Institute of Geomorphologists (IGI) and the North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, organized the 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geomorphology (9<sup>th</sup> ICG), at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, India, with focus on theme *Geomorphology and Society*.

Organized as a nearly 2½ week-event, which included pre- and post-Conference field trips, the Conference gathered 40 technical sessions (Fig.1) and offered 8 plenary lectures (Prof. Mike Crozier, New Zealand, Prof. Gerald Nanson, Australia, Prof. Takashi Oguchi, Japan, Prof. Morgan De Dapper, Belgium, Prof. Francisco Gutierrez, Spain, Prof. Savindra Singh, India, Prof. Avijit Gupta, Australia, and Prof. Irasema Alcantara Ayala, Mexico).

The Conference was attended by 488 delegates, with 46 countries having been represented. The Romanian team included 9 geomorphologists, being ranked the 11<sup>th</sup>. The entire event was completed by 2 pre-Conference field trips, 5 post-Conference field trips, 3 mid-conference field visits covering diverse environments of India (Kashmir, Darjeeling, Nepal, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Kerala) and 1 post-Conference Intensive Course for young geomorphologists (organized at Dehradun and in the Lesser Himalaya Region, and attended by 25 young geomorphologists from Europe, South America, Africa and Asia). A new IAG Executive Committee was elected for the 2017–2021 quadriennium, under the leadership of Prof. Mauro Soldati (Italy) as the new President of the International Association of Geomorphologists.

S1: Theoretical Geomorphology	S23: Geomorphological Mapping
S2: Applied Geomorphology	S24: Geomorphology and Allied Disciplines: Mutual Contributions for the Progress of Integrated Environmental and Disaster Studies
S3: Geomorphic Processes in coupled human and natural systems (Session of the IGU Commission )	S25: Future Earth: Research for Global Sustainability
S4: Geomorphological Resources	S26: Connectivity in Geomorphology
S5: Volcanic Geomorphology	S27: Sediment Budgets (IAG-WG SEDIBUD)
S6: Karst Geomorphology	S28: Tropical Rivers (IAG-WG)
S7: Anthropocene Geomorphology	S29: Geomorphology of Rocky coasts (IAG-WG)
S8: Geomorphological Outreach	S30: Submarine Geomorphology (IAG-WG)
S9: Bio-geomorphology	S31: Landform Assessment for Geodiversity: General Geomorphology, Geodiversity, Geoconservation (IAG-WG)
S10: Weathering, Soils and Regolith on different time scales	S32: Planetary Geomorphology (IAG-WG)
S11: Hillslope Processes and Mass Movements	S33: Tectonic Geomorphology (IAG-EGU Joint Session)
S12: Palaeohydrology and Fluvial Archives - hydrological extreme and critical events (HEX)	S33a: Tectonic Geomorphology of Kachchh Basin
S13: Fluvial processes and landforms	S34: Geoarchaeology (IAG-WG)
S14: Large Rivers	S35: Geomorphological Hazards and Risks (IAG-WG): risk mitigation through new techniques under the challenges of environmental changes
S15: Integrated River Management	S36: Geomorphosites and Geotourism (IAG-WG)
S16: Coastal Geomorphology and Management	S37: Danxia Geomorphology (IAG-WG)
S17: Arid and Semi-arid Geomorphology	S38: Extreme Events in Geomorphology
S18: Tropical Geomorphology	S39: Land Degradation and Hazards in a Changing Environment (Session of the IGU Commissions on Land Degradation and Desertification as well as Hazard and Risk)
S19: Glacial and Periglacial Geomorphology	S40: Young Geomorphologists' Session
S20: Mountain Geomorphology	
S21: Application of Remote Sensing (RS) and Geographical Information System (GIS) in Geomorphology	
S22: Quantitative Geomorphology and Modeling	

Fig. 1. The technical sessions of the 9<sup>th</sup> ICG

(Source: [http://www.geomorph.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/9th-ICG-2017\\_FINAL-REPORT.pdf](http://www.geomorph.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/9th-ICG-2017_FINAL-REPORT.pdf)).

Following the presentations and the intense discussions, several key-issues were outlined, as mentioned in the Conveners' report: improving scientific understanding of the changes of landforms and earth surface processes due to human activities and enhanced climate activity in the Anthropocene; development of improved strategies for geo-hazard mitigation, environmental protection, nature conservation and sustainable development;

the need for better quantitative models to predict landform changes and impacts of human-induced climate changes on shorter and longer timescales; the need to promote geoheritage conservation as a priority; the need to promote exchange of information, data and technology, and the dissemination of geomorphological knowledge; the need for organizing training programs and workshops on capacity-building of young researchers in the field of geomorphology.

One paper was presented by authors from the Institute of Geography of the Romanian Academy: *Integrated approach to assess vulnerability as a means towards quantifying landslide consequences at a national level (Romania)* (Jurchescu Marta, Sima Mihaela, Bălteanu Dan, Kucsicsa Gheorghe, Șerban Paul, Mitrică Bianca, Lupu Laura, Micu Mihai, Bilașco Ștefan, Mărgărint Ciprian, Petrea Dănuț, Senzaconi Francisc).

*Mihai Micu*

