

FOREWORD

Beginning with volume 53/2009, *Revue Roumaine de Géographie*, published under the aegis of the Romanian Academy, will be issued twice a year.

The journal, founded in 1957, was titled *Revue Roumaine de Géologie, et de Géographie* until 1963, *Revue Roumaine de Géologie, Géophysique, et de Géographie, Série de géographie*, between 1964-1989, and *Revue Roumaine de Géographie* from 1990 to 2009, with an annual issue.

As from 2009, the publication of the Romanian journal *Studii și Cercetări de Geografie* is temporarily discontinued. Within a lapse of over five decades the two journals, permanently issued under the aegis of the Romanian Academy, have reflected developments and trends in Romanian Geography, also publishing many of the most valuable research results obtained in this country. In time, they included papers presented at international scientific events held in Romania, among which articles written by foreign specialists.

The editorial activity of renowned geographers like Vintilă Mihăilescu, Tiberiu Morariu, Victor Tufescu and Ion Conea succeeded in dissociating the contents of the journal from some trends imposed to Romanian Geography from abroad in the early stages of communist rule in this country and continue on the line of Romanian geographical thinking based on the study of the complex spatial relationships between man and nature.

After 1990, the host of problems posed by transition from a centralised system to the free market economy have been closely correlated with current geographical trends worldwide. The complex relations between society and environmental change, sustainable development, urbanisation and the development of metropolitan areas, natural and technological hazards have focused the attention of the editorial team.

The publication of the journal in a new format, benefiting also from an international group of reviewers, is intended to further these preoccupations and enlarge international relations by adding some outstanding contributions of foreign researchers.

At the same time, it is particularly important to focus on the issues of Central and South-Eastern Europe. Therefore, attracting a larger number of authors from these countries to contribute to this publication is of primary concern. Problems of cross-border co-operation in the eastern extremity of the European Union in the Lower Danube Basin and the Black Sea Basin, as well as the interdisciplinary research-work of some Romanian and foreign specialists in joint international projects will be included in this journal as well.