

## EDITORIAL

Over 2000 years old, the science of geography studies a shell whose foundation lies in the depths of the Earth's crust, and the upper part reaches the stratosphere, comprising relief, waters, air, soils, fauna, among which the human being, all of them interconnected in one of the most complex systems, progressively formed over four billion years.

The study of the environment on the Earth's surface, but also of the planet as a whole, is performed through the research of its components, of the (usually visible) phenomena and processes that occur in that space, but also of the interrelations between them. The need to emphasise the interrelations between the elements and the phenomena occurring in certain spaces, as well as the need to systematically know the elements themselves have led to the occurrence of a specific method (the thematic map), justifying the fact that geography is, first and foremost, a science of field observations.

Geography as a whole has evolved a lot in the last decades, fact proven by the published papers, many of them in a context of interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity that was almost unbelievable in the past. We should only mention the global environmental changes, involving the two wide fields of geography (physical and human), alongside other wide fields of science (geology, geophysics, biology, ecology etc.). We also add the general geographical approach of some concepts such as space (including its organization), place, location, territory, territoriality and so on.

Central European Journal of Geography and Sustainable Development (CEJGSD) is being launched as a response to the exciting world of physical and human geography research that is emergent in response to these changes happening in the real world. It is the result of an older collaboration between the Department of Business Administration of the Faculty of Economic Sciences (Petroleum-Gas University of Ploiești) and the Interdisciplinary Center of Advanced Research on Territorial Dynamics (CICADIT) of the Faculty of Geography (University of Bucharest), but also of the close connections between famous geographers and researchers from the Central European countries.

Since its initiation, the Journal was organised and managed with the involvement of the academic teaching staff and researchers and with the widest possible international participation. The international approach is aimed at bringing about a worldwide opinion on the issues faced by the geographical research within the sustainable development and at favouring the exchange of information and scientific knowledge among researchers, academic teaching staff and those operating in various economic fields.

Though CEJGSD is primarily concerned with looking at regional, urban and rural change in the space of Central Europe, case studies exploring similar problems but in other parts of the world are certainly parts of the journal's agenda. The remit of the journal is emphatically interdisciplinary. Articles will be published by geographers, economists, sociologists, planners, political scientists, to mention just a few of the disciplines involved in urban, rural and regional study.

CEJGSD is a scientific journal, issued twice a year, dedicated to the publication of articles, essays and theoretical and empirical research of high quality in all areas of theoretical and applied geography. The journal is characterized by a rigorous process of reviewing articles submitted for publication, a process conducted by a scientific committee that includes personalities from many relevant institutions in the country and from abroad. All articles are published in English and undergo a double-blind peer-review process.

My personal thanks go, in primis, to the director of CICADIT Prof. Ioan Ianoș, Ph.D, and to the Co-Editors of journal Igor Sîrodoev and Natașa Vaidianu - Ovidius University of Constanța for the trust they have placed in this project. My thanks also go to all the members of the Editorial Board for agreeing to share the work and the responsibility that the management of the Journal entails.

Adrian NEDELCU  
Editor-in-Chief