

Symposium

National Symposium on Geomorphology, 35th Edition, Timișoara, Romania, May 23-26, 2019

The 35th edition of Romanian Geomorphology Symposium was held in Timișoara, between 23 and 26 May 2019, organized by the Department of Geography of West University of Timișoara. The symposium represented a new opportunity for Romanian geomorphologists and geomorphologists from abroad, to present and to debate the results of their scientific work in the last years.

For the first time, this national symposium had three distinct sequences, each with its own significance, a sequence dedicated to the young geomorphologist's day, the symposium works themselves, and the field trip application.

The **Young Geomorphologists Workshop** took place on May 23, and the specific activities were structured on two distinct modules.



The first module was a theoretical–methodological one, by the presentation of recognized specialists of new methods and techniques in geomorphological practice, such as „*Object-oriented analysis for landform mapping*” (Drăguț L, West University of Timișoara), „*To date or not to date? Practical guidelines for the application of Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) in geomorphological studies*” (Sipos, G., University of Szeged, Hungary), „*Ultra mobile 3D scanning solutions for generating a digital terrain model*” (Toma, C., Blacklight S.R.L.

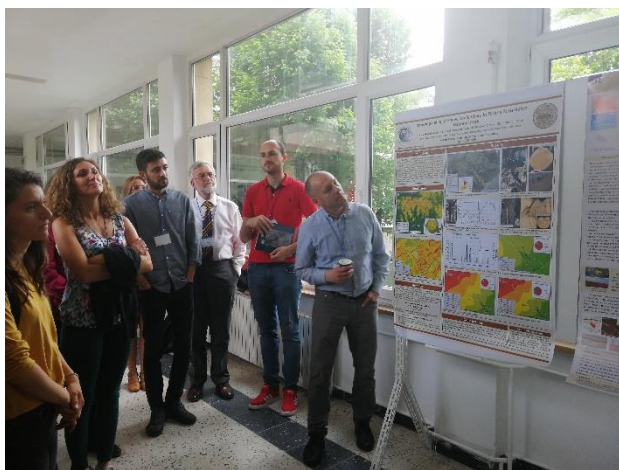
Timișoara), „*IAG opportunities and events for young geomorphologists*” (Micu, M., Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy of Science) and „*Geoscience methods for archaeological research*” (Hegyi, A., West University of Timișoara). The second module was a practical one, for the field, intended for demonstrations of some technical methods applied in the research of „Șanțul Turcilor” Mașloc archaeological site, like Scanner laser 3D mobile GeoSLAM ZEB Horizon, Ground Penetrating Radar and Electrical Tomography.



The 24 oral papers of the Symposium were presented during two days, May 24th and 25th, in 6 different time modules, each module's works being opened by a keynote presentation by the brand's scientific personalities: Ian Evans (Durham University, UK) – *The erosion of glaciated mountains*, György Sipos (Szeged University, Hungary) – *Late Pleistocene linkages between glacial, fluvial and aeolian processes in the SE Carpathian Basin*, Lucian Drăguț (West University of Timișoara) – *Semi-automated mapping of landslides*, Daniel Germain (Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada) – *Improving climate change adaptation and disaster risk* and Andreas Kellerer-Pirklbauer (University of Graz, Austria) – *Crumbling Alps? Permafrost and periglacial dy-*

namics in Austria under the influence of climate change reduction through geomorphology.

With more than 50 participants from many Romanian's academic centers (Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Iași, Craiova, Timișoara) and from abroad (Austria, Canada, Hungary, United Kingdom), the presented works covered a very varied subject area – regional geomorphology, fluvial and coastal geomorphology, slope processes and landslides, hazards and associated risks, glacial and periglacial geomorphology, geomorphometry and remote sensing, Pleistocene paleogeomorphology, dendrogeomorphology, geomorphosites, which often led to a passionate debate on scientific topics. The 13 works presented in poster format were the subject of a special session held on Saturday May 25th afternoon.



An important event included in the agenda of the symposium, according to the Statute of Romanian Association of Geomorphologists, was the presentation of the activity report of the AGR for the last two years and the election of the new president and the steering committee.

The new leading structure of Romanian Association of Geomorphologists is: president – Mihai Micu (Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy), general secretary – Nicușor Necula (A.I. Cuza Iassy University), treasurer – Florin Tătui (Bucharest University), vice-presidents: Petru Urdea (West University of Timișoara; national and international scientific relations portfolio), Mircea Voiculescu (West University of Timișoara; financing portfolio), Ciprian Mihai Mărgărint (A.I. Cuza Iassy University; communication/visibility/popularization portfolio), Sandu

Boengiu (Craiova University; publications portfolio), Olimpiu Traian Pop (Babeș-Bolyai Cluj-Napoca University; young geomorphologists portfolio), and members: Alexandru Onaca (West University of Timișoara; young geomorphologists portfolio), Sanda Roșca (Babeș-Bolyai Cluj-Napoca University; financing portfolio), Mirela Vasile (Bucharest University; publications portfolio), Răzvan Popescu (Bucharest University; national and international scientific relations), Florin Zăinescu (Bucharest University; website / communication / visibility / publicity portfolio).

The field trip application had as the target the Muntele Mic Massif (1801 m a.s.l.), a distinct unit of the Țarcu Mountains. The geomorphological landscape dominated by the presence of the peneplained relief within the Borăscu sculptural complex, some glacial forms not very expressive (cirques, moraines, erratics), but with many detail forms due to the periglacial morphogenesis (nivation niches and hollows, altiplanation terraces, rock streams, blocks fields, tors, ploughing blocks, earth hummocks) incited interesting discussions.



Some of these discussions took place in the monitoring perimeters by the West University team, of some periglacial processes (frost heaving, soil and rocks creep, nivation, freezing–thaw cycles).

The program of this national scientific manifestation, the summaries of the works and the guide of the field application were included in a booklet entitled „*Current status and new challenges in geomorphological research*”, Urdea P, Ardelean F. (editors), Edit. Universității de Vest, ISBN 978-973-125-688-7, 83 p.



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