



Charpato-Balcan Comission
Of Geomorphology



International
Association of
Geomorphologists



Romanian Association of
Geomorphologists

Regional IAG/AIG Conference on Geomorphology

Landslides, Floods and Global Environmental Change in Mountain Regions



September, 15-26, 2008

Brasov, Romania

Local Organisers:



Institute of Geography
Romanian Academy



Transilvania University of Brasov
Faculty of Silviculture and Forest
Engineering

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

The Conference Organizers, on behalf of the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG), has the pleasure of inviting geomorphologists and other scientists in related fields to participate in a *Regional Conference on Geomorphology*, entitled ***Landslides, Floods, and Global Environmental Change in Mountain Regions***, which will be held in Braşov, Romania, September 15-25, 2008.

Aims and objectives

The Conference will promote exchange of ideas and methods for the investigation of landslides, floods, and associated geomorphic processes in connection with Global Environmental Change.

Mountain Regions are very sensitive geosystems to Global Change. At the same time, they offer a variety of goods and services to mankind.

The Carpathian Mountains are the largest mountain chain in Europe stretching like an arch of 1600 km, through eight countries of Central Europe. Half of this mountain chain is located on the territory of Romania.

The temperate-continental climate is differentiated in function of altitude (the highest point is Moldoveanu Peak 2544m) and position in relation with atmospheric circulation.

The global climate change has evident regional manifestations with an increase of extreme events (heavy rains alternating with droughts) and associated landslides and large floods.

The diversity of structure and lithology lead to a spatial variety of landforms and landscapes (crystalline, volcanic and flysch bedrock folded and uplifted into mountains, Subcarpathian hills, piedmont hills, piedmont platforms, old piedmont plains, etc.). These are subject to strong human impacts and affected by a great variety of landslides.

The largest areas affected by landslides are densely settled hilly regions of the Subcarpathians underlain by molasse deposits. In the Bend Subcarpathians and Carpathians (built of Paleogene and Cretaceous flysch deposits), the landslide activity is enhanced by one of the most complex seismic areas of Europe (Vrancea Seismogenic Region with earthquakes of over 7 magnitude).

In the Transylvanian Depression the slopes are affected by some of the largest deep-seated landslides and lateral spread phenomena in Europe, locally called "glimee".

The highest part of the Romanian Carpathians, called by the French geographer Emmanuel de Martonne "Les Alpes de la Transylvanie", with impressive glacial and periglacial features, will be crossed by conference participants on an alpine road.

All those regions will be visited during the field excursions, providing field examples to stimulate discussions between geomorphologists and other scientists.

ORGANISERS of the Scientific Programme:

International Association of Geomorphologists
Romanian Association of Geomorphology,
Carpatho-Balkan-Dinaric Association of Geomorphology,
Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy,
University of Bucharest, Faculty of Geography
Transilvania University of Brasov, Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering,
Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Faculty of Geography,
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi, Faculty of Geography-Geology,
University of Oradea, Faculty of History-Geography,
West University of Timisoara, Faculty of Chemistry-Biology-Geography

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSES:

Conference Secretariat

Marta Jurchescu
Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy,
12, Dimitrie Racoviță Street
Bucharest, 023993
ROMANIA
Telephone: 004 021 313 59 90/ 314 37 48
Fax: 004 021 311 12 42
E-mail: geoinst@rnc.ro
Website.: www.geoinst.ro

Dates and preliminary program:

Sunday, September 14:

Arrival of IAG Executive Committee members.

Monday, September 15:

Meeting of the IAG Executive Committee, Braşov (overnight in Braşov).

Arrival of participants in Braşov (those participating at the Pre-Conference excursion)

Pre-Conference One-Day-Excursion

Tuesday, September 16:

1. Braşov-Depression, Bucegi Mountains and Prahova Valley - Carpathian Mountains - Climate Change, extreme events and touristic activities. (overnight in Braşov). *Estimative price (transport, accomodation, meals): 65 Euro/person*

Arrival of participants

Conference Program

Wednesday, September 17:

Opening Ceremony. Plenary lectures, oral sessions, working group activities (overnight in Braşov).

Thursday, September 18:

Plenary lectures, oral sessions, working group activities, poster sessions (overnight in Braşov).

Friday, September 19:

8.00 - 12.00 : Poster sessions, round-table discussions. Closing Ceremony.

Afternoon excursion: **Braşov, Bran Castle, Poiana Brasov**. *Estimative price (transport): 5 Euro/person*

Special dinner (overnight in Braşov).

Post-Conference Excursions:

Saturday-Monday, September 20 to 22:

Excursion 1. Braşov, Sighişoara Sibiu, Râmnicu Vâlcea, Curtea de Argeş, Bucureşti: Landslides in the Transylvanian Depression, the Fagaraş Mountains (Transylvanian Alps) and the Getic Subcarpathians - Deep-seated landslides and lateral spreading, medieval towns and slope instability in the Transylvanian Depression, rock-falls and rock-glaciers in the Alpine area of the Fagaras Mountains, karst on salt deposits, and slope instability in the Getic Subcarpathians, landslides in the Getic Subcarpathians and Getic Piedmont. September 20 to 22 (overnights in Sibiu, Curtea de Argeş, Bucharest).

Estimative price (transport, accomodation, meals): 420 Euro/person

Excursion 2. Braşov, Întorsura Buzăului, Nehoiu, Buzău, Bucureşti: Landslides in the Transylvanian Depressions and in the Vrancea Seismogenic Region - Medieval towns and slope instability in the Transylvanian Depression. Transversal profile in the Flysch Mountains and Neogene Molasse hilly regions. The Vrancea Region: earthquake - induced landslides, slope instability related to large reservoirs, mass movements related to extreme rainfalls, active faults and mud volcanoes. September 20 to 22 (overnights in Cislău, Buzău, Bucharest).

Estimative price (transport, accomodation, meals): 396 Euro/person

Dates and preliminary program:

International Summer School

Tuesday-Thursday, September 23 to 25:

Courses and field trips for young geomorphologists in Pătârlagele (Buzău County); the 8th edition of the Summer School (two overnights in Pătârlagele).

Friday, September 25:

End of activities (overnight in Bucharest). *Estimative price (transport, accomodation, meals): 175 Euro/person*

Optional Post Conference excursions

Tuesday-Friday, September 23 to 26:

Excursion 3. Tulcea, Sulina, Letea, Caraorman, Razelm Lake, Portița, Cheile

Dobrogei

The *Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve*, set up in 1990, is one of the largest wetlands in Europe. The status was obtained in 2000, being included on the world Heritage List of the main ecoregions on the Globe. Beside the delta territory extending between the three arms of the Danube River, the Reserve includes the Danube Floodplain downstream of the town of Tulcea, the Black Sea waters up to the -20 m isobath and the Razim-Sinoe Lake complex. More than 90% of its surface is covered by lakes, ponds and swamps with reed and club rush. It is the place where 325 bird species use to nest or pass through, some of them of European or global interest.

Objectives of the excursion: Evolution of Danube Delta in relation to sea-level rise; deltaic and lagunar relief; deltaic accumulation and erosional coasts; deltaic geomorphological processes and human induced changes; transboundary issues of the Danube Delta

Overnights on floating hotel. Friday, 26th September: overnight in Bucharest

Estimative price (transport, accomodation, meals): 480 Euro/person

LOCATION

The Braşov-Depression is the largest intramountainous tectonic depression in the Romanian Carpathians (more than 2 000 km², 550-650 m mean altitude) and the youngest tectonic one. It lies in the Bend of the Carpathian Arch, surrounded by the southern ranges of the Eastern Carpathians (the Bend Group) and of the Southern Carpathians (Fagaras-Bucegi massifs).

The climate of the depression is transitional between the continental influence from east and the oceanic western one, with influences from the mountains (waves of cold air accumulate in the depression, forming climatic inversions). *For the month September the mean temperature in Brasov lies at 13-14°C and the mean amount of precipitation at 55 mm. In general, September is sunny and warm but you need warm clothes for cool mornings and evenings.*

Braşov-city

Braşov is situated in the central part of the country, 160 km away from Bucharest, and is considered the most important touristic city in Romania.

The oldest traces of human activity and settlements on the today's Braşov territory go back to the Neolithic, represented by evidence of continuous human settlements in that area as well as traces of the Bronze and Iron ages, and of Dacian (the ancestors of Romanians) citadels.

The first written documents on Braşov goes back to 1203, and in 1234 when the city was mentioned as *Corona*, the center of a powerful Saxon colony and one of the most fortified medieval towns of Transylvania.

From the XIVth to the XVIIth century, Braşov is part of Transylvania. Beginning with 1699 Transylvania was annexed to Austria and later it will belong to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, until 1918 when it was included in Romania.

In Braşov, one can find today all the important styles of European architecture, going from Renaissance and Baroque, to Art Nouveax: the *Black Church* - the largest monument of Gothic architecture in South-Eastern Europe, the *Catholic Church* - the most important Baroque monument of the Braşov fortress, the *St. Bartholomeu Church* - the oldest church in town (1241), the old town hall (*Casa Sfatului / Rathaus*) and the surrounding square (*Piata*), the *Honterus-library* and the *Honterus-house* where the great humanist was born, the *first Romanian School* from Scheii Braşovului (XVth century), gates, bastions and towers of the different craftsmen's guilds.

The city is connected through railways and national roads to most Romanian cities.

Arriving to Braşov: Braşov does not have an airport yet (one is being built), due to its proximity to Bucharest and Sibiu, which both do.

From Bucharest there are 19 trains daily, and there are also frequent trains from other Romanian cities as well as a daily connection to Budapest, Hungary (via Oradea) and an EuroNight (fast night train) connection to Budapest via Arad. InterCity (IC) trains are very modern and comfortable; "Rapid" trains are also comfortable and almost as fast as InterCities. "Accelerat" trains are also a fast alternative, but not as comfortable as an InterCity or Rapid train. Personal (P-trains) are not recommended.

Bucharest Otopeni airport, 166 km away is connected to Brasov by road E60. The same road links Braşov to Cluj-Napoca, Oradea and Budapest (Hungary) in the west. Road E68 will take you from Sibiu or further onwards from Arad and Timişoara to Braşov.

There are also quite a few intercity bus operators.

More details will be available with the second circular.

The Conference sessions will take place in the building of the Transylvania University in Braşov.

The Transylvania University of Braşov was founded within the Academy of Commerce and Industrial Studies, the last fusion bringing together the Politechnical and the Pedagogical Institutes under the name of the University of Braşov. The university offers academical studies in many technical and human fields, like Mechanical and Technical Engineering, Computer Sciences, Forestry and Timber Industry, Economic Sciences, Mathematics, Music, Medicine, Law and Sociology, Physical Education, Lettres, Constructions and Educational Sciences.

Registration:

Participants to the Braşov Regional IAG Conference on Geomorphology should fill out the attached Registration Form and send it back together with copies of the documents of the payment.

Registration fees in Euros:

Categories	Until March 31, 2008	Until July 31, 2008
Professional	200 Euro	260 Euro
Students (i) /retired person	100 Euro	150 Euro
Accompanying person (ii)	50 Euro	75 Euro
Summer School for young geomorphologists	175 Euro	

(i) Student registration:

The reduced fee for students will apply only to young persons under the age of 26 years and to researchers working for an advanced degree (such as M.Sc., or PhD).

(ii) Accompanying person:

Children under the age of 15 years do not pay. A form for each accompanying person is necessary.

Professional, retired person and student registrations include:

- Participation in all the sessions of the conference program
- Volume of abstracts with the program
- Welcome party

Accompanying person registration includes:

Welcome party
Social Program

Method of payment: Payment of registration fee is by bank transfer. Invoices will be issued at the registration desk on site.

ACCOUNT data:

Bank: BCR (Banca Comercială Română)

Address: București, sector 2, Popa Lazăr Str., No. 8

Tel.: 0040 21 252 79 86/ 252 78 87

Account owner: Fundația cultural-științifică "Simion Mehedinți"

Address: Dimitrie Racoviță Str., No. 12, sector 2, București

Account in EURO:

No: 2511.A01.0.8549238.0073.EUR.2

IBAN: RO62RNCB0073085492380002

SWIFT: RNCB ROBU B20

Account in USD:

No: 2511.A01.0.8549238.0073.USD.3

IBAN: RO35RNCB0073085492380003

SWIFT: RNCB ROBU B20

Official Travel Agency

Information on the official travel agency as well as on the accommodation, field trips, conference dinner and social program will be available in the next announcement.

Details related to the IAG Regional Conference on Geomorphology will be found on the website of the IAG as well as on that of Institute of Geography of the Romanian Academy in Bucharest (www.geoinst.ro).

Official Travel Agency

Information on the official travel agency as well as on the accommodation, field trips, conference dinner and social program will be available in the next announcement.

Accommodation in Braşov. Approximate Prices

	Single room	Double room
5* Hotel	80 Euro/day	110Euro/day
3* Hotel	40 Euro/day	60Euro/day
2*Hotel	30 Euro/day	50Euro/day

The second announcement will be sent in May 2008 but details related to the *IAG Regional Conference on Geomorphology* will also be found on the website of the Institute of Geography of the Romanian Academy in Bucharest (www.geoinst.ro).

Instructions to the authors

The authors need to submit an abstract. An author can submit at maximum two abstracts as the first author. Authors are welcome to submit an expanded abstract.

Abstracts

The abstract paper should follow some requirements: to be presented on a A4 format, with the title in capitals, the names of the authors (first the last names then the initials of the surnames) all in capitals, the professional address with e-mails, all centered. The text should be of about 300-400 words, with 3-5 keywords, formatted in the Word program, in Times New Roman font, 11, space 1, and lateral spaces of 2,5.

Acceptation, review and publications:

The Scientific Committee will examine the abstracts, and the acceptance/rejection of these will be communicated to the authors (the first authors) before May, 30 2008. The accepted abstracts will be printed in the Volume of Abstracts that will be distributed to the invited and registered persons during the Conference.

Deadline for abstracts is July, 31, 2008. But note that the submission of abstracts can only be done if accompanied by the registration form and a payment proof.

Posters:

Every author can choose between the two presentation forms: oral and visual (by poster). The size of the poster should not exceed 1.5 m length and 1 m width.

REGISTRATION FORM

Please copy, fill and send it on the following address:

Registration Form to the Regional Conference on Geomorphology, September 16-26, 2008, Braşov - Romania

Name	
Institution	
Address	
Phone/Fax	
E-mail	
Title of the communication to be presented (1)	
Title of the communication to be presented (2)	
Form of presentation	(1) Oral <input type="checkbox"/> Poster <input type="checkbox"/> (2) Oral <input type="checkbox"/> Poster <input type="checkbox"/>
Pre-registration for excursions 1 (Number)	1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Very probable <input type="checkbox"/> Probable <input type="checkbox"/> Attendance
Accompanying person (name)	
Comments	

Brasov- city

