

Dan Bălțeanu (Ed.) (2017), *Lower Danube Basin. Approaches to Macroregional Sustainability* (Bazinul Dunării Inferioare. Considerații cu privire la dezvoltarea durabilă macroregională), The Publishing House of the Romanian Academy, 2017, Bucharest, 227 pages.

The research on the Romanian Danube Valley is part of the Romanian Academy's fundamental project on the *Development Strategy of Romania for the next 20 years (2016–2035)*, this volume grouping the communications held over the four editions of the international symposium "Interdisciplinary Research-Innovation related to the EU Strategy for the Danube Region", organized under the aegis of the Romanian Academy's Council of Research Coordination for the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and the National Committee for Future Earth – Researches for Global Sustainability.

The three parts of this work (the global change context: transdisciplinarity and capacity building; environmental risks and biodiversity: assessments and tools; and local and regional territorial development) group 16 papers (written by 35 authors from Romania and Germany).

The first part is devoted to global change context, the German contributors focusing their interests on the following issues: assessment of the Danube futures under global change conditions (Wolfram Mauser); the necessity of partnerships between high performance computing (HPC) facilities in environmental sciences and the European E-Infrastructure (Anton Frank, Jens Weismüller and Stephan Hachinger), and the IMPACT 2C Web-Atlas, as a strategy for disseminating results of the integrated research in the Danube Basin (Swantje Preuschmann, Andreas Hänslér and Daniela Jacob). This part also depicts aspects of global environmental change in the Romanian Danube Valley (Dan Bălțeanu, Monica Dumitrașcu, Bianca Mitrică, Mihaela Sima, Diana Dogaru, Iulian Nichersu, Marta Jurchescu and Ana Popovici).

The second part makes an assessment of the environmental impact of different natural and human hazards and risks. The main results of the study assessing the perception of local communities regarding the possible impact of DANUBIUS-RI (International Centre for Advanced Studies of River Sea Systems) on the state of the Danube Delta environment, as well as the socio-economic development of the region are presented by Manuela Elisabeta Sidoroff, Iris Maria Tușa, Mihaela Păun and Alexandru Amarioara. The paper on *Danube Floodrisk Atlas*, based on the DANUBE FLOODRISK Project, (author Mary-Jeanne Adler) supports the integration of all Danubian countries and contributes to the flood risk management strategy of the European Union. The Sturgeon 2020 Program represents the topic of two papers, one highlighting the measures aimed at implementing this program in Romania over the next 20 years (Cristina Sandu, Radu Suci, Juerg Bloesch and Harald Rosenthal) and the other providing a short state-of-the-art scientific concept of river continuum as the groundwork for river basin management, with example of key projects for the Iron Gate hydropower dams and the submerged sill, in order to improve navigation at the Bala Branch bifurcation on the Lower Danube (Juerg Bloesch). Monica Dumitrașcu, Dan Bălțeanu, Mihaela Sima, Ines Grigorescu and Bianca Mitrică approach the socio-economic and environmental indicators for ecosystem services in Romania, proposing 16 socio-economic and 10 environmental indicators for activities related to ecosystem services.

The third part is represented by seven papers which refer to territorial development at macro-regional, national and local level. The concept of *transnational clusters* in the Adriatic – Danubian Macroregion is discussed by Carmen Păuna and Tiberiu Diaconescu, who highlight the results obtained in a South-East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme. Bianca Mitrică and Claudia Popescu approach the economic development of the Romanian Danube Valley, pointing out some trends of the Danubian economy, such as the historical imbalance of development between Romania's eastern and western parts, the economic decoupling of some traditionally underdeveloped zones from the country's northern and eastern areas, as well as those alongside the Danube River. The following two contributions by Radu Săgeată and a group of authors (Liliana Popescu, Oana Ionuș, Amalia Badiță, Daniel Simulescu, Cristina Șoșea and Sandu Boengiu) emphasize the characteristics of cross-border Euroregions and cross-border tourism development, respectively. Vasile Meită, Raluca Petre, Jianca Ștefăn-Gorin, Alexandru-Ionuț Petrișor present the contribution of NIRD URBAN-INCERC to the territorial research of the Danube area. The paper by Nicoleta Damian and Paul Șerban is focused on water-transport and the main types of traded goods, thus providing an overall image of Romania's commercial flows, with the Danube Corridor as a central transport axis. The importance of the institutions involved in the

development of the Danubian area and for the implementation of the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region is underlined by Liviu Gabriel Muşat.

This volume is addressed to a wide readership, both specialists and decision-makers, to eventually raise awareness of the importance and rational use of natural resources.

*Irena Mocanu*

Ana-Maria Taloş (2017), *Stilul de viaţă şi impactul acestuia asupra stării de sănătate a populaţiei. Studiu de caz: judeţul Ialomiţa (The life-style impact on the health condition of the population. Case-study: Ialomiţa County)*, University of Bucharest Publishing House, 193 p., 85 figures, 11 tables.

This work presents the results contained in the author's Ph.D Thesis (co-ordinator: Prof. Liliana Dumitrache) delivered at the Faculty of Geography, University of Bucharest. Mrs. Taloş makes a new approach and contribution to this little discussed subject of connection between health and life-style, offering a comprehensive analysis of the population's state of health and the factors affecting it. A knowledge of people's health condition and life-style has a major influence on the formation and the development of a community's human capital, given that significant differences between townsmen and countrymen were found to exist.

The book has a brief, but consistent introduction, four chapters, a rich bibliography, a list of tables and a list of figures.

Chapter One – *General consideration on life-style* is a conceptual and theoretical discussion of life-style and its main component elements (food, physical effort, stress, drinking and smoking) and of the connection between it and people's state of health. The chapter ends with a theoretical life-style model.

Chapter Two analyses in detail the geography, demography, sanitation, education and technical-urbanistic infrastructure of this county. Calculating numerous indicators and indexes, she highlights *The health conditions of the Ialomiţa County population*, which considers unsatisfactory in some cases, proceeding therefore to analysing another element related to *life-style* that makes the object of a new chapter – *The life-style of the Ialomiţa County population*. This second to last chapter is based on field investigation results, Mrs. Taloş having devised 212 questionnaires, requiring respondees to answer, beside the component elements included in Chap. One, also questions referring to their own sanitary behaviour. The results have shown major disparities in the perception of town and village dwellers, the former perceiving it as *good*, the latter having a divided opinion, some viewed as *bad*, others as *good*.

The last chapter looks at *The impact of people's life-style in Ialomiţa County on their health*, also establishing life-style typologies by categories of responsibilities within the county. Finally, the correlations and regressions made by the author emphasize the influence of determining factors on health condition and the main life-style predictors.

The geographical and cartographic representations have been achieved by Mrs. Taloş after processing a series of statistical data and using them in Quantum GIS 2.8 Programme, the cartographic material augmenting the value of this work.

*Nicoleta Damian*