Among contemporary geographers interested on most of Romanian areas, but also on Eastern Europe in general, Professor dr. David Turnock was internationally known by his numerous studies in the field of Human Geography.

Born in 1938, Professor David Turnock was educated at Wigan Grammar School. After completing two years of national service, he studied at St Catharine's College, Cambridge, where he was eventually awarded a doctorate. He went on to work at the University of Aberdeen for three years and then moved to Leicester in 1969 where Professor Turnock spent the remainder of his career, working for 34 years until he retired in 2003. Professor Turnock's desire to research and publish was a constant throughout his life. During his fruitful career professor Turnock published hundreds of papers and more than 20 books. His contributions to European understanding were recognised by the Royal Geographical Society, which presented him with the Edward Heath Award in 1989.

Among his outstanding researches on Romania one should mention the following:
- The human geography of the Eastern Europe, 345 pp., Londra/London, Routledge, 1989
- The transport for Romania’s - Romanian villages: rural planning under communism, RURAL HISTORY 2, pp. 81 – 112, 1991
- The Resita industrial complex – perspectives in historical geography, GEOJOURNAL 29, pp. 83 – 102, 1993
- A concise geography of Eastern Europe; communism and the transition, 191 pp., Leicester, 1997
- Geographical essays on the Romanian Banat, (D. Turnock -editor), pp. 13 – 142 si 213 - 336, , Leicester University, Department of Geography, 1999
- Romania’s Apsuani Mountains : safeguarding a cultural heritage (collab with V. Surd), GEOJOURNAL 50, pp. 285 – 304, 2000
- Railways and economic development in Romania before 1918, JOURNAL OF TRANSPORT GEOGRAPHY, 9, pp. 137 – 150, 2001
- Romania, in F. W. Carter and D. Turnock Environmental problems of East Central Europe (2nd ed.), 442 pp., 2001
- The prospects for sustainable rural cultural tourism in Maramures, Romania, TOURISM GEOGRAPHIES, 4, pp. 62 – 94, 2002
- Ecoregion-based conservation in the Carpathians and the land-use implications, LAND USE POLICY 19, pp. 47 – 63, 2002
- Foreign direct investment and regional development in East Central Europe and the former Soviet Union areas, a collection of essays in memory of Francis “Frank” Carter (collaboration with R. Cretan, L. Guran – Nica and D. Platon) and ‘Regional development with particular reference to cohesion in cross-border regions’ and ‘Foreign direct investment and social risk in Romania: progress in less-favored areas’, Aldershot, Ashgate, pp. 141 – 182 si 305 - 348, 2005
- Rural poverty in Romania and the need for diversification, in CARPATHIAN STUDIES, EUROPA REGIONAL, 13 (3), pp. 102 – 114, 2005
- Aspects of independent Romania’s economic history with particular reference to the transition to the European Union, Accession Aldershot, Ashgate, 298 pp., 2007
- Settlement history and sustainability in the Carpathians in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, REVIEW OF HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY AND TOPONOMASTICS 1(1), pp. 31-60,2007
- Fruit processing in Romania with particular reference to plum brandy distilling: a historical and regional study, University of Leicester, Department of Geography, occasional paper (collab. with N. Muica), 2008
- Transport in the Romanian Carpathians: history and policy, JOURNAL OF TRANSPORT HISTORY, 2008
- Roma in Romania, SCOTTISH GEOGRAPHICAL JOURNAL (collab. with R. Cretan), 2008
- Sibiu’s Carpathian hinterland: a historical and ecological study, GEOGRAPHICA PANNONICA (collab. With M. Buza), 2008

Because of his special relation with the Romanian geography, in the year 2000 he was granted Doctor Honoris Causa of the West University of Timisoara and in 2009 he...
was also awarded with the same academic title by ‘Al. I. Cuza’ University from Iasi. Besides his research and teaching activities, Professor Turnock led charitable efforts to collect books to restock university libraries in the former communist states, most notably that of the University of Bucharest. He also helped to deliver medical supplies and toys to villages throughout Romania. On January 2006 he honoured us by accepting to be one of the founding members of the Scientific Committee of the Review of Historical Geography and Toponomastics.

Professor David Turnock died on 10 May 2011 after a car accident.

Sincerely, the geographers from West University of Timisoara worship in the memory of Professor dr. DAVID TURNOCK, a great scientist and a real friend of the Romanian geographers.