FOREWORD

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The 12th volume of Review of Historical Geography and Toponomastics (RHGT) follows the previous pattern of including contributions of several consecrated researchers in the speciality fields of the journal as well as a contribution of new papers elaborated by PhD students. Thus we continue to give credit to the new generation of researchers and the journal could be a platform for their recognition in social sciences. The present volume is structured on eight papers and several reviews of books and scientific events. All the papers have passed through a rigorous peer-review and the variety of papers deal with different spectra of historical geography and place-naming issues.

Alexandru-Ionuţ CRUCERU, PhD student at the University of Bucharest, proposes some observations on how the mediaeval county of Sacuieni, placed in the south-eastern Carpathians, has been abolished in modern times. The administrative reforms applied in the beginning of the 19th century are one of the main factors that influenced the functionality of this ‘judet’/county. Basing on the administrative reforms carried out on Wallachian counties level during the seventeenth-nineteenth centuries, the paper highlights the major changes which took place with regards to this county, basing on several archive documents and discussing the causes of its abolition, on early 1845.

The second paper in this volume is signed by Francesco PERONO CACCIAFOCO, Nurlena BINTE ADZMAN and Nur Shahirah BTE SHARIN, a group of toponymy specialists at Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. The authors are focused on revealing a less explored field of Indonesian toponymy. Through adopting a convergent approach based on Historical Toponomastics, Field Linguistics and Cultural Anthropology, the paper reconstructs the origins and old meanings of four Indonesian place names. The study is based on local tales and oral traditional stories.
collected directly on the field. This is a comprehensive study focused not only on the origins of the analyzed place names, but also on the cultural and traditional heritage of Indonesian people that can be unveiled behind local toponyms. It also provides an outlook at the historical reconstruction of Indonesian place names.

Duoduo XU (Nanyang Technological University, NTU) launches a reconstruction of five Moso village names in south-west China, analyzing first-hand field data. Moso is an ancient ethnic group whose oral traditions have rarely been transcribed. The study contributes to a more comprehensive knowledge of the historical development and of the culture of Moso people. The five Moso village names show the significance of landscape features in the remote naming process of places. The toponymic analysis also highlights the role of these villages as part of the border between China and Tibet during the Ming Dynasty.

The Romanian migration to Spain is analysed by Adriana ŞUIU, a PhD Student at West University of Timişoara. The author shows how, the Romanians’ migration to Spain has never stopped since the 19th century and how over the last two decades this process has continued to grow in intensity, with large groups of Romanians who have moved to Spain. The networks created by Romanian migrants have led to the formation of demographic enclaves found in different parts of Spain, while Facebook remains a major source of networking for these migrants.

Emilia SARNO (University Pegaso, Naples) documents the results of a research on archival sources of the Kingdom of Naples and is interested to see shows how such sources are necessary for historical and geographical studies. The appraisals established the economic value of feuds in the 15th-18th centuries. Four aspects are emphasized: a) the location where every feud was inserted, b) the socio-demographic data extracted by “appraisals”, c) the rural landscape, and d) the administrative organization. The research highlights how such themes can be considered useful indicators in order to analyze the south of Italy in the modern ages.

Mirabela PETCULESCU, a PhD Student at the West University of Timişoara, makes interesting observations on using GIS in the analysis of the healthcare networks in south-western counties of Romania. The paper shows how reforms in the Romanian healthcare system have produced a series of changes meant to improve medical services. As the restructuring of the hospital system did not prove to be successful, making it more difficult for the population to obtain medical care, the author is engaged in a deep analysis at the level of three counties, Timiş, Caraş-Severin and Mehedinţi. Following the Romanian heathcare reform, people living in these counties face great difficulty when it comes to accessing the county hospitals in their specific municipal hospitals (Timişoara, Reşiţa, and Drobeta Turnu-Severin).

Andreea DUNCA, assistant PhD at the West University of Timisoara, proposes a chronological study of the water resources management within the Banat historical region (1716-2016). The Banat hydrographical space has had a complex hydrotechnical planning, which is the result of a long process of water resource management that started 300 years ago. The drying of the swamps but also the transport of wood and the agricultural goods were mandatory since the year 1716. The activity of water resources management of Banat’s hydrographic space is made today with the help of a hydrotechnical organization plan. It is shown that this plan assumes the completion of some constructions on the main waterways. It includes all hydro-technical fitting techniques and many other types of hydrotechnical works as well as certain rivers engineering and shore embankment works of the most important running waters.
Ilie RĂDOI, PhD Student at the West University of Timisoara, contributes with a paper dealing with the impact of cultural cross-border cooperation on sustainable development. Taking as a case-study Romania and Serbia, the author highlights how borders are constantly changing from barriers to bridges of cooperation, especially for the relatively new members of the European Union. Basing on a qualitative analysis, the paper shows the impact of cultural cross-border cooperation between Romania and Serbia on sustainable development, both at European and international levels.