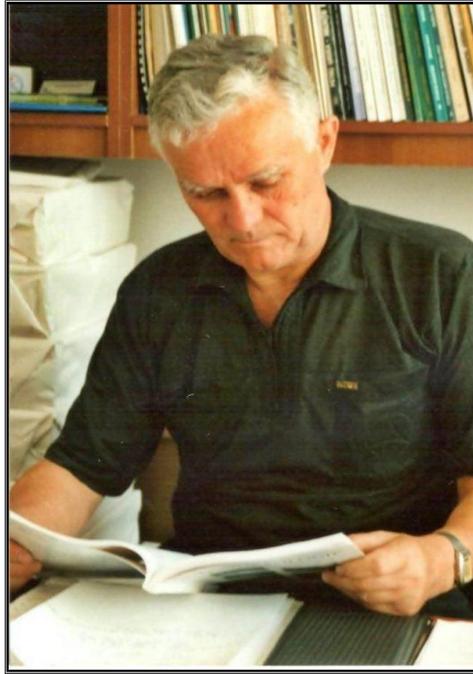


## IN MEMORIAM

**Professor IOAN MAC (1937–2017)**



In the Romanian geographical society, and particularly in the one in Cluj, in early 2017 occurred a sad event marked by the disappearance of Professor Ioan Mac, eminent scientist and an outstanding university professor. To write about Prof. Ioan Mac honors me, but at the same time binds me, as colleague and friend over half a century.

Professor Ioan Mac was born on September 1, 1937, in Jac village from Sălaj County. After he attended elementary school, he attended Teaching Training School, and in 1961 he graduated from the Faculty of Natural Sciences at the Babes-Bolyai University from Cluj-Napoca. As a worthy follower of his disciple, thanks to its great intellectual qualities, he was recommended to be accepted in the Romanian Academia, being accepted as a geography researcher at the Romanian Academy, Cluj-Napoca branch, led by the eminent professor Tiberiu Morariu.

1961-1968 period spent at the Cluj-Napoca Geography Collective was beneficial in forming his scientific knowledge gained through the numerous field trips organized by the Institute of Geography in Bucharest and those carried out for the completion of his PhD. thesis entitled "Subcarpații transilvăneni dintre Mureș și Olt" presented in 1971 and published in the Academy Publishing in 1972.

1968 finds him as a lecturer at the Faculty of Biology, Geography and Geology, where he covered all university hierarchy, being declared professor in 1990.

Teaching and scientific work carried out under the guidance of distinguished professor Tiberiu Morariu was prodigious and of highly value. As a worthy disciple of his teacher, Prof. Ioan Mac has opened new directions in Geography (particularly in dynamic and applied geomorphology, normative geography) and Environment Geography. Also, he introduced and defined new terms used in geographical research from Romania.

Professor Ioan Mac had a rich, and valuable scientific and teaching work embodied by publishing numerous articles in national and foreign magazines (244), books (6), university courses (9). He contributed with many chapters to the five volumes of the Treaty of Romanian Geography. He coordinated as director nine grants whose themes had theoretical and practical meanings of particular importance in the development of our country geography.

By participating with valuable communications at various scientific meetings organized in Romania and many European countries (UK, France, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Russia, etc.) and North America (USA and Canada), he promoted the achievements of the Romanian school geography and especially the one from Cluj.

The recognition of his scientific and educational achievements was made by his appointment in numerous positions at local, national and international honors and awards granted by the competent bodies in the country (Romanian Academy, Ministry of Education, Institute of Geography, Babes-Bolyai University) and abroad, as well as being named as visiting professor for prestigious universities in Europe (UK, Spain, Italy, Hungary etc.).

Professor Ioan Mac merit consisted in guidance and training in the Doctoral School of Babes-Bolyai University by many specialists.

The managerial qualities of Professor Ioan Mac have been demonstrated during the time he was head of department (1986-1989 and 1998-2002), especially as Dean of the Faculty of Geography, whose establishment in 1990 is due entirely. This was an important step in the development of present and future geography in Cluj because of a model copied by other universities in the country.

Outstanding achievements obtained as Dean were the establishment of the Department of Environment and the implementation of new specializations in national premiere at both university (Territorial Planning and Environmental Sciences) and college level (Geo Informatics and Touristic prospecting, Topography, Cartography and Cadaster), taken in Cluj and at the colleges from territory (Zalău, Sighet, Gheorghieni, Bistrița).

Through the inherent and acquired qualities, Professor Ioan Mac succeeded in becoming a renowned in Geography and a model for generations prepared for more than four decades.

IN MEMORIAM

To those listed above, I believe and hope that Professor Ioan Mac will remain in the memory of those who knew him and appreciated as a man of science.

Cluj-Napoca, March 15, 2017

Victor Sorocovschi