



International Association of Geomorphologists

IAG Regional Conference on Geomorphology – Romania 2025

“Geomorphology for society: challenges and opportunities”

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Report

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The Regional Conference on Geomorphology 2025, organized by the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) and hosted by the West University of Timișoara, took place in Romania from 16 to 18 September 2025 under the overarching theme “*Geomorphology for society: challenges and opportunities*”. Participating in this event was an invaluable experience, giving me the opportunity to share my research, learn from leading international experts, and connect with senior and young researchers who are actively contributing to the advancement of geomorphology. I am sincerely grateful to the IAG for awarding me the Young Geomorphologists Grant, which supported my participation and enabled me to take full advantage of this important scientific meeting.

I had the chance to present two contributions during the scientific sessions. The first, delivered in the thematic session *Geomorphology and coastal communities: a geoarchaeological approach (TS10)*, was entitled “*Coastal caves and human-environment interactions: insights into Late Quaternary sea-level and paleo-landscape evolution in Cilento (Southern Italy)*”. In this presentation, I illustrated how coastal caves act as geomorphological and archaeological archives, recording indicators of sea-level change together with traces of human occupation. The feedback I received was extremely stimulating, as several colleagues underlined the relevance of combining geoarchaeological data with geomorphological markers in order to reconstruct past coastal dynamics.

The second presentation took place in the session *Advancing coastal dynamics: multidisciplinary approaches to relative sea-level change and tectonic (TS1)*, where I presented “*The Uplifted Marine Terraces of the Laconic Peninsula (Greece): insights into the tectonics of the Hellenic Subduction Zone*”. This contribution focused on the staircase of marine terraces along the Laconian coast, interpreting them as key markers of both Quaternary sea-level changes and active tectonic uplift in the Hellenic forearc.



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In addition to presenting my work, attending the other sessions and lectures was a deeply enriching experience. Among them, I found the session Geomorphological hazards and risk management (TS9) particularly interesting, since it closely resonated with my personal research interests and with activities I carry out both within and beyond my PhD. The talks and discussions provided valuable insights into risk assessment and mitigation strategies, reinforcing the applied dimension of geomorphology and its societal relevance.

One of the most memorable parts of the conference was the mid-conference field trip and festive dinner on 17 September. The excursion allowed participants to explore the geomorphological and cultural landscapes around Timișoara, offering an informal setting for scientific exchange while discovering the host region. The day ended with the social dinner, which was not only a convivial moment but also an occasion to strengthen professional relationships and create bonds within the geomorphological community. These experiences reminded me of how essential the human dimension is in building scientific collaborations.

Overall, the RCG 2025 in Timișoara was for me a rewarding and inspiring experience. Presenting my research and discussing it with colleagues provided me with valuable feedback, while attending the other sessions expanded my scientific horizon. The conference also gave me the opportunity to grow my professional network, to meet new collaborators, and to share memorable moments with the geomorphological community. I return home with new knowledge, stimulating ideas for future research, and the motivation to continue developing international collaborations. I am truly thankful to the IAG and to the local organizing committee for this opportunity, which has been both scientifically productive and personally meaningful.

