IAG Regional Conference on Geomorphology – Romania 2025 "Geomorphology for society: challenges and opportunities"

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Report

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It was my pleasure to participate in the Regional Conference on Geomorphology, held in the city of Timişoara, Romania, from September 16 to 18, 2025, as well as in the post-conference excursion "Complex geomorphological landscape of South-West Romania: glacial and periglacial, karst and tectonic geomorphology, denudational and volcanic landforms", from September 19 to 22 of the same year. This opportunity was only made possible through the grant support provided by the event organizers and the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG).

My participation in the Regional Conference on Geomorphology was highly enriching on a scientific, professional, and personal level. Upon arriving in Romania after a long journey from Argentina, the country and its people welcomed me warmly and affectionately, introducing me to beautiful landscapes, cuisine, languages, and architecture. I had the pleasure of sharing my stay with local colleagues who accompanied and guided me during the 3 days of the conference, for which I am profoundly grateful.

During the event at the West University of Timişoara, I was able to attend keynote lectures and sessions within my area of interest, such as "Methods and tools for monitoring and modelling sediment fluxes in mountain environments," "Landslides in climate change circumstances," "Glacial geomorphology and chronology," "Geomorphological hazards and risk management," "Remote sensing and modelling of permafrost and periglacial landforms," and "Permafrost and periglacial processes in climate changes context." These sessions not only allowed me to stay updated on techniques, concepts, and challenges with a global perspective but also facilitated an environment for exchanging ideas, making contacts, and exploring future projects. I also had the chance to meet senior



researchers, young researchers just beginning their careers, students, and science communicators with whom I shared interesting conversations, further strengthening my international network.

I also had the opportunity to present a poster on my research in the "Permafrost and periglacial processes in climate changes context" session, which was a very enriching experience as I received highly positive feedback that will help broaden my perspectives. Likewise, I was able to review numerous works in the poster sessions on topics outside my expertise and learn from the various presenters, which I greatly value.

Following the conference, I took part in the excursion "Complex geomorphological landscape of South-West Romania: glacial and periglacial, karst and tectonic geomorphology, denudational and volcanic landforms", a 4-day journey through Romania's complex geology and history. We sailed on the waters of the Danube, reconstructing its history from the Pannonian Basin to its mouth in the Black Sea; we visited the ponor systems in Ponoare – Zăton as we ventured into the Carpathians; we reconstructed the glacial and periglacial history of the Parâng Mountains and observed the hydraulic infrastructure works for water resource management. On the final day of the excursion, we visited the Haţeg Geopark (where we met the friendly Balaur bondoc!) and the House of the Volcanoes: two wonderful projects focused on community integration and science communication.

In conclusion, this entire experience was truly transformative. The knowledge gained, the professional connections established, and the incredible landscapes witnessed have left a lasting impression and have significantly inspired my future research directions. I am deeply thankful to the organizers and the IAG for their generous support, which made this unparalleled opportunity possible. I am eager to apply these valuable insights to my work and look forward to potential future collaborations with the wonderful international community I was fortunate to meet.





Photo 1: Reception at the West University of Timisoara, together with the IAG Vice-President, Dr. Andrea Coronato.





Photo 2: Poster presentation during the "Permafrost and periglacial processes in climate changes context" session.



Photo 3: Following the second day of the Confernce, we enjoyed a warm and convivial evening at the Castel Huniade winery. The event featured a superb tasting of local wines, paired with a traditional Romanian dinner.





Photos 4 and 5: Hike through the Parâng Mountains, exploring the Carpathian glacial and periglacial legacy.