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CROSSREF

POST-COMMUNIST DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES IN PĂDUREA CRAIULUI MOUNTAINS

Varodi Mihaela OLĂU *

Ph.D. candidate, University of Oradea, Faculty of Geography, Tourism and Sport 1 University Street,
Oradea, 410 087, Romania, e-mail: oradeanu_miha@yahoo.com

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Abstract: The Pădurea Craiului Mountains represent the natural, cultural and living environment of some rural communities with a population that has been subject to various quantitative and structural changes. Being endowed with exploitable resources, this area has seen the rise and decline of some industries that which have generated a demographic dynamics characteristic of mining mountain areas. The Revolution from 1989 and the following period have represented a turning plate in the evolution of the economy of this space, with direct implications for the employed population in the economy before December.

Key words: demographic changes, post-communist period, rural area

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INTRODUCTION

The Pădurea Craiului Mountains through the features of the natural environment, relief, climate, hydrography represents a favourable territory for the existence and development of human component (Novac, 2006). Testimonies to support this are the traces of continuous dwelling beginning with prehistoric times found in numerous caves developed in the rich karsts of these mountains (Herman et al., 2019). A rural space par excellence where people have adapted to the area so well; therefore, it created genuine identity items such as the landscape of The Pădurea Craiului Mountains, agricultural and pastoral activities, crafts, traditional costumes, wooden churches, customs and traditions (Caciora et al., 2019; Herman and Wendt, 2011; Herman and Gherman, 2016; Herman and Benschis, 2017; Ilieș et al., 2014). The local peoples knew how to benefit from the resources, which were not many and of a modest quality through pottery or burning the lime stone, filling thus the shortcomings of subsistence agriculture.

Of course, there have been, over time, shocks that have produced important demographic and mental changes, the most recent being the communist era

* Corresponding Author

through collectivization and industrialization and then, after 1989 reconversion to market economy followed by mine closure, free circulation, accession to the European Union or the globalization with its both positive and negative aspects (Baylis and Smith, 2001; Cocean et al., 2013; Held et al., 1999; Herman et al., 2016, 2018; Herman and Grama, 2016; Overland, 2016; Surd et al., 2007).

The changes started in the communist period due to the phenomenon of industrialization, urbanization and rural systematization may be noticed at the demographic level in the Pădurea Craiului Mountains though migrations towards urban areas of Aleșd, Beiuș, Oradea or in the territory towards places with industrial profile, Șuncuiuș, Dobrești, Aștileu.

The goal of the present study is to observe the demographic changes that took place after the fall of the communist regime accompanied by major changes in the economic, industrial levels but also in the social and mental ones (Muntele, 2010).

THE METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH

The boundaries of the Pădurea Craiului Mountains are not always easy to establish, criteria such as geology, morphology and altitude create many opinions among specialists. Taking all these into account Rusu (1988) is the one responsible for establishing the limits in the most complex study of Pădurea Craiului Mountains. However, the administrative boundaries corresponding to UAT (territorial and administrative division) do not correspond to the limits drawn by the famous researcher, which entitles us to apply the principle of generalized integration of component regions (Geography of Romania, I, 1983) and to take the commune as the smallest administrative division considering the human component for which the present study is being conducted. The geographical boundaries would have left places out of the study although they are closely connected with the mountain area.

The statistical data used, in conducting the present study were taken from the website of National Institute of Statistics, analysed and interpreted from the quantity and quality point of view, regarding the numerical evolution, the population density, natural and territorial mobility of the population.

GEO DEMOGRAPHIC EVOLUTION

On the numerical evolution of the population in the period of 1992-2012, on the whole area of the study it is observed a negative dynamic of the population, that started according to Filimon (2014) after the year 1996, when it reached its climax of 51 503 inhabitants, amid the crisis from the rural area that faced reduced natural growth and pronounced migration towards the urban area. Contrary to what generally happened after 1990 in the other rural areas that have undergone a re-population phenomenon, in general in the Pădurea Craiului Mountains it continues the downward trend caused mainly by the economical factor mentioned above, magnified by the migration to the west of Europe beginning with the opening of the borders. Therefore, if in 1992 in the Pădurea Craiului Mountains there were a total of 45 715 inhabitants, at the 2012 census, the total population was 38 432 inhabitants, practically a decrease of 7 283 inhabitants (15,93%).

The analysis at the level of UAT (territorial and administrative division) shows us the existence of negative rate. Significant loss of population may be seen in the communes situated in the north-east and south-west of the mountain area,

situated at longer distances from the urban centres, which include villages situated in the central part of the mountain area, hard to reach such as Bratca (16.91%), Bulz (26.20%), Căbești (20.61%), Pomezueu (23.70%), Șuncuiuș (19.94%), Roșia (16.73%). At the opposite pole, there are the communes which are situated at a shorter distance from the urban centres implicitly from the important communication axis (E60, E79), close to the industrial structures from Chistag și Aștileu, Aștileu (11.04%), Măgești (9.25%), Vârciorog (11.82%).

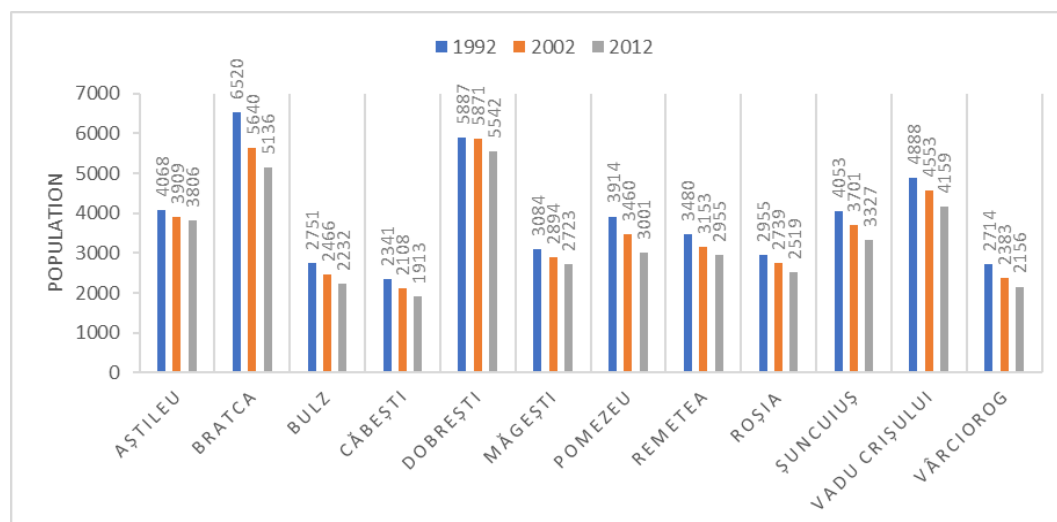


Figure 1. Evolution of population at the level of UAT (territorial and administrative divisions) (1992, 2002, 2012)

THE POPULATION DENSITY

The uneven distribution of the population is influenced by a number of factors among which are, in the order of their importance, physical geographic factors that can be permissive or restrictive for population settlement, but also historical and socio-economic factors that influence the natural and migratory movement of human groups (Ilieș and Stașac, 2000).

The Pădurea Craiului Mountains are characterized by low altitudes, the average altitude is situated around 650 m, which favoured the appearance of human settlement on their entire surface (Petrea, 2004). There are however conditions that explain the densities below the national average at the entire surface of the mountain area or densities that are very small in some places. The fragmented relief, the large areas covered by forests, the limited resources of water, especially in the central part, the small surfaces and the dispersal of arable land, the extractive industry development in the nineteenth century, have led to differentiations in terms of population density. Obviously, settlements have evolved especially along the valleys, in the peripheral areas, of contact between mountain and depressions, and less in the central area. Therefore, the population density is higher in the peripheral places than the central ones. And in terms of density, we notice the same negative trend for all 12 studied communes, in all three censuses from 1992, 2002 and 2012.

Densities that exceed 50 inhabitants/km² are encountered in the communes Aștileu (60.6 inhabitants/km²), Măgești (53 inhabitants/km²), Pomezueu (56.2

inhabitants/km²) and Vadu Crișului (53.7 inhabitants/km²). The lowest densities are observed in commune of Bulz (21.2 inhabitants/km²), Căbești (26 inhabitants/km²), Vârciorog (28.5 inhabitants /km²), Roșia (32.9 inhabitants/km²) and Bratca (37.8 inhabitants /km²).

We note the location of the communes with low population densities in the central area of the Pădurea Craiului Mountains where specific are scattered type of villages, which explains the low densities along with population decline in the whole area. However, the Căbești commune has experienced a dramatic decline during 1992-2002 which may be noticed at the density level, from 71.92 inhabitants/km² in 1992 to 29.2 inhabitants/km² in 2002.

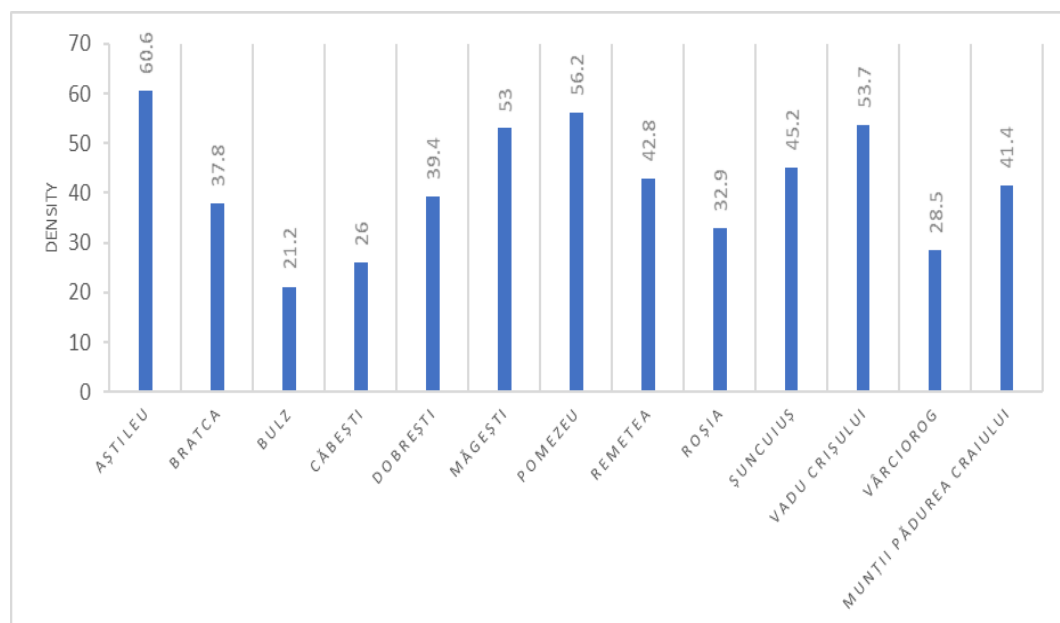


Figure 2. The average density of population reported to UAT (territorial and administrative divisions) in the year 2012

NATURAL MOBILITY OF POPULATION

Indicators such as birth rate, mortality, natural growth are extremely important for the study of the human component because it highlights the changes that occurred at the demographic level, but also because they may forecast the next changes and therefore being able to intervene through certain measures.

The birth rate represents the dynamic factor, most rapidly influenced by the socio-economic changes and by the structure of the population, which in return influences directly the numerical changes of the population (Ilieș and Stașac, 2000).

Regarding the situation of birth rate in the Pădurea Craiului Mountains, the average of the year 1992 was of 12.35‰, decreasing towards the year 2002 with 10.98‰ and 2012 with 9.12‰. The values oscillate from 4.75‰ in Bulz village, with the lowest value, at 15.96‰ in Dobrești village.

The total number of new-borns in the Pădurea Craiului Mountains was for the year 1992-571, and for 2012-365, with a steady decline in birth rates.

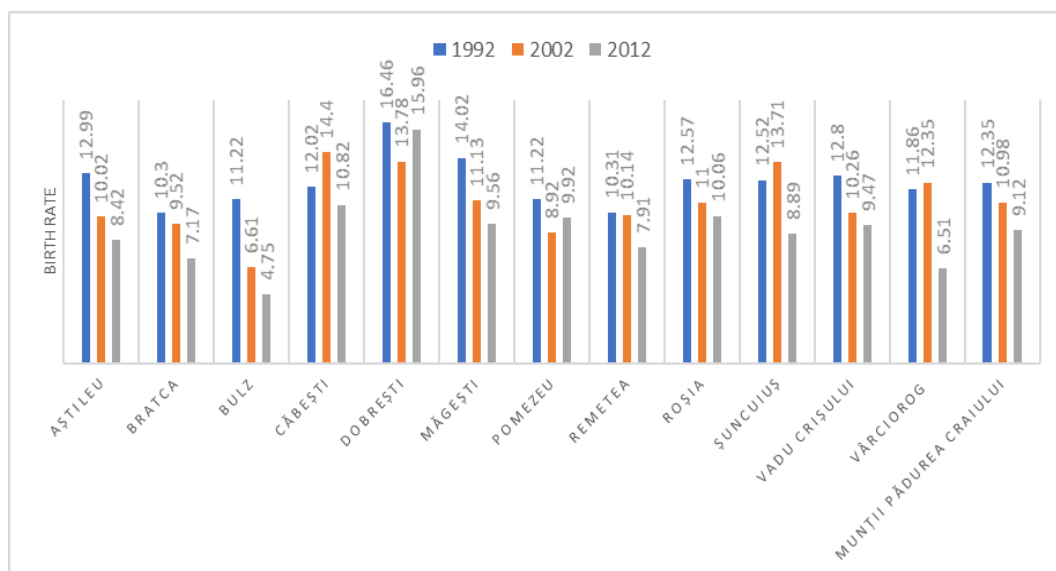


Figure 4. Evolution of birth rate at the level of UAT (territorial and administrative divisions) (1992, 2002, 2012)

In the year 1992 the mortality rate in the Pădurea Craiului Mountains was 16.17‰, 15.57 in 2002 and 15.49 in 2012, resulting in a decrease of just 0.68‰. The highest values are noticed in the communes of Pomezeu 18.48‰, Bratca 18.41‰, Vârciorog 18.22‰ and Bulz 18.06‰, at the opposite pole being the Vadu Crișului commune with 10.72‰.

The number of deaths in the Pădurea Craiului Mountains were for the year 1992-748, 2002-634, and for 2012-589.

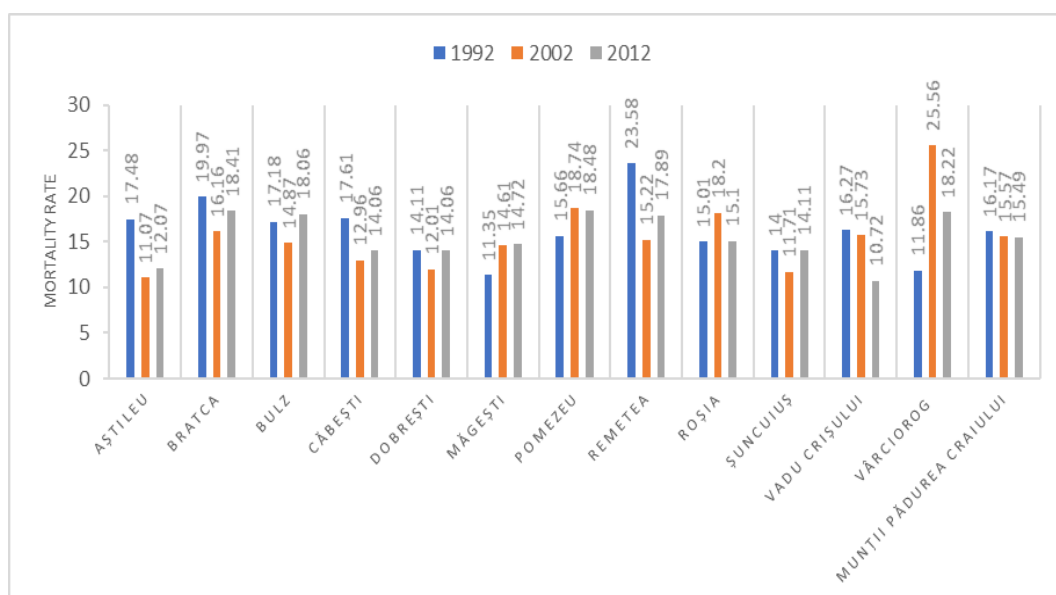


Figure 5. Evolution of mortality rate at the level of UAT (territorial and administrative divisions) (1992, 2002, 2012)

At the level of the Pădurea Craiului Mountains the natural balance was negative at the level of the year 2012, it has the value -6.37% . Analysing the situation at the level of the communes there are differences between the values of the natural balance, the only commune with natural growth being Dobrești with 1.9% , explainable through the highest rate of natality from the area due to a significant percentage of Roma population. The communes with the highest negative values, with increased mortality are Bulz -13.31% , Bratca -11.24% , Vârciorog -11.71% , Remetea -9.98% , Pomezeu -8.56% , whereas the communes with the lowest deficit have the natality over the average from the area Vadu Crișului -1.25% , Căbești -3.24% , Aștileu -3.65% , Roșia -5.04% .

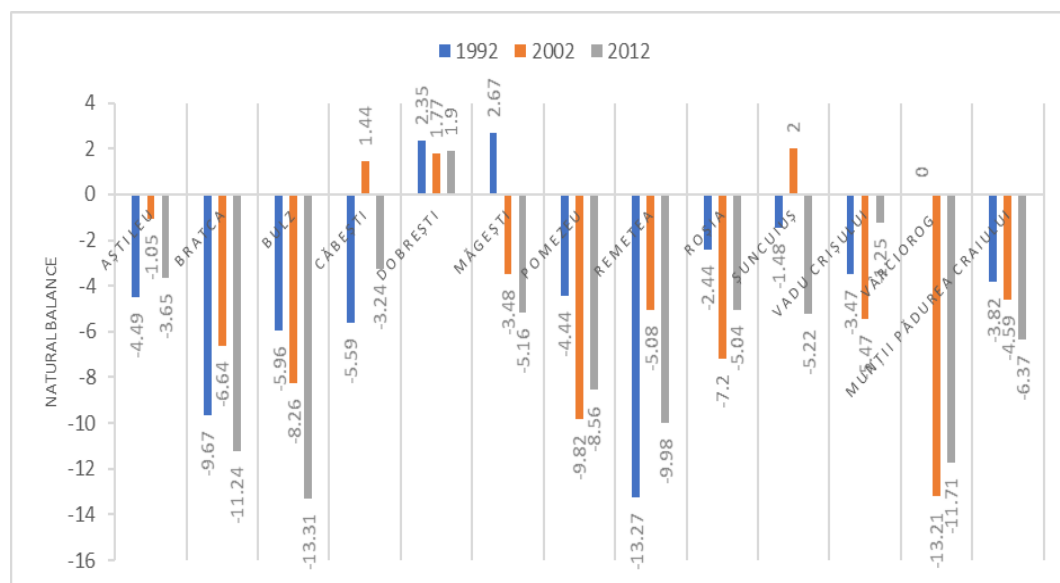


Figure 6. Evolution of natural balance at the level of UAT (territorial and administrative divisions) (1992, 2002, 2012)

TERRITORIAL MOBILITY OF POPULATION

At the level of the Pădurea Craiului Mountains it is noticed an increase of the average values of immigration from 8.52 in the year 1992 and 7.55 in the year 2002, to 13.65 in the year 2012. The attractive areas with values over the region average are situated relatively close to urban centres (Oradea, Aleșd) like Vârciorog (17.36) or where there are industrial activities that generate jobs such as Aștileu (16.28) or Măgești (24.65). The areas that are less attractive in which immigration has the lowest values are situated towards the less accessible central area Roșia (6.71), Pomezeu (9.58), Dobrești (10.26).

The total number of arrivals at the level of the Pădurea Craiului Mountains were for the year 1992-409, 2002-318 and for 2012-524.

Being included in the specific trend of the Romanian rural area which faces population loss in favour of the urban, we observe this phenomenon in the case of the Pădurea Craiului Mountains too, where the average emigration indicators are higher than the immigration indices and increasing from the census from 1992 (14.61) to the one from 2012 (15.66). The areas with the highest loss in the year 2012 are in Dobrești (21.10), though the only commune that has registered

natural growth, (17.79), Vadu Crișului (18.20), Șuncuiș (16.56). The areas with emigration indices below the region average are Remetea (10.66) where we can talk about an attachment of locals to their place of origin, Roșia (13.00) and Căbești (10.82) which after significant losses in the 90's seem to have reached a demographic balance.

The total number of departures at the level of Pădurea Craiului Mountains were for the year 1992-684, 2002-599 and for the year 2012-630.

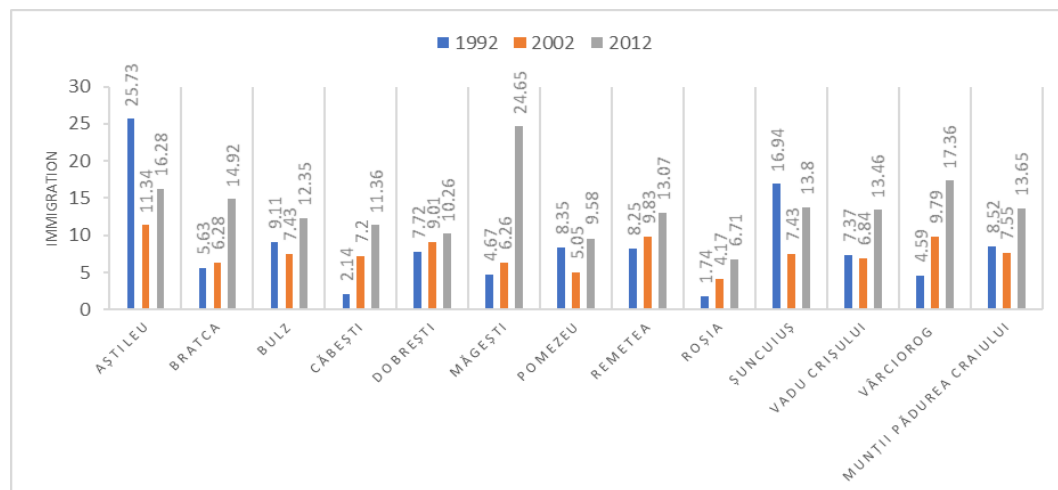


Figure 7. Evolution of immigration at the level of UAT (territorial and administrative divisions) (1992, 2002, 2012)

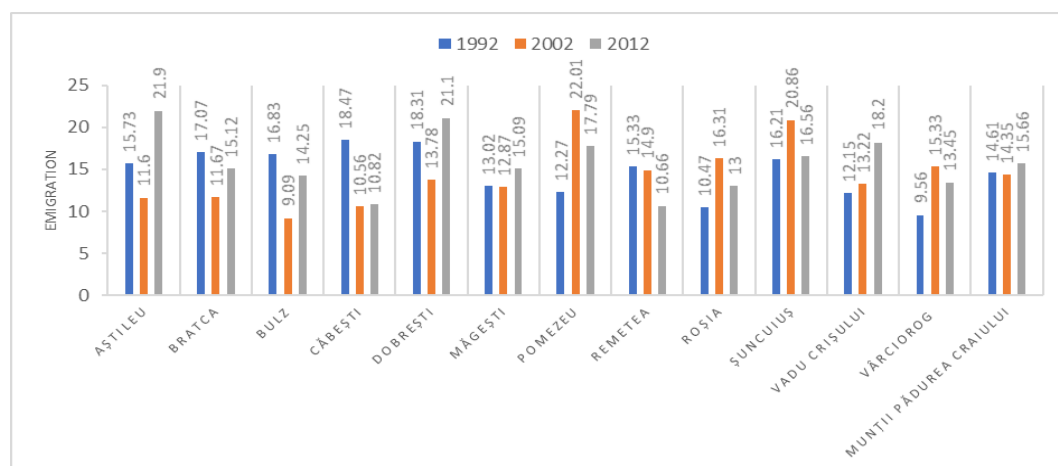


Figure 8. Evolution of emigration at the level of UAT (territorial and administrative divisions) (1992, 2002, 2012)

The average of the Pădurea Craiului Mountains was slightly negative -2.01, there are yet population losses caused by migration. The communes with negative migration growth that record population losses are the majority Dobrești (-10.84), Pomezeu (-8.21), Roșia (-6.29), Vadu Crișului (-4.74), the communes with positive migration growth are Măgești (9.56), Remetea (2.41), Vârciorog (3.91) și Căbești (0.54).

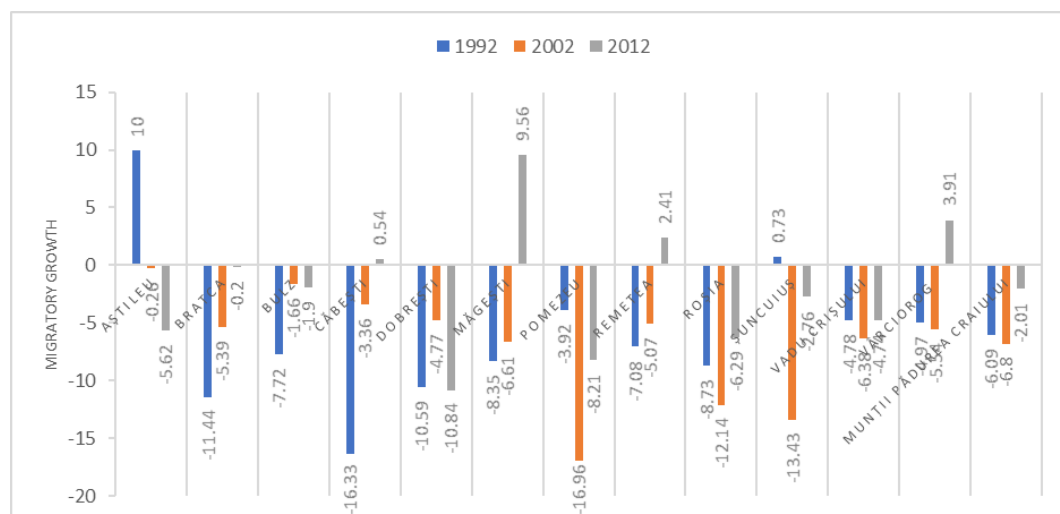


Figure 9. Evolution of migratory growth at the level of UAT (territorial and administrative divisions) (1992, 2002, 2012)

CONCLUSIONS

The anthropic component from the Pădurea Craiului Mountains is in the current moment in imbalance being characterised by demographic aging. In all twelve communes analysed in the present study there is a general negative balance, with a high average value of -9.21, due in particular to low birth rates and high mortality rates. The trend of demographic aging is more pronounced in less-favoured areas, but with a very large patrimonial value Bulz (-15.21), Roşia (-11.33), Bratca (-11.44). In the case of communes Pomezeu (-16.77) and Roşia (-11.13) the value of the overall demographic balance is negative due to the general losses caused by the high rate of both natural mobility and mechanical mobility.

These communities have adapted to the restrictions imposed by natural conditions, to agricultural restrictions, through diverse activities, but also through geographical mobility, to ensure subsistence. The attachment to the place of origin, to the land has led to the perpetuation of a traditional way of living, has created that memory, such a valuable identity that may be used and that may revitalize, but which is at risk to be lost forever without immediate action.

The programmes to stimulate the young generation to return in the rural areas are of great importance, also creating necessary specializations in the mountain area to be thoroughly studied in the existing education institutions, are measures that enable a further development.

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THE GEOPOLITICS OF RELIGIONS CHRISTIAN-ISLAMIZATION OF THE PLANET BETWEEN 1900 AND 2100

Luca DIACONESCU *

University of Oradea, Doctoral School of geography, 1st, Universității St., 410087, Oradea, Romania,
e-mail: diaconesculuca@yahoo.ro

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Abstract: The development of science did not endanger the belief in the divinity, perhaps even reinforcing its existence. Atheism has failed to grow, and dominant religions such as Christianity and Islam are stronger than ever. Atheism European, Indian Hinduism, and anemism in North Africa are being replaced by Islam, and Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism in East Asia as well as anemism in southern Africa are replaced by Christianity, these directions leading up to 2100 to a bipolar world, divided between a well developed Christian half and an Islamic half with demographic explosion, both religions rising to 70% of the world's total population, from just 46% in 1900.

Key words: mega-religions, evolution, replaced, population, the world

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INTRODUCTION

During the twentieth century, an avalanche of forecasts emerged that predicted a world of atheism and the loss of religious values along with the development of science and knowledge. But reality is far from these predictions, and science has not denied or demonstrated the lack of divinity, or even strengthened trust in God with the discovery of the history of the planet or technological advances, and the existence of an overpowering power that is found in everything and everything.

Religious buildings are growing fast throughout the planet, religions that bring glory to God gain a growing appreciation, and the referral to divinity is present in the public discourse of most world leaders, be it heads of state and governments, companies or organizations, proving the direction of mankind at the forefront of the brightest ends.

Hence the worsening of the wars for the primacy of Islam and Christianity as well as their rush to seize more and more populations, with a flurry of Islam in: India, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, North Africa and parts of Europe as well as

* Corresponding Author

the advancement of Christianity into: China, Indochina, Oceania, and southern half of Africa, trends that will shape the geopolitical world of the world by 2100 (Roy, 2001, p. 207-230, 276-279; Graziano, 2018).

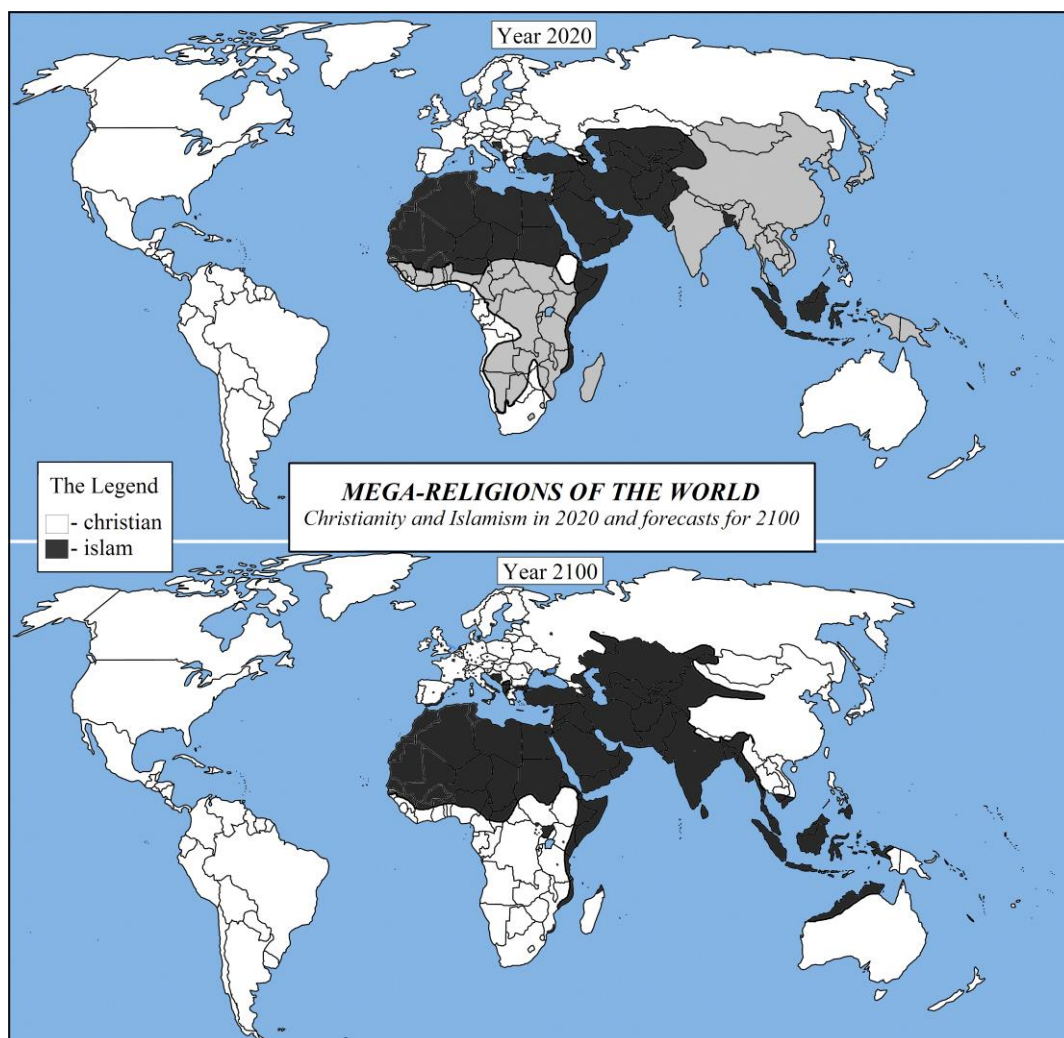


Figure 1. Extending Christian and Islamic religions until 2100

(Source: Duby, 2015; Meinhardt and Schafer, 1996, p. 158; Atlas of World History, 2009; Lexikon Institut, 2007, p. 186; Zahn et al., 2000, p. 238)

THE GROWTH OF ISLAMO-CHRISTIAN POPULATION IN THE XX CENTURY

The expansion of the two mega-religions has for centuries been the main reason for the great wars, colonialism and hordes of immigrants. Islam has captured parts of northern Africa, south west and central Asia to the west (Pakistan) or eastern (Bangladesh) India, and seas and oceans to: Indonesia, Malaysia, Zanzibar or Mozambique (John, 2008, p. 63-103). Christianity, in turn, swiftly expanded from Europe to the north and central Asia, and to seas and oceans in: America, Oceania, the Philippines, and the southern coast of Africa.

With the expansion of the means of communication, television, telephony and the Internet as well as the development of means of transport throughout the 20th century, these two mega-religions have gained even greater connotation and their teachings are well preserved by the elderly and adored by young people (Brown, 2009, p. 236-279).

If in 1900 Christianity and Islam accounted for 46% of the world's population (760 million believers), over 50 years account for 49% of the world's population (1.2 billion believers). Over the next 50 years, by the year 2000, the cumulative Christian and Islamic population have also risen by 3%, reaching 52% of the world's total population (3.2 billion believers) (Graziano, 2017).

THE PRESENT MIRACLE

THE 21ST CENTURY OR THE CHRISTIAN-ISLAMIC CENTURY

With the development of science, the education of the world's population, the fight against illiteracy and the livelihood, this progress did not endanger the belief in divinity, and even led to the expansion of the number of believers at the beginning of the 21st century, from 52% of the total population the world with 3.25 billion Christians and Islamists in 2000, to 54% of the world's population by 3.8 billion in 2019.

It turns out that the loss of faith and the expansion of atheism with new scientific discoveries is only a false premonition, the technological and scientific advances proving and strengthening the trust in divinity.

The wars known today as the economic ones, the rush of energy resources, the water, the intarsia, or the interethnic, will be shaded in the future by the fierce war for world primacy between Islam and Christianity, and between them and the opposing religions, being most likely the dominant trend of the 21st century.

We are in the year 2019, when the world is progressing at a rapid pace. World economy has grown from \$ 33 trillion in 2000 to \$ 90 trillion, the population has risen by 5.2 billion between 1950 and 2019 from just 2.5 billion to 7, 7 billion, the mega-cities with more than 10 million inhabitants have increased from 1 in 1950 to 25 in 2000 and 60 at present, the population living in the city rising from 30% of the world's total population in 1950 to 55% the technological advance has reached unimaginable odds one or two centuries ago, the planet is covered by the road network, rail, cables and pipelines, the sky is covered by planes and the Earth's orbit of the satellites, agriculture is also produced in the desert with genetically modified plants, fertilizers and irrigation systems, people are about to be born in test tubes and large breeding centers, robotics replaces human strength and intelligence, and half of the world's population has access to the internet. In all this SF-worthy picture, the mega-religions of the planet are increasingly appreciated and present, being in a fierce expansion, with 54% of the population of the practicing planet of its Christianity Islam, up 2% over year 2000 (Wright, 2009; Graal trans., 2009a, 2009b; Diaconescu, 2017, 2018).

The fulminant evolution of the two mega-religions can be considered the twenty-first century miracle, which has left 46% of the world's population in 1900, with an increase of 3% for every 50 years, and an acceleration to 2% at 20 years in the beginning of the 21st century, this phenomenon will be galloping to 8-10% growth over the next 30 years and another 8-10% towards the end of the century, with 70% of the total population of the world of Christian or Islamic religion in the total population of the planet.

With the overpopulation of the planet, fulminant development and population education, by stopping colonialism and expanding democracies culminating in the globalization and emergence of an increasing number of independent and sovereign states, Christian and Islamic mega-religions tend to encompass the entire planet, moving from their traditional value, through a combination of scientific and archaeological discoveries, to a value with a modern tinge in which science has not become challenged to religion and the proof of existence (Keller, 2009; Avram, 2009; Herman and Grama, 2018; Sturm, 2013).

PRESENT TRENDS. EXTENSION OF THE TWO MEGA-RELIGIONS

The less-represented Islam, with 1.6 billion believers covering 23% of the world's population, includes the poorer states but the most demographic explosion, a phenomenon present in all Muslim states. The world's better-represented Christianity, with 2.2 billion believers accounting for over 31% of the world's population, which includes the main economic powers, and most developed regions face a low population fertility down to demographic decline (Gifford, 2005, p. 460-461).

Currently, the main two world religious trends are: replacing European atheism, Indian Hinduism and local religions in the northern half of Africa with Islamic religion, and expanding Christian religion to the detriment of Chinese Confucianism and Taoism and local religions in southern half of Africa. By 2050, India is expected to become the largest Islamic country beyond Indonesia, the Islamic population in Europe will grow from 6% to 10%, while the African Christian population will grow from 25% to 40% and the Christian population in China will grow from about 30-60 million to 200 million believers. All these trends are even more pronounced after 2050 (Graziano, 2017).

ISLAMO-CHRISTIANIZATION PLANET BY THE YEAR 2100

If between 1900 and 2000 the Christian and Muslim populations grew on the planet by 6%, reaching over 52% of the world's population, over another 100 years, by 2100, it is estimated that the two mega-religions will grow along with 18 % when they will most likely reach around 70% of the world's population.

Table 1. Evolution of the Christian and Islamic population of the World population, between 1900 and the 2100

(Source: Worldometers, 2019; Todd, 1995; The New York Times, 2015; Pew Research Center, 2015; Zahn et al., 2000, p. 238)

Year	The total population of the Terrei (million inhabitants)	Christian population (% of total population)	Islamic population (% of total population)	Christian and Islamic Population (% of the total population)
1900	1.600	560 (34%)	200 (12%)	760 (46%)
1950	2.500	850 (34%)	380 (15%)	1.200 (49%)
2000	6.200	2.100 (33%)	1.160 (18%)	3.200 (52%)
2019	7.700	2.200 (32%)	1.600 (23%)	3.800 (54%)
2050	9.300	3.100-3.300 (34-35%)	2.700-3.000 (29-32%)	5.800-6.300 (63-67%)
2100	10.000-12.000	3.400-4.300 (34-36%)	3.500-4.400 (35-37%)	6.900-8.700 (69-73%)

Basically, the total population of Christians and Islamists grew by only 6% throughout the 20th century, when scientific leaps were at a dizzying pace, and 18% growth in the 21st century, when humanity's progress is expected to go beyond unimaginable. Another interesting trend will be to overcome the population of Islamic religion of the Christian population around 2070, depending also on the rapidity with which Islam spreads in India and North Africa, and Christianity in China and Southern Africa.

THE BEGINNING OF THE XXIII CENTURY THE GREAT WAR ISLAMIC-CHRISTIAN OR MEDITERRANEAN PEACE

Even if they are in a harsh mutual denigration, the two mega-religions share somewhat the same values and the old testament, having both faith in the same divinity, called God or translated Allah in Arabic (Biblia; Coranul). Considering that the current Islamist fanaticism existed in the past and among Christians when imposing sword Christianization in conquered territories similar to the jihadism practiced today by Muslims, but also vice versa, the current democracy, the craving for culture and modernity existing in the Christian world, in the Islamic world in the past, when the interest in books, science, democratic debates and trade has created in the Islamic territories the most imposing cities in the world: Europe (Cordoba), Africa (Cairo, Fes, Kairouan) and Asia (Damascus, Baghdad) (Luraghi, 1971; Pohly and Duran, 2002; OBrien, 2010). Thus, the well-known Christian freedom and Islamic fanaticism is not old and can always take a new turn, reminding us that cities such as: Dubai, Kuwait, Doha, Ar Riyadh, or Kuala Lumpur that are part of world prosperity, are Islamist.

That is why it is hard to predict if the seizure of the world's population by the two mega-religions will culminate with the First World War, or with the Islamization of a part of Europe and the expansion of the future European Confederation that will encompass all states around the Mediterranean forming the Euro-Arab Union (Eurabia) will lay the basis for a new global trend of mutual tolerance or even the direction of merging the two religions below the common value of faith for the same God.

CONCLUSIONS

Although it seemed hard to predate one or two centuries ago, that with the cessation of colonialism by which Christian or Islamic religion was imposed, and with the impetus of telecommunication, urbanization and interconnection of the planet's population with the help of telephony and the Internet, the two religions would not lose value and even consolidate.

Contrary to all forecasts, Christianity and Islam are growing stronger and broader, rising in line with the scientific advances that have yielded additional evidence to the deity, with a worldwide increase of the two mega-religions by 6% between 1900 and 2000 and an 18% growth forecast between 2000 and 2100, reaching over 200 years, from 46% to 70% of the planet's population, shaping the world in which we are also the world's geopolitics.

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COLOSSI-CRUMBS IN THE YEAR 1900 – COLOSSI-COLOSSI IN THE YEAR 2100 TRANSFER OF DEMOGRAPHIC-ECONOMIC PREDOMINANCE FROM EURASIA TO AFROAMERICA

Luca DIACONESCU *

University of Oradea, Doctoral School of geography, 1st, Universităţii St., 410087, Oradea, Romania,
e-mail: diaconesculuca@yahoo.ro

Nicolae NICHITUȚ

Professor of history and geography at the Gherta Mica Secondary School, Scolii St., Nr. 6, 447140,
Satu Mare, Romania, e-mail: nicunichitutu@yahoo.com

Mădălin-Sebastian LUNG

Ph.D. Student, Babeş-Bolyai University, Faculty of Geography, Clinicilor Street, Nr. 5-7, RO- 400006,
Cluj-Napoca, Romania, e-mail: lungmadalin@yahoo.com

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Abstract: If in 1900 Eurasia was the mistress of the world and Afroamerica only its crumbs, by the year 2100 the two major regions will be on an equal footing, becoming two colossi with roughly equal proportions of demography, economy, influence and culture. The new geopolitical atmosphere of the world is mainly due to the planetary demographic modeling and its distribution across the continents, so in the 1800s and 1900s Afroamerica held only 12% and 16% of the world's population, reaching 30% in 2019 and over 50% 2100, when it will most likely surpass the Eurasia demographic power, creating new major demographic, economic, cultural and major trade routes, not existing in the 1900s or 2000s.

Key words: geopolitics, population, demographic explosion, power, empires

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INTRODUCTION

Everyone agrees that the surface of the planet is in a fierce modeling, a phenomenon due almost entirely to the multiplication of the human race and its behavioral change. Scientific progress has brought us new heights of civilization, following which the human race has entered into an explosive demographic growth with drastic consequences on the environment but also with additional pressure put

* Corresponding Author

on the forced economic modernization leading to industrial- increasing agricultural competitiveness. This continuous progress acts as a stimulus to the masses of people, increasing the general well-being of the inhabitants of the planet, manifested both by economic development in some parts of the planet and by re-accelerating the demographic growth creating new and overpopulated areas, which changes decisively and over extended periods, planetary geopolitics.

Whenever a continent, an empire, a country, or a small territory had significant population, it tended to influence, colonize and culturalize the less populated territories, becoming directly or indirectly their masters. In the last millennium, the great empires that dominated the world came from Asia and Europe, colonizing and conquering territories of Africa and America, christianizing them or islamizing to them. Also within these continents, the demographic predominance of empires has also given the tone of power.

Europe has succeeded in dominating the world through economic power over the great Asian demographic power, especially as Europe as a whole, overwhelmed the Asian subcontinent population such as East Asia or South Asia, these creating different worlds due in particular to the rugged relief of the Himalayan mountains separating them.

During this time, Africa and America have lost their identity, becoming the vassals of the former, as follows: Islamo-Christianization, the languages: Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish, French, Dutch, German, Italian etc., Euro-Asian culture or slavery, were introduced into Afroamerica as an outlet and exploitation market in which Europeans and Asians came as masters and Africans or Americans were leaving the two continents as slaves sold. But this what it seemed eternal past has lost its topicality, Eurasia has lost its influence and Afroamerica has been returning to the masses of the great civilizations for many hundreds of years, having a growing importance that will grow throughout the 21st century and beyond, a late demographic and economic hub of the planet, moving from the status of the Eurasian colossus, to the status of colossus with equal rights, power and ambitions. Among the main reasons for the misappropriation of the old world order, perhaps the most important is the demography of the two mega-regions, being the main element in the distribution of the current and future redistribution of power on Earth.

THE DOMINANT DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS OF THE WORLD

There are many geographic and human phenomena that radically shape the world in which we live, from: religion, independent states, territories, organizations, economy, technology, alliances, resources or urbanization, but between them the evolution of the population radically changes the whole geopolitics of the world, attracting redistribution all other economic and geographic features. The most influential demographic changes in the past and the future globally, we identified them as follows:

- the first major change at the planetary level is the demographic explosion of 1.7 billion inhabitants more than 2000 by 2020, just as the total population of the world in 1900. Only in the past 70 years, besides the 2, 5 billion inhabitants on the planet in 1950 when World War II was just over, Communism had begun to expand into Eastern Europe, the Berlin Wall had not been built, the European Union had not emerged, China was wrestling in poverty, Japan was devastated of war, and Africa was still dominated by colonialism, a year that many of those who live today they caught him, and in which it seemed that the world had reached the

maximum of overpopulation of the planet. After just 7 decades, the population triple on Terra, rising by more than 5 billion people, creating a totally different world as a demographic dimension compared to that year. To this, another 2.5 billion can be added in just 30 years, as it is expected to increase the population of the planet by 2050, ie more than three times the population of Europe or as they are: Europe, America and Oceania now plus all Arab states, Russia and Japan together. By the year 2100, another at least 1.5 to 3.0 billion people are expected to be on the earth in the 50 years (Diaconescu, 2016);

- the second major demographic modeling of geography known in 1900 is the displacement of the planetary demographic center to the south. If we divide the surface of the land into two roughly equal halves, except Antarctica, we will see that the northern half dominated by the largest economic powers, developed areas and the civilized power that existed over the last four centuries, consisting of: Europe, Russia, USA and Canada, Asia Minor, Central Asia and East Asia, he held during world economic preeminence and demographic predominance, with 62% of the world's population. In 1950, the southern half composed of: Latin America, Africa, Oceania, South-South, South and South-East Asia reached for the first time after 400 years 50% of the world's total population and in 2000 to 62 %, with in 2050 going to be 70% and in 2100 for 80% of the world's total population, when the northern half will only have 20%. The current migration of the southern population to the north such as the Spaniards towards the US and Canada, Africans and Arabs towards Europe, the immigration crisis, the economic crises that increasingly hit the north, the loss of global pre-eminence and the economic and financial transfer to the south are consequences of modeling demographic, being just a phenomenon just beginning, the south exporting immigrants and culture and attracting wealth and technology from the north (Diaconescu, 2017);

- the third major change is dominated by the geopolitics of the oceans, these through the commercial-economic value, leading to the rise or fall of the powers that surround them. Prior to 1500, the dominant maritime trade on Terra was in the Indian Ocean, followed by the Atlantic, and after 450 years of domination, it began to give way to the Pacific in 1950. These changes coincide with the population around these oceans, so the larger population of the world has been around the oceans as was the commercial preeminence. After 1950, the population around the Pacific Ocean became the largest population bypassing the people around the Atlantic Ocean, with the population around the Indian Ocean ranked third. According to this theory, by repeating history, the most populous population has now become around the Indian Ocean, which already has 3.0 billion inhabitants, followed by the Pacific Ocean population of 2.2 billion and the Atlantic Ocean with 1.8 billion inhabitants. The population around the Indian Ocean is in a colossal demographic explosion, estimated to reach 40% of the world's population around it with 3.6 billion inhabitants in 2050 and 50% of the world's population in 2100 with 4.4 billion people. Thus, the great maritime and economic powers are expected to be around this ocean and the states outside the established area face an economic downturn similar to Europe at present (or the transfer of US power from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast or Russia, from European Russia to Asian Russia) following the economic and commercial transfer from the Atlantic to the Pacific (Diaconescu, 2018a);

- the fourth major change is the transfer of demographic and inevitable and economic primacy from Europe and Asia dominating in 1900 with 81% of the

world's population into Africa and America that already have 30% of the world's population and up to 52% of the world's population by the year 2100, a phenomenon that will continue after this year, and which, together with the other three great demographic miracles, will create a whole new world with new, demographic, economic and dominant commercial routes which not existed in 1900, or in 2000.

DEMOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION AROUND 1900

Not long before the First World War, the world's population was significant for that time, reaching 1.7 billion inhabitants, from less than one billion as it existed in 1800, and experts considered the demographic explosion was exaggerated for the power of support of the planet. The first mega-city with over 5 million inhabitants appears, London in Europe being considered then a colossal metropolis (At the level of 1900 there are only three cities with more than 3 million inhabitants: London 6.5 million, New York 4.0 million and Paris by 3.0 million, while at the level of 2019 there are over 160 cities that together with the urban agglomeration exceed 5 million inhabitants) (Diaconescu and Lung, 2018; Bonnet, 2000; M.C.M.X.C., 1990).

At that time, Europe had become overpopulated being on the brink of war for territorial redeployment, and Asia continent was the only very little colonized with great global influence, due in particular to its demographic and cultural power, with a double population of to Europe (Grumaz, 2013; Zakaria, 2009; Pedrero, 2008).

During this time, Africa was divided between the economic powers of Europe and America was beginning to gain the independence, under the leadership of emigrated Europeans in Europe, what they had brought along, including culture, religion, lifestyle and industrialization (Bessis, 2004; Diaconescu, 2018b).

The demographic and economic picture of the planet was dictated by the distribution of the population, so most of it was in the north-east, Asia (950 million inhabitants) and Europe (430 million inhabitants), with 81% of the total population, while the southeast of Africa (120 million inhabitants) and America (150 million inhabitants) held only 16%.

PLANETARY DEMOGRAPHIC REDEPLOYMENT BETWEEN 1900 AND 2000

After 1900, the population of Europe is starting to stagnate, the demographic momentum in Asia remains at the same rates, Africa is starting to recover demographically, and America, especially due to immigration, is witnessing a demographic explosion. Until 1950, Europe and Asia have grown from 1,380 million to 81 percent of the world's population, to 1,950 million to 77 percent of the world's population, while Africa and America are developing from 270 million and 16 percent of the world's population, to 560 million and 22% of the world's population.

By the year 2000, the demographic shift is even more pronounced, Europe is stagnating demographically, Asia reduces its demographic footprint, America is also declining slightly as the demographic gallop begins, leaving Europe and Asia to hold only 72% of the world's population by 4,430 million of the population, while Africa and America grow to 27% of the world's population with 1,640 million inhabitants. As a major consequence, African states gain most of their independence (Herman and Grama, 2018).

After another 50 years, the population of Europe and Asia will hold 61% of the world's total population with 5.980 million inhabitants, while Africa and America will account for 38% of the world's population with 3.735 million inhabitants, next in the year 2100, after another 50 years, Europe and Asia will have half of the world's population, while Africa and the Americas will also be halved, with populations ranging between 5,300 million and 6,800 million inhabitants. Depending on demographic forecasts, there is a clear trend of demographic overflow of the large Eurasia region by Afroamerica.

Table 1. Evolution of population by large geographic regions, in millions of inhabitants: Eurasia and Afroamerica, between 1800 and 2100

Source: Basten et al., 2013; Lutz, 2008; Lutz and Samir, 2010; International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, 2004; United Nations, 2004, 1998.

Regions	1800	1900	1950	2000	2019	2050	2100
EURASIA 54,7 million km²	820 82%	1.380 81%	1.950 77%	4.430 72%	5.340 69%	5.980 61%	5.300-6.200 49-48%
Europe	200	430	550	730	740	720	600-700
Asia	620	950	1.400	3.700	4.600	5.260	4.700-5.500
AFROAMERICA 72,9 million km²	120 12%	270 16%	560 22%	1.640 27%	2.345 30%	3.735 38%	5.400-6.800 50-52%
America	30	150	340	840	1.025	1.215	1.100-1.300
Africa	90	120	220	800	1.320	2.520	4.300-5.500
Terra	990	1.700	2.500	6.060	7.700	9.700	10.700-13.000

Between 1900 and 2100, among countries with over 100 million inhabitants who can represent the main cultures, economies, influence and source of population migration, there is an increasing number of them in the Africa-America perimeter. In 1900, there were only 3 states with more than 100 million inhabitants, all of them in Eurasia, climbing to 4 states in 1950 with 3 in Eurasia and one in Afroamerica and 11 in 2000, with 7 in Eurasia and 4 in Afroamerica. Currently, they have risen to 14, of which 8 in Eurasia and 6 in Africa, and by 2050 to expect an estimated 19 to 22 states to exceed this high threshold, 9-12 in Eurasia and 10 in Afroamerica. Although Afroamerica will have only 38% of the world's population, the equal number of states with over 100 million is due largely to the large number of African states. Until 2100, from only 14 states with more than 100 million inhabitants are currently (no European country not part of this ranking except Russia, only Germany approaching 82 million inhabitants, France with 65, Britain with 63 or Italy with 60 million) will reach an estimated 23 to 42 states, of which 9 to 17 will be in Eurasia and 14 to 25 in Afroamerica, being a year too distant for a low-margin forecast. It is certain that Africa will become the support of most states with over 100 million inhabitants, the number of them reaching 22, while Europe will have at most Russia that will exceed this demographic threshold.

These major changes since 1900 to date have influenced the world's perception of both old coloss such as Europe and Asia, but especially the continents that could be considered almost empty of the population into the past. If in 1900 Africa and America alone held only half of the continent's population of Europe on a seven-fold area bigger, in Afroamerica's presence it has three times as much and by 2050 it will have more than 5 times the population and 8 -10 times more in the year 2100.

It is meant to jeopardize the idea of Europe's world leader, the decrease of Asian influence and the growing interest of the general interest for Africa and America (Dobrescu, 2008, 2016; Toffler and Toffler, 1995; Kaplan, 2015).

Table 2. The number of states with over 100 million inhabitants and their distribution to the larger regions: Eurasia and Afroamerica between 1900 and 2100

Source: Diaconescu, 2016; Atlas of World History, 2009; Worldometers 2019; Haack, 1989; Gardner and Berenson, 1989; Meinhardt and Schafer, 1996; Neguț, 2011

Year	Total states with over 100 million inhabitants	EURASIA (no. of states with over 100 million inhabitants and their ranking – millions inhabitants)	AFROAMERICA
1900	3	3 China 410 India 290 Russia 136	0
1950	4	3 China 560 India 370 Russia 100	1 USA 150
2000	11	7 China 1.240 India 1.040 Indonesia 205 Russia 147 Pakistan 140 Bangladesh 130 Japan 127	4 USA 280 Brazil 170 Nigeria 110 Mexic 101
2019	14	8 China 1.420 India 1.365 Indonesia 268 Pakistan 203 Bangladesh 167 Russia 143 Japan 126 Philippines 107	6 USA 328 Brazil 212 Nigeria 200 Mexic 132 Ethiopia 109 Egipt 100
2050	19-22	9-12 India 1.600-1.850 China 1.400-1.550 Pakistan 300-380 Indonesia 310-360 Bangladesh 210-250 Philippines 150-170 Russia 110-130 Vietnam 110-130 Japan 100-115 Turkey 90-100 Iran 90-100 Yemen 90-100	10 Nigeria 380-460 USA 370-450 Ethiopia 230-270 Brazil 230-260 Congo 210-250 Mexico 160-170 Egypt 130-170 Tanzania 120-150 Kenya 100-130 Uganda 100-130
2100	23-42	9-17 India 1.800-2.700 China 950-1.600	14-25 Nigeria 700-900 USA 450-550

		Pakistan 300-450 Indonesia 300-420 Bangladesh 180-260 Philippines 180-250 Iraq 140-200 Afghanistan 100-140 Yemen 100-130 Vietnam 80-130 Iran 80-130 Turkey 80-130 Russia 100-120 Japan 80-100 Thailand 60-100 Saudi Arabia 60-100 Malaysia 60-100	Congo 280-450 Ethiopia 260-400 Tanzania 280-350 Brazil 180-280 Uganda 170-270 Egypt 130-240 Kenya 160-230 Niger 140-220 Mexico 130-200 Zambia 100-140 Malawi 100-140 Mali 80-140 Angola 70-140 Sudan 120-130 Burkina Faso 90-130 Mozambique 70-130 Madagascar 90-120 Ivory Coast 80-100 Ghana 70-100 Somalia 70-100 Cameroon 70-100 South Africa 60-100 Senegal 60-100
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YEAR 2100, AFRICA AND AMERICA OVERTAKE THE POPULATION OF EUROPE AND ASIA

In 2100, the planetary demographic distribution is completely new to what was known in 2000, and unimaginable for the year 1900. Old Western crumbs in terms of economic, demographic or agricultural power become colossal, while the old colossians are now as an equal footing with their former colonies and the support of their own emigrants.

In 1900, China had a population as much as the continent of Europe but four times as much as the continent of Africa. At present, it has reached a population twice that of the continent Europe but equal with the population of Africa, and by the year 2100, the Chinese population will be twice as large as the population of Europe, but will be overtaken by Africa four times.

If in 1900 Nigeria had a population of only 16 million inhabitants, which was slightly more than twice the London population at that time and under 4% of Europe's population, so far the African state already has a population equal to that of Germany, Italy and Britain together while the main city of Lagos exceeds the population of London by at least 50%, and by 2100 Nigeria will have a larger population than the whole of Europe, and Lagos as a city will exceed the population of Germany. Also, Russia will have about the same population in the 1900s as in 2100, about 110-140 million inhabitants, while the population of the Ethiopian and Congo states will grow from just 4 million inhabitants each (6.5 millions of inhabitants were the population of Romania at that time), are expected to increase by 2100 to over 400 million people for each (approximately 15 million inhabitants expect to own Romania) (Stașac, 2009; Attili, 2016; Friedman, 2009; Erdeli and Cucu, 2007; Gaceu, 2007; Ilieș, 2006; Muntele and Raluca, 2010).

Changes may be even more relevant to the population of cities in the two major land areas of the Earth. If in 1900 the large cities of Eurasia had populations as whole states in Afroamerica, until 2100, the situation would be

reversed. At 1900, the city of Paris had a population of 3 million, that is, a population equal to the state of Peru in America or the States: Angola, Mozambique or Madagascar, and almost double the population of Kenya and three times the Malawi from Africa. Until 2100, the population of Paris will most likely have a population of between 10 and 20 million inhabitants, while Peru's population will exceed 50 million, the state of Kenya will exceed 200 million and the other states will each exceed 100 million inhabitants, while in each of them there will be at least one city that will exceed the population of Paris (Lima), or even more than 4-8 times (Nairobi, Luanda, Maputo, Magadiscio, Blantyre or Lilongwe).

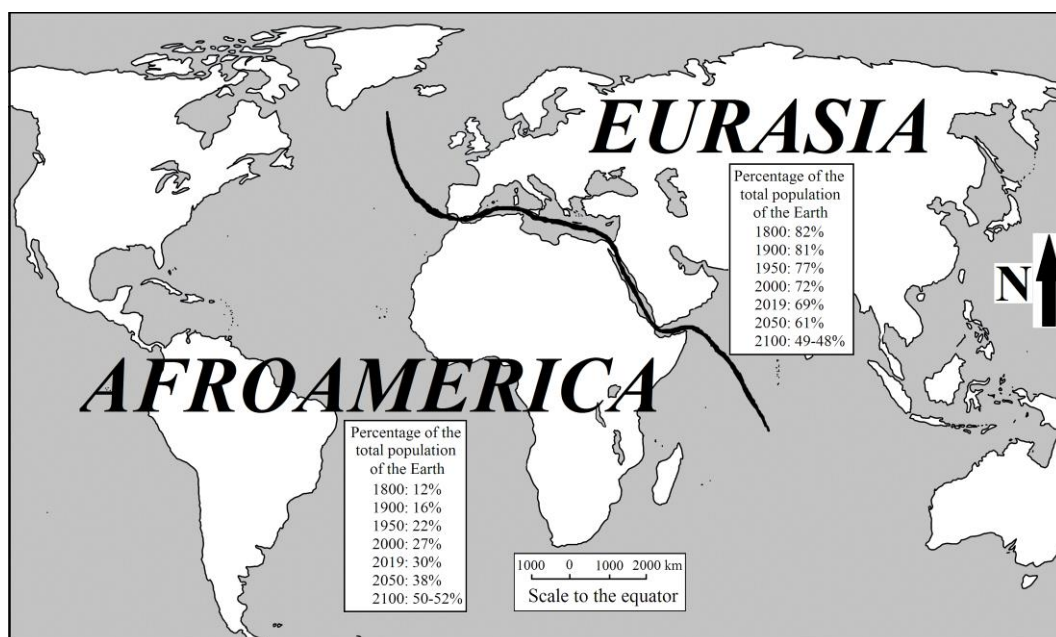


Figure 1. Evolution of the population of the large Eurasian and Afroamerica regions of the world's total population between 1800 and 2100

Source: Basten et al. 2008; Lutz and Samir, 2010; International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, 2004; United Nations, 2004, 1998; Drago et. al., 1995.

AFTER 2100. THE TRANSFER OF DEMOGRAPHIC PREDOMINANCE BRINGS WITH IT THE ECONOMIC TRANSFER

Even after 2100, the world demographic trend will still be in favor of Afroamerica, whose population will continue to grow rapidly, with more and more percentages of the world's population at the expense of Eurasia, most likely by 2150, to 55-60% of the world's total population.

As demonstrated throughout history, large demographic concentrations have attracted the world's wealth, becoming new planetary economic centers, to the detriment of regions that have diminished demographic explosion. Compared to 1900 when Europe surpassed America's economic strength several times, in 2019, America's \$ with 28 trillion surpassed the continent of Europe with an economic power of 22 trillion US dollars (Peptenatu et. al., 2005; Neğu et. al., 2009; Toffler, 1995). Until 2100, only North America expects to exceed with 50% the economic power in Europe, and Central and South America along with the

newly industrialized Africa to begin approaching and even overtaking the Asian economic power. South America will most likely become the world's agricultural power, North America will be the main territory of exploiting natural resources and technological power and Africa will become the world's new atelier as a great industrial power.

CONCLUSIONS

If Europe and Asia represented the human and economic geography of the planet in 1900, during which Africa and America, continents without demographic power, obviously economic, without prestige, culture, influence or national dignity, being basically crumbs of the world that count, until 2100, Eurasia loses total demography and obviously in economy, culture and influence, being on an equal footing with its old playground, Afroamerica.

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CHANGES IN THE ACTIVE POPULATION STRUCTURE OF PETROȘANI DEPRESSION

Gabriela-Alina MUREȘAN

Babeș-Bolyai University, Faculty of Geography, Clinicilor Street, Nr. 5-7, RO- 400006, Cluj-Napoca,
Romania, e-mail: alina.muresan@ubbcluj.ro

Mădălin-Sebastian LUNG *

Ph.D. Student, Babeș-Bolyai University, Faculty of Geography, Clinicilor Street, Nr. 5-7, RO- 400006,
Cluj-Napoca, Romania, e-mail: lungmadalin@yahoo.com

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Abstract: Numerous sociological and geographic studies insist on the consequences of industrial restructuring on the mining regions of Romania, in particular Petroșani Depression. The most widely known effects were social in nature, especially high unemployment rates. However, the demographic consequences of such a process are equally important, with visible short, medium, and long-time effects: emmigration, low birth rates, population decrease, changes in the demographic structure. Our paper intends to analyze the changes that took place within the occupational structure of the area in the last 27 years, caused by mine closings and massive worker layoffs. Despite the fact that the industrial sector, once the defining feature of the region, has been in continuous decline, it continues to employ a significant portion of the occupied population in the region. Overall however, according to statistical data, mining operations and activities are waning.

Key words: economic restructuring, mining industry, active population, Petroșani Depression

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INTRODUCTION

Petroșani Depression is the most important coal producing area of Romania. The coal deposits in the area had been known since the second half of the 18th century. Mining operations, however, began in the second half of the 19th century, growing alongside the development of the transport infrastructure, culminating in the mining industry of the communist period (Costache and Pehoiu, 2010). During this period, coal mining intensified in order to meet the energy needs of the ever

* Corresponding Author

growing communist industry, but also in order to insure a complete energy and mineral resource independence, thus significantly reducing imports.

The extensive development of mining in the second half of the 20th century created a mono-industrial area, which eventually led to complex problems after 1990, with the regime change and the beginning of the transition towards a market economy. Economic liberalization required a restructuring of all inefficient economic sectors. This was a nationwide and the most affected regions were the predominantly industrialized ones (Iancu, 2007).

Mining also required reorganisation and closure of nonprofitable mines as well as the usage of new technologies for the still viable ones (Neagu et al., 2015). In Romania, mining is difficult and production costs are extremely high, therefore the Romanian state sustained mining operations through budget allocations aimed at investments and subsidies (Schmidt and Androni, 2011). In Petroșani Depression, pitcoal deposits are mostly located in geological strata that are arduous to mine. Moreover, they produce a low heat yield, which implies high mining costs (Neagu et al., 2015).

Mining restructuring involved several actions, but was extensively based on staff layoffs. In the region of Valea Jiului (another name of the coalfield Petroșani), this process started in 1997, after Ordinance nr. 22/1997 triggered the sacking of almost half of the entire population of miners. According to the data provided by the Hunedoara Energy Complex (CEH), 18 185 people were laid off that year, with further, smaller scale, layoffs the following years. In total, between 1997 and 2018, almost 29 400 people lost their jobs.

The geographic area of Petroșani Depression has been a diversified framework for the emergence and diversification of many socio-demographic phenomena that have taken place and are still raising interest for researchers (Androni, 2017; Mureșan and Lazăr, 2017). A study similar to the one we wanted was made for the mental space of The Land of Moți from Apuseni Mountains (Mureșan and Boțan, 2015).

The coal mining and processing industry, namely the negative influences related to this industry, have entered the research field of scientists around the world (Simmons, 1976; Binns and Nel, 2003; Ivanova, Rolfe, Lockie, Timmer, 2007; Rolfe, Miles, Lockie, Ivanova, 2007; Fatah, 2008; Hendryx and Ahern, 2009; Franks, Brereton, Moran, 2010; Zafrilla, 2014; Kowalska, 2015; Vácha, Skála, Čechmánková, Horváthová, Hladík, 2015; Crețu et al., 2013).

The mining restructuring process had a series of social, demographic, economic, and environmental consequences. The most widely spread and analyzed effect was the rise of the unemployment rate.

This paper aims to analyze one of the most important consequences restructuring has had on the community, which is tightly linked to the spike in unemployment: changes in the active population structure. There are other demographic phenomena which have impacted the area following the restructuring process, but we will deal with those in another paper (migration, low birth rates, population loss). The area of the Petroșani depression has been studied from various perspectives, but most studies have targeted the social state of the demographic component. Through our study we wanted to achieve a prognosis and diagnosis on the evolution of the occupational structure at every census after the end of the etatiste period. If, by 1989, the population of active depression in the mining industry, with the beginning of capitalism followed extensive restructuring of the Carboniferous industry. The share of the active

population in the depression began to decline steadily after 1989, in the same trend being the secondary sector, with increasing weights from one census to another. Instead, the tertiary sector weights began to grow, more and more population activating in services. However, the service sector has yet to fully absorb the redundant personnel from mining, areas such as manufacturing and construction being continuously growing.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Statistical data from the census of years 1992 (NIS), 2002 (NIS) and 2011 (NIS) were used to achieve this study. The data was processed through the Microsoft Excel 2013 program, and a number of figures were generated. Thus, a figure was made for the evolution of the share of the active population, in three other figures there was the evolution of the occupational structure by economic sectors, respectively three figures were generated on the evolution of the number of employees the main economic areas of depression.

CHANGES IN THE OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE OF PETROȘANI DEPRESSION

To emphasize said changes, as direct effects of the mining restructuring process, we analyzed the seven towns and communes that comprise the area: Petroșani, Aninoasa, Lupeni, Petrila, Uricani, Vulcan, and Bănița. We processed data from the last three national censuses: 1992, 2002 and 2011. There are several differences between censuses in terms of population categories: in 1992 and 2002, the population distribution per economic activities was done based on the active population (also including „unemployed in search of first place of work”), while in 2011, the Household and Population Census used only the occupied population (excludes the unemployed category).

The active/occupied population in the main activity sectors represents a clear indicator of the economic specificity of the region, mostly based on mining and mono-industry. Firstly, according to data, there is a continuous decrease in active population from census to census: in 1992, it represented 42.6% of the total population, in 2002 dropping to 36.7%, while in 2011 descending to 34.4% (figure 1).

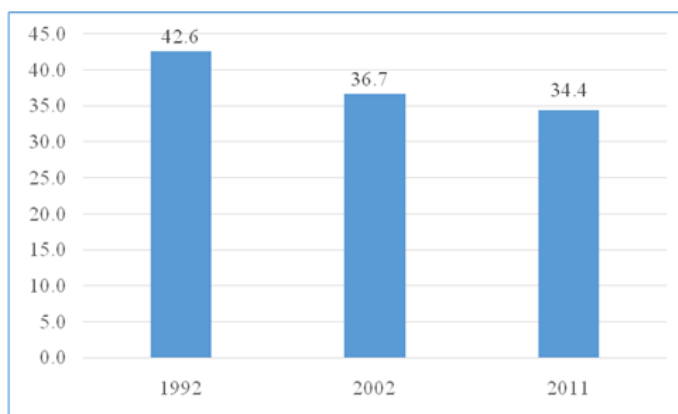


Figure 1. Percentage of the active/employed population in Petroșani Depression (1992, 2002, 2011)
(Source: data processed after the 1992, 2002, 2011 Censuses)

The most significant decrease occurred between 1992-2002, strongly correlated with the layoffs that began in 1997. At administrative-territorial level, if in 1992, almost all settlements exceeded the 40% threshold (with two exceptions: Aninoasa and Bănița), ten years later, none reached said percentage. Until 2011, the active population continued to drop, with the exception of Bănița Commune, where it reached over 55% (mostly due to an increase in people working in the primary sector).

The economically active population is generally divided into three groups, based on the economic sectors: primary, secondary and tertiary. The most representative sector for the Petroșani Depression, in all three years under scrutiny, was, in accordance with the specificity of the region, the secondary sector. However, the numbers differ from year to year, being in constant decrease. At the 1992 Census, the secondary sector held 72.2 % of the economically active population. This average value is topped in almost every settlement, except Petroșani (62.2%) and Bănița (43.8%). The workforce employed in the mining industry is almost half (48%) of the active population in the region, and two thirds (66.8%) of the one employed in the secondary sector. The primary sector held only 1%, while the service industry 23.7% of the population (figure 2). Rural areas (Bănița Commune) are also surprisingly non-agricultural, with solely 3.1% of the active population working in agriculture.

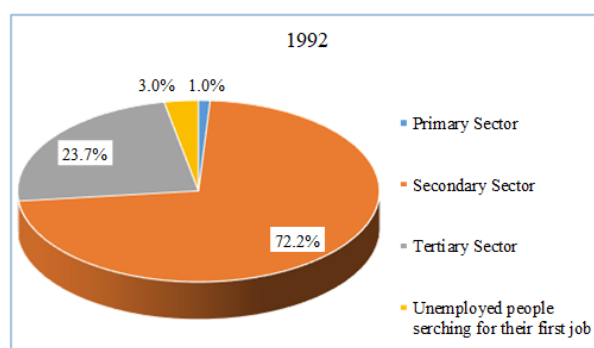


Figure 2. Occupational structure of Petroșani Depression in 1992
(Source: data processed after the 1992 Census)

A particular category registered at the first two censuses are the unemployed people searching for their first job; in 1992, their percentage reached 3%.

The 2002 data however show the changes taking place in the national economy. As previously shown, the mining restructuring process commenced in 1997, and at the 2002 Census, researchers registered a significant decrease of the active population employed in the secondary sector, by 14 percentage points, reaching 58.2%. Despite this, the mining population continued to register almost two thirds of the secondary sector (65.3 %). Compared to the entire economy of the region, it represented 38% of the active population. Similarly to 1992, the city of Petroșani and the commune of Bănița are below the region's average. The cultural function held by Petroșani (a university center which, after 1990, diversified its fields of study), as well as other tertiary functions, explain these lower values of secondary active population. The primary sector remained unchanged from 1992 (1%), while the active population employed in the tertiary

sector reached 32.6% (figure 3). The unemployed in search of first job are more numerous (8.2%), compared to the situation registered in 1992.

In 2011, the secondary sector remained dominant, registering 47% of the entire occupied population; however, all administrative-territorial units lost more than half of their secondary workers. Furthermore, the percentage of miners decreased to just 19% of the total occupied population, and 40.4% of the total secondary population (decrease of 20.5 percentage points compared to 2002). Thusly, the number of employees working in the mining industry declined by 3/4 between 1992 and 2011. The occupied population in the primary sector increased by 6.9%. This is due to the urban-rural migration, but also to the return to more traditional activities (agriculture, logging), as other work opportunities dried out; in the commune of Bănița, the number of people working in the primary sector increased in 2011 compared to 2002 by more than 80%. Significant increases were also registered in towns (Aninoasa, by 95%). The tertiary sector was the most dynamic, mostly in the urban areas of the region, a characteristic that defined Romanian towns and cities during the transition period (in 2011, people working in the service industry reached 46.1%, equal to secondary sector workers) (figure 4).

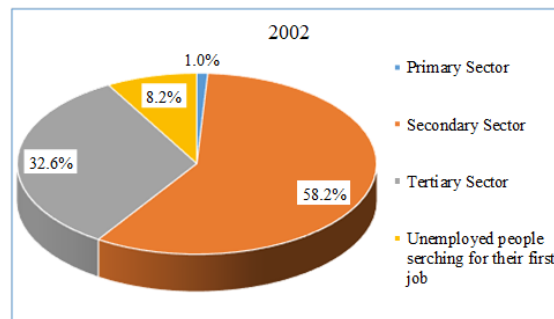


Figure 3. Occupational structure of Petroșani Depression in 2002
(Source: data processed after the 2002 Census)

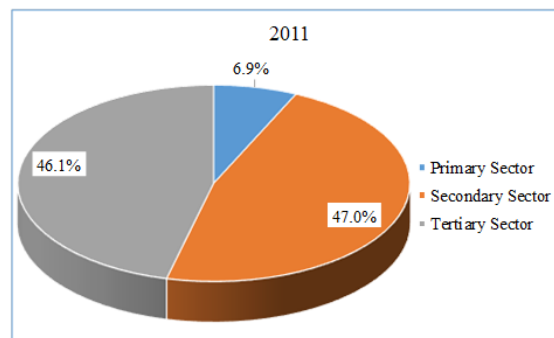


Figure 4. Occupational structure of Petroșani Depression in 2011
(Source: data processed after the 2011 Census)

The following graphs (figures 5, 6, 7) emphasize the dominance played by mining in the region's economy, but also its downward trend registered from 1992 onwards, in terms of employees. The sector decreased by almost 80% (from 34674 people in 1992 to 7955 in 2011).

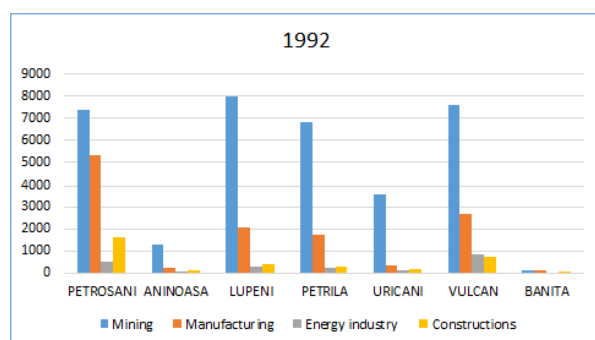


Figure 5. Number of industrial sector employees in Petroșani Depression (1992)
(Source: data processed after the 1992 Census)

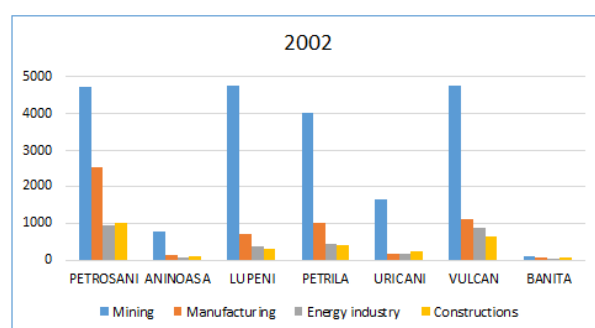


Figure 6. Number of industrial sector employees in Petroșani Depression (2002)
(Source: data processed after the 2002 Census)

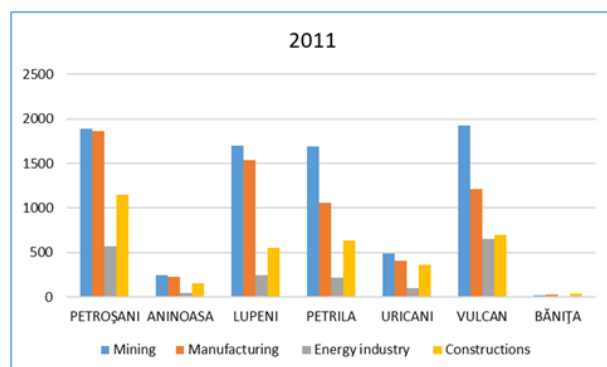


Figure 7. Number of industrial sector employees in Petroșani Depression (2011)
(Source: data processed after the 2011 Census)

CONCLUSIONS

The analysis of the economically active population structure of the Petroșani area emphasizes the mono-industrial characteristic that defined the region for the last decades. It constitutes a communist inheritance, which eventually led to a supersized mining industry. As Romania transitioned to a market economy, an economic restructuring was put into effect, which primarily impacted the industrial sector and the mining industry. The region faced a reduction in active

population, a phenomenon visible starting from the 1992 Census. Despite the fact that the industrial sector lost almost 25 percentage points between 1992 and 2011, it still remains a rather strong sector. It has been equaled by tertiary activities in the past few years. Mining subsided as mines closed and a significant number of employees had been laid off. The population working in the mining industry decreased by almost 80% between 1992 and 2011. The remaining economic sectors could not absorb the entire jobless population, despite being on the rise. This created high unemployment rates, social conflicts, increased emmigration, and, finally, a poor economic dynamic in the region.

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