

Alexandru DRAGAN

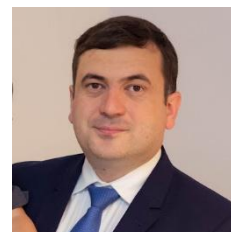
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Department of Geography

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Nationality: Romanian



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Period	2021–present
Position	Associate Dean
Employer	West University of Timișoara, Faculty of Chemistry, Biology, Geography
Type or sector of activity	Education, research
Period	2025–present
Position	Associate Professor
Employer	West University of Timișoara
Type or sector of activity	Education, research
Period	2019–2025
Position or role held	Lecturer
Employer	West University of Timișoara
Type or sector of activity	Education, research
Period	2016–2019
Position or role held	Teaching Assistant
Employer	West University of Timișoara
Type or sector of activity	Education, research

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Oct. 2012 – Dec. 2015	Ph.D. , University of Angers/West University of Timișoara (Ph.D. in Geography) <u>Thesis title</u> : “The Emergence and Structuring of the Social and Solidarity Economy in Romania” Advisors: HDR Sébastien Fleuret, Prof. Dr. Nicolae Popa, MCF Emmanuel Bioteau
2011–2012	Master’s 2 in “Sustainable Development of Enterprises and Territories” (Master’s degree) University of Angers <u>Thesis</u> : “The Development of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) in Romania: What Are the Challenges and Prospects? The French SSE—A Potential Source of Innovation Transfer and Future Partnership”
2010–2012	Master’s Programs 1 and 2 in “Sustainable Territorial Planning and Development” (<i>valedictorian</i> , master’s degree) West University of Timișoara <u>Thesis</u> : “The Social Economy: A New Sector in Romania. Issues and Perspectives”
2007–2010	Bachelor’s Degree , major in Territorial Planning (<i>valedictorian</i> , bachelor’s degree) West University of Timișoara <u>Bachelor’s Thesis</u> : “Recent Changes in the Evolution of Functional Spaces in the Municipality of Arad”

Oct.–Nov. 2009	Internship in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) CEEPUS II Program, University of Székesfehérvár (Hungary)
2008–2009	Erasmus Mobility Paris Sorbonne University, Institute of Geography and Urban Planning
May 2011	GIS Trainer Universities of Almaty, Salzburg, and Graz
Nov. 2010 – Apr. 2011	Comenius Teacher IES Jacaranda, Seville (Spain)
2007–2011	Teaching Module (Levels I and II) West University of Timișoara

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

I. Director of National Projects

Social Spatial Diffusion and the Regional Impact of NGOs in the European Capitals of Culture 2021 (CC2021) Timișoara and Novi Sad - PN-III-P1-1.1-PD-2019-0274, PD 213/2020, Postdoctoral Research Project (PD), https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/resource-821869-pd2019_funded-projects_social-sciences.pdf

Budget: 246,022 RON

Duration: September 17, 2020 – August 30, 2022

II. Responsible of International Projects

European Urban Regenerators Knowledge Alliance - EUREKA (European Commission, EACEA EAC/A02/2019, KA2). University of Venice, University of Deusto Bilbao, West University of Timișoara, Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, LAMA, MeltingPRO, Stichting P60, Timișoara City Hall – awarded through a competitive process

Total project budget: 997,805.00 euros, UVT budget: 50,182.00 euros

Duration: January 2021–January 2024

Strategic Partnership for Ensuring Personal Life Management for Better Work Prospects in Disadvantaged Regions (European Commission, Motivation-2017/1/HU01-KA201-036045). Catholic House Public Benefit Nonprofit Ltd (Hungary) 2. West University of Timișoara 3. Klausenhof Academy 4. Socialna Akademija - awarded through a competitive process

Total budget: €257,465

Duration: September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2020

Strategic Partnership for Enhancing Social Consciousness (European Commission, 2015-1-HU01-KA201-013623). University of Angers, Klausenhof Academy, Socialna Akademija, Bela Bartok Theoretical High School, Bátorove Kosihy Private High School, Catholic House Public Benefit Nonprofit, UVT – awarded through a competitive process

Total budget: 228,846 €

Duration: September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2018

III. Member of international projects

Heritage and Urban Renewal: Creative Spaces, Inclusive Culture, and Fostering Civic Engagement –

CREATONVIL/17-AUF, PN III/Subprogram 3.1. Bilateral/Multilateral/AUF-RO Module, contracting authority: Institute of Atomic Physics – IFA, contractor: West University of Timișoara, awarded through a competitive process
Budget: 84,355 lei + 15,000 euros
Period: March 1, 2019 – December 30, 2021

Demographic Disparities in Rural Areas – 14-AUF/DISRUR, PN3/Subprogram 3.1. Bilateral/multilateral, AUF-RO Module, contracting authority: Institute of Atomic Physics – IFA, awarded through a competitive process
Budget: 67,388 lei
Duration: August 16, 2016 – December 30, 2017

Research for UNITA, ReUNITA, HORIZON 2020-EU.5. - SCIENCE WITH AND FOR SOCIETY, grant IBA-SwafS-Support-2-2020 - Support for the Research and Innovation Dimension of European Universities (Part II), ID: 101035810, project coordinator: UNIVERSITÉ DE PAU ET DES PAYS DE L'ADOUR, awarded through a competitive process
Duration: September 2021–August 2024

Skill development to foster a mindset toward environmental awareness and sustainable development within the EcoC alliance. University of Veszprém, University of Tartu, UVT, University of Kaunas – awarded through a competitive process
Budget: > 200,000 EUR
Duration: 2022–2024

Portal for Francophone Geography Publications in Central and Eastern Europe (GéoPortECO), AUF ECO 2024 DRECO 8599—awarded through a competitive process. UAIC Iași, UVT, University of Novi Sad, Laval University, Quebec
Budget: 25,832 EUR
Period: 2024–2025

SAIN (Regional Francophone Network on Health, Nutrition, and Food Security), a research, development, and training project, competitively funded by the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie for Central and Eastern Europe – awarded through a competitive process.
University of Bucharest; “Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca; “Dunărea de Jos” University, Galați; “I. Hațieganu” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca; “Gr. T. Popa” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Iași; West University of Timișoara; Medical University of Plovdiv; University of Food Technologies, Plovdiv (Bulgaria); State University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Chișinău; Technical University of Moldova, Chișinău (Republic of Moldova).
Budget: 78,000 EUR
Duration: May 2017 – December 2019

2H2S - European Consortium for Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences. University of Angers, West University of Timișoara, University of Paris Nanterre, University of Bamberg, University of Tübingen, University of Novi Sad, New University of Lisbon
Budget: 30,000 EUR
Duration: 2012–2015

AdPMS - Private Funds, Social Mediation. University of Angers, Espaces et Sociétés Laboratory (ESO-UMR 6590 CNRS), Pays de la Loire Regional Council – awarded through a competitive process
Budget: 104,000 €
Duration: July 1, 2012 – December 30, 2013

IV. Member in national projects

Romanian Migration Abroad (UEFISCDI, PN-III-P1-1.1-BSH-2016-0002), UVT, postdoctoral research

Budget: 65,000 RON

Period: November 2016–August 2017

Research Excellence at UVT through Human Resource Development and the Consolidation of Research Centers, UVT

Budget: > 100,000 RON

Duration: June 2019 – November 2019

V. Other projects

Assessment of satisfaction levels and creation of a profile of tourists visiting Timișoara, UVT – Association for the Promotion of Timișoara

Period: December 2024 – present

Budget: 99,360 RON

Role: Project Director

Timișoara 2040 Cultural Strategy, UVT, Timișoara Municipal Project Center

Period: May – November 2026

Budget: 65,000 RON

Position: Research Coordinator

Timișoara Quality of Life Barometer, UVT, Timișoara City Hall.

Period: 2016 – present

Total budget: > 90,000 EUR

Position: Researcher

Socioeconomic, Demographic, and Quality-of-Life Analysis of the Fabric Neighborhood in Timișoara as part of the project “Urban Planning Services Required for the Development of the Urban Plan for Protected Built Areas: ‘Fabric Area’,” 2920.05/StT/30.05.2024, UVT – Subcontrol S.R.L., Timișoara City Hall

Period: October 21, 2024 – February 28, 2025

Position: Researcher in Economic and Social Geography

Impact Assessment of the “1,306-Plant Nursery for Timișoara – TM2023 ECOC” Project, UVT, Timiș Branch of the Romanian Order of Architects, Report No. 27757/May 4, 2023

Period: April–December 2023

Budget: 14,000 EUR

Position: Researcher

Study on the Quality of Environmental Factors in the Commune of Poiana Mărului (ROSCI0126 Țarcu Mountains Site and ROSCI0217 Retezat Site)

Duration: February 6, 2017–July 16, 2018

Budget: > 300,000 RON

Position: Researcher

Wastewater Management Strategy (Interreg IPA II, ETC SMIS)

Period: July 21–December 18, 2016

Budget: 67,800 Euro

Position: Researcher

Development Strategy for the Municipality of Caransebeș

Period: March 2020 – November 2020

Budget: > 80,000 RON Partners: Caransebeș City Hall, West University of Timișoara

Position: Researcher

Moving Fireplaces – Prin Banat: Cross-Border Migration. Timișoara, European Capital of Culture. Field research and publication of two book chapters, Prin Banat Association

Budget: > 150,000 RON

Period: February 2018 – December 2022

Position: Researcher

Integrated Urban Development Strategy 2015–2020. Timișoara Growth Pole, Timișoara City Hall

Period: 2014–2015

Position: Digital Cartography and GIS Expert

ROSE “Quality Career Counseling—The Key to Combating College Dropout Rates,” Contract No. 63237/18.2019, West University of Timișoara (institutional project)

Period: November 2019–January 2020

Position: Remedial Activities Specialist/Education Specialist

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

West University of Timișoara, Department of Geography

**2015–
present**

“Population Geography,” “Political Geography,” “Social Geography,” “Economic Geography,” “Elements of Regional Planning and Urban Planning,” “Introduction to Territorial Planning,” “Methods and Techniques of Territorial Analysis,” “Methodology of Human Geography Research,” “Smart Cities,” “Urban Regeneration and Placemaking,” “Rural Planning and Development”

Université Catholique de l'Ouest (Angers)

**2015–
2016**

“Territories and Borders,” **2nd and 3rd years** (24 hours of lectures, 24 hours of seminars)

“Geography of Risks,” **2nd and 3rd years** (24 hours of lectures, 24 hours of seminars)

University of Angers, Department of Geography

**2013–
2016**

“Commentary on Documents in Human Geography” (including field trips), **first year** (29 hours of practical work)

“Introduction to Research in Geography,” **third year** (2 hours of practical work)

“Contemporary Geopolitical Issues and Geographical Reflection,” **second year** (10 hours of practical work)

“Social and Solidarity Economy,” **second year, Cholet campus** (9 hours of lectures, 9 hours of practical work)

“City and Society—Urban Morphology” (including field trips), **third year** (42 lecture hours)

“City and Society—Assessment Follow-up,” **third year** (10 hours of practical work)

“Tackling European Issues,” **interdisciplinary course taught in English** (26 hours of practical work)

West University of Timișoara, Department of Geography

2013–2014 “Methods and Techniques of Territorial Analysis” (including field trips), **first year** (21 hours of lectures)

Geography Teacher, I.E.S. Jacaranda, Seville, Comenius Program

2010–2011 High school and middle school (225 hours)

Teaching practicum (60 ECTS)

2007–2011 Various high schools and general education schools in Timișoara (30 h)

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

- Mobility program at **the University of Rijeka** (Croatia) focused on the development of tourist destinations (May 2026)
- Visiting researcher at **the University of Veszprém** (Hungary) and exchange program at **the University of Novi Sad** (Serbia) – February–March 2023 and April 2025;
- Mobility at **the University of Tübingen** (Germany), focused on the topic of social innovation in Europe (January 2020);
- Mobility at **Goethe University Frankfurt** (Germany), focused on the dynamics of urban gentrification fronts (June 2019);
- Mobility programs at **the University of Szeged** (Hungary), focused on *migration phenomena in Central and Eastern Europe* (Erasmus+, November 2018, November 2023, May 2026);
- Mobility at **the University of Zaragoza** (Spain), focusing on the topic of *Romanian migration to Spain* (Erasmus+, June 2018 and April 2024);
- Mobility at **the University of Bari** (Italy), as part of the postdoctoral study “*Romanian Migration Abroad*” (UEFISCDI, PN-III-P1-1.1-BSH-2016-0002), Faculty of Social Sciences, July 2017;
- Teaching mobility at **the University of Valencia** (Spain), focused on courses in economic and social geography and on organizing a doctoral seminar (Erasmus+, November 2017);
- Mobility at **the University of Angers** (France), focused on the topic of *social innovation in Europe* (Erasmus+, December 2016).

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

- Associate Dean of the Faculty of Chemistry, Biology, Geography, 2021–present
- **President of the European Association of Students and Young Geographers (EGEA)**, which brings together 4,000 members from 100 geography departments in over 30 European countries—**2010–2011**;
- Vice President of the Romanian Geographical Society, Timiș Branch, responsible for scientific activities – **2018–2022**;
- Co-founder of the *Breasla Ghizilor Association (Tour Guide Association)*, Timișoara, 2021
- Member of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Chemistry, Biology, Geography – 2019–2021 and 2024–present

- **Member of the Council of the Department of Geography, Faculty of Chemistry, Biology, and Geography** – 2019–2021
- **Member of the Executive Board of the “CDET Intractif” Association**, a network of geographers and economists at the University of Angers
 - Head of the International Department (the international section of “CDET Magazine,” promotion/recruitment of international students) – **2014–2017**;
- **Member of the Loire Center for Romanian Studies (CLER)** at the University of Angers, which brings together researchers whose areas of interest include Romania – **2012–present**;
- **Member of the Committee on Living and Working Conditions** of the Department of Geography at the University of Angers—**2014–2016**;
- **Responsible for organizing a scientific exchange network** among undergraduate and graduate students in geography from Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan (TEMPUS project) – **2011**;
- **Member of the organizing committee for the international conference “Geography at 55,”** organized by the Department of Geography at the West University of Timișoara – May 2014;
- **President of the Association of Geography Students in Timișoara** – **2009–2010**;
- **Co-organizer of 6 scientific and cultural exchanges** among young geographers from Timișoara, Saint Petersburg, Belgrade, Bratislava, Utrecht, Izmir, and Iași – **2008–2014**;
- **Initiator and coordinator of the “GEOmondis” Competition**, organized by the Department of Geography at the West University of Timișoara for 60 high school students from the Western Region – **2010**;
- **Initiator and coordinator of the website www.geotim.ro**, designed to increase the visibility of geography students at the West University, provide them with information, and serve as a means of collaboration with students from other universities—**2011**;

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Language Skills

French: C1
 English: B2
 Spanish: A2

Digital Skills

Mapping software: ArcGIS, Philcarto, Cartes et Données, Adobe Illustrator, Corel
Statistical software: SPSS, Gephi, Sphinx

AWARDS

- **“Bologna Professor” Award for Excellence in Education** (Bologna Professor Gala, ANOSR, May 2025)
- **International Geographical Union (IGU)** Award for research on the geographical dimension of the social economy (International Geographical Congress, Beijing, 2016);

List of Publications

1. List of articles published in international journals

1.1. Web of Science articles, Q1 (red area)

1. Light, D., Dragan, A., & Crețan, R. (2026). On the slow train: tourists' experiences of deceleration. *Mobilities*, 1-18, <https://doi.org/10.1080/17450101.2026.2628110>
2. Nicula, A. S., Crețan, R., Dragan, A., & Oancea, B. (2026). Computational Analysis of Contested Monuments and Collective Memory in a Multiethnic City. *The Geographical Journal*, 192(1), <https://doi.org/10.1111/geoj.70073>
3. Chasciar, D., Dragan, A., Crețan, R., & Matichescu, M. L. (2026). Peri-urban transformation and quality of life in post-socialist cities: residents' perceptions in Timișoara, Romania. *Cogent Social Sciences*, 12(1), 2699539, <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2026.2699539>
4. Oancea, O. A., Dragan, A., & Crețan, R. (2025). Derelict Rural Heritage: The Case of the Castles in the Lower Mures Valley, Romania. *Heritage*, 8(9), 364. <https://doi.org/10.3390/heritage8090364>
5. Crețan, R., Tuță, A., Dragan, A. (2025) Towards a more inclusive perception of a territorially stigmatized area? Evidence from an East-Central European city, *Cities*, doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2024.105658
6. Tuță, A. C., Dragan, A., Crețan, R., & Dincă, M. (2025). Stakeholders' perspectives, placemaking and tactical urbanism on the spatial reconfiguration of urban schools in Timișoara, Romania. *Humanities & Social Sciences Communications*, 12, 922. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-025-05306-9>
7. Light, D., Crețan, R., Chapman, A., Dragan, A., & Arba-Harambașa, F. Y. (2025). Trigger events, moments, and destination evolution in a post-socialist context. *Tourism Geographies*, 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14616688.2025.2481886>
8. Dragan, A., Crețan, R., Jucu, I. S., Hrițcu, A. A. (2024) Revitalizing post-communist urban industrial areas: Divergent narratives in the imagining of copper mine reopening and tourism in a Romanian town. *Cities*, 154, doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2024.105379
9. Dragan, A., Crețan, R., Terian, M. I. (2024) Landscapes of Watermills: A Rural Cultural Heritage Perspective in an East-Central European Context. *Heritage*, 7(9), <http://doi.org/10.3390/heritage7090227>
10. Dragan, A., Crețan, R., Jucu, I. S., Oancea, O. A. (2024) Rural Landscapes as Cultural Heritage and Identity along a Romanian River. *Heritage*, 7(8), <http://doi.org/10.3390/heritage7080205>
11. Dragan, A., Ispas, R. T., Crețan, R. (2024) Recent Urban-to-Rural Migration and Its Impact on the Heritage of Depopulated Rural Areas in Southern Transylvania. *Heritage*, <http://doi.org/10.3390/heritage7080202>
12. Crețan, R., Chasciar, D., Dragan, A. (2024) Forests and Their Related Ecosystem Services: Visitors' Perceptions in the Urban and Peri-Urban Spaces of Timișoara, Romania. *Forests*, 15(12), <http://doi.org/10.3390/f15122177>

1.2. Web of Science articles, Q2 (yellow area)

1. Timofte, F., Crețan, R., & Dragan, A. (2026). Street (Re) Naming Practices and Spatial Ethnolinguistic Contact: A Longitudinal Study in Timișoara, Romania. *GeoHumanities*, 1-22, <https://doi.org/10.1080/2373566X.2026.2616056>
2. Crețan, R., Chasciar, D., Dragan, A., & Matichescu, M. L. (2026). Unsustainable Peri-Urban Liveability? Subjective Determinants of Quality of Life and the Role of Daily Mobility in Postsocialist Spaces. *Geographies*, 6(1), 11, <https://doi.org/10.3390/geographies6010011>
3. Caizer, A. D., Popa, N., Ile, A. L., & Dragan, A. (2026). Urban sprawl and territorial dysfunctions: a spatial analysis of peri-urban dynamics in a post-socialist context. *Land*, 15(3), 367, <https://doi.org/10.3390/land15030367>
4. Tarko, A. C., Matichescu, M. L., Răducan, M. R., & Dragan, A. (2026). Public Transport Accessibility Level and Public Perceptions: A Framework for Urban Mobility Analysis. *Urban Science*, 10(2), 122, <https://doi.org/10.3390/urbansci10020122>
5. Dragan, A., Crețan, R., Răducan, R. M., Glonți, M., & Matichescu, M. (2025). Community Perception on a Temporary Plant Nursery Installation: Urban and Regional Tourism Perspectives. *Regional Science Policy & Practice*, 100251, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rspp.2025.100251>
6. Dragan, A., Crețan, R. & Triponescu, A. (2025) Mental maps, generational insights and symbols of urban spaces in a Romanian context. *GeoJournal* 90, 64, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10708-025-11308-6>
7. Ile, A. L., Caizer, A. D., & Dragan, A. (2025). Challenges in Transitioning to a Circular Economy: A Spatial Analysis of Socioeconomic Factors Affecting the Adoption of the Deposit-Return System. *Environments*, 12(5), 142. <https://doi.org/10.3390/environments12050142>
8. Dragan, A., Crețan, R., Luchేశ, D., Popescu, A. E., & Matichescu, M. L. (2025). What facilitates the socio-economic adaptation of migrant women? Insights from Romanian women settled in Western Europe. *Cogent Social Sciences*, 11(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2025.2483987>
9. Dragan, A., Crețan, R., & Bulzan, R. D. (2024) The spatial development of peripheralisation: The case of smart city projects in Romania. *Area*, 56(1), <http://doi.org/10.1111/area.12902>
10. Triponescu, A., Dragan, A., & Crețan, R. (2024) Mapping Perception: Analyzing Mental Representations of Urban Space in Timișoara, Romania. *Urban Science*, 8(4), 205, <http://doi.org/10.3390/urbansci8040205>
11. Dragan, A., Crețan, R., & Lungu, M. A. (2024) Neglected and peripheral spaces: Challenges of Socioeconomic Marginalization in a south Carpathian area. *Land*, 13(7), <http://doi.org/10.3390/land13071086>
12. Popa, N., Dragan, A., Marian-Potra A-C., Matichescu, M. (2022) Opportunities: Source of synergy, or of conflict? Positioning of creative industry actors within a European Capital of Culture Project, *Plos One* 17(9), <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0274093>
13. Dragan, A, Popa, N. (2017) Social economy in post-communist Romania: what kind of volunteering for what type of NGOs?, *Journal of Balkan and Near Eastern Studies*, vol. 19, nr. 3, pp. 330-350,

<http://doi.org/10.1080/19448953.2017.1277088>

14. Matichescu, M., Dragan, A., Lucheuş, D. (2017) Channels to West: exploring the migration routes between Romania and France, *Sustainability*, vol. 9(10), pp. 1-18, <https://doi.org/10.3390/su9101861>

1.3. Web of Science Articles

1. Popescu, F., Dragan, A., Matichescu-Lupşa, M., Maricutoiu, L., Voiculescu, S., Popa, N., & Ancuta, C. (2026). Drivers of Repeat Visits and Recommendations in a City Preparing for Cultural Prominence: Implications for Tourism and Destination Management. *Journal of Tourism and Services*, 17(32), 1–27.

2. Glemain, P., Bioteau, E., Dragan, A. (2013) Solidarity Finance and the Social Economy in Romania: A “Local” Response to the Regionalization of an Economy in Transition?, *Annals of Public and Cooperative Economics*, vol. 84(2), pp. 195–217, doi.org/10.1111/apce.12009, ISSN 1370-4788

1.4. BDI Articles (International Databases)

1. Cornescu, M. D. M., Voiculescu, M., Dragan, A. (2024). From peasant agriculture to collectivization and forced industrialization during the communist period through land dispossession: a piece of history, present status and outlook in Turceni region, Romania. *Forum Geografic*, 23, 1, p. 99, doi:10.5775/fg.2024.1.3619

2. Tuţă, A., Dragan, A., Creţan, R., (2023) From degradation to potential urban regeneration? Residents’ perspectives on a historical neighbourhood in Timişoara, Romania, *E3S Web of Conferences*, vol. 435, doi.org/10.1051/e3sconf/202343504002

3. Bioteau, E., Glemain, P., Dragan, A. (2014) L’économie sociale en Roumanie à l’épreuve des représentations et des faits, *Revue internationale de l’économie sociale (RECMA)*, nr. 332, pp. 46-60, ISSN 1626-1682, doi.org/10.7202/1024822ar

4. Dragan, A., Hyungsik, E., Bidet, E., Bioteau, E. (2014) Inscription internationale de l’économie sociale. Les exemples de la Roumanie et de la Corée du Sud, *Jurisassociations*, nr. 495, Daloz, pp. 17-20.

5. Dragan, A., (2011) The latest changes in the structure of functional spaces in the municipality of Arad: the central nucleus, the industrial and commercial areas, *Geographica Timisiensis*, vol. 20, nr. 1, pp.31-46.

2. Books

1. Dragan, A. (2018) Émergence et structuration de l’économie sociale et solidaire en Roumanie », *Editura Universităţii de Vest din Timişoara, Colecţia "Biblioteca de cercetare"*, 206 p., ISBN 978-973-125-639-9;

2. Matichescu, M., Păscuţă, I., Dragan, A., Tîru, L., Proteasa, V. (2019) Barometrul de opinie publică asupra calităţii vieţii în municipiul Timişoara, *Editura Universităţii de Vest din Timişoara, Colecţia "Biblioteca de cercetare"*, ISBN 978-973-125-641-2, 123 p.

3. Ursu, A., Dragan, A., Muşat, N. Ursu A-M., Odobescu, I., (2019) Cămine în mişcare. Moving

fireplaces, vol. I, ISBN 978-973-0-30835-8, vol I, II, III, *Ed. Confort*, Timișoara, 359 p.

3. Book chapters

1. Caizer, A., Ile, A., Dragan, A. (2024) Circular economy transition: bridging the gap between rural and urban areas from geographical perspective through the deposit return system (DRS), in *Nuevos enfoques y metodos en la geografia de los servicios. Sostanibilidad, consumo y responsabilidad social para el cambio*, Dykinson, 317-332, ISBN 978-84-1070-853-2

2. Dragan, A. (2018) Frontiera de vest a României – între diplomație și știință », in Hedeșan, O. (ed.), *100. Gânduri și ipostaze*, Editura Universității de Vest din Timișoara, pp. 71-84;

3. Dragan, A., (2018) Sistemul teritorial bănățean. Rețeaua de așezări ca soclu al dimensiunilor socio-economice», in Majaru, A., Dragan, A., Mușat, N., Falconi A., Ursu A., Ursu A. (ed.), *Cămine în mișcare*, Editura ArtPress, 200 p.

4. List of Presented Papers

4.1. Presentations at international conferences held abroad

1. International Conference on Tourism & Hospitality Industry with the paper “*Evolving Tourist Perceptions, Satisfaction, and Loyalty in a European Capital of Culture: A Longitudinal Study of Timișoara.*” Authors: F. Popescu, A. Dragan, A. Tarko, **Opatija**, Croatia, May 27–29, 2026;
2. The international conference “Theo Quant: *From Digital Humanities to Environmental Humanities—What Contributions Can Theoretical and Quantitative Geography Make?*”, keynote speaker with the presentation “Spatiality, Quality of Life, and Territory,” **Besançon**, France, February 7–9, 2024;
3. International Conference on Human Geography, Politics, and Sociology, with the paper “*From Deterioration to Potential Urban Regeneration? Residents’ Viewpoints on Quality of Life in a Historic Neighborhood in Timișoara, Romania.*” Authors: Tuta, A., Dragan, A., Crețan, R., **Athens**, August 24–27, 2024;
4. International Conference on Human Geography, Politics, and Sociology, with the paper “*Mapping Perception: Analyzing Mental Representations of Urban Space in Timișoara, Romania.*” Authors: Triponescu, A., Dragan, A., Crețan, R., **Athens**, August 24–27, 2024;
5. Conference “The World on the Move: Understanding Migration in a New Global Age,” featuring the paper “*Urban Well-being: A Comprehensive Quality of Life Study in Timișoara.*” Authors: Jurj, V., Dragan, A., **Kraków**, July 17–19, 2024;
6. The conference “The World on the Move: Understanding Migration in a New Global Age,” featuring the paper

- “Understanding Migration in Romania—A Cartographic Perspective: Movements in Romania Over the Last 30 Years.”*** Authors: Tripa, T., Dragan, A., **Kraków**, July 17–19, 2024;
7. EURA 2022 International Congress: ***“Defrag-Europe: Fragility/Antifragility at Play in Contemporary Europe,”*** featuring the presentation *“The Role of Universities and NGOs in the Local Co-production of Large Cultural Projects: The Case of Timișoara 2023 European Capital of Culture,”* **Milan**, June 16–18, 2022;
 8. 33rd CIRIEC International Congress: ***“New Global Dynamics in the Post-COVID Era: Challenges for the Public, Social, and Cooperative Economy,”*** featuring the presentation *“Co-construction and Disruptions of Large Projects in the Post-COVID Era: The Case of ‘Timișoara 2023—European Capital of Culture’ and Associative Dynamics,”* **Valencia**, June 13–15, 2022;
 9. 8th EMES International Training School, ***“The Key Role of Social Enterprises and the Social and Solidarity Economy in the Post-Pandemic Era,”*** with the presentation *“The Spatial Dimension of Civil Society Organizations,”* **Seville**, June 20–23, 2022;
 10. International Conference ***“Quand les solidarités font territoires. Interroger les géographies du lien social à l’aune de la crise globale,”*** with the paper *“Le long chemin de la cohésion : les dynamiques associatives (et solidaires ?) dans le projet ‘Timișoara 2023 Capitale européenne de la culture’ ” (The long road to cohesion: associative (and solidarity?) dynamics in the project “Timișoara 2023 European Capital of Culture”),* **Orléans**, December 3–4, 2021;
 11. 8th EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprise: ***Bringing Principles and Values to Renew Action,*** with the paper *“Roles and Places of Cultural NGOs in the Fabric of a European Capital of Culture: A Case Study on Timișoara 2023,”* **Teruel**, October 4–8, 2021;
 12. International Conference ***“Territoires et Trajectoires de Développement: les dynamiques relationnelles comme clé d’analyse renouvelée,”*** with the paper *“‘Building’ a European Capital of Culture: Positioning and Actions of the Nonprofit Sector in the ‘Timișoara 2023’ Project,”* **Angers**, June 16–17, 2021;
 13. AUF Seminar ***on Rural Development in Europe: Romania, France,*** with the paper *“What Remains of Romanian Cooperatives?”*, **Angers**, October 6, 2017;
 14. International Congress of *the International Geographical Union* – ***“Shaping Our Harmonious Worlds,”*** with the paper *“Local Governance, Non-Governmental Organizations, and Vulnerable Groups: A Multi-Scale Approach in Western Romania,”* **Beijing**, August 21–25, 2016;
 15. Seminar titled ***“Public Policy and Social Action—A Comparison Between France and Romania,”*** featuring

- the presentation “ : *A Social and Solidarity Economy in Romania? Institutional Scope, Areas of Action, and Stakeholder Perspectives*” (co-presented with E. Bioteau), University of Angers, December 18, 2014;
16. The seminar “**Public Policy and Social Action—A Comparison Between France and Romania**,” featuring the presentation “*Romania in Crisis: An Overview at the End of 2014*” (co-presented with E. Bioteau), University of Angers, France, December 18, 2014;
 17. The 2H2S international seminar “**Governance and the Metropolitan Region: Citizen Participation—An International Comparison—An Intercultural Approach**,” featuring the presentation “*Metropolitan Development and Local Governance in Romania. Between Social Needs, Economic Projects, and Territorial Dynamics*,” (co-presented with N. Popa), Humboldt University of Berlin, April 9–13, 2014;
 18. International seminar “**Private Money – Social Mediation**,” with the presentation “*Solidarity Finance and Microcredits in Romania: A ‘Local’ Response to the Regionalization of a European Economy in Transition?*”, University of Angers, November 5–6, 2013;
 19. International seminar “**Central and Eastern Europe: Work, Employment, and Societies, Between Transition and Change**,” with the presentation “*Addressing Wage Vulnerabilities, Social Innovation in Transition. A New Alternative Through Social Economy Networks in Romania?*”, (co-presented with E. Bioteau and P. Glemain), University of Evry Val d’Essonne, November 22, 2013;
 20. The 25th International Seminar “**The Social Economy in the Movement of Ideas**,” with the presentation “*The Social Economy in Romania: Economic, Social, and Spatial Dimensions of an Emerging Field of Study*,” (co-presented with E. Bioteau, P. Glemain, and K. Fenies), Association for the Development of Documentation on the Social Economy (ADDES), Paris, October 22, 2013;
 21. XIII^e Meetings of the Interuniversity Network on the Social and Solidarity Economy (RIUESS) “**Thinking About and Building the SSE Today: Values, Statutes, Projects?**”, with the presentation “*The Social Economy in Romania: An Asymmetrical and Restructured Sector: Territorial and Institutional Challenges*,” University of Angers, June 5–7, 2013;
 22. Espaces et Sociétés (ESO) Doctoral Seminar, “**A Thesis at ESO, a Social Geography Laboratory: Why? How?**”, with the presentation “*Studying the ‘Social Economy’ in Romania: A Geographical Approach Through Interdisciplinarity*,” University of Angers, June 15, 2013;
 23. Young Researchers’ Day: “**Geography of the Margins and Margins in Geography**,” with the presentation “*The Limits of a Reformed Social Economy*,” Paris Sorbonne University, April 21, 2013;

24. International Congress ***“Planning and Management: Shaping the Future,”*** with the presentation *“New Democracy and GIS-Based Participation Methods,”* University of **Copenhagen**, April 15–20, 2013.

4.2. Presentations at international conferences held in Romania

25. The 3rd International Conference on Re-Shaping Territories, Environment, and Societies: New Challenges for Geography, with the paper ***“Ecosystem Services in Urban and Peri-Urban Landscapes,”*** University of Bucharest, Faculty of Geography, Authors: Chasciar, D., Crețan, R., Dragan, A., Bucharest, November 15, 2024;
26. International Scientific Seminar “Francophonie and the Dissemination of Geographical Research: What Discourse, for Which Audiences?”, December 5, 2024, West University of Timișoara, with the paper ***“Creative Industries: Between Public Actors and Independent Initiatives.” The Case of Timișoara, European Capital of Culture 2023,*** Authors: Popa N., Dragan A., Marian-Potra A., Timișoara, December 5, 2024;
27. UNeCC Annual Conference 2024, with the paper ***“Positioning and Interactions of Key Actors from the Independent Cultural and Creative Industries on Urban Regeneration Projects in the Context of ECOC TM2023 and Beyond,”*** Authors: Popa N., Ancuța C., Dragan A., Marian-Potra A., Timișoara, October 9–12, 2024;
28. UNeCC Annual Conference 2024, October 9–12, 2024, organized by the Alliance of Timisoara Universities, Timișoara, with the paper “Residents’ Evolving Perspectives on the Impact of the European Capital of Culture on Personal Well-Being and Timișoara’s Development as a Destination through a Placemaking Principles Lens.” Authors: Popescu, F., Wise, N., Dragan, A., Voiculescu, S.
29. International Conference ***“Geopolitics of Francophonie: Identities, Solidarities, Global and Regional Cooperations”*** (organized by the International Network of Senghor Chairs of the Francophonie), with the presentation *“Interculturality and Security in the City of Timișoara,”* West University of Timișoara, October 11–13, 2023;
30. The international conference ***“Creativity, Culture, and Development,”*** with the paper *“Opportunities: A Source of Synergy or Conflict? The Positioning of Creative Industry Actors Within a European Capital of Culture Project”* (co-presented with M. Matichescu, N. Popa, and A. Potra), West University of Timișoara, November 11–12, 2021;
31. International Conference – ***“Living in a Liquid Society,”*** with the paper *“Evaluating Tourist Satisfaction in Timișoara, European Capital of Culture 2021”* (co-presented with Sorina Voiculescu, Florentin Popescu, Nicolae Popa, Cătălina Ancuța, and Marius Matichescu), West University of Timișoara, September 14–15, September 2018

32. International Conference on Regional Studies – ***“Regional Polarization and Unequal Development in CEE: Challenges for Innovative Place-Based Policies,”*** with the paper *“Regional Dynamics and New Polarized Developments in Central and Southeastern Europe,”* authors: Nicolae Popa and Alexandru Dragan, Cluj-Napoca, September 10–13, 2017;
33. International Conference ***“Building Urban Tourism through Place-Making and Urban Regeneration in Central and Eastern European Countries,”*** with the paper *“Urban Regeneration through Civil Society: A Case Study in Timișoara,”* Timișoara, May 20, 2017;
34. **Dimitrie Cantemir** International Conference, with the paper *“How to Develop a Medical-Social Sector?”*, Iași, October 23, 2016;
35. Seminar on ***Methodological Challenges in Geography***, with the paper *“Perception and Representation in Social Research: Semi-Structured Interviews in Different Cultural Environments—An Empirical Perspective,”* Timișoara, May 15–16, 2015;
36. International Conference ***“Perspectives of a Geographical Approach to Territorial Development,”*** with the presentation *“Social Economy—What Factors for an Emerging Socio-Medical Sector?”*, West University of Timișoara, May 13–14, 2016;
37. International seminar ***“Emergence and Structuring of a Medical-Social Sector in Romania: Roles and Places of the Social and Solidarity Economy,”*** with the presentation *“Social Economy—What Factors Drive the Emergence of the Medical-Social Sector?”*, West University of Timișoara, March 24, 2016;
38. International Conference ***“Methodological Challenges in Geography,”*** with the presentation *“Perception and Representation in Social Research: Semi-Structured Interviews in Different Cultural Environments—An Empirical Perspective,”* West University of Timișoara, May 15–16, 2015;
39. International Conference ***“Geography at 55,”*** with the presentation *“A Geographical Approach to the Social and Solidarity Economy: Some Preliminary Results on Romania’s Western Region,”* West University of Timișoara, May 16–17, 2014;
40. 2H2S International Seminar ***“Entrepreneurial Initiatives and Regional Development: International Comparisons,”*** with presentations on *“The Role of Social Capital in Regional Development,”* University of Bucharest, September 22–28, 2013;
41. International Conference ***“Geography for Sustainable Development,”*** featuring the presentation *“Margins and Marginalities in Geography: A Territorial Approach to Social Economy Structures in Romania’s Western*

Region,” West University of Timișoara, May 17–18, 2013.

4.3. Presentations at National Conferences

42. National Conference “Family Health and Fertility” with the presentation “Spatial Analysis of Peri-Urban Dynamics: Socio-Demographic Consequences,” Authors: Caizer, D., Popa, N., Ile, A., Dragan, A., Timișoara, May 14–16, 2026
43. National Conference “65 Years of Geography at the West University of Timișoara,” featuring the presentation **“From Geography to Urban Innovation: Using Urban Innovation as a Tool for Local Development in Territorial Planning.”** Authors: Ile, A., Cumpănaș, V., Dragan, A., Timișoara, May 30–31, 2024;
44. The national conference “65 Years of Geography at the West University of Timișoara,” featuring the presentation **“From Peasant Agriculture to Collectivization and Forced Industrialization During the Communist Era Through Land Expropriation: A Piece of History, Current Status, and Prospects in the Turceni Region, Romania.”** Authors: Cornescu, M., Voiculescu, M., Dragan, A., Timișoara, May 30–31, 2024;
45. ROMIG Conference – **“From Source to Destination: New Challenges of Migration in Central and Eastern Europe,”** with the paper **“The Social Integration of Romanian Immigrants in Western Europe”** (co-presented with Marius Matichescu and Daniel Luchș), West University of Timișoara, September 11–12, 2018;
46. Conference of the Doctoral School in Sociology and Philosophy **“Economy and Social Inclusion in Romania—The Current Situation,”** with the presentation **“Territorial Asymmetries and Disparities: A Geographical Approach to Social Inclusion Structures in the Western Region,”** West University of Timișoara, June 16, 2013.

4.4. Presentations at Summer Schools

47. Intensive European Program **“Local Development through Europe: A Multinational and Interdisciplinary Approach,”** with the presentation **“Qu’est-ce qu’une métropole en France?”** (co-presented with A. Vitour), Lisbon, June 3–14, 2014;
48. 4th EMES International PhD Summer School **“The Three SE Pillars: Social Entrepreneurship, Social Economy, and Solidarity Economy,”** with the presentation **“Emergence and Structure of the Social (and Solidarity) Economy in Romania’s Western Region,”** Timișoara, May 29–31, 2014;
49. Intensive European Program **“Local Development through Europe: A Multinational and Interdisciplinary Approach,”** featuring the presentation **“Territorial Governance and Territorial Reorganization in Romania: A Problem of ‘Proportion’ Between Participatory and Representative Democracy?”**, Universitat Jaume I de

Castelló, June 1–14, 2013;

5. Participation in workshops held in Romania and abroad

50. The 4th International Research Conference on Social Economy (CIRIEC), ***“Social Economy on the Move... at the Crossroads of Structural Change and Regulation,”*** workshop titled *“Participatory Democracy,”* University of Antwerp, October 24–26, 2013;
51. Summer School ***“Exploring Geography through Dialogue,”*** *“Human Geography”* workshop, University of Malta, August 18–31, 2013;
52. Annual Conference of the Romanian Geographical Society, ***“Geography—the Science of the Entire Territory,”*** *“Human Geography”* workshop, West University of Timișoara, May 24–62, 2013;
53. The Fourth International Conference ***“Psychosocial Perspectives in the Quasi-Coercive Treatment of Offenders: Social Control and Vulnerable Groups,”*** *“Community Policing and Minority Groups in Europe”* workshop, West University of Timișoara, April 24–25, 2013;
54. Ph.D. Seminar ***“Interview Methodologies: What Choices? What Challenges?”*** University of Maine, Le Mans, April 15, 2013.

Timisoara, July 25, 2026