



In memoriam Dr. Nicolaie HEREDEA (1948-2015)

Dr. Nicolaie Heredea was born on March 29th, 1948 in Alba Iulia, where he got the primary and secondary education.

In 1966 he became an undergraduate student in geophysical engineering at the *Faculty of Technical Geology* from the *Institute of Oil, Gas and Geology* in Bucharest, where he graduated with a MSc degree in 1971.

During his professional career as a researcher at the *Institute of Geology and Geophysics* in Bucharest, he has been involved in applied scientific research and complex geological and geophysical research, bringing valuable contributions in the fields of nuclear geophysics and geology.

After 1989 he devoted himself to the environmental protection activities, being one of the first geophysical specialists in this field in Romania. He was involved in the development and promotion of environmental policies, environmental education and management.

In the period between 2005 and 2010, he worked in the *Ministry of Environment*, where he initiated the introduction of the problems related to the contamination and protection of geological environment into the Ministry's agenda. He was the Head of the *Biodiversity, Biosecurity, Soil and Subsoil Directorate* and senior adviser within the Control Body of the *Ministry of Environment and Water Management*.

He was also certified as a senior environmental expert and environmental impact assessor in the fields of geology, energy (coal and other mineral resources) and groundwater within the *Ministry of Environment and Water Management*.

He has also received attestations from the Ministry of Justice as a technical expert in the fields of mine-geology and environmental engineering, and from the *Romanian Association of Evaluators in Romania*, as an assessor of commercial companies.

He was the representative of Romania in the Committees on the "*Challenges of Modern Society*" (2005-2006) and the "*Science for Peace and Security Committee*" (2006-2010), which are civilian, technical-scientific structures of NATO with environmental protection concerns.

He was member of the *European Common Forum on Contaminated Land* in the European Union.

In the periods of 2000-2004 and 2009-2011, Dr. Nicolaie Heredea joined the staff of the University of Bucharest where he held courses on radiometry (nuclear geophysics), environmental impact and environmental assessments with a focus on geological issues.

During 1997 and 2010, Dr. Nicolaie Heredea was participating in the elaboration of three Environmental Reports to European Union, 150 environmental impact studies, 250 environmental assessments and over 200 environmental monitoring activities for water, air noise and soil.

He left this world unexpectedly in the days when one of his important contributions in the field of environmental protection, the book entitled "***For a better understanding of environmental protection***" was published at the prestigious *Lambert Publishing House* of the Lambert Academic Publishing Foundation.

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