

In Memoriam:



Diplomatic Professor

IOAN ARDELEAN

(1938 - 2023)

In the autumn of this year one of the most famous geographers of Alba County, Professor Ioan Ardelean, left us for good.

Born in the village of Sarvazel, Pir Commune, Satu Mare County, he attended primary and secondary school in his native village, then the "Dr. Vasile Lucaciu" high school in Carei and higher studies at the "Babes-Bolyai" University, Faculty of Geography in Cluj-Napoca.

He started his professional activity in the county of Satu Mare, and from 1966 until his retirement, at the Secondary School and then at the Theoretical High School in Teius, where he was also headmaster from 1989 to 2000. From 1991 to 2002 he was a lecturer at the University "Spiru Haret" in Bucharest, Blaj branch and at the University "AISTEDA" in Alba Iulia.

Professor Ardeleanu's extra-professional activities included: President of the Romanian Geographical Society, Alba Branch (1980-1998), member of the American Geographical Society since 1984, member of the Advisory Council of the Romanian Geographical Society since 2004.

He has also been active in politics as a member of the PUNR and the Democratic Party, after the merger with the PUNR in 2001, in which capacity he was also secretary of the National Council of the PUNR, councillor in the Local Council of Teius and in the Alba County Council.

In the 1996-2000 legislature, Professor Ioan Ardelean was elected Senator for Alba in the Romanian Senate. During his parliamentary activity, he was president of the PUNR parliamentary group in the Senate, secretary of the Senate, member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and member of the Committee for Environmental Protection, the Foreign Policy Committee, the Committee for Health, Ecology and Sport and the Interparliamentary Committee Bucharest-Chisinau. He was also a member of the parliamentary friendship groups with the Republic of Panama, the Republic of Chile and the United Mexican States.

Ioan Ardelean initiated 4 legislative proposals, 2 of which were promulgated into law.

In the field of publishing, Professor Ioa Adelean has published more than 250 articles in various journals: *Natura*, *Terra*, *Albina*, *Pangeea*, *National Geographic* (USA), *Bulletin GIR* (France), *Romania Pitoreasca*, *Vatra Strabuna*, *Universul Catedrei* and in newspapers: *Unirea*, *Ardealul*, *Monitorul de Alba*, *Gazeta Învatamântului*, *Tribuna Scolii*, *Informatia de Aba*, *Faclia* from Cluj and *Cronica Satmareana*. He has also published books on the town of Teius and adjacent areas and the work "Geographical Readings on Africa". He has been a supporter of the magazine *Pangeea* since its foundation, being appointed "Honorary Editor" of the magazine. Issue 1 of the magazine opens with this:

OPENING WORD

The time has come to try to be enthusiastic, nature lovers of the places we live in, by taking a look at these pages born from an old passion, a love of nature. They are aimed at those who want to delve into the mysteries of the Earth, whether they are pupils, students, young or older people who want to know more, specialists or simple lovers of the nature of the planet on which we live.

With its wealth and variety of information, the magazine also aims to be a source of information for those interested in geography, and not only as a personal interest. At the moment, the magazine comes to complete a space in the Romanian scientific publishing and in the Albe region, supported by a group of enthusiastic and enthusiastic professors.

I would be happy to know that the glimpses of images gathered from the pages of this inaugural issue, and future issues, would awaken in the hearts of those who love nature, the same desires that burst at the door of my thoughts when I deigned to put them on paper.

I want the magazine to maintain its plea for knowledge of nature, for friendship with nature, an opportunity for modern man to discover natural beauty and to discover himself through the purifying flame of passion.

At the same time, I would make an appeal to the reader:

***"Open the magazine to find out what others have thought,
close the magazine to think for yourself!"***

Senator IOAN ARDELEANU

Professor, geographer