

*"I became acquainted with Professor József Tóth as a geography-biology specialised preliminary student in the national army—although not personally, but only by reputation—thanks to his son, who was accomplishing his duties in the medical company and who carries the appealing personality of his father in his genes. Of course, a short time later, I got to know him personally, as well; his first lecture cleared up the fact that he was the best teacher I had ever met in my life. First of all, it was sensational for me that he started and finished his lectures punctually, on the dot. His lectures were engaging, inspiring and motivating and, through his examples, easily understandable. In no time tables of data, realistic maps of countries and continents were drawn to the blackboard with his chalk. Although, he was a geographer, he was able to link his knowledge to literature, movies, art works and music, even the most fashionable pop music. In this respect, he intended to display the world as a whole; and this way of visualising the world was impressive. Nevertheless being adults, many times we were listening to him with open mouths. His scientific and popular lectures also attracted a high number of people. This is one of the major reasons why he did not like those who were narrow minded in science—deriving from their excessive specialisation—he clearly saw the damage caused in the world by this kind of approach. It was an extraordinary present from destiny that I could be his companion through certain stages of his lifetime."*

Zoltán Wilhelm

JÓZSEF TÓTH was born on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1940 in Cegléd, Hungary. He was designated to be one of Hungary's most influential human geographers of his generation who gained respect with ground-breaking ideas, concepts and models which became integrated parts of the modern Earth Sciences (for example the Tetrahedron Model). He was the author of more than 600 scientific articles, and editor and author of a high number of published books. During his life, he established schools and university departments, and he had a key role in the founding of institutions and doctoral schools. Many great researchers grew up in his assisting and supporting hands who will always remember him.

Edited by László Bokor – Béla Munkácsy – Matej Nikšič  
Locality and the (un)Sustainable Settlements

This second number of *Geographical Locality Studies* dips into *locality* by analysing the World's settlements (villages, towns, cities) and their composite structures and complexity. The aim of the multidisciplinary editors and authors is to highlight the urban areas to give understanding about their suitability in the context of 21<sup>st</sup> century thinking of environmentalism and sustainability. The various articles analyse some parts of the Earth's urban environment and bring examples from different locations of the planet to show how a settlement (or anything that strongly relates to the human sphere) is sustainable or unsustainable.

This present issue gives publicity to 9 scientific papers which were written by an international team of expert researchers, higher education lecturers and specialist masters students. The diversity of their subject specialism (which involves geography, environmental science, urban planning, environmental management) provides a wider analytical view on the main topic of the journal; therefore, their tasks were to show specific examples brought over from their specialist and research areas to introduce the reader to locality, settlement planning and their sustainability, efficient management of urban transport and energy related topics. In accordance to the tradition of *Frugéo Geography Research Initiative's GLS series*, "*Locality and the (un)Sustainable Settlements*" is commemorating the life of József Tóth, an exceptional scholar and academic who greatly influenced and shaped the modern human geography at an international level. He suddenly died on the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013, but his work and achievements will always be found and traced in settlement geography.

The Editors

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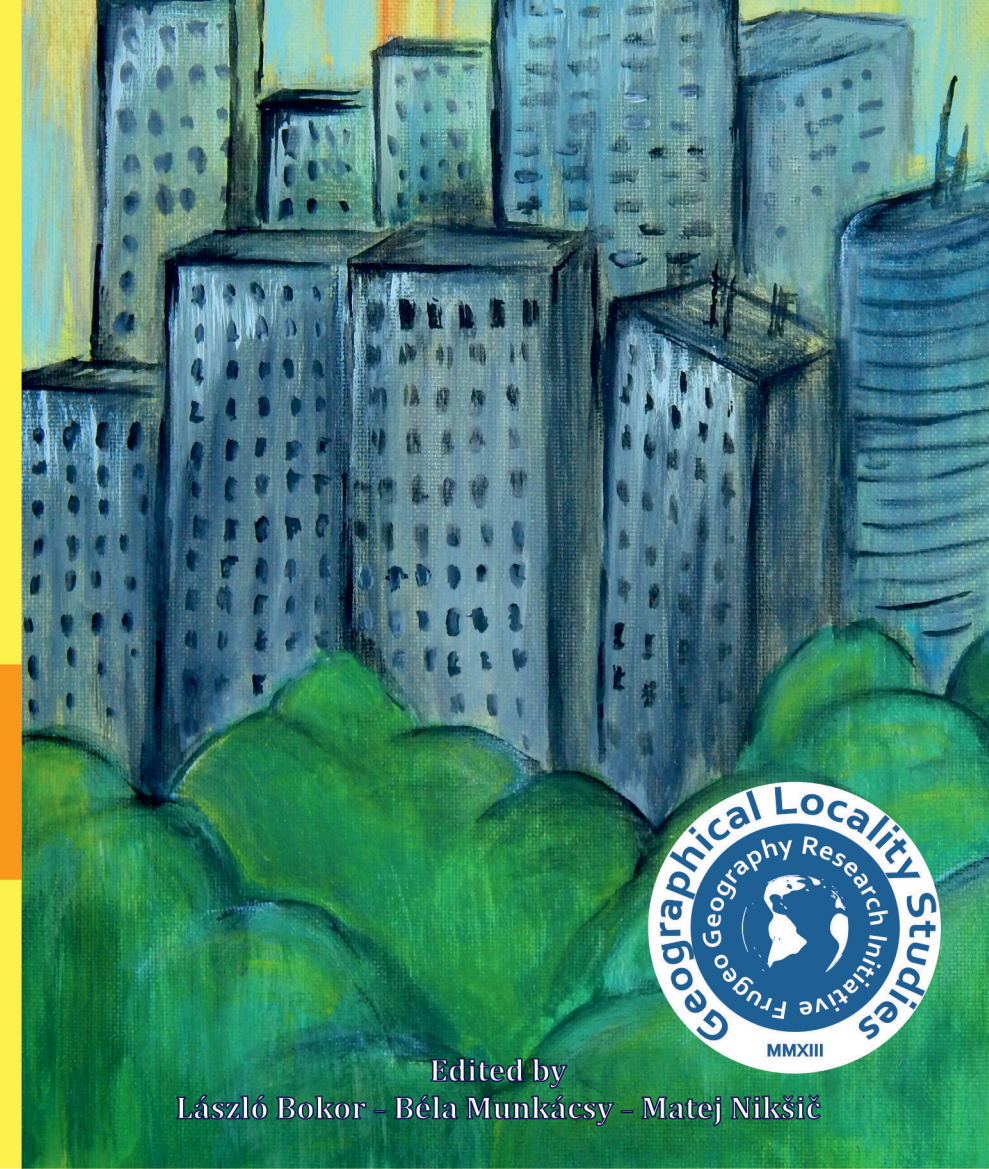
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# Locality and the (un)Sustainable Settlements



Edited by  
László Bokor – Béla Munkácsy – Matej Nikšič



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*He is the managing director of Frugéo Geography Research Initiative (England), and the founder and series editor of Geographical Locality Studies. He is a graduated geography researcher and teacher, and has attended specialist universities across Europe. He is also a PhD Aspirant and performs research in Earth Sciences. He considers himself a Regional Geographer who practices this subject area on a daily basis through education, tutoring, general research, article writing and book editing. His interest involves both physical and human geographical subjects.*



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**Matej Nikšič (1976)**

*He is an approved researcher holding a PhD in urban design who works for the Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia, in Ljubljana. His work is focusing on comprehensive city planning and the role of detailed urban design in contemporary city planning and management. He collaborates in projects related to open urban public spaces, urban renewal, cyclable and walkable city and other aspects of raising the quality of urban life and improving its sustainability performance. He is an active member of the thematic group "Public Spaces and Urban Cultures" at AESOP.*