

REPORT OF THE SERBIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO IGU ASSEMBLY
BEIJING 2016

Faculty of Geography- University of Belgrade three years ago renewed Serbian membership to IGU after a discontinuity of few decades. Since then most of the activities among Serbian geographers were focused on Individual participation to Conferences, summer schools, meetings and seminars. Serbian geographers at great deal participated to IGU Congress in Krakow 2014 and made quite good collaborations with other colleagues.

- Having chance to get information on geographic activities abroad prof. Danica Santic participated in the third International Social Science Council's (ISSC) Programme of World Social Science Fellows Seminars on the theme of Global Social Governance. The overall aims of the ISSC's programme of seminars were to create the next generation of social science leaders, by focusing on global challenges and priorities with particular relevance to developing countries. At the London Seminar, the Fellows from across the world worked together with other participants, and with leading international specialists, policy advisers, practitioners and publishers, to explore different approaches to inter- and transdisciplinary research, their methodologies, the gaps and problematic of emerging themes. One of the outcomes of the Seminar was an organization of the International Scientific Conference: "*Contemporary migration in a Changing World: New Challenges and Perspectives*" organized by University of Belgrade/Faculty of Geography which will be held at University of Belgrade – Faculty of Geography from 18th till 21st Sept 2016.
- Membership to IGU also gave possibility to Serbian Center for Talented Students to participate to Geography Olympiad in Moscow on 2015. Even more, Serbia will be a host of the next Olympiad, which is going to be in Belgrade, 2018.
- In recent period there were two conferences organized by geographic Institutions in Serbia: Faculty of Geography and Institute of Geography of Serbian Academy of Science and Art "Jovan Cvijic" but had mainly local character and were dedicated to Serbian geographers. There was recently (June 2016) a Workshop and Conference on Geo-Machine Learning and Geostatistics that was of international profile co-organized by Faculty of Geography.

Membership of Serbia in International Geographic Union brought many possibilities for Serbian geographers to get information of what is going on in the IGU world. However, more active role of Serbian geographers in terms of specific project collaborations or inclusion in decision-making bodies is still missing. Regarding state of the Geography as a discipline, in Serbia Geography is still perceived as a compulsory subject in all schools. However, syllabus at all levels of education should be refreshed in most of the aspects. On the other hand, application of Geographic knowledge in Serbia is also missing.

Representative of Serbian National Committee

Jelena Lukovic