



Commission on Marginalization, Globalization
and Regional and Local Responses C12.29

2012-2016 Report

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1. MEMBERSHIP

A. Complete list of the steering committee members during the 2012-2016 period

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B. The number of Commission members

The number of commission corresponding members *by country* as of 31 December 2015:

Argentina	15	Malaysia	4
Australia	5	Mexico	1
Austria	3	Namibia	1
Bangladesh	1	Nepal	22
Bosnia	2	Netherlands	2

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Brazil	1	New Zealand	5
Canada	4	Norway	3
Chile	3	Poland	10
China, PR	1	Portugal	9
China Taipei	3	Qatar	1
Croatia	20	Romania	2
Czech Republic	6	Russia	1
Denmark	1	Saudi Arabia	1
Finland	7	Slovakia	1
France	4	Slovenia	8
Germany	8	South Africa	4
Hong Kong	1	Spain	29
Hungary	4	Sweden	15
Iceland	1	Switzerland	10
India	14	Tunesia	1
Indonesia	1	Turkey	9
Iran	1	UK	14
Israel	6	USA	16
Italy	9	Vietnam	1
Japan	10	Zimbabwe	1
Korea (South)	4	TOTAL	306

There are 306 corresponding members on our address list from 51 countries, of which about 90 female colleagues.

C. URL of the Commission website

<http://www.igu-marginality.info>

2. MEETINGS

A. The meetings that the Commission organized during 2012-2016

Just before the congress in Cologne the commission held a meeting in Dubrovnik in Croatia.

In 2013 the commission met at IGU RC in Kyoto, Japan, August 5 and August 6.

In 2014 the commission met at IGU RC in Krakow from August 19 to 22.

In 2015 the commission held its annual conference in Agri in marginal eastern part of Turkey from August 24 to 25.

B. B. A brief summary of the themes addressed, numbers of sessions and papers presented at the meetings

The themes addressed were Geographical marginalization and karst landscapes, the challenges of physically marginalized landscapes (islands, mountains, coasts, wetland, remote and landlocked area), living and coping in the face of marginalization, marginalization in a Global world and understanding marginalization.

At RC in Kyoto the commission held 3 sessions of its own and 3 joint sessions with the Commission on Sustainability of Rural Systems. The attendance at joint sessions was 17 to 21 participants including chairs and speaker and 9 to 18 at sessions of C12.29 commission. There were 23 paper presentations altogether, 11 at joint sessions and 12 at sessions of C12.29 commission. After conference the commission organized Excursion, from August 9 to 12: Kyoto-Gifu-Toyama-Ishikawa-Kyoto. We addressed the following topics:

- Rural areas,
- Development Dynamics,
- Policy Options and Marginalization,
- Different contexts of geographical marginality,
- Marginality and marginalization - spatial, social and economic viewpoints.

At RC in Krakow the commission had four paper sessions of its own with 14 papers presented and 12 to 16 attendants per session. At a joint session with commission C12.15 Geography of Tourism, Leisure, and Global Change there were four presentations and about 12 attendants per session. The commission also had three joint sessions with commission C12.28 Local and regional development with 11 presentations and about 20 attendants at average. The topics addressed were:

- Changing nature of globalization, marginalization and marginality new challenges for understanding and responding with subthemes:
 - marginalization from different perspectives, ethnic and deprived social groups and marginalization,
 - border and rural areas socio-economic imprint of marginality,
 - commuting, emigration and identity and
 - poverty, (post)colonialism, segregation and a lack of accessibility;
- Tourism and marginality - local initiatives shaped by global trends;
- Areas of growth and economic stagnation - the challenges of globalization and marginalization:

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- the implications of globalization on regional development processes,
- polarity of development in different spatial scales,
- regional development processes and policy intervention.

Commission's annual conference in Eastern Turkey took its place in really marginal part of the world, especially marginalized by the political events just before the conference. Nevertheless it was a good experience for all the participants, even though the conference was almost completely ignored by Turkish geographers. Therefore we only had 10 paper presentations divided into three thematic sessions:

- Theoretical aspects of marginality and marginalization,
- Marginalization of ethnic groups, minorities and indigenous people,
- Economic aspects of marginality and marginalization.

C. C. The meetings or other events you plan to hold in 2016 or later years

In 2016 the commission plans to have sessions at Beijing congress and just after that its own conference in Slovenia. The theme of the Beijing sessions is *Long forgotten backward spaces" in the focus of global economy.*

The session title is provocative and may not be politically correct, but it aims to encompass wide range of places that attracted the attention of world global economic players or of their national and regional governments that are considering their hidden potential as worthwhile for national and global economy. What kind of actions are going on in this kind of spaces, what are the consequences for individuals and for local community as well as for the environment are the topics that we expect to deal with within the proposed session(s).

2016 annual conference in Slovenia will be titled **Regional Development, Sustainability and Marginalization** with the following themes:

- Marginalizing effects of unsustainable development
- Managing sustainable development in "problematic" regions
- Sustainable tourism in underdeveloped regions – potential driver of economic development or unreal expectations
- Karst and mountains – low production potential and high vulnerability as possible drivers of marginalization
- Globalization effects in spatially marginal areas – positive and negative impacts
- Sustainable development in relation to marginality and marginalization within the complex system of globalized economic, social and political order

We want to continue the commission's work in the period 2016-2020. We have several options for future conferences, but we have not taken the final decision about the annual meetings. We are leaving that decision to the new steering committee as soon as it becomes operational after it is confirmed by the General Assembly. The commission plan to held its major event in Canada at the IGU RC

in 2018 as the proposed chair of the steering committee is from Quebec. The main themes for 2017-2020 conferences will be Globalization and its impact on local and regional development, further work on the theory of marginalization, transformation of rural areas from the viewpoint of globalization and marginalization and drivers of marginalization in border and peripheral areas. We will intend to put these topics within authentic regional environment so that we can be as close to the problem areas as possible. Especially Latin America and Africa as well as SE Asia are the parts of the world that we would like to devote our attention.

3. NETWORKING AND COMMUNICATION

A. A. Ways the Commission has collaborated with other IGU Commissions and Task Forces in the period 2012-2016

The commission held joint sessions with C12.15 Geography of Tourism, Leisure, and Global Change and C12.28 Local and Regional Development commissions at RC in Kyoto and in Krakow. Besides the commission also participated at the annual conference of C12.22 Islands in 2013.

B. B. Collaboration with other international, intergovernmental, and inter- and multi-disciplinary if relevant

We had no such collaboration, but the new steering committee will make its efforts to contribute to IYGU.

C. C. Cooperative efforts with ISSC and with ICSU programs.

We had no such efforts. We have only informed our commission members about the ongoing activities.

4. PUBLICATIONS

We only published a book of abstracts for the Agri 2015 conference. However, we did make an agreement with Springer to start a book series Perspectives on Geographical marginality. The first book is edited and reviewed and is therefore about to go into production. We are currently working on the second one, using the material from our past conferences that has not yet been published. We intend to devote future conferences to the topics that can serve as material for the planned books in the series. We are supposed to produce two books per year.

Papers of various conférences were **published independently**; a review article on marginality appeared in the Croatian Geographical Bulletin 2013 and some other papers from 2012 conference in Croatia were published there too.

DÉRY, Steve, LEIMGRUBER, Walter et ZCILINCSAR, Walter (2012) Understanding marginality: new insights from a geographical perspective. *Geografski glasnik*, 74(1):5-18.

5. ARCHIVAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Two annual newsletters of the years 2012 – 2015, annual reports 2012 – 2015, offprints of various papers.

6. CONTINUATION

A. The name of the Commission

Marginalization, Globalization and Regional and Local Responses

B. A concise statement of the mission of the Commission

The mission of the Commission is to research marginality and the processes of marginalization from different perspectives and with a geographical basis. The main focus is to better understand multiscalar relations between the globalization process and how marginality evolves at the local and regional levels. Moreover, we seek to improve our understanding of local and regional responses to different forms of marginality and marginalization processes.

The commission intends to continue to follow the objectives that were in its focus already in this period, that is:

1. To further the understanding of marginality and the processes of marginalization in our globalized world, through the study and analysis of the forces responsible for the dynamics and structures of spatial marginality at various scales. They will include, among others, issues of technology, gender, social structure and the environment.
2. To analyze marginality as the result of human perceptions and decisions, leading to the understanding of the role of the various agents in those processes, and their response to prevailing conditions.
3. To develop comparative approaches in order to identify various types of marginality and to put them into perspective and assess their role in an increasingly globalized world. Emphasis in particular needs to be placed on the experience of the South. To study policy/institutional/community responses to economic and societal problems in marginal regions at various scales in relation to local, regional and societal development, and to study human responses to global change, including their implications for marginalization.
4. To study policy/institutional/community responses to economic and societal problems in marginal regions at various scales in relation to local, regional and societal development, and to study human responses to global change, including their implications for marginalization.

The use and development of appropriate theory and methodology is to be involved in each of the above.

C. A list of the individuals who will comprise the steering committee from 2016-2020

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D. A summary of the work plan for the Commission for the 2016-2020 period

In 2016 the annual conference of the commission is going to be in Slovenia (1-5 September) where we intend to analyze marginality and (de)marginalization from the perspective of sustainable development as well as in the context of globalisation.

In 2017 we intend to contribute to the conference "The geographies of peace", in La Paz, 24-25 April 2017 (in collaboration with the University of La Paz, and in connection with the XVI EGAL - Encuentre de Geografos de America Latina – held at the same time). We are reflecting on a thematic session regarding marginality and discrimination as sources of conflict and discuss de-marginalization process as one of the necessary conditions for peace.

In 2018 a conference will be held during the IGU Regional conference in Quebec in summer 2018. The main focus will be on the (de)marginalization of peripheries.

In 2019 and 2020 the themes and venues are being discussed, but we intend to devote more attention to the processes of (de)marginalization in the countries of Africa and SE Asia.

Very important task of the commission will be to provide enough printable research results to produce two books annually for Springer book series „Perspectives on Geographical Marginality“ that is starting in 2016.

