

*The Danube Delta geographical environment and social risk factors* is a many-sided approach to the multiple criteria underlying the relationship between the natural background and the population, settlements, economy and human changes experienced by the deltaic environment over the past few decades, after the Danube Delta had been declared a Biosphere Reserve and listed as part of the international network of reserves. The UNESCO list of World Natural Heritage included it as wetland of global importance. In this capacity, the socio-economic activity had to observe certain prerequisites, the rights of the local population and the economic practices within the Delta being regulated by the Administration of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (DDBRA) under the homologous law, which is of capital importance for the protection of the population and the natural environment.

The complex equilibrium of the Danube Delta can be disturbed by man and his activity that may become becoming either a source of unbalance, or of control with long-and-short term consequences.

That is why, a knowledge of the human potential, of social risks and quality of the environment is of primary significance in resolving the problems facing the local communities and contributing to the Delta's ecological rehabilitation.

The quality of the Danube Delta environment depends on all its components: water, air soil and biodiversity.

The complex realities of the Danube Delta geographical space proved a fruitful ground for research. The local characteristic elements of the natural environment are specific to the rural area generally. The geographical opportunities for studying this territory are inexhaustible. The aim of the present work has been to highlight social risks and environmental quality risks in the deltaic space.

