

*“Mining and river pollution in the Metaliferi Mountains. Applications in the Crișul Alb and Certej river basins”* represents an interdisciplinary approach to medium-and-long-term pressures put by mining and the processing of non-ferrous ores on water, the environmental component most affected by this type of activities.

The work centres upon the impact of metal pollutants on rivers, which is the main transport way and storage in the environment of mining contaminants. The author highlights the main mining-related threats in the two catchments sited in the south of the Apuseni Mountains, an area known for its long tradition in this type of activity. Aspects connected with the evolution of mining over time and the stages of active or inactive exploitation as well as conservation and ecological rehabilitation, still in early phase in the study area, are also presented. Another issue considered the long-term potential effect of mining in the absence of adequate

measures for the ecological rehabilitation of the environment and the accurate identification of the contamination sources where measures should be implemented in, as well as the need for interdisciplinary studies to select the most efficient steps to attain this goal are also discussed.

As this type of mining activity in Romania has been ceased without systemic measures to rehabilitate environmental factors and pollution sources having been taken, some drainage basins have remained in various stages of pollution. In many cases the natural environment has the capacity to attenuate the impact, in others it has not, so that practical measures to deal with mining-affected areas are a stringent necessity.

