

THE GEOECOLOGICAL STRUCTURE TYPICAL FOR THE DEPRESSION BASIN OF THE BĂILE HERCULANE RESORT, ROMANIA

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Abstract

The “geosystem” and “geoecology” concepts have evolved over time, as they have been continuously analysed and developed by the various geography schools (Russian, French, Slovak, Anglo-Saxon, German, Romanian). The most widely-agreed upon view on the geosystem is the one brought forward by the French geographer Georges Bertrand, which shows that this system is the result of the interaction between the ecological potential (or the abiotic component), biologic exploitation (or the biotic component) and anthropogenic actions (human activity). In this paper, the geoecological analysis of the Băile Herculane resort depression basin is carried out while considering these three main components. The dynamic geosystem characterization - the paper aim - is conducted in this investigation by means of the biorhexistasy theory of H. Erhart, which divides geosystems into three different classes: biostasy, rhexistasy and parastasy. In conclusion, it can be stated that landscapes in the Băile Herculane spa area, known since ancient times for their beauty and flora and fauna richness, point to a geosystem in the biostasis phase, with a stabilized ecological potential which is currently balanced vis-à-vis the ongoing biological exploitation. However, due to certain anthropogenic impacts, the partial modification of the ecological potential or of the biological exploitation in certain areas has led to the occurrence of subsystems (ecosystems) in a rhexistasis phase. Apart from the aforementioned, the Cerna Valley geosystem has a natural geoecologic potential evolution, in which changes occur at a slow rate, with minimal modifications, favoured by the still low anthropogenic pressure on the environment.

Keywords: geosystem, geoecology, Baile Herculane, biorhexistasy theory, geoecological analysis.