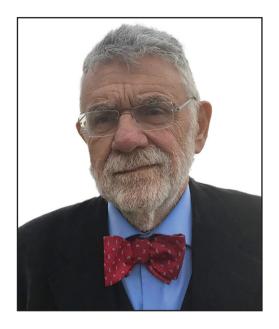# In memoriam Armando Montanari (1946–2023)

Armando Montanari, true to the substance of his profession, geography, was an integrative person. He had great merits in the internationalization of Italian geography, pulling down the wall that once separated Eastern and Western European science, in supporting Hungarian human geographers. His bow tie, a constant element of his attire, was in itself an expression of elegance, of the generosity and broadly interpreted Europeanism that was a defining part of his personality. Since he lived and worked in Vienna and Brussels for certain periods, he could communicate fluently in English, French and German, but he had an excellent understanding not only of the languages but also of the spirits.

His life was as colourful as his personality. In addition to his academic career, he also worked as a consultant. He often appeared in the position of a researcher, professor, manager, science ambassador and project leader all at the same time. He performed all his jobs as if he was born to do them. He started his career in 1973 in the administration of the Latium Region, later he worked at the Ministry of Planning and Public Works, the Ministry of Education as a consultant in the field of urban and regional planning, tourism, and science dissemination. Professor Montanari committed himself to higher education in 1975, when he became lecturer on Economics of Urban Conservation at ICCROM (International Centre for Conservation, Rome). Between 1998 and 2007 he worked as professor of Economic Geography of Tourism, Urban Economics, Tourism and Local Development, Tourism and Global Changes at University G. d'Annunzio, Pescara. In 2007 he became professor at Sapienza Rome University, Department of European American and Intercultural Studies. In 2015 he became the president of the university programme on Tourism Sciences.

Professor Montanari actively contributed to the work of several international organizations: 1978–1983 he was scientific secretary at the International Council for Social Sciences, European Coordination Centre for Research and Documentation in Social Sciences, Vienna; 1993–1998 he was member of the Board of Directors and President at European Environmental Council, Brussels. Armando Montanari supported intensively the cross-border collaboration of European geographers, he was Secretary General (1998–2002) and Vice President (2002–2012) of the Association of European Geographical Societies (EUGEO).

Tourism and migration studies were in the focus of his academic interest, in both fields he achieved recognition. He had a particular interest in gastronomy and research into local products serving for regional development. Although he spent most of his time in Rome, his heart rooted not only in the Italian capital, but also in the Abruzzo region, especially Pescara. He coordinated a large number of international projects, and his list of publications is also impressive, nevertheless, his main merit can be linked to international academic relations. He founded the Commission of the International Geographical Union (IGU) on Global Change and Human Mobility (Globility) in 2000, which he chaired from 2000 to 2012. He involved and integrated 150 researchers from nearly 50 countries in the Globility's "family", organising and implementing a series of international scientific conferences and related field trips all over the world.

He made lifelong friendship with Hungarian human geographers before the change of regime, among them academician György Enyedi (1930–2012) and his research team while he was staying in Vienna (Austria). He maintained intensive work connection with the department of the late professor István Süli-Zakar (1945–2017) from the University of Debrecen. Thanks to this cooperation, Hungarian PhD students and young researchers were provided an opportunity to integrate into the international community of geographers. This issue of the Hungarian Geographical Bulletin is dedicated to Armando Montanari. His memory will be preserved forever.

Gábor Michalkó