



**Agromická
fakulta**

15.1.2019, Brno

Antonín Vaishar

Milada Šťastná

EUROPEAN COUNTRYSIDE

10 years anniversary



2009 - 2019



EUROPEAN COUNTRYSIDE

Reviewed International Scientific On-Line Journal in the Field of Rural Research

- Origin of the journal
- History and conditions
- Way and rules of operation
- Some statistics
- Present state of the journal
- Aims for the forthcoming period

Origin of the Journal

- A part of the strategic intent of the study program RURAL DEVELOPMENT at the Faculty of AgriSciences at MENDELU
- Together with the bilateral international conference EURORURAL and related research projects
- At the very beginning, European Countryside derived papers from EURORURAL and from the projects.
- Team building and a wide range of associates
- Later on, the offer to publish in a quality journal covered by international databases

Conditions

- Mendel University in Brno is the official owner of the journal but it delegated the responsibility to the Faculty of AgriSciences
- Faculty of AgriSciences has agreed with the publishing under the condition that the Journal does not requires any finances
- International Advisory Board, national Executive Board and the Implementation Team were formed
- Papers from the first issues originated from the EURORURAL '08 conference which enabled the start in 2009.

The first five-year period 2009 - 2013

- The first Issue appeared in **March 2009**
- Step-by-step searching for an optimal style of work
- Using databases like Google Scholar, DOAJ or REPEC to increase citations
- Individual articles were downloaded more than 20,000
- The papers were cited **55-times** on Web of Science database and **255-times** on Google Scholar
- At the end of the period, the Council of the Czech Government for Research, Development and Innovations crossed-out EC from the list of journals serving for evaluation of research results

The second five-year period 2013 - 2018

- **2014** – EC has been accepted for the coverage within **SCOPUS** with the validity since 2012
- The Journal starts to be **independent** on Czech evaluators, the Czech authors returned and the attractiveness of the Journal has increased
- **2017** – EC has been accepted for the coverage in **ESCI** with the validity since 2015
- The average number of papers has increased to about 40 per a volume
- The citation of papers has substantially increased
- The Executive Board switched to a new style of work based mostly on the electronic communication

ADVISORY BOARD

Jerzy Banski, Poland; **Tatiana Borodina**, Russia, **Bálint Csatári**, Hungary; **Alexandre Dubois**, Sweden, **Josef Eitzinger**, Austria; **Elisabete Figueiredo**, Portugal, **Costela Iordache**, Romania, **Roderick J. Lawrence**, Switzerland; **Marie-Claude Maurel**, France; **Dany Markus**, USA, **Cennet Oğuz**, Turkey, **Hannes Palang**, Estonia; **Andreas Panagapoulos**, Greece, **Bas Pedroli**, the Netherlands, **Marina Pintar**, Slovenia; **Antonio Raschi**, Italy, **Eileen O'Rourke**, Ireland; **Roberta Sisto**, Italy, **Michael Sofer**, Israel; **Peter Spišiak**, Slovakia; **Annett Steinführer**, Germany, **Antoni Francesc Tulla Pujol**, Spain; **Michael Woods**, UK

- The aim of the Advisory Board consists in advising, support within the scientific community and dissemination of information. Participation of its member on meetings is not expected.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Executive body, managing the proces of publishing
- Working permanently based on the electronic communication, regular meetings in January
- It decides about reviewers, acceptance of papers, the assembly of issues and other questions
- Its members operate as reporters of individual papers
- All faculties of MENDELU and important Czech workplaces are represented
- **Milada Št'astná**, Editor-in-Chief
- **Antonín Vaishar**, Executive Editor

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Members ex-offo: Vice-Dean for Science, Research and PhD Studies, Head of the Department of Applied and Landscape Ecology, Head of the Institute of Scientific Information

Members: Martin Culek (Masaryk University), Barbora Duží (Institute of Geonics), Jitka Fialová (MENDELU), Vladan Hruška (Purkyně University Ústí nad Labem), Igor Kyselka (National Heritage Institute), Simona Miškolci (MENDELU), Jan Moudrý (South Bohemian University České Budějovice), Radim Perlín (Charles University), Pavel Ptáček (MENDELU), Kateřina Ryglová (MENDELU), Alena Salašová (MENDELU), Marie Štolbová (ÚZEI), Magdalena Darja Vaverková (MENDELU), Hana Vavrouchová (MENDELU), Lucie Vidovičová (Masaryk University), Jana Zapletalová (Institute of Geonics), Pavlína Zrůbková (Czech University of Life Sciences Praha)

Antonín Buček died in 2018



Implementation Team

- **Executive editor:** Antonín Vaishar
- **Language editor:** Samuel Adeyinka Okubote
- **Technical editor:** Michaela Tichá
- **Webmaster:** Milan Oulehla
- **Librarian:** Jana Pokorná

- Author: **M. Flekalová**
- It includes cover sheet, design of papers, way of citations



Volume 3

2011

No. 4

ISSN 1803-8417

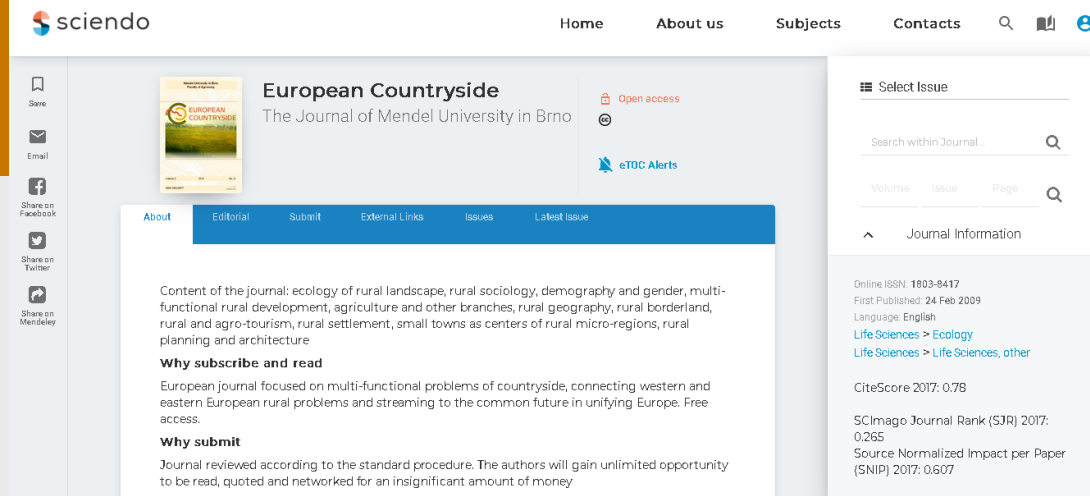
VERSITA

Basic conception

- **On-line journal**, enabling an access to all readers without any limitation
- **Publishing** by means of prestigious European publisher
- **Open Access Journal**
- The author pays for the publishing, the reader has **free access**
- **Advantages**: no limitation concerning the number of papers, their length neither colour enclosures
- **A potential** of high rating and perhaps also citation

- **SCIENDO**, a division of **De Gruyter**, GmbH, which bought VERSITA Warsaw. SCIENDO publishes about 600 scientific journals at the moment.
- We pay **60 €** per an article
- The publisher strives to connect the journal with relevant databases, including **Clarivate Analytics**
- The publisher ensures the allocation of the **DOI index**
- The publisher provides statistics about the rating by readers

ACCESSIBILITY



The screenshot displays the Sciendo website interface for the journal 'European Countryside'. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'About us', 'Subjects', and 'Contacts'. The journal title 'European Countryside' is prominently displayed, along with the subtitle 'The Journal of Mendel University in Brno'. A sidebar on the left offers social media sharing options (Save, Email, Facebook, Twitter, Mendeley). The main content area features a navigation menu with 'About', 'Editorial', 'Submit', 'External Links', 'Issues', and 'Latest Issue'. The 'About' section describes the journal's focus on rural landscape, sociology, and demography, and includes sections for 'Why subscribe and read' and 'Why submit'. A right sidebar provides journal metadata, including ISSN (1803-8417), first published date (24 Feb 2009), language (English), and various impact metrics like CiteScore 2017 (0.78) and SCImago Journal Rank (SJR) 2017 (0.265).

- The journal can be found on the website of **SCIENDO** with its typical design
- <https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/euco/euco-overview.xml>
- It ensures a high professionalism and image of the Journal
- The web page contains, besides of articles, also editorial information

Website of the Journal

<http://www.european-countryside.eu/>



- HOME
- NEWS
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- EDITORIAL POLICY
- SUBMIT
- CONTACTS
- ABSTRACTED

HOME

EUROPEAN COUNTRYSIDE
Reviewed International Scientific On-Line Journal in the field of rural research.

Owner of the Journal: [Mendel University in Brno](#)

Publisher: [SCIENDO](#)

ISSN: 1803-8417

Registered by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic under the number E 18678

The Journal is issued four times a year since March of 2009
The articles are published in English, the abstracts are in English and in the native languages of the respective authors.



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Financing

- The author pays **€ 120** for publishing after acceptance of the paper
- Reduced payment is offered to participants in EURORURAL and to authors within special numbers
- Reviewers pay for publishing the amount reduced by **€ 20** for each manuscript reviewed
- UAKE members and members of the Executive and Advisory Board publish **free of charge**
- Members of the Executive Board and the Implementation Team **work free of charge**, only the linguistic editor is paid
- The overhead costs are covered by the UAKE

The Reporters

- Each article submitted is managed by a **reporter**, who examines:
- **Factual content** (whether the article follows the aim of the journal)
- **Formal completeness** (whether the article contains all requirements and has a scientific structure)
- **The quality of the paper in general** (obvious shortcomings)
- They **suggest the starting of the review process**, adjustments of the paper or its rejection (which has to be approved by the Executive Board)
- They can **suggest reviewers**
- After receiving the reviews they **suggest the standpoint**
- After reworking they **check** whether the changes are sufficient

INITIAL PROCEDURE after submitting

- **No digital system** is used, we prefer contacts among people
- The paper obtains **the number**
- The submission is **confirmed** to the author
- The **anti-plagiarism check** process starts
- The **reporter is assigned**
- The **protocol is set up**
- The **initial evaluation** by the Executive Board is made
- This initial stage lasts **8 days** as a rule
- The result can be: or the external evaluation process **can start**, or the paper **should be improved before it**, or the paper is **rejected**

PROCEDURE OF EVALUATION

- Each paper is reviewed by at least **two independent reviewers**, of which one is from the author's region and knows the reality, the other is from a different region and is able to evaluate the methodology (if possible) the time for the approval of editors is **3 days**
- The time for the **individual review is 21 days**
- The review process is usually **the most time consuming**, sometimes there is a problem to find reviewers. It is necessary to address more than 5 experts to obtain one review in average.
- The result should be as follows: **minor or major re-working** of the paper (most frequently), **rejection** of the paper, **acceptance** of the paper

The certificate for reviewers



CERTIFICATE

I hereby confirm, that

Małgorzata KOŁODZIEJCZAK from Poznań

Is a member of the Board of Reviewers for international journal EUROPEAN COUNTRYSIDE,
owned by Mendel University in Brno and published by De Gruyter Open Ltd.

in the year 2018

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Milada Šťastná".

Prof. Ing. Milada Šťastná, PhD. , editor-in-chief

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

- The **executive editor** makes a crude preparation; the technical editor makes the preparation in detail, the pagination and the assignment of the DOI
- The **assembly of pages** in the case of big amount of nonstandard graphics and the editing of references are the most demanding steps
- The **linguistic proof-reading** follows; it is directed to the grammatical accuracy and legibility respecting authors for whom English is not native language
- The **authors' proof reading follows**; it is directed to the accuracy of metadata

Categorization of articles

- **Research articles** (containing related theory, methodology, empirical part, discussion and conclusions)
- **Editorials** (introductory parts of special numbers with definition of concepts and some theory)
- **Research notes** (primary theoretical overview articles)
- **Short communications** (articles which are not fully theoretically based but they deliver interesting empirical or practical knowledge – not very known regions, new problems, best practices etc.)

Special numbers

- Special numbers delivers a big part of papers and thus they are necessary at the moment
- Special numbers enable to choose **attractive topics**
- Special numbers from conferences – papers presented in conferences are not prepared for publication in a scientific journal as a rule
- Special numbers from international projects are usually compact and well-prepared
- Special numbers initiated by the Editorial Board bring a wide spectrum territorially and in content; their surplus can be used within standard numbers

Change of quotation

- The part ***REFERENCES*** is separated to academic and other sources.
- **Academic sources** (papers in journals, books and chapters, theses, research reports, thematic maps) dispose with data like author(s), publisher, year of publication, pages as a rule
- **DOI numbers** enabling cross-reference will be asked from authors when available
- **Other sources** (data sets, government materials, basic maps, web sources, laws, technical norms, pdf presentations, oral information) will be quoted separately.

The assembly of numbers

- **Individual numbers** are issued at the end of the quarter of the year
- Individual numbers recently consist of **10 – 11** articles maximum
- We have numbers of individual articles or special numbers
- **Special numbers** have their special editors who collaborate with the Executive Board
- All articles are completed with metadata containing title, authors, their affiliations, DOI and abstracts in English and language(s) of the authors

Dissemination

- The **data-basis** of e-mails of academics who may be interested in rural research was compiled
- It contains about **3 – 4 thousand** of addresses and has to be continually updated
- Immediately after publishing, the information containing links to each of new paper and basic information about the journal and conditions of submitting the papers is sent to these addresses
- Recently, the list is updating in connection with **GDPR**; we collect addresses of those people who want to obtain our information – 255 addresses at the moment
- The **Facebook** account was opened in 2018

Indexing in 60 databases

- **AGRICOLA** (National Agricultural Library), **AGRIS**, **CABI Abstracts** (29 databases), **Celdes**, **CNPIEC**, **Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)**, **EBSCO - TOC Premier**, **EBSCO Discovery Service**, **Elsevier – Geobase**, **ERIH PLUS** - European Reference Index for the Humanities and Social Sciences, **GeoArchive**, **Google Scholar**, **J-Gate**, **Naviga (Softweco)**, **Primo Central (ExLibris)**, **ProQuest** (9 databases), **ReadCube**, **Research Papers in Economics (RePEc)**, **SCOPUS**, **Summon (Serials Solutions/ProQuest)**, **TDOne (TDNet)**, **Ulrich's Periodicals Directory/ulrichsweb**, **Web of Science** (Emergency Sources Citation Index), **WorldCat (OCLC)**

Citations in Google Scholar

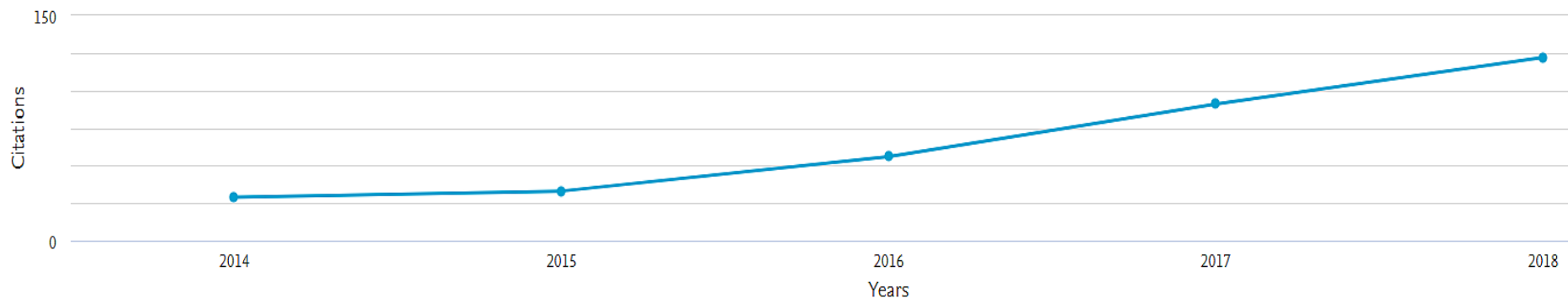
- **1,126** quotations by January 2, 2019
- **4.61** quotations per a paper
- **H-index = 17**

The most quoted articles:

- Figueiredo, E.: One Rural, two Visions (38)
- Almsted, Å., Brouder, P., Karlsson, S.: Beyond post-productivism (37)
- Woods, M., McDonagh, J.: Rural Europe and the World (34)
- Wellbrok, W., Roep, D., Wiskerke, J.: An integrated perspective on rural regional learning (33)

SCOPUS

- **193 papers** covered with SCOPUS since 2012
- Metrics for **2017**:
- Cite Score: 0.78
- SJR: 0.265
- SNIP: 0.607
- Quotations: 366, **h-index 9**
- 1.90 per a paper in average



SCOPUS CITE SCORE - COMPETITORS

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|------|
| Moravian Geographical Reports | 1,83 | Geografický časopis | 0,70 |
| Acta Geographica Slovenica | 1,46 | Hrvatski Geografski Glasnik | 0,64 |
| Zeitschrift f. Wirtschaftsgeogr. | 1,09 | Bulletin of Geography (Toruń) | 0,63 |
| Geografie – Sborník ČGS | 1,00 | Quaestiones Geographicae | 0,54 |
| Agricultural Economic Czech | 0,93 | Geographia Polonica | 0,53 |
| Geographia Pannonica | 0,88 | Ekológia Bratislava | 0,52 |
| Problemy Ekorozvoju | 0,79 | Przegląd geograficzny | 0,40 |
| European Countryside | 0,78 | Sociologický časopis | 0,37 |
| Földrajzi Ertesítő | 0,76 | Eastern European Countryside | 0,35 |
| Geographia Helvetica | 0,74 | Acta Universitatis Mendeliana | 0,32 |
| Acta Universitatis Carolinae – G. | 0,71 | Mitteilungen der ÖGG | 0,15 |

ESCI

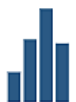
- Starting with the number **1/2015**, *European Countryside* has been covered by **Emergency Sources Citation Index** of Clarivate Analytics (Thomson Reuters)
- It does not have any impact factor at the moment but individual papers can be found on Web of Science
- It also means that *European Countryside* is being watched for eventual impact factor
- **404 citations in WoS** has been registered, it means 1.66 citation per a paper in average
- 78 papers published in 2016 and 2017 were cited 28 times, it represents theoretical **IF 0.359**

Citation on Web-of-Knowledge since 2015

Export Data: [Save to Excel File](#)

Total Publications

121 Analyze



1999

2018

h-index

4

Average citations per item

0,77

Sum of Times Cited

93

Without self citations

65

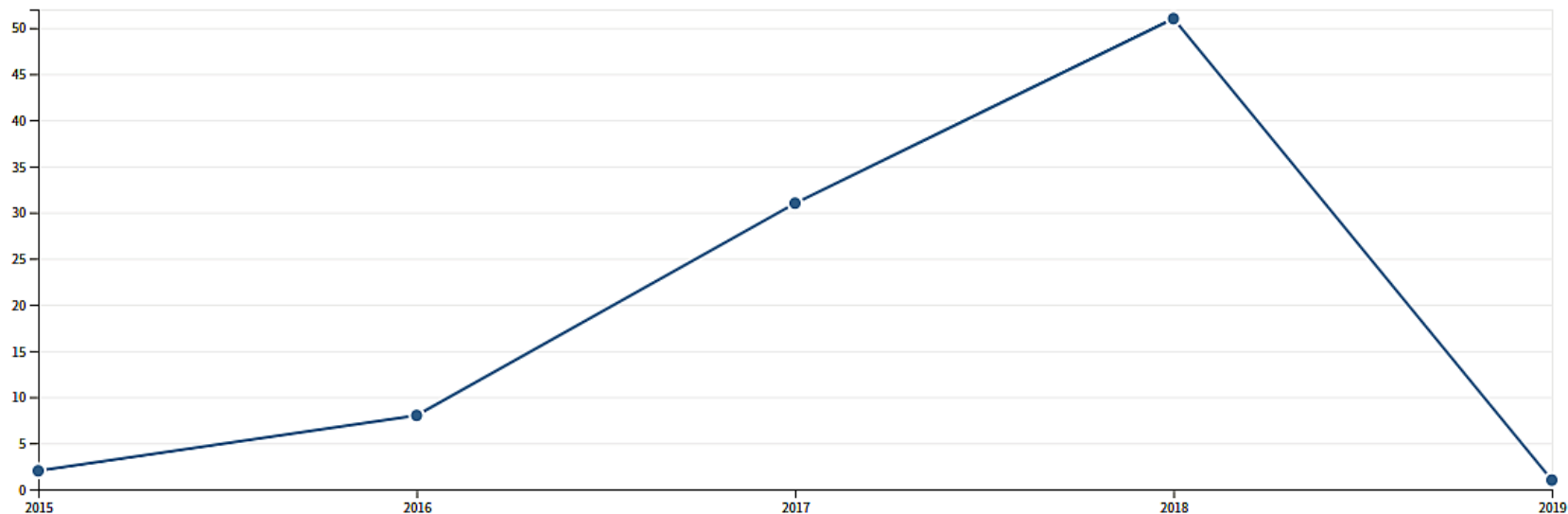
Citing articles

84 Analyze

Without self citations

63 Analyze

Sum of Times Cited per Year



The most frequently cited papers in WoS

- Wellbrok, W., Roep, D., Wiskerke, J.: An integrated perspective on rural regional learning (**24**)
- Woods, M., McDonagh, J.: Rural Europe and the World (**19**)
- Almsted, Å., Brouder, P., Karlsson, S.: Beyond post-productivism (**15**)
- McDonagh, Farrell, McMahon, Ryan: New opportunities and cautionary steps? (**15**)
- Blacksell: Agriculture and landscape in 21st century Europe (**13**)
- Figueiredo, E.: One Rural, two Visions (**10**)
- Forsberg: Mapping gendered ruralities (**10**)

Papers submitted

- During 11 years (2008 – 2018) together **389 articles** were submitted (rejection rate 37 %)
- Number of papers in individual years:
22-14-29-39-34-15-12-16-78-75-55

Together **3,117 reviewers** were addressed (some of them more times); 5.4 addressing per one review

- Together **576 reviews** were elaborated by reviewers from **41 countries** of Europe, America, Asia and Australia

Nationality of the reviewers

| | | | | | |
|----------|----|-----------------|----|-----------------|------------|
| Czechia | 99 | France | 14 | Russia | 3 |
| Poland | 53 | Romania | 12 | Latvia | 3 |
| Germany | 39 | the Netherlands | 11 | Israel | 3 |
| Slovakia | 34 | Canada | 10 | Australia | 3 |
| Spain | 32 | Denmark | 10 | Serbia | 3 |
| UK | 28 | Portugal | 10 | Luxembourg | 2 |
| Italy | 27 | Switzerland | 10 | New Zealand | 1 |
| Slovenia | 21 | Croatia | 9 | Ukraine | 1 |
| Hungary | 20 | Norway | 6 | Iraq | 1 |
| Finland | 19 | Lithuania | 5 | Mexico | 1 |
| Austria | 18 | Belgium | 4 | Malaysia | 1 |
| Greece | 18 | Ireland | 4 | Belarus | 1 |
| Sweden | 17 | Turkey | 3 | Japan | 1 |
| USA | 16 | Estonia | 3 | together | 576 |

Individual numbers

- In the first **10 volumes 40 numbers were published**, of it 7 special numbers
- These numbers contain **244 articles**:
18 – 16 – 17 – 20 – 23 - 18 – 14 – 31 – 47 - 40
- Of it 232 articles were scientific, 7 editorials, 3 research notes, 2 short communications
- The articles were elaborated by **606 authors** from **33 countries**
- Total number of pages is **4,090**; in individual years
240 – 251 – 298 – 302 – 376 – 346 – 214 – 480 –
849 - 734

Nationality of authors

| | | | | | |
|----------|-----|-------------|----|-----------------|------------|
| Czechia | 143 | Sweden | 15 | Turkey | 3 |
| Slovakia | 48 | Portugal | 15 | Belgium | 3 |
| Hungary | 43 | France | 13 | Serbia | 3 |
| Finland | 39 | UK | 9 | USA | 3 |
| Austria | 36 | Norway | 9 | Denmark | 2 |
| Italy | 36 | Netherlands | 8 | South Africa | 1 |
| Germany | 30 | Lithuania | 8 | Switzerland | 1 |
| Poland | 29 | Russia | 7 | Luxembourg | 1 |
| Spain | 23 | Ukraine | 6 | BiH | 1 |
| Slovenia | 19 | Latvia | 6 | | |
| Ireland | 19 | Romania | 5 | | |
| Estonia | 16 | Croatia | 3 | together | 606 |

DOWNLOADS in 2017 (SCIENDO only)

| Page | clics | visitors |
|---|--------------|-----------------|
| Product page (the main page of the Journal) | 2,812 | 2,106 |
| Content page | 13,488 | 8,616 |
| Full text downloads | 5,143 | 2,985 |

proQuest 1,219 downloads

EBSCO 2,000 downloads

SCOPUS 751 abstracts, 236 outwards

FINANCES

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| • Payments from authors | 48,531 CZK |
| • From EURORURAL '18 | 27,579 CZK |
| • Income total | 76,110 CZK |
| • Payments to the Publisher | 75,754 CZK |
| • For linguistic proofs | 15,000 CZK |
| • Expenditures total | 90,754 CZK |

Therefore the publishing fee has to be increased
From EUR 95 to EUR 120

Strategic aim for the period 2013 - 2018

To stabilize the Journal within the international scientific public has been fulfilled

Strategic aim for the period 2019 - 2023

To increase the quotation rate of the journal especially in such databases as Clarivate Analytics and SCOPUS

WHAT IS IMPORTANT FOR INCREASING

READABILITY AND A NUMBER OF CITATION?

- The topic of the paper
- The title of the paper
- Prestigious author
- Key words and abstract
- Formulation of the Conclusions
- Well-structured theory
- Innovative methodology
- A discovery of a not very well known region
- References (reciprocity)
- To get as high as possible in search engines

HOW TO REACH IT?

- Special numbers with topical themes
- Evaluation process paying more attention to the mentioned factors
- Keeping time standards in preparation of individual issues
- The members of both Advisory and Executive Boards should pay more attention to a quoting of papers in EC whenever possible
- Activation of personal contacts with prestigious experts in the field (a task for the Advisory Board among others)

FUTURE SPECIAL ISSUES

- **2019:** 100 years, Smart Village
- Next possible topics:
- *Non-agricultural rural activities*
- *Rural aging and exclusion*
- *Second housing, amenity migration*
- *Rural social infrastructure, education, health care*
- *Post-productive countryside in recent Europe*
- *Large-scale landscape protection and rural development*
- *CAP and rural development*
- Other suggestions are open

OUTLOOK FOR 2019

- 1/2019 3 papers approved, next 6 after the positive evaluation process, 2 short communications
- 2/2019 special number **100 years**; 1 paper accepted, 3 after evaluation process, 1 just submitted, the Editorial under preparation
- 3/2019 standard number,
- 4/2019 special number **Smart Village**; 21 papers offered, 1 submitted



The Executive Board

Wishes to all authors, editors and reviewers

Happy and Successful year 2019

Milada Šťastná

Prof. Ing. Milada Šťastná, PhD. , editor-in-chief