

РАСПРАВЕ И ЧЛАНЦИ

PAPERS AND ARTICLES

Review article

UDK 050:314 ДЕМОГРАФИЈА

Srboljub Đ. Stamenković**ON SCIENTIFIC ASPIRATIONS OF THE MAGAZINE 'DEMOGRAPHY'**

The initiators of demographic development in Serbia and Montenegro are the Center for demographic research (founded in 1962) within the Institute of social sciences in Belgrade, the Demographic society of Yugoslavia (established in 1990) and the Institute for Demographic of the Faculty of Geography, Belgrade University. The Center for demographic research and the Demographic society of Yugoslavia issue the well-known scientific magazine 'Population' which has been published since 1963. Within the above mentioned Faculty, besides the section already formed at the postgraduate (master) studies, the department of demography (four-year studies) started its work as the first of the kind in the academic year of 1999-2000 when the first generation of students enrolled. The Institute for Demographic and the department of demography were established in the middle of 2002.

Demography (stemmed from the Greek words demos-people and grapho-write) is considered a young science. The term 'demography' was introduced into scientific literature in 1855 by a French naturalist and statistician A. Guillard (1799-1876).¹ As an independent science demography was constituted in the 20th century,² long after establishing geography and its discipline called population geography which implies population research. Considering the fact that population is the main factor of forming and transforming geographical environment, geography and demography, as individual sciences, are connected in many ways. They are in many segments mutually entwined.³

D. Breznik (1920-2002),⁴ the well-known demographer pointed out the connection between population geography and demography. He emphasized the fact

¹ A. Guillard, *Elements de statistique humaine ou demographie comparee*, Paris, 1855, 45 pp.

² A. Wertheimer – Baletić, *Demografija*, Stanovništvo i demografski razvitak, Informator, Zagreb, 1973, 27 pp.

³ Р. Ђато, С. Ђ. Стаменковић, *Увод у географију*, Географски факултет Универзитета у Београду, Београд, 2002, 97–98 pp.

⁴ Д. Брезник, *Демографија*, Анализа, методи и модели, Научна књига, Београд, 1980, 27 pp.

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The lecturing plan at the Department of Demography (1999–2000), the Faculty of Geography in Belgrade

Subject	Semester							
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII
Cartography	2+4	2+4						
Sociology	2+1	2+1						
Curriculum in statistics	2+4	2+4						
GIS and computers	2+2	2+2						
Introduction to demography	2+2	–						
Curriculum to anthropo-geography	–	2+2						
English language	1+1	1+1						
Population statistics			2+2	2+2				
Geo-systems and population			2+2	2+2				
Epidemiology factors of population development			2+0	–				
Human and social ecology			3+2	3+2				
Anthropology			3+2	3+2				
Historical demography			2+2	2+2				
English language			1+1	1+1				
Natural revitalisation of population					2+2	2+2		
Population migrations					2+2	2+2		
Demographic structures					2+2	2+2		
Rural and urban geography					2+2	2+2		
Geopolitics and population					2+2	2+2		
Projections and population models							2+2	2+2
Population politics							2+2	2+2
Demographic development of SRJ and the neighboring countries							2+2	2+2
Demographic development of Europe and the world							3+2	3+2
Ethno-demography							2+2	2+2
Regional development and demographic processes							2+2	–
Population with environmental planning							–	2+2
Diploma examination								

that both population geography and demography imply population research but taking into consideration territorial and causative relation and the other elements of regional complex. Indeed, different aspects of population research in other geography disciplines can not be neglected. Those disciplines are: settlement geography or rural and urban geography, economic geography, political geo-

graphy, agrar geography, regional geography, etc. including different areas of social practice which are related to geography as a science having the common object of study. Those are: environmental planning, city planning, rural planning and other researches within which population is the aim of interest and explanation.

One can not deny the thematic compatibility between socio-economic geography as one of the most important areas within the science of geography on one side and demography on the other. Therefore, establishing the Department of demography at the Faculty of Geography has happened naturally.

The following should also be added: the long presence and remarkable scientific results in anthropo-geographical researches of settlement and population in Serbia which appeared in an organised and systematic way at the end of the 19th century, soon after the foundation of the Institute of Geography, the precursor of the Faculty of Geography existing in Belgrade nowadays. Already in 1896 Jovan Cvijić⁵ wrote the first 'Instructions for village research'. Based on these, later until 1898, another three instructions were written: 1. for Serbia, 2. Bosnia and Herzegovina, 3. for old Serbia and Macedonia. The fact that the special instructions for village and population research in some parts of Balkan peninsula were done within few years shows that the following were taken into consideration: anthropo-geographical, ethnological and historical differences of some parts of the researched territory. Also, the fact proves that the geographical research of settlements and population were scientifically serious and objective. The initial but, at the same time, colossal theoretical and methodical results in terms of world's relations were achieved. Jovan Cvijić scientifically established and developed the concept of settlement research and population origin research which has not been exceeded in many ways yet. This concept was used as a basis of the edition by Serbian Royal Academy (today the Serbian Academy of Science and Art) named 'The settlements of the Serbian countries', which was started in 1902 and the title was changed into 'Settlements and population origin' in 1922. Since it is known this scientific edition has lasted until today.⁶

Principal scientific aims of demography, as well as of the other sciences dealing with population, are: 1. description or scientific explanation, 2. classification, systematization and generalization, 3. scientific discovery, 4. scientific explana-

⁵ J. Цвијић, **Антропогеографски и етнографски списи**, Сабрана дела, књ. IV, Српска академија наука и уметности, Новинско-издавачка радна организација "Књижевне новине" и Завод за уџбенике и наставна средства, Београд, 1987, 19–32 pp.

⁶ С. Ђ. Стаменковић, **Српска географска школа и изучавање насеља**, Зборник радова, XIV Конгрес географа Југославије, Српско географско друштво – Београд, Географски факултет – Београд, Институт за географију Природно-математичког факултета – Нови Сад и Географски институт "Јован Цвијић" Српске академије наука и уметности – Београд, Београд, 2001, 38–39 pp.

tion and comprehension and 5. scientific expectation. These are also the aims of the scientific aspiration of the magazine 'Demography' which tends to develop, affirm and integrate different aspects of population research (geographical, sociological, economical, ethnological etc.) into a modern demographic aspect within which European and world achievements of demography would be incorporated. Therefore, the magazine 'Demography' welcomes all potential associates from Serbia and Montenegro as well as from abroad. Eventually, one of its aspirations is to grow into international magazine for demographic and other social research.