

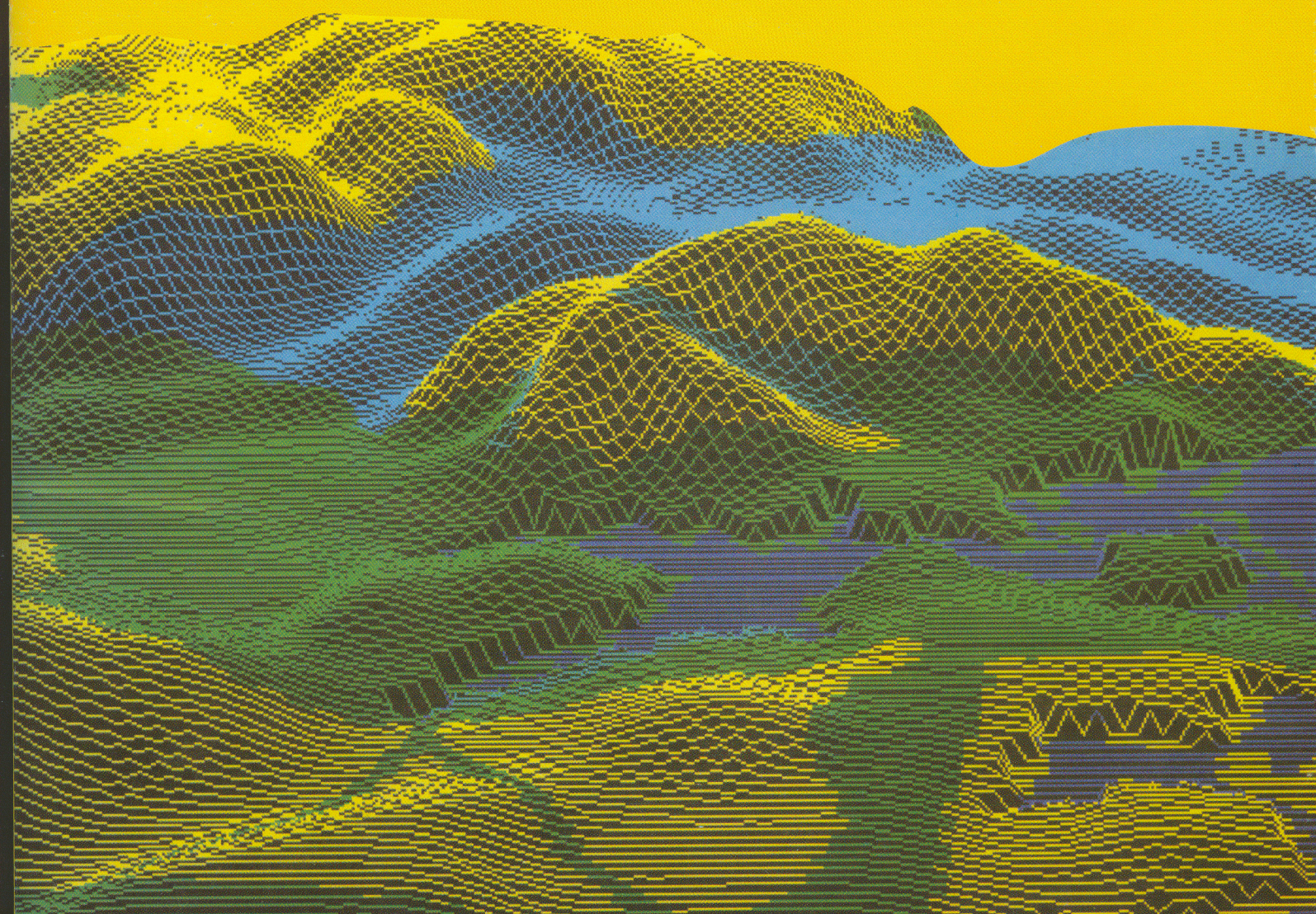
# MORAVIAN GEOGRAPHICAL REPORTS



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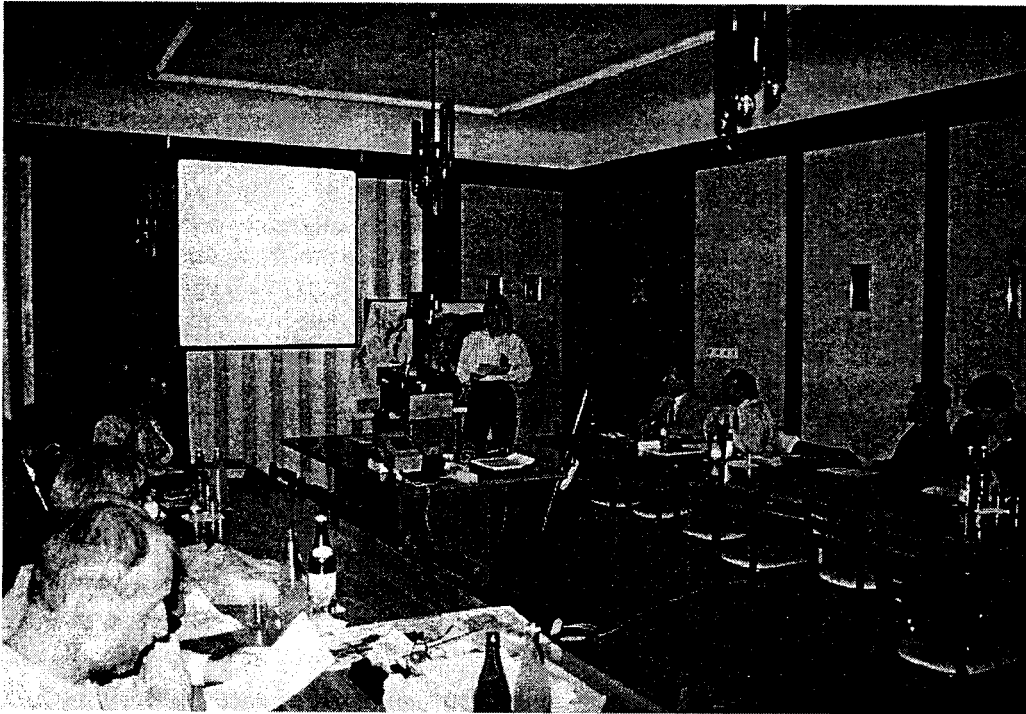
# **THE FIRST MORAVIAN GEOGRAPHICAL CONFERENCE CONGEO 95 GEOGRAPHY AND URBAN ENVIRONMENT held in Brno, 4-8 September 1995**

*Vítězslav NOVÁČEK, Antonín VAISHAR*

The 1st Moravian Geographical Conference CONGEO 95 was held in the south-Moravian metropolis of Brno at the beginning of September 1995, whose main organizer was the Brno Branch Office of Institute of Geonics, CR Academy of Sciences and co-organizers were departments of geography from the Masaryk University in Brno and University of Ostrava. Scope of the Conference was expressed in the name "GEOGRAPHY and URBAN ENVIRONMENT" and the following groups of problems were put in the center of attention:

- natural environment in urban agglomerations,
- social environment and dwelling environment,
- basic conditions and consequences of economic transformation,
- cartography, GIS and remote sensing for urbanized environment, etc.

By organizing the Conference, the Brno Branch Office of Institute of Geonics, CR Academy of Sciences formed a good basis for organization of regular international CONGEO conferences in two years intervals. Each conference will have a technical topic defined in advance that will be sufficiently wide to make it possible to present contributions



Academy of Sciences and the Department of Applied Geography, Geographical Institute, K. FRANZENS University in Graz, Austria at a joint project concerning dumps in towns. There is nothing more left except for a wish that the Conference of CONGEO 97 which will be focused on the changed environment of rural landscape is at least as successful as the previous one.

The Conference Proceedings of CONGEO 95 "GEOGRAPHY AND URBAN ENVIRONMENT" (ISBN 80-901844-0-5) are available at the editorial office of this periodical for 295.00 CZK.



from as many geographical disciplines as possible. The conferences are meant for geographers from the Czech Republic, from the countries of Central Europe and also from other regions. Starting with CONGEO 97, they will provide contacts between geographers and experts in other scientific disciplines.

Technical discussions at CONGEO 95 lasted two days and took place at the chancellor's of Masaryk University in Brno, Žerotínovo náměstí (Square). They were attended by a total number of 18 geographers from the Czech Republic and 14 representatives of geographical institutions from abroad (two participants were from Austria: W. ZSIL-INCZAR, W. FISCHER, three from Slovenia, Ljubljana: D. PLUT, M. RAVBAR, M. ŠPES, two from Slovakia, Bratislava: J. OŤAHEL, M. LEHOTSKÝ, two from Croatia, Zagreb: K. BAŠIĆ, M. ILIĆ, two from Poland, Warsaw: B. KRAWCZYK, Katowice - W. OLES, and Hungary, France and the most distant country - India were represented by one respective expert each: Pécs - Z. WILHELM, Paris - G. ZRINSCAK, Varánásí - V.K. KUMRA.)

Working character of the Conference was obvious from informal and active approach of all participants, which was further supported by appropriate arrangement of individual thematic groups. The contribution is not meant to enumerate and evaluate the individual papers that were published in the conference proceedings but rather to acknowledge efforts of all participants who contributed to good technical standard of discussed issues on urban environment from their own angle of view and pointed out some serious problems that are in the center of attention in some urban regions.

The problems discussed were then confronted with reality at excursions. At the first of them the participants were informed of actual problems in the Brno agglomeration and were shown some examples of both favourable and adverse effects of economic activities on environment. The second excursion that was organized by the University of Ostrava was planned for a whole day and tackled the issue of Ostrava agglomeration where sub-surface black coal mining was recently stopped and production of heavy metallurgy considerably limited. Nevertheless, problems of waste dumps, undermined areas and negative factors from steel production are still highly topical, among other also in connection with necessary restructuring of industries in the town of Ostrava.

It is possible to say that the Conference met the expectations of organizers and provided a space for establishing new contacts among specialists from countries with diverse geographical conditions. The latest results of the meeting is establishment of a very close cooperation between the Brno Branch Office of Institute of Geonics, CR

