

Cave discoveries in Romania

Nuevos Descubrimientos de cavidades en Rumania

Ponta, G.

Rosia Montana str. 4
Block 05, D-Entrance flat 176
Bucharest 77584

Resumen

Los cambios originados en Rumania en 1989 han motivado la aparición de un gran número de nuevas organizaciones espeleológicas. De la única organización presente antes de 1989, la Federación Rumana de Turismo y Alpinismo con la Comisión Rumana de Espeleología, hemos pasado a cuatro organizaciones distintas.

Este hecho ha producido un freno en la actividad espeleológica en Rumania. Sólo a partir de 1992, y debido a la aparición de nuevas cavidades o nuevas galerías, la actividad ha podido relanzarse.

Entre las actividades desarrolladas por la Comisión Rumana de Espeleología cabe destacar el XX encuentro de "Speleo-Sport" y el 1er "Spelo-Forum", convención abierta a presentar los últimos avances en las exploraciones.

El descubrimiento más importante realizado en 1992 es la continuación de las exploraciones en Avenul din Grind (Cárpatos Meridionales) con lo que se ha llegado a -520 m de profundidad (el mayor desnivel de Rumania).

Otras nuevas exploraciones hacen referencia a las cavidades Bidaroiia de Sub Bordul Rosu (Montes Vulcan) con +120.5 m y 660 m de longitud; Avenul din Cioaca Mare (Area de Banat) de +147 m y 403 de longitud; Pestera IJ2

(Montes Padurea Craiului) con 6.658 m de galerías y un desnivel de 144 m; V-5 (Montes Bihor) con 1.346 m y -273 m de profundidad y Pestera de la Moara lui Pocol (Area de Podisul Someșan) con 75.5 m de desnivel.

Se incluye una tabla con las diez cavidades más importantes de Rumania en cuanto a su desarrollo y desnivel. En este momento en Rumania se conocen más de 12.000 cavidades (20 años antes tan sólo se conocían 2.000).

Se facilita, así mismo, las direcciones de contacto para cualquier espeleólogo interesado en visitar el país o pedir información sobre sus cavidades.

Romanian Speleological Organisations

If in 1989, the Romanian Caving activity was coordinated only by the Romanian Federation for Tourism and Climbing (Federatia Romana de Turism Alpinism), through the Romanian Speleological Commission, now there are four organizations with less activity, but more leaders. The first one is the same Romanian Speleological Commission from Romanian Federation for Tourism, Mountain Rescue and Speleology, Romanian Speleological and Karstological Society (Bucharest), Transylvanian Speleological Society, Banat Speleological Society in Timisoara Region and Eastern Speleological Society in Moldavia.

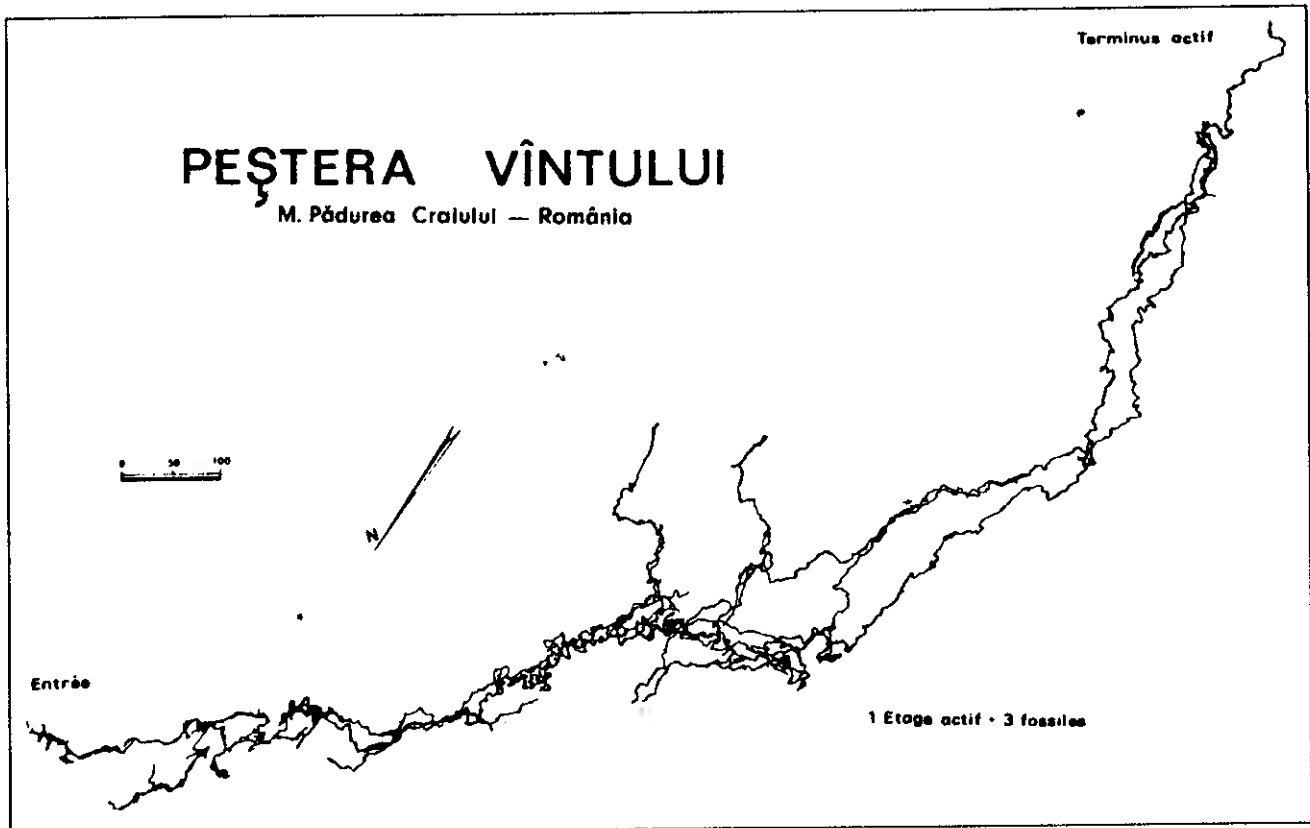
But due to these great number of organisations, the level of caving activity became lower and lower than before "the 1989 revolution".

In 1992 the caving activity seems to turn on once again due the chance of new discoveries of caves or passages in olders ones and also due the fact that most of the Western Countries closed the borders for us and the cavers returned to our karst areas.

Between 21-25 October 1992, Romanian Speleological Commission from the Federation for Tourism, Mountain Rescue and Speleology organized the XXth National meeting "SPEO-SPORT" dedicated to the memory of Emilian Cristea, the person who 20 years before started to organize the Romanian Speleological

The longest	
1. Pestera Vintului	40.300 m
2. Sistemul Polenita-Humpleu	34.000 m
3. Pestera din Piriui Hodobanei	22.142 m
4. Pestera Topolnita	20.500 m
5. Pestera Cluj Ponor	17.078 m
6. Pestera Tausoare	16.106 m
7. Pestera Zapodie-Neagra	12.048 m
8. Pestera Polovragi	10.350 m
9. Pestera Cornilor	10.200 m
10. Pestera Ponorului	7.718 m
The deepest	
1. Avenul din Grind	-520 m
2. Pestera Tausoare	462 m (-356 m., +6 m)
3. Pestera Sura Mare	+405 m
4. Avenul din Stanul Foncii	-339 m
5. Sistemul Poienita-Humpleu	-308 m
6. Pestera Jghiabul lui Zalion	303 m (-289 m., +4 m)
7. Pestera Sincuta,	-295 m
8. Avenul din Hoanca Urzicarului	288 m (-286 m., +2 m)
9. Avenul Rachiteaua	287.5 m (-282 m., +5 m)
10. Avenul din Dealul	-273 m

Table 1. The deepest and longest caves in Romania
Tabla 1. Las cavidades más profundas y más largas de Rumania



Cave map of Pesteră Vîntului (the longest cave in Romania).
 From: Atlas of Great Caves of the World (COURBON et al 1989)
 Topografa de Pesteră Vîntului (la cavidad más larga de Rumania)
 Tomado de: Atlas de Grandes Cavidades del Mundo (COURBON et al 1989)

activity for amateurs cavers. At the same time the first Speleoforum was born as a convention open to all the speleological organizations, to facilitate the meeting of all Romanian cavers, in order to present their last results.

New discoveries

The most important discovery of this year is the continuation from AVENUL DIN GRIND -Piatra Craiului Mountains, South Carpathians (Carpatii Meridionali)-, which is now -520 m, the deepest pothole of Romania. These explorations were done by SPELEO-CLUB CASTERET COLIBASI and started to dig in a very narrow passage. At this moment the passage is so narrow that the visit of the cave is restricted to 65 kg weight personnes. The actual map was presented with the survey till -414 m depth and 569 m long, the present difference in height being the result of the most recently expedition.

In the same South Carpathians: Vulcan Mountains, VULCAN CRATOVA CAVING CLUB together with C. S. VILLURBANE (France) explored and surveyed the pothole BIDAROAIA DE SUB BORDUL ROSU of 120.5 m difference in height (-118 m) and 660 m long.

In the Banat area, EXPLORATORII CAVING CLUB associated with STYX BRASOV CAVING CLUB discovered two new potholes: AVENUL DIN CIOACA MARE of -137 m and 759 m length and AVENUL DIN ULMUL MIC with -102.5 m and 403.4 m long.

In Western Carpathians, Padurea Craiului Mountains, in a mine gallery was opened the access to a cave in 1985, which in this moment, after the latest explorations done by G.E.M.A., the cave PESTERA

IJ2 is 6658 m long and 144 m (-127, 17 m) in difference of height.

In the same Western Carpathians, but in Bihor Mountains several clubs (Z-ORADEA, SPEOTELEX CLUJ, EMILIAN CRISTEA ALBA IULIA, POLITEHNICA CLUJ, URSUS SPAELEUS TG. MURES) continued the dig out work started in 1986 in V-5 pothole -AVENUL DIN DEALUL MUNCELULUI- from Varasoia area and now they succeeded to attain -273 m difference in height and 1346 m in length.

In the Podisul Someșan area, SPEO MONTANA BAIA SPRIE CAVING CLUB continued their work in PESTERA DE LA MOARA LUI POCOL from Purcarterului Valley (Letca), now the length of the cave being 3493 m and the difference in height 75.5 m (-11, +64.5 m).

The top of the longest and deepest Romanian caves at this moment is showed in table 1.

At this moment in Romania are known more than 12.000 caves. 20 years ago at the beginning of organized amateurs caving activity were known about 2.000 caves.

Contacts to visit or to receive further information about our karst in Romania are the following:

SOCIETATEA ROMANA DE SPEOLOGIE SI KARSTOLOGIE

Frumosa Str, 31

Bucharesti

Romania

FEDERATIA ROMANA DE TURISM,
SALVAMONT SI SPEOLOGIE

COMISIA CENTRALA DE SPEOLOGIE

Vasile Conta Str, 16

Bucharest

Romania