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Journal of Settlements and Spatial Planning is the first scientific publication of the *Centre for Research on Settlements and Urbanism*, Babeş-Bolyai University, Faculty of Geography, Department of Human Geography and Tourism.

Since 2010, our peer-reviewed journal has been edited biannually in English focusing on interdisciplinary research on settlements and their spatial impact.

Journal of Settlements and Spatial Planning seeks to publish original theoretical and applied research studies on a range of subjects addressed to urban and rural settlements and spatial planning, as well as precise issues related to both of them. Our journal addresses mainly to geographers, young researchers and also to other specialists in adjacent fields of research that focus their attention on aspects related to settlements and spatial planning. On the whole, we are trying to lead the scientific debate towards projecting the future of urban and rural settlements. Our journal has a high level of specialization; its basic research subjects are the socio-economic development of rural and urban settlements and related issues of spatial planning. The two major subject areas of the journal are relevant in the context of transition, globalization and exchange of values in society. The dualism settlements-planning has not been approached by many scientific fields, but mostly by geography and architecture and urbanism. In the geography field, most of the journals focus on human geography or regional geography approaching separately either settlements or planning issues. We are trying to unify both of the research subjects due to their ambivalent relationship. By its thematic our journal aims to become a bridging debate platform between geographers, architects and territorial planners.

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Journal of Settlements and Spatial Planning seeks to publish original theoretical and applied research studies on a large range of subjects addressed to urban and rural settlements and spatial planning, as well as precise issues related to both of them.

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- polarization areas, systems of settlements
- urban and rural development policies
- future design patterns

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- technical infrastructure planning
- natural resources – evaluation, use and impact
- geographical risk in spatial planning
- environmental assessment
- landscape planning
- agriculture, forestry, alternative land-use, mining areas
- tourism planning
- applying GIS to spatial planning
- alternative sources of energy and spatial development

Given the journal's rationale, any researcher whose topic is related to the analysis of settlements and spatial planning is invited to submit his paper for publication. For the unrestricted access to all potential subscribers all over the world the journal is published online, open access in English language.

More details are available on our website: <http://jssp.reviste.ubbcluj.ro/eng/index.html>