

# **THE CARPATHIAN PROJECT**

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# **THE CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS IN SERBIA**

*Vienna, May, 2008.*

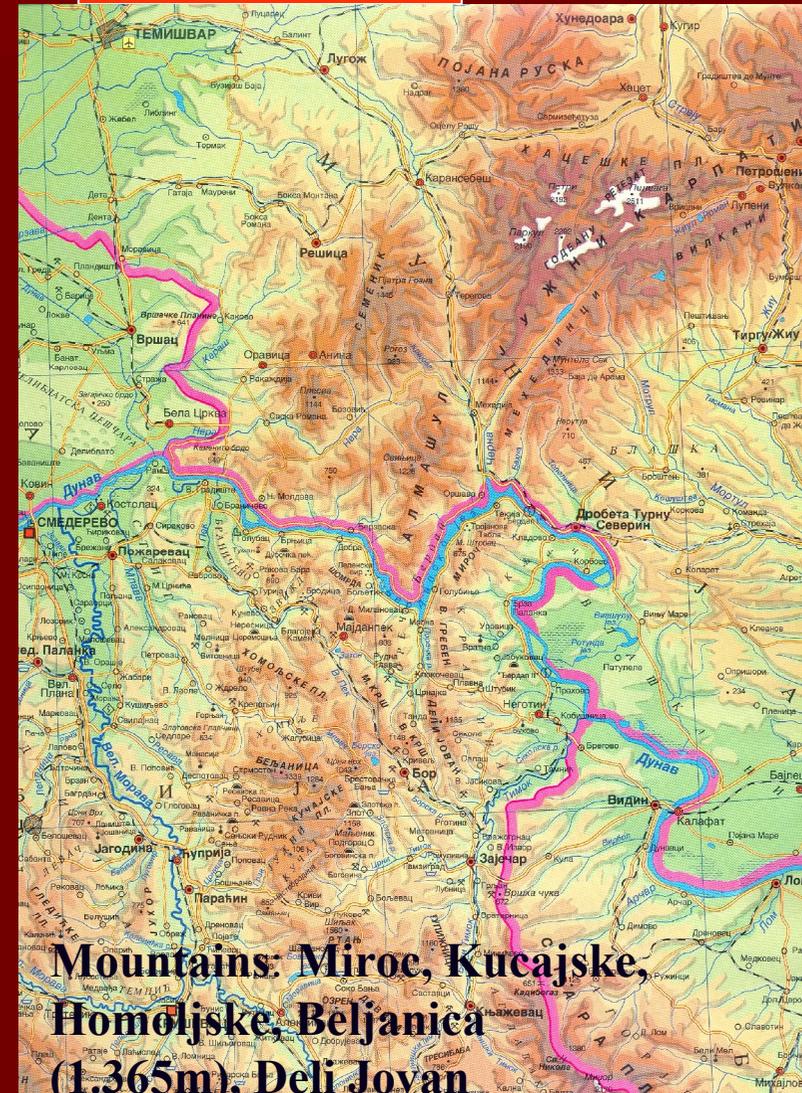
# The end (beginning?) of Carpathian Mountains

1. The contact position for Carpathian and Balkans
2. The border position (Serbia/Romania)
3. The Carpathians – the Danube junction
4. Key to the Iron Gate
5. Gate to Carpathians



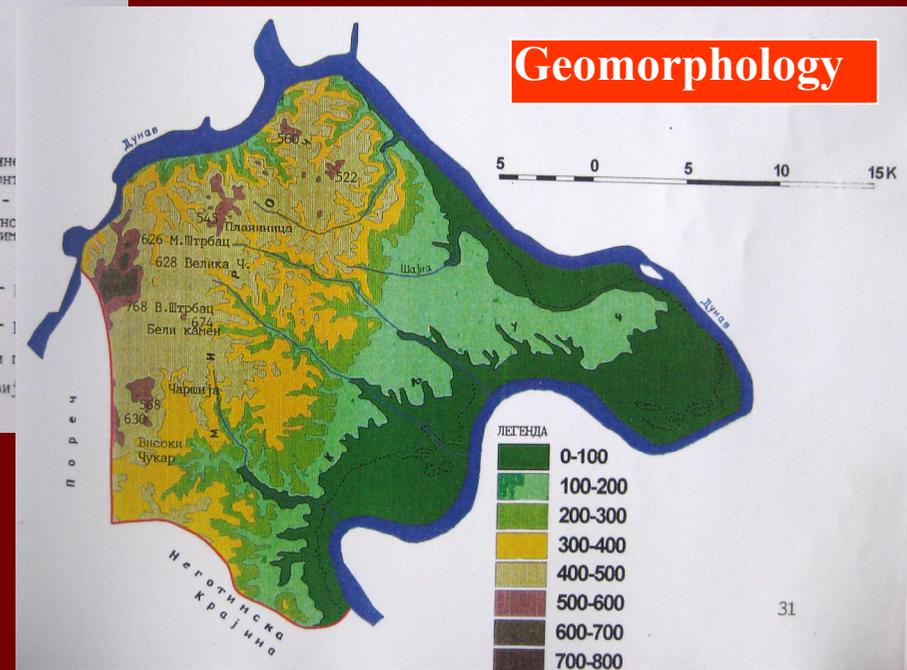
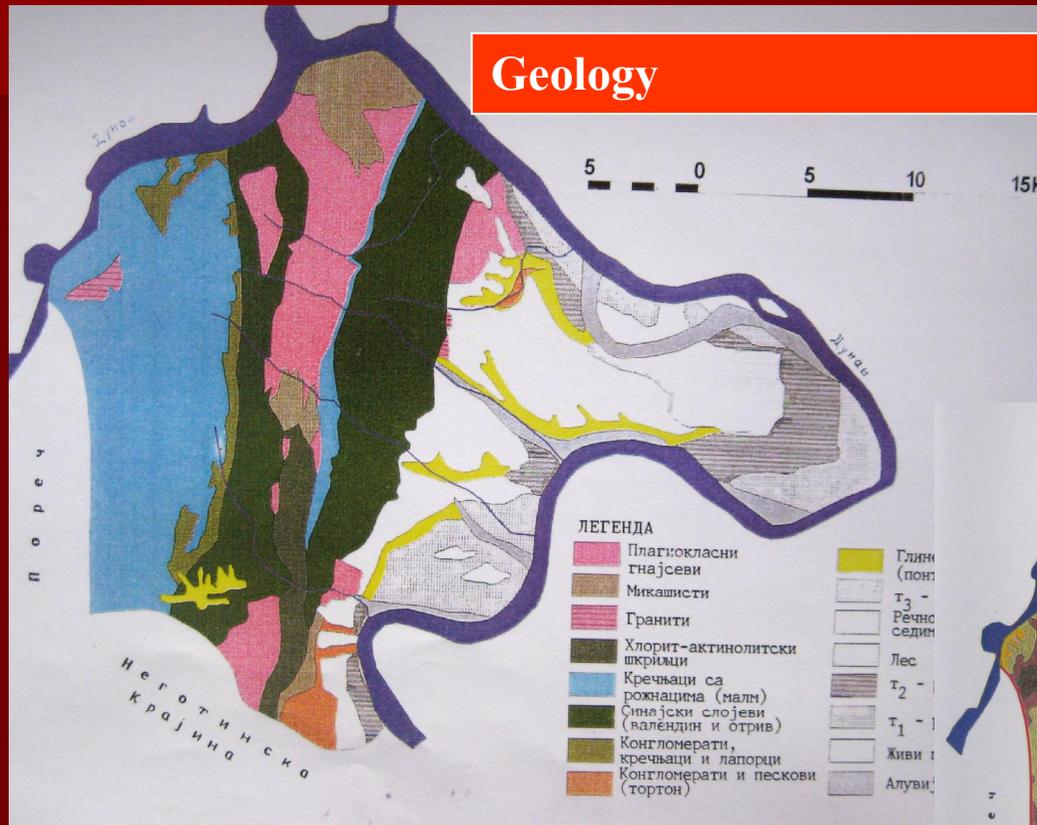
**Danubian Key**

**Carpathians in Serbia**



**Mountains: Miroc, Kupajske, Homoljske, Beljanica (1.365m), Deli Jovan**

# The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) - Geography





# The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) - History

■ deep historic traces:

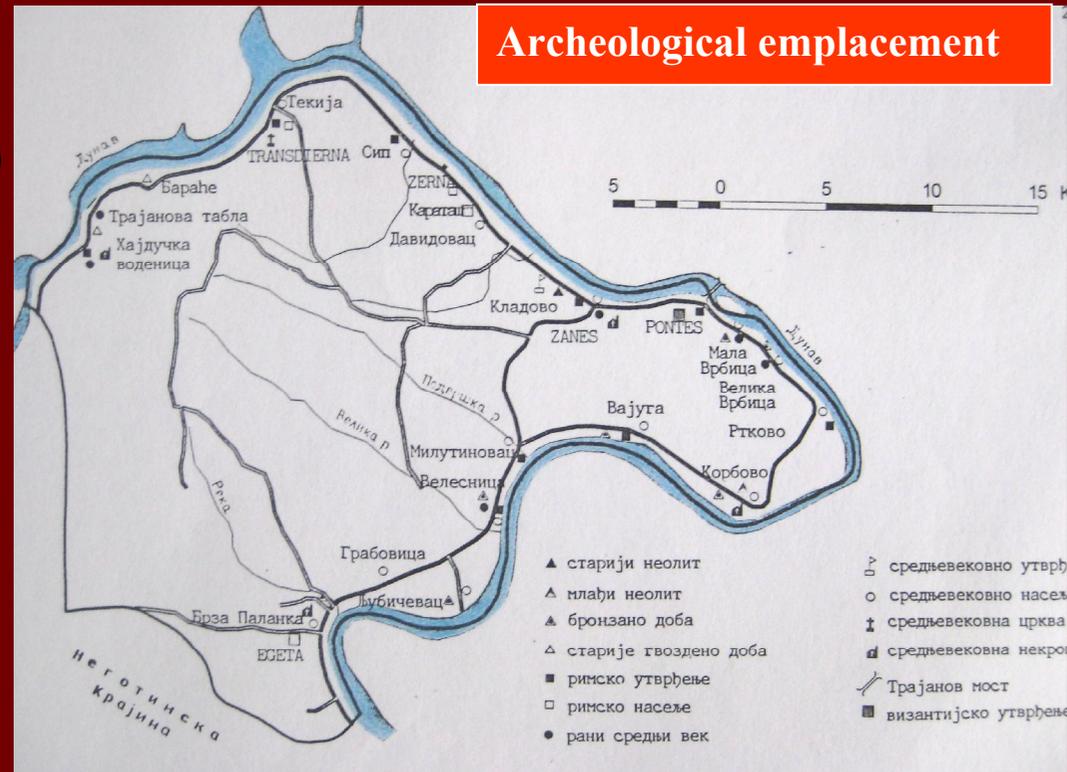
Neolit (5.300-4.600 B.C.)

Bronze era (2.000-750 B.C.)

Romans (after 107 A.D.)

Byzantine (till 1453)

Ottomans (till 1835)



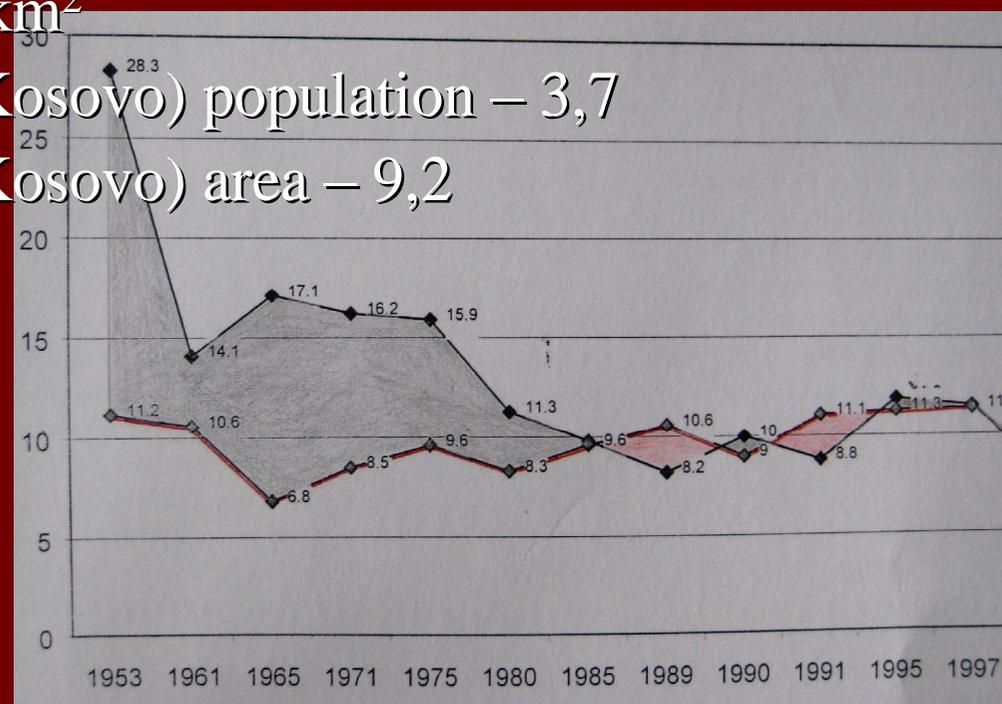
# The Carpathians in Serbia – The Population and area

- population increase in 19<sup>th</sup> century
- population development until 80-ties in 20<sup>th</sup> century
- steep decrease at the end of 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Total population in Carpathians in Serbia – 284.112
- Carpathian area – 7.130km<sup>2</sup>
- % of Serbia's (without Kosovo) population – 3,7
- % of Serbia's (without Kosovo) area – 9,2

## Natural population development

— natality

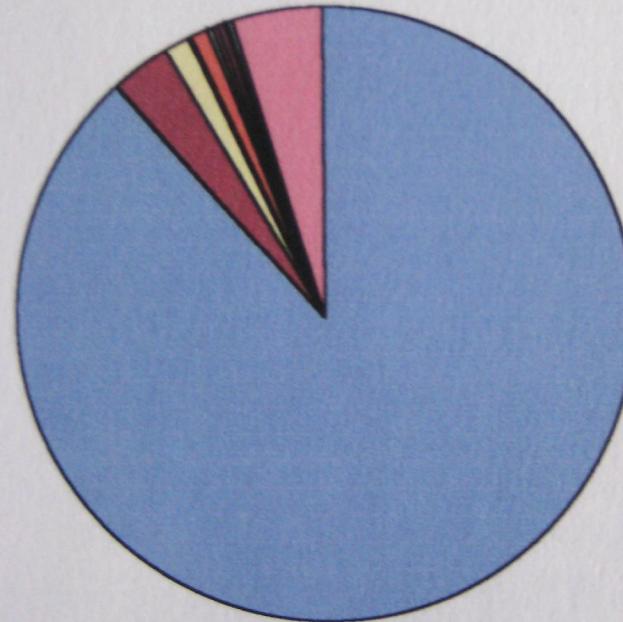
— mortality



# The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) – The Population



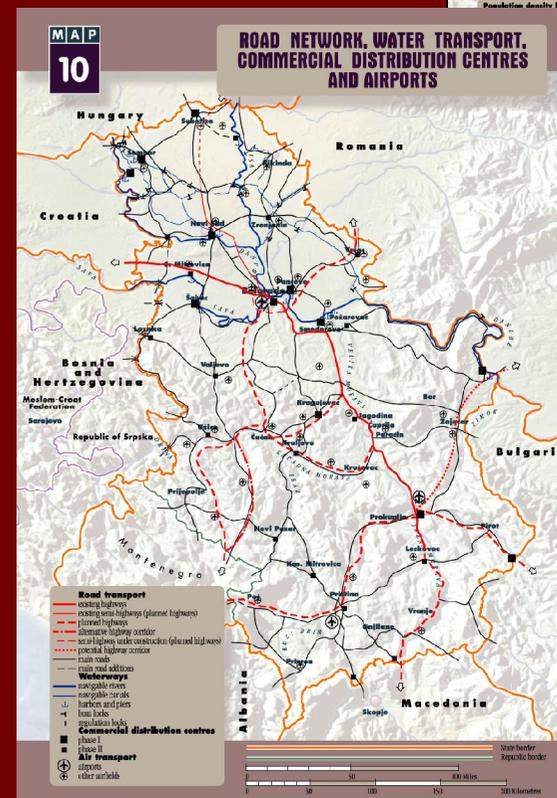
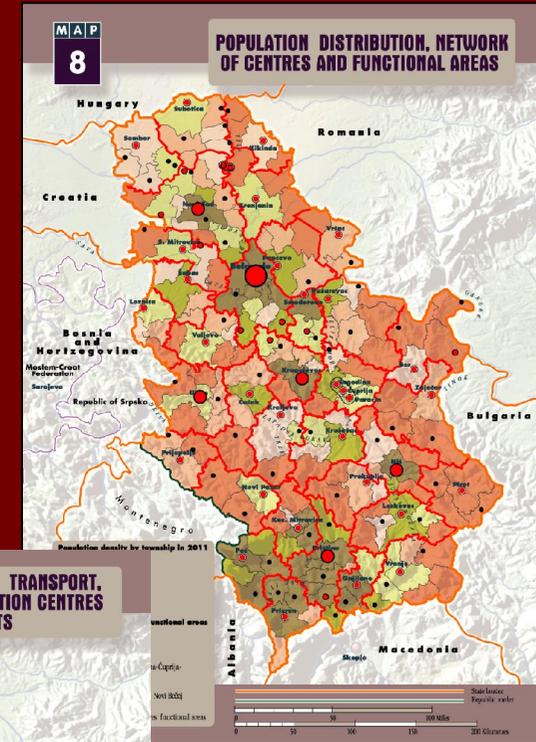
The Ethnic Structure



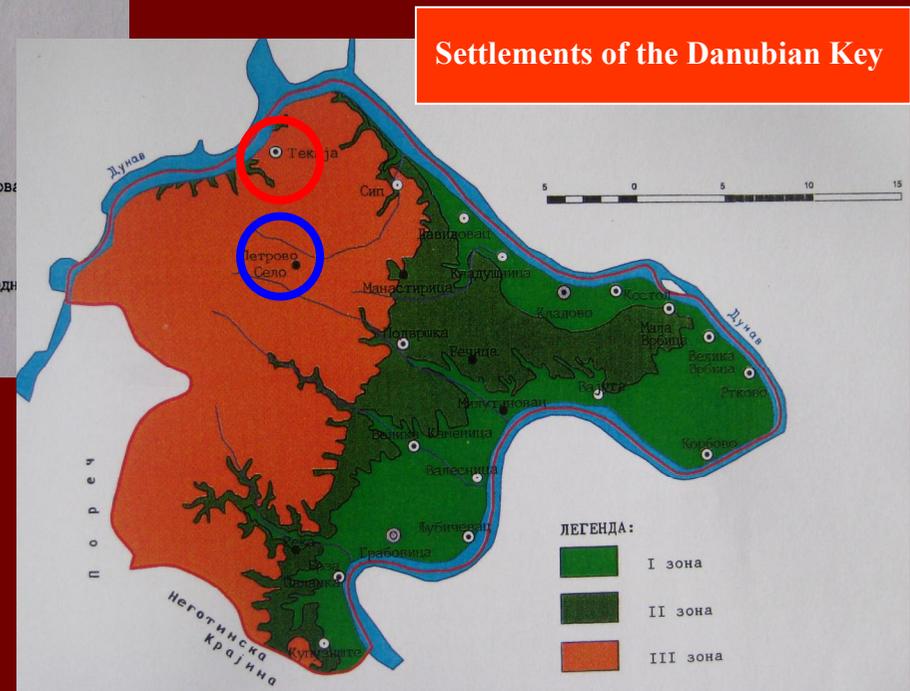
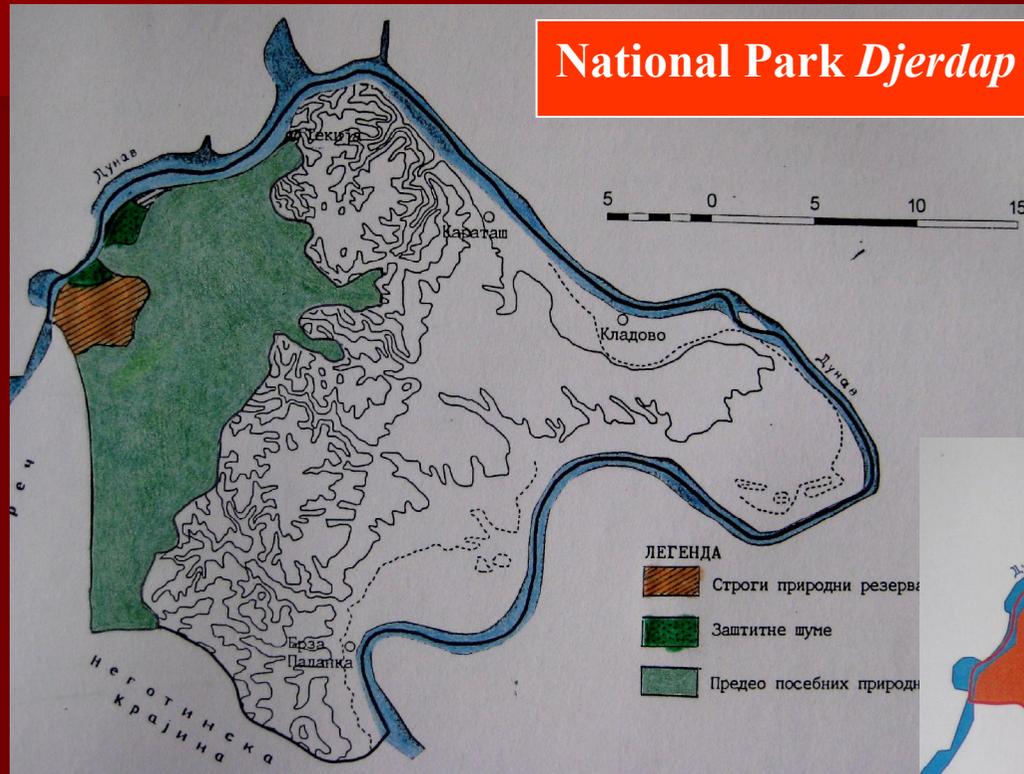
- Срби
- Црногорци
- Југословени
- Албанци
- Бугари
- Власи
- Мађари
- Македонци
- Муслимани
- Немци
- Пољаци
- Роми
- Румуни
- Руси
- Словаци
- Словенци
- Украјинци
- Хрвати
- Чеси
- Остали
- Неизјашњени
- Непознато

# The Carpathians in Serbia – Accessibility

- no major urban center in vicinity (Belgrade, 250km)
- no railway connection
- no airport
- weak road network
- limited river connections (custom restrictions)



# The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) - Development



Two Settlements:

- Tekija
- Petrovo selo (from 1.220 to 80)

# The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) - Development



## The National Park *Djerdap*:

- no proper activity
- protection for scientific reasons (plants, animals, landscapes, biodiversity)
- people out of concern
- poverty, lack of education
- weak tourism
- no cross-border cooperation

# The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) - Development

## Sustainable development dilemmas:

- objectives for ecology, economy, social needs or tradition?
- how to pursue participation of local people?
- how to implement the objectives?
- how to keep people staying?
- how to bring people back?



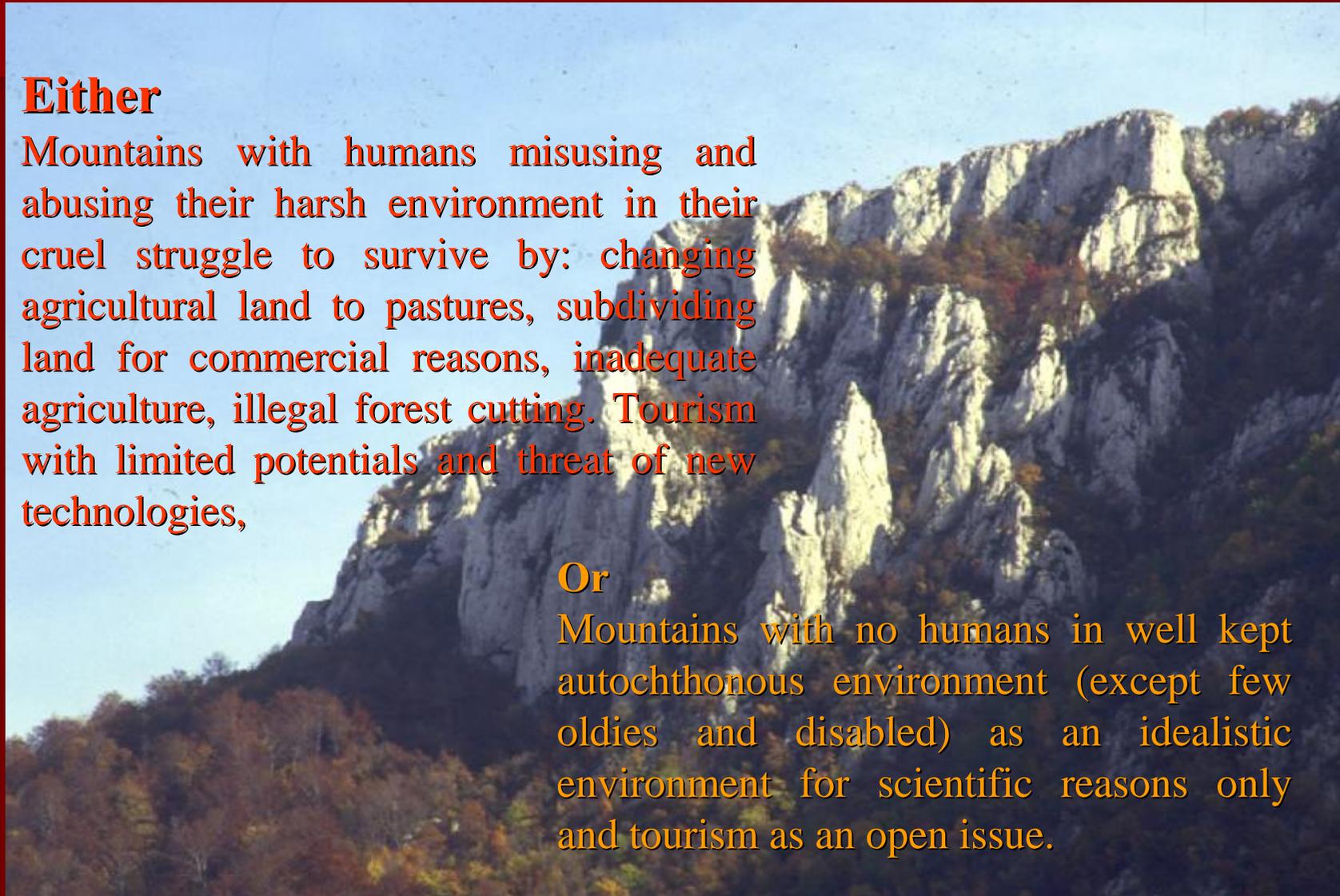
# The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) - Development

## Either

Mountains with humans misusing and abusing their harsh environment in their cruel struggle to survive by: changing agricultural land to pastures, subdividing land for commercial reasons, inadequate agriculture, illegal forest cutting. Tourism with limited potentials and threat of new technologies,

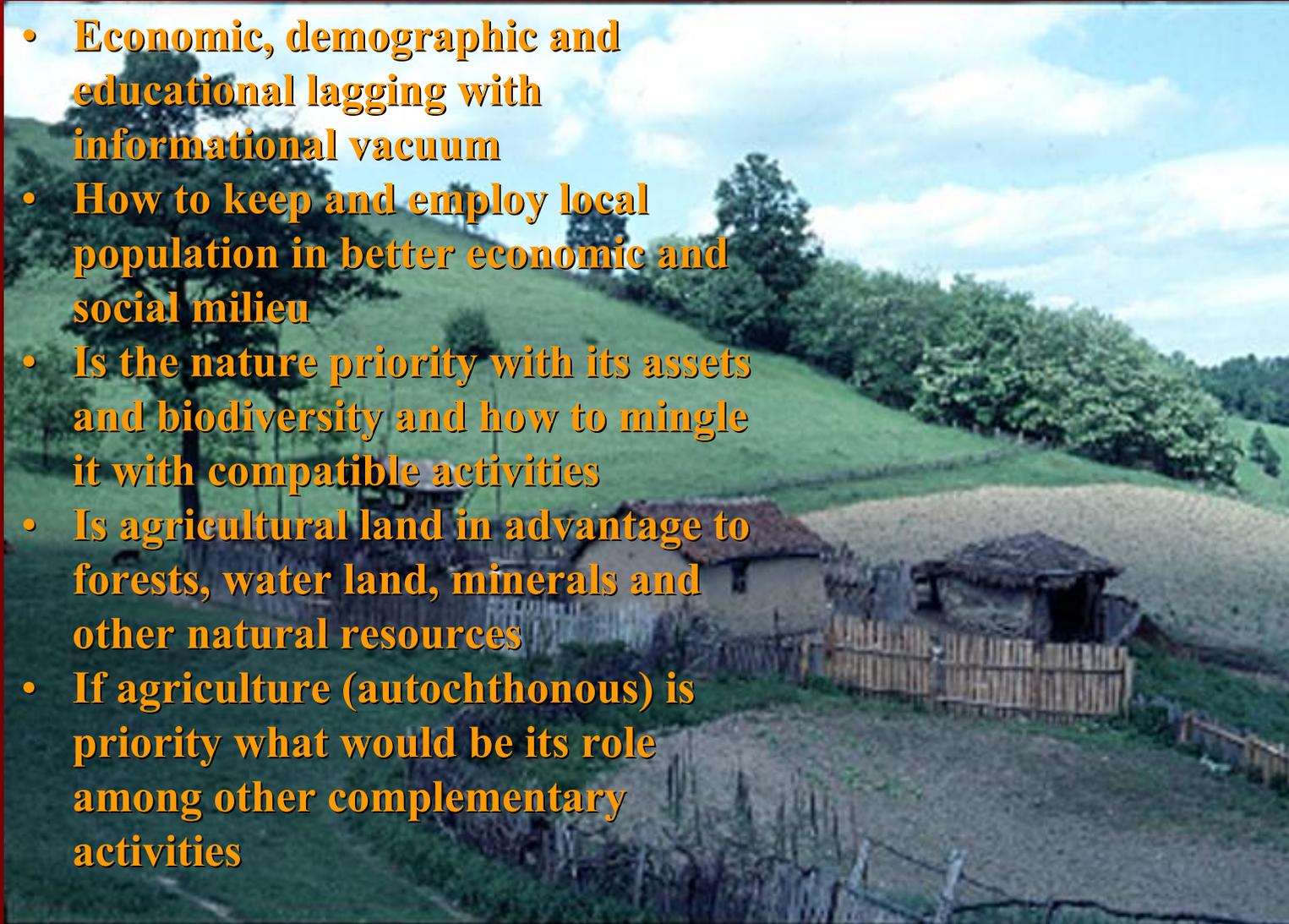
## Or

Mountains with no humans in well kept autochthonous environment (except few oldies and disabled) as an idealistic environment for scientific reasons only and tourism as an open issue.



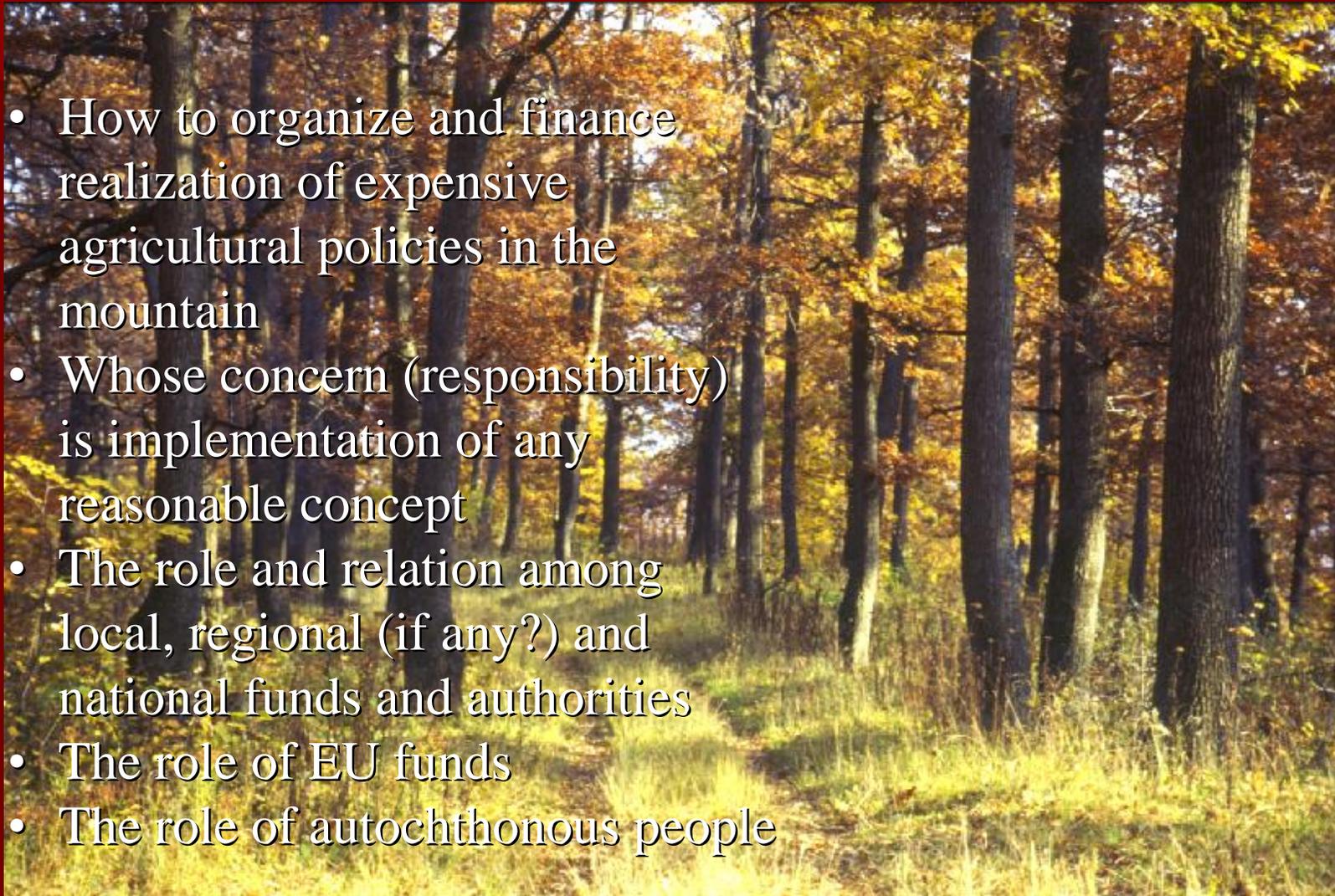
# The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) – Key Issues

- **Economic, demographic and educational lagging with informational vacuum**
- **How to keep and employ local population in better economic and social milieu**
- **Is the nature priority with its assets and biodiversity and how to mingle it with compatible activities**
- **Is agricultural land in advantage to forests, water land, minerals and other natural resources**
- **If agriculture (autochthonous) is priority what would be its role among other complementary activities**



# The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) – Key Issues

- How to organize and finance realization of expensive agricultural policies in the mountain
- Whose concern (responsibility) is implementation of any reasonable concept
- The role and relation among local, regional (if any?) and national funds and authorities
- The role of EU funds
- The role of autochthonous people



# The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) – a Strategy for the System

- Protecting natural and cultural diversity – balance and cohesion
- Short-term actions but avoiding long-term development disturbing
- Controlling sensitive points with prudent measures to stimulate or prevent development action
- Pursuing self-regulating endeavors by decentralizing decision-making and by strengthening development levers on the local tier

# The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) – a Strategy for the System

- Controlling weaknesses (today) and threats (tomorrow) without enforced measures that could endanger eco-eco system
- Supporting specific cultural character based on organized totality of area
- Enhancing energy and creativity of people (?) supported by efficient informative system
- Increasing dynamism of the system by activating people's participation – life long learning

## **The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) – some policies**

- Protecting and controlling the nature, biodiversity and autochthonous natural elements (nature as a system)
- Protecting and better organizing agricultural land (land consolidation)
- Harmonizing use of agricultural land with potentials and constraints of local environment (water land, forests, energy resources)
- Combining agricultural with other compatible activities (tourism, small industries, recreation, energy production, etc.)
- Supporting eco- and market-oriented agriculture
- Stopping fast decrease of arable land

## The Carpathians in Serbia (the Upper Key) – implementing the policies

- Agreement on implementing policies between local and regional authorities (private partners?)
- Establishing an agency (cross-border, trans-national?) for implementing policies (nature, water, energy, agriculture, tourism, etc. – Carpathians as a system)
- Educating local people
- Expected EU support (IPA) for agriculture enhancement

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