

A NEW BOOK ON NATURAL HAZARDS AND PROTECTION AGAINST THEM



During the second half of 2011, the book *Natural Hazards – Origin, Impact, Protection*, academic issue of AVIT CONSULT, was published. The authors, Prof. Garo Mardirossian, DSc and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Boyko Rangelov, from the Space Research and Technology Institute, and Prof. Atanas Bliznakov, DSc, from the New Bulgarian University, are widely known experts in the field of study and prevention of natural hazards and ecological catastrophes not only in Bulgaria, but also in abroad. The book is dedicated to a problem which is very topical both at home and throughout the world – the

study of natural hazards, the negative impacts caused by them, and the prevention and protection against them.

The phenomenology, origin, main characteristics, victims, and damages caused by natural ecological hazards are considered, which may hit with varying severity the territory of our country – earthquakes, floods, storms and hurricanes, tsunamis, avalanches, thunders, forest fires, landslides, extreme temperatures, hailstorms and more. The available prevention and protection measures for these natural hazards are considered, both engineering and organizational, as well as individual, namely behaviour and action prior to, during, and after the ecological catastrophe. For obvious reasons, engineering measures are described only in brief.

The figures, tables, and the coloured appendix, as well as the alphabetical index boost the better understanding of the topic and perceiving of the book. And the relatively voluminous reference allows the readers with specific interest in the topic to find more detailed information on the discussed phenomena and problems.

The book is intended for a wide readers' audience, but mostly for high school students. It may also be successfully used by primary school teachers to train the students how to protect themselves from natural hazards.

Prof. Radi Radichev

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