

NATURAL HAZARDS, THEIR PREVENTION AND PROTECTION



The year 2025 started with a very high number of natural and manmade disasters. For only two months from the beginning a lot of disasters occurred – LA fires, 32 active volcanoes, 3–4 strong earthquakes, heavy winter storms in the US, UK and Europe, floods, forest fires, two unusual seismic swarms in Greece and Italy, drastic temperature changes in the Northern hemisphere, strong Sun eruptions and magnetic storms hitting the Earth and many others. The list can be prolonged and extended. The extended use of AI and the fast development of early warning systems are various ways for prevention and mitigation.

That's why the new edition of the book “Natural hazards and ecological catastrophes – study, prevention, protection” is extremely useful and knowledgeable. The author – Prof. Garo Mardirossian from the Space Research and Technology Institute of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (SRTI-BAS), is a well-known author with his publications on natural hazards, risk perception, and risk management, as he is working hard on the problems of natural hazards and their effects on the population. This is its 4th edition of his famous book on these topics. All editions have been gratefully accepted by the audience. In the book, there are some general topics on the natural hazards, their generation, and their influence on the population and infrastructure. The success of the book is rather visible, and the 4th edition is a clear confirmation of the wide audience of readers interested in these topics. Actualization of data and modernization of space equipment and new trends of distant methods of observation of the hazards and

catastrophes are reflected in this last edition. Many practical issues are added about new methods and algorithms of data processing and visualization.

The popularization of knowledge about natural and ecological catastrophes is very useful for the population and society, not only giving the knowledge about them to interested people but also providing practical advice for safe activities – both individual and societal.

Prof. Boyko Rangelov

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