

Dear my sincere colleagues in Romania:

Congratulations! I am very pleased to be given an opportunity to deliver message at the ceremony of the 20th Anniversary of Romani a Regional Science Association. The Association is special for me because I clearly remember the last 9th World Congress of RSAI that was held in Timisoara on May 9-12, 2012, when I was RSAI President. The meetings were well organized with fresh passions and the Congress is successful one in the RSAI history in the sense that it was held by a relatively young RSAI section. The timing was also good and participants had all enjoyed scientific events as well as culture and history of the city and the country.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to extend two messages (encouragements) for my dear colleagues in Romania:

It is very tough to have launched and started an association successfully. However, compared to the initiation, it shall be far more tough to manage the association and sustain her activities continuously. In both senses, we should pay respects to not only senior colleagues in the association but also youngers who shall be burdened with the task of the association management and activities in future.

As you know, RSAI is now constitutionally positioned to take a leading role to manage the regional science communities in the world in cooperation with super-regions and sections at country(s)/region levels. Without RSAI, the global regional science community shall become a chaos. However, RSAI alone cannot exist meaningfully. RSAI can stand owing to super-regions and super-regions can stand owing to affiliated sections at country/region levels. In this sense, continuous prosperity of sections at country(s)/region levels is essential for prosperity of the regional science community in the world. It is critically important more than in the sense that a section at country(s)/regional level is a portion of the community in the world.

I hope the Romania Regional Science Association will be more prosperous in future and continuously takes a key role in the regional science community in Europe and in the world.

Sincerely yours,

29th October, 2021

Yoshiro Higano, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus, University of Tsukuba

Past President, RSAI