

Editorial note

A special issue in honor of Professor Ioan Tomescu (by MIHAI CIPU and SORIN DĂSCĂLESCU)

This issue of *Bulletin Mathématique* is dedicated to Professor Ioan Tomescu, one of the most distinguished Romanian mathematicians, on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

He was born in Ploiești on November 5, 1942. After the high-school period at *Ion Luca Caragiale College* in Ploiești, where his Math teacher was the legendary Ion Grigore, he studied Mathematics at University of Bucharest, where he also got the Ph.D. in 1971, under the supervision of Grigore Moisil.

He worked at University of Bucharest from 1965 until his retirement in 2011. Currently, he is an Emeritus Professor. Professor Tomescu was a visiting professor at universities in France, Germany, Hungary, New Zealand, Pakistan, Albania and Singapore. He was elected as a Corresponding Member of the Romanian Academy in 2000, and he became a Full Member in 2021.

The main fields of research of Professor Tomescu are Combinatorics and Graph Theory, and he is the author or co-author of more than 200 publications in various peer reviewed journals and several books. His book *Introduction to Combinatorics* was an excellent introduction to the topic and it stands out as a basic title in combinatorics. His work has been cited by more than 500 mathematicians. Also, he was the advisor of 25 Ph.D. students.

Professor Tomescu is an active member of the Romanian Mathematical Society. Winner of the Romanian Mathematical Olympiads in 1959 and 1960, he was the leader of the Romanian team for the International Mathematical Olympiad (1983–1986 and 1990–1994) and the leader of the Romanian team for the Balkan Mathematical Olympiad (1990–1994). He also published many papers, notes, and problems in the Romanian journal *Gazeta Matematică*, one of the oldest mathematics journals for high-school students and teachers. He has been the Editor-in-Chief of *Bulletin Mathématique* since 2004. Professor Tomescu is also serving various international journals as Associate Editor, Member of the Editorial Board or Reviewer.

The present special issue includes contributions from former students and collaborators. They address a variety of problems connected to Professor Tomescu's scientific interests, presenting solutions in which his ideas play an essential role.

We present this issue with admiration and respect to celebrate a brilliant mathematician, influential through research and teaching, and a remarkable person of a charming personality.