



## METADATA

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### Abstract

The essay "Mountains. Natural Environment and Societies, Mountainous Greece" will be the main course book of the postgraduate course "Environment and Development of Mountainous Areas". This is the introductory module of the MSc programme of the same name, carried out by the National Technical University of Athens in the town of Metsovo (Greece) at the facilities of the Metsovio Interdisciplinary Research Center. The book consists of 12 Chapters, which cover a great variety of issues related to mountainous areas. Chapter 1 refers to the importance of mountains for our planet, as well as to the various ways of defining mountainous areas. Orogeny and the geological evolution of mountain masses are described in Chapter 2. Chapter 3 covers the subject of high-altitude climate and Chapter 4 focuses on resources and energy issues. Chapter 5 is dedicated to the characteristics and evolution of mountain societies.

Issues related to mountain cultures are approached by Chapter 6. An extensive description of the main mountain ranges of earth and the main mountains of Greece is made in Chapters 7 and 8, respectively. The history of mountainous Greece is included in Chapter 9, while Chapter 10 focuses on social inequalities and environmental issues that are threatening mountainous territories. In Chapter 11, opportunities for economic development in mountainous settlements are analysed. Finally, in Chapter 12 policies for protecting and developing mountainous areas are described, both globally and in Greece. Mountain societies stood the test of time. They can provide our modern societies with valuable knowledge towards a sustainable course closer to nature. The book highlights this issue. Moreover, gaining a deeper understanding of mountainous areas is necessary in the course of revitalization and development.

