

## 8. Geography as a science

Geography is one of the oldest sciences in the World. The Ancient Greek philosopher **Erathosthenes** first established Geography as an individual science.

Today Geography is an **explanative science** which tries to apply all the information practically and help mankind to use and develop regions and their sources better and efficiently.

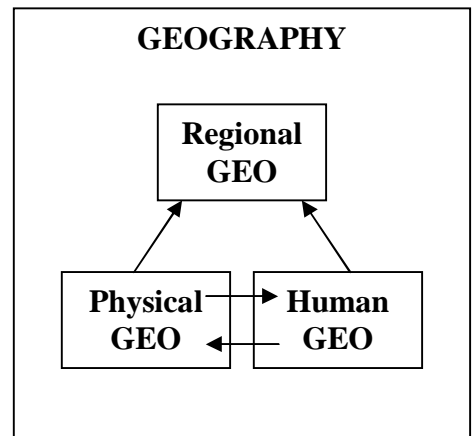
### **Object of Geography**

The object of Geography was wider in the past. The whole Earth was the object of Geography. Nowadays it is reduced to the **geographic sphere of the Earth**. It is created by 6 *geospheres* – 5 natural geospheres and 1 geosphere created by man:

1. lithosphere – rocks and minerals
2. atmosphere – air
3. hydrosphere – water of the Earth - oceans, seas, lakes, rivers and groundwater
4. biosphere – flora and fauna with their environment (vegetation and animals)
5. pedosphere – soils
6. human-geographic (socio-economic) sphere – people and products of their activities (settlements, industrial factories and agricultural farms)

### **Division of Geography**

- ✓ *Physical Geography* – studies physical spheres and relations among them
- ✓ *Human Geography* – studies human sphere and relation between it and physical environment
- ✓ *Regional Geography* – studies segments of geographic sphere – regions, countries



### **Keywords**

Explanative science, mankind, sources, geographic sphere of the World, geosphere, physical/human/regional geography, region, country