The 2nd meeting of the Central European Tectonic Group and 9th meeting of the Czech Tectonic Studies Group, Lučenec, Slovakia, June 22–25, 2004.

The 2nd meeting of the Central European Tectonic Group (CETeG) and 9th meeting of the Czech Tectonic Studies Group (CTeSG) were held in Lučenec, Slovakia, on June 22–25, 2004. Traditionally, these meetings have been periodically organized by geological research centers of the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia. Following the established convention, as the last two meetings were in Poland and the Czech Republic, the initiative in organizing the 2nd CETeG and the 9th CTeSG was taken by the Slovak Geological Society. In accordance with the commitment to develop these meetings into fully international conferences, the organizers decided to establish English as the official language. This decision, and the accessible location of the conference near the Slovak-Hungarian border, meant that a large number of our Hungarian colleagues could for the first time participate at the CETeG meetings. Indeed, their active participation in the conference was an important aspect in its success and high scientific standard.

The four-day meeting started with a pre-conference field trip entitled "The Structure and Metamorphism of the Meliata Unit", and devoted to the geology and tectonometamorphic evolution of the southern margins of the Inner West Carpathians. The excursion, led by Shah Wali Faryad, Karel Schulmann and Ondrej Lexa from Charles University, focused on the structural and metamorphic development of the Paleozoic and Mesozoic rocks of the Meliata accretionary wedge and its basement Gemer and Vepor units, involved in Jurassic and Cretaceous orogenic processes. The field trip started in Rudna village, located in the Gemer unit, and continued towards Hankova village, crossing the outcrops of the HP and MP metamorphic rocks of the Meliata and Vepor units. As the region of the excursion was located in one of the key areas for understanding the geodynamic evolution of the Carpathian orogen, the issues of the age, succession and geometry of the metamorphic fabrics of these units raised during the excursion were one of the main topics of debate over the next days of the conference.

The next two days of the conference included more than 80 talks and poster presentations showing the results of current geological studies carried out in the countries represented at the conference. Talks were divided into seven separate sessions, focusing on the various aspects of geological research, including the geophysics, structural geology, sedimentology and petrology of igneous and metamorphic rocks. On the first day of the sessions, guest speaker Professor Emo Márton from the Geophysical Institute of Hungary gave a presentation entitled "The Geodynamic Application of Paleomagnetism in the Alpine-Carpatho-Pannonian region".

The conference ended with a post-conference field trip called "Volcanic and Subvolcanic Lava Bodies – Structural Aspects", which was led by Vlastimil Konečný, Jaroslav Lexa and Patrik Konečný from the Geological Survey of the Slovak Republic. The excursion was a great opportunity for petrologists and structural geologists to become acquainted with the spectacular mineralogy and magmatic and tectonic fabrics developed in the alkali basalts and andesites of southern Slovakia. The proceedings of the 2nd CETeG and 9th CTeSG, including abstracts and excursion guides, were published by the Institute of Geology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic as a special issue of the journal GeoLines (2004, vol. 17).

The Lučenec meeting contributed to the rising integrity of Central European geological communities allowing for a direct exchange of information and concepts based on the recent research projects carried out by geologists from the participating countries.

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The 12th Meeting of the Petrology Group of the Mineralogical Society of Poland "Crystalline Rocks of the East-European Craton" Stary Folwark, 13–16 October 2005

The 12th Meeting of the Petrology Group of the Mineralogical Society of Poland was held near Suwałki, in the picturesque landscape of the Wigry National Park, in the small village of Stary Folwark with the nearby hills commanding superb views over Wigry Lake and its surroundings.

The conference was co-organised by the Institute of Geochemistry, Mineralogy and Petrology of the Warsaw University and the Polish Geological Institute, and was attended by over 50 participants from Poland, Belgium, Egypt, France, Ireland, Lithuania, Russia, Sweden and the USA. The programme of the meeting included a special session on the crystalline rocks of the East-European craton, as well as general and poster sessions devoted to various aspects of geochemistry, petrology and mineralogy.

The formal opening ceremony was held in the evening of the arrival day by the Dean of the Faculty of Geology of the Warsaw Uniwersity Professor Andrzej Kozłowski and the director of the Polish Geological Institute Professor Marek Graniczny. It was also attended by the local official authorities, the mayor of Suwałki Józef Gajewski and his

Participants of the 12th Meeting of the Petrology Group of the Mineralogical Society of Poland (Photo B. Bagiński).

deputy Włodzimierz Marczewski, vice-director of the Wigry National Park Maciej Kamiński and the director of the Suwałki Landscape Park Teresa Świerubska.

The first day of the scientific programme of the conference included the highly educational and interesting special session lectures given by invited speakers. Svetlana Bogdanova (Lund University, Sweden) gave a lecture on the East European Craton, and Jean Louis Vigneresse (Université Henri Poincaré, Nancy, France) gave a talk on the Mesoproterozoic rapakivi granites of the Columbia supercontinent. Gediminas Motuza (Vilnius University, Lithuania) followed with a presentation on the crystalline crust of Lithuania, and Daniel Demaiffe (Universite Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium) spoke on the Tajno and Kola carbonatite complexes. Finally, Herve Martin (Universite Blaise Pascal, Clermont-Ferrand, France) gave a talk on sanukitoid and Closepet-type magmatism. These were followed by 30- or 15-minute contributions presenting the results of research on the geological setting and evolution of the East European Craton (J. Wiszniewska, E. Krzemińska) and its charnokites (B. Bagiński, E. Krzemińska), carbonatites (A. Kozłowski et al.), metasediments and metavolcanics (E. Krzemińska et al.) and mafic intrusions (J. Wiszniewska et al.).

In the evening, there was a fascinating poster session chaired by Marek Michalik, opening with short introductions given by the authors of said works. Nearly 30 posters were displayed; they were either variously related to the leading topic of the conference or showed the results of petrological, geochemical or mineralogical studies devoted to rocks and minerals from the Sudetes, the Carpathians and other localities.

The general session on the second day of the conference comprised 15-minute oral presentations dealing with isotopic research of the Gęsiniec tonalites (A. Pietranik), the petrology of the mafic and felsic dykes of the Karkonosze massif (M. Awdankiewicz et al.), the differentiation model of the Karkonosze granite (E. Słaby and H. Martin), pseudospinifex olivines from the Sowie Góry and the Jordanów-Gogołów serpentinites (E. Dubińska et al.), peridotitic xenoliths of the Lower Silesia basalts (N. Bakun-Czubarow and A. Białowolska), the contact metamorphism and hydrothermal phenomena in the sandstones and marls of Lower Silesia (W. Szeliga), Re-Os radiometric ages of the Lower Silesia sulphides (H. Stain et al.), petrological studies of the northern Sahara desertification (A. Barczuk and M. Dłużewski), heat transfer in the Lublin Basin (P. Poprawa and M. Żywiecki), pegmatoids of the northern Karkonosze cover (A. Długoszewska), and the metamorphic petrology of metabasites from the Bystrzyckie Mts. (S. Ilnicki and J. Szczepański).

Following the general session, the participants of the conference visited the cutting stone workshop located in the neighbouring buildings, and in the evening, the annual meeting of the Petrology Group of the Mineralogical Society of Poland was held. After two years, the chairman Marek Michalik stepped down and the new board was elected with Ewa Słaby as chairperson. It was agreed that the next conference of the Petrology Group would be organised by colleagues from Wrocław University, and would focus on the Tertiary volcanics of the Sudetes area.

Due to the lack of natural exposures of the crystalline rocks of the East European Craton, the post-conference field trip organised on the last day of the meeting had a rather exceptional character. It started in the post-Cameldolite cloister located close to the conference venue in the nearby village of Wigry, then participants visited the drill core store of the Polish Geological Institute in Szurpiły, housing over 200 km of drill cores of the crystalline basement. There, the participants were shown boxes with selected parts of drill cores from the most representative boreholes located within the Suwałki anorthositic complex, the Tajno carbonatite complex, and the Podlasie and Mazury complexes. Subsequently, Janina Wiszniewska and Bogusław Bagiński briefly presented results and recent advances in petrological and geochemical studies of these massifs. Despite the bitter cold of the day, the displayed drill cores aroused much interest and provided stimulation for lively discussions. The last stop of the trip was situated at the Rutka Natural Reserve, where numerous boulders of metamorphic and magmatic rocks of apparently Scandinavian origin attracted much attention and inspired friendly chats in the beautiful scenery of the post-glacial landscape, despite the chill wind.

The conference provided an opportunity for discussions and exchanges of ideas, and allowed members to establish new lines of scientific cooperation. On the social side, there was an excellent programme meaning the informal downtime was as entertaining as always.

The abstracts of the conference were reviewed and published in the 26th volume of the Special Papers of the Mineralogical Society of Poland; they are also available on-line as pdf files at: http://www.geo.uw.edu.pl/PTMINSP/ptminsp.htm

Sławomir Ilnicki, secretary of the conference
(Warsaw University)

The 3rd meeting of the Central European Tectonic Group and the 10th meeting of the Czech Tectonic Studies Group, Felsötárkány, Hungary, April 14–17, 2005

The 3rd meeting of the Central European Tectonic Group (CETeG) and the 10th meeting of the Czech Tectonic Studies Group took place in Felsötárkány, Hungary, on April 14–17, 2005. The international character and ever-increasing significance of the CETeG was reflected by the presence of over 100 participants, mainly coming from the Visegrád countries, with some geologists representing Romania, Slovenia and Switzerland. The meeting was organised by the Hungarian Tectonic Group, a board established as a consequence of the initiative of the Hungarian Geological Society to become an active contributor in the CETeG meetings. They decided to locate the 3rd CETeG meeting in the cheerful Hotel Táltos in Felsötárkány, a village situated near the historical town of Eger in northern Hungary.

The meeting started with a pre-conference excursion entitled "A Geological Overview of Northern Hungary, Bükk Mts", focused on the nappe structure the Western Carpathians, a part of the Alpine-Carpatho-Pannonian region. This excursion was led by Márton Fórián Szábó and László Csontos from Eötvös University, Budapest. Numerous participants in the excursion were introduced to the geology and structural development of the Middle to Upper Triassic and Lower to Middle Jurassic basalts, limestones, cherts and radiolarites, which underwent Late Mesozoic deformations, synchronous with an anchimetamorphism and the succeeding Cenozoic semi-brittle deformations, both related to the complex tectonic history of the Inner Carpathians.

The main part of the conference consisted of talks, poster presentations and informal meetings. As a natural consequence of the conference location, most of the 35 talks mainly focused on issues of the neotectonics and the Palaeozoic, Mesozoic and Paleogene development of the Carpathian orogen. Obviously, such a meeting could not be without a session devoted to the structural evolution of the Bohemian Massif. Apart from the talks, 60 high-quality posters were presented, enhancing the diversity of the discussed topics. The third day of the meeting ended with an afternoon sightseeing trip to Eger led by László Fodor, who uncovered some details of the exciting history of this town. At the end of the day, the intellectually satiated participants were able to sample the food and wine for which the Eger region is renowned.

A post-conference excursion entitled "Tectonics, Sedimentation and Magmatism along the Darnó Zone" concluded this successful meeting. The Darnó Zone is a major NNE–SSW trending tectonic lineament in northern Hungary, along which the Neogene deformations of rocks of the Bükk Mountains accumulated. László Fodor, Gyula Radócz and Balázas Koroknai from the Geological Institute of Hungary and Orsolya Sztanó and Szabolcs Harangi from Eötvös University, Budapest, were the leaders of the excursion, and they drew particular attention to the structural and sedimentological aspects of the Darnó Zone lineament.

The abstracts and excursion guides of the 3rd meeting of the Central European Tectonic Group and the 10th meeting of the Czech Tectonic Studies Group were published by the Institute of Geology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic as a special issue of the GeoLines magazine (2005, vol. 19).

Each year, the CETeG meetings give a chance for the constantly growing number of participants to develop new ideas which may lead to international collaborative activities. These meetings have developed over the last few years into a real international conference with good prospects for further progress in scientific rank.

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