

XX Congress 2014, Tirana — Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association

CBGA Council Meeting Minutes September 24–26, 2014, Tirana, Albania



Congresses of the Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association represent traditional element of international cooperation in geoscientific research of countries situated in the Carpathian-Balkan Orogenetic System. They are organized each four years each time in a different member country. The first “Carpathian Balkan Geological Association” took place in 1925 and over the years has found its place among the most important scientific events in Europe. This XXth Congress coronates 80-years old history of the CBGA activity.

The XXth Congress of the Carpathian Balkan Geological Association associating more than 550 participating geoscientists from 42 countries of the world has been held in Tirana, Albania, since September 24 to 26, 2014 under guidance of its President, Prof. Arjan Beqiraj and his colleagues from the Faculty of Geology and Mining and Institute of Geosciences, Energy, Water and Environment of the Polytechnic University of Tirana, and from the Albanian Geological Survey. Other institutions involved in organizing of this CBGA Congress were the Geological Society of Albania and the Academy of Sciences of Albania.

The aim of “CBGA 2014” was to develop further the themes initiated in the previous CBGA Congresses and to encourage the exchange of new ideas, and hence, the most recent advances in Earth Sciences and related disciplines that relate to the Carpathian-Balkan Region, one of the most interesting and active research areas in the world. A big variety of past and on-going geological processes spawned a unique geodynamic framework where a full spectrum of earth-forming phenomena can be observed and investigated mainly in the Carpathian-Balkan Region and the surroundings, aiming at highlighting their impacts on natural resources, natural hazards, and environmental problems.

On twenty six scientific sessions chaired by Special Session Conveners coming from most of European countries, 220 oral contributions have been presented. They covered several research fields, but also focused on specific problems of certain areas. Three workshops parallel with scientific sessions were organized. Extensive poster presentation comprised 250 posters. There is a positive sign that the CBGA Congresses have recently drowned attention of the geological community beyond the geographic “borders” of the CBGA.

Five well organized field trips have been focused on geologically most interesting areas of Albania being attended by 150 participants. The materials of the XX-th CBGA Congress comprise two voluminous Abstract Books containing 470 both short and extended abstracts, as well as five field trip guides.

In 2018, XXth CBGA Congress will be held in Salzburg, Austria being coordinated by Prof. Franz Neubauer, newly nominated President of the Association.