

The Polish-Slovak Working Group of the Jurassic System

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The Polish Working Group of the Jurassic System was founded on 13th May 1999 in Warszawa during initiative meeting which gathered 31 persons representing various geological centers in Poland. During the 70th Annual Meeting of the Polish Geological Society in Międzyzdroje on 9th June 1999, the Group was officially established as a separate section affiliated at the Society. Initially, organization of the International Congress on the Jurassic System in Poland was one of the main goals of the Group. The Congress was held in Kraków in 2006 and was arranged in cooperation with all geological departments and institutes in Poland and with the help of Slovak geologists. The



Fig. 1. Participants of the Jurassic X Meeting at Veliky Kamenets quarry, Transcarpathian Ukraine; at the background the limestones (mostly ammonitico-rosso deposits) exploited and polished as the so-called “Neresnitsa marbles”

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edition of the book “Jurassic of Poland and adjacent Slovakian Carpathians” (2006): pp. 1–235, with 47 contributors giving the up to now knowledge on the Jurassic System in Poland was a one of the main achievements related with the Congress.

In the same time, rapidly growing interest from foreign authors and readers in Jurassic system made us aware that there was a significant need for an international journal specialising in the Jurassic. The original *Tomy Jurajskie* periodical (in Polish, started in 2003) evolved into *Volumina Jurassica*, a journal supported by ISJS, a peer-reviewed geological journal devoted to the publication of original research papers on all aspects of the Jurassic System.

The general achievement of the Group was the integration of the Polish Jurassic geological researchers, and then colleagues from adjacent countries. The principal objectives of the Group activities included: supply of information on the scientific activities related to studies of the Jurassic System in Poland and arrangement of field meetings in Poland (JURASSICA) and the neighbouring countries (Slovakia and Czech Republic), presenting new results of the stratigraphical, paleontological, sedimentological and tectonical studies, as well as geotectonic interpretations related to the Jurassic System of the region.



**Fig. 2. Participants of the Jurassic X Meeting
at Priborzhavske quarry, Transcarpathian Ukraine**

Close relations with the geologists from Slovakia and the Czech Republic but also participation in the field meetings of some Russian and Ukrainian geologists in the last years, gave the Group in fact a really international character. Cooperation with Slovak geologists in organization of the VIII JURASSICA meeting in 2010, and following exchange of the results of studies and ideas connected with the geology of the Carpathian region resulted in the renaming of the group in 2012 into the Polish-Slovak Working Group of the Jurassic System. This was approved by both Polish Geological Society and Slovak Geological Society.

On 25–30 June 2012 the jubilee X JURASSICA conference took place at Veliky Kamenets and Priborzhavske on Transcarpathian Ukraine and in Beňatina in Eastern Slovakia in the Pieniny Klippen Belt, Carpathians. It was dedicated to the Jurassic and lowermost Cretaceous of the eastern sector of the Pieniny Klippen Belt – stratigraphy, facies and tectonic development, but also comparisons between Polish, Slovak and Ukrainian parts of this tectonic unit. A special field guide edited on the occasion of the meeting (ISBN 978-83-7863-085-2) contains both the abstracts of the presentations and the explanation to field trip (with reproduction of some most important recent papers on the Jurassic-lowermost Cretaceous of the area – in Polish but some in English as well).

The Eleventh Meeting of the Polish-Slovak Working Group of the Jurassic System (JURASSICA XI) is planned for 2014 in central Poland at Sławno located at the north-western border of the Holy Cross Mountains, and about 100 kilometres south of Warszawa. Sławno is famous of its recent palaeontological discoveries and even called the “Polish Solnhofen”. Here, in a quarry of the Upper Jurassic (Middle Volgian–Upper Tithonian) shallow marine limestones a lot of various fossils deposited in the lagoonal environment were found: insects, ammonites, bivalves, fishes, reptiles and horseshoe crabs. The studies on the findings are actually conducted, and the meeting will be the occasion for presentation of the newly obtained results. Moreover, it is planned to visit the neighbouring outcrops of the Middle Jurassic.

More information about the Group and future meetings are available on web-page www.jurassica.pl.

