

## SLOVENIA



### Geological Survey of Slovenia (GeoZS) representing Slovenian geologists in the IUGS

Slovenian Geological Survey has a long lasting tradition. Though reorganised several times, it was founded in 1946 within the frame of the Ministry for Industry and Mining. But this is not the start of geological research in Slovenia. The roots reach back as far as 1770 in Idrija mercury mine, where the map containing first lithological data has been made by Jožef Mrak (Plan and cross-section of the Idrija mine). Afterward, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, geological research of the Slovenian territory continued in the frame of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and since then has developed more or less uninterruptedly.

For over 20 years, Slovenia has been a member of the IUGS, where GeoZS is representing Slovenian geologists. National Committee is represented by one person only, but activities are in progress to attract other colleagues. The communication is executed mainly by Slovenian Geological Society (SGD). Information concerning geology is distributed to the members via special mailing list “georg”.

At this occasion, some more noticeable results achieved in the research field in the recent years should be mentioned. One of the most interesting is probably the find of a metal meteorite in November 2009 near village Javorje in the Poljane Valley, WNW of Ljubljana. It was named after the village as Javorje meteorite, belonging to IIIAB medium octahedrite iron meteorite. With nearly five kilograms it represents the largest and heaviest meteorite found so far in the territory of Slovenia. There was another meteorite found at Mežakla. Though stony, it attracted much interest, because it is one of the few to which the falling track and its origin have been determined. The research results were published in *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*, 46/12.



Fig. 1. Partly polished and etched Javorje meteorite.  
Photo M. Miler.

Several monographs were published of which the following three have attained the widest interest among geologists: *The Geology of Slovenia*, *Microfacies of Mesozoic Carbonate Rocks of Slovenia* and *Catalogue and systematics of Pliensbachian, Toarcian and Aalenian radiolarian genera and species*.

These are a small stones contributing to the mosaic of the geological science.



Fig. 2. Crystal water of the Tolminka creek rolling over the limestone (W Slovenia). Photo M. Trajanova.



Fig. 3. The Travnik Mountain, Julian Alps with some characteristic flowers (inset and right). Photo M. Trajanova.



Fig. 4. The Triglav lakes valley, Julian Alps. Photo M. Novak.



Fig. 5. Glacial landscape with Bled Lake. Photo M. Novak.



Fig. 6. Karst area with cascade cliffs of thrust sheets in W Slovenia. Photo L. Placer.



Fig. 7. Pohorje Mountains build of metamorphic and igneous rocks and river Drava at sunset (northern Slovenia). Photo M Trajanova.