

A Balkán Geofizikai Társulat 7. Kongresszusa

An international science event promoting research and economic development, important to Albania and beyond



Prof. Dr. Alfred Frasherri
President of BGS

The 7th Congress of the Balkan Geophysical Society was held for the first time in Tirana, from 7 to 9 October, with a broad participation from many countries.

The 7th Congress of the International Balkan Geophysical Society was a scientific event, the first of its kind to be held in Albania and the biggest activity of geophysicists in the

region given the significant scientific inputs. There were 270 participants, 137 of whom from the Balkans countries and 18 other countries, as well as dozens of invited geophysicists and geologists, among others.

The Congress was honoured by the participation of the Chairman of the Albanian Academy of Sciences, Prof. Dr. Muzafer Korkuti, the Deputy Minister of Energy and Industry, Mr. Ilir Bejtja, members of the Albanian parliament and many representatives of higher education and research institutions, which demonstrates arising awareness over the effectiveness of using the complexity of geophysical methods in many areas of the economic and scientific development of the country.

The Congress consisted of four sessions, i.e. the areas of application of geophysical research: seismicity, seismic interpretation applied to oil and gas exploration; gravity, magnetic and electrical methods applied to the exploration of solid minerals; seismology and lithosphere applied to complex regional geological studies, to events of natural and artificial earthquakes, as well as shallow-depth geophysics: civil engineering geophysics, environmental and cultural heritage geophysics, exploration and water geophysics, etc.

There were 116 papers presented in this Congress, i.e. 59 oral presentations and 57 posters, which were assessed and approved for referrals as outputs from the specialists of earth sciences selected by the European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers, EAGE). The papers were prepared by 367 engineers and scientists from the *Albanian*

Geophysical Society, Bulgarian Geophysical Society, Hellenic Geophysical Union, Romanian Geophysical Society, Association of Hungarian Geophysicists, Association of Geophysicists and Environmentalists of Serbia, Chamber of Geophysical Engineers of Turkey.

Moreover, science institutions from Algeria, Austria, Italy, Denmark, Netherlands, India, Iran, Indonesia, Canada, Kosovo, Macedonia, Australia, Great Britain, Slovakia and Portugal played undisputable role for the progress of the Congress. Their contribution in the Congress is ranked as follows: Albania 32 papers, Turkey 32, Bulgaria 20, Hungary 7, Iran 5, Greece 4, Italy 4, Romania 3 and Algeria, Austria, India, Canada, Kosovo, Macedonia and Portugal by 1 paper each.

Such a significant participation shows the importance that is attached to basic and applied geophysical studies, as an important and innovative part of integrated geological research in the Balkan countries and the world. Also, an exhibition of technologies from Albania and the world was organised.

In parallel to the sessions for the presentation of papers, this Technical Exhibition served some well-known companies operating in the exploration of oil, gas and solid minerals in Albania and the world to expose their innovative geophysical research technologies.

Besides the foreign companies such as *Sercel* (France), *Prospectiumi* (Romania), *Geofyzika Torun* (Poland), *Tensi Congress* (The Netherlands), *IRIS Instrument* (France), *Advances Geosciences Europe SL* (Spain), *United Oilfield Services* (Poland), *Patromanas* (Canada), *Beralb* (Turkey), *DECO-GEOPHYSICAL SC* (Russia), *Matrix Geotechnologies Ltd.*, *Z-Terra Inc.* and *Moser Geophysical Services* (The Netherlands), as well as some state institutions involved in earth science and universities such as *Albanian Geological Survey, Faculty of Geology and Mining*. Interesting presentations were provided in this exhibition by the *Balkan Geophysical Society and European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers – EAGE* (The Netherlands), with results from their research and organizational activity. The exhibition was properly arranged by *Foreign Investors Association of Albania* and *Albexpo Group*.

The Congress was organised under the auspices of the Prime Minister of Albania, Mr. Edi Rama, and was enabled by the funding from *Petromanas, Beralb Sh.A., Alumul, Bankers, Stream Oil & Gas, Petroleum Albania LTD, Tirez, Stela Resort*, to which we express our most heart-felt thanks.

In the last day, a round table was held. According to the conclusions the Congress highlights achieved are as follows:

Participation in the Congress of Albanian geophysicists and geologists making up 25% of the papers, truly shows their willingness to contribute to the renaissance of the Albanian economy, whose pillars are research and exploration of oil, gas and other useful minerals like copper and chrome, construction materials, urban and spatial planning, protection and preservation of the geo-environment, etc.

Rebirth of geological prospecting and extraction of minerals absolutely requires the rebirth of geophysics, as an important and crucial part of this innovative deep-earth research. The need for geophysical development is reinforced by its contributions to the discovery of deposits of oil, gas and useful minerals, and to the regional Albanian geological studies that gave them a reputation beyond the borders of the country.

Many papers presented in the Congress focused on civil engineering, land use, civil and environmental emergencies, which shows the weight of geophysical studies to Urban and Territorial Planning in Albania as well as the necessity of Geophysical development in these areas.

There should have been a greater presence of young geophysical specialists from the Diaspora, given that many engineers and geophysicists have successfully worked in their profession in USA, Canada, France, etc. Therefore, the rebirth of Geophysics should start with the training of specialists through up-to-date programmes and innovative technologies of geophysical survey.

All the member societies are committed to enhance geophysics and education in the area, invest in future scientific leaders and in innovation, influence proper policymaking with the best scientific advice and invigorate geophysics and education in the area, increase access to the best scientific solutions for the benefit of their respective countries and the Balkan region.

Professor Dimitriu Ioane, the President of the Romanian Society of Applied Geophysics, sent an adherence application form to the BGS secretary. The request was accepted with the vote and the newly founded society became a member of the Balkan Geophysical Society (BGS).

The Albanian Geophysical Society (AGS) will assist in building up the Section of AGS in Kosovo.

Prof. Dr. Alfred Frasher
President of BGS

A BGS 7. Kongresszusa Tirana, 2013. október 7–10.

Mivel 2011-ben Budapesten a Balkan Geophysical Society elnöksége az egykori 3 éves periódus helyett a kétévenkénti vándorgyűlés megszervezése mellett döntött, az idén Tiránában az elnöklő albán társaság nevében az Albán Tudományos Akadémia szervezte meg a BGS aktuális konfe-

renciáját, amelyen a térség országainak szakemberei mellett kanadai, francia, orosz, lengyel, holland és spanyol előadók, ill. kiállítók is részt vettek. A hivatalos adatok szerint 268 látogató volt, összesen 115 előadás hangzott el, kb. fele-fele arányban szóbeli és poszterelőadás, a összes előadások sze-



Megnyitó