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Fifty Years of Geological Cooperation between Austria, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic

Foreword from the Director of the State Geological Institute of Dionyz Stur in the Slovak Republic

A few years after the creation of the two independent states of the Slovak and Czech Republics the directors of SGUDS and GBA signed the first cooperation agreement in Vienna on May, 26th 2005. The following topics were agreed upon:

Exchange of geological literature, documentation and geological materials.

Exchange of historical geological maps of both countries for digitalization purposes.

Cooperation in correlation studies:

- the Eastern Alps and Western Carpathians in general.
- the Small Carpathians versus Hundsheim Hills.
- Stratigraphy and facies in Mesozoic units.
- Neogene and Pleistocene volcanics.

Environmental geology, public awareness and raw materials.

Geological workshops and excursions.

Since then these topics of cooperation continued. The bilateral agreement was regularly updated annually and signed by the directors of both surveys in the framework of the Central European Initiative meetings.

Beside those recent projects, cooperation already existed before, as for example:

- the environmental project DANREG (1996–1998).
- the geological map of the Western Carpathians and adjacent areas 1 : 500.000 (1998–2000).
- the exchange of data from the Slovakian part of the Vienna basin and new geological data from the Hundsheim Hills (2009).
- intensive cooperation on the base of updating the libraries of both surveys (up to 2010) regarding books and journals.

Finally we need to mention a cooperation which was unofficial but very fruitful. The basic geological mapping in the Tauern region (1 : 50.000), when a group of geologists mainly from SGUDS remarkably contributed to the compilation of the geological map of this area in the course of four mapping seasons in the nineties of the last century.

An outline of possible future development of cooperation:

- cooperation in the CCS problematic within the Vienna Basin.
- cooperation by creation of a crossboundary geopark in the locality Hundsheim Hills – Devínska Kobyla area.
- cooperation in geological mapping at the scale 1 : 50.000 in Austria.

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Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

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