



**NECLIME working group on taxonomy of the  
Neogene  
palynomorph  
record**

**7<sup>th</sup> workshop in Bratislava  
Slovak Republic, November 29-30<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

*FIRST  
CIRCULAR*

Dear colleagues and NECLIME members,

The NECLIME working group on taxonomy of Neogene palynomorphs works successful since 2010 on critical problems of taxonomy and palaeoecology. A considerable part of the Neogene palaeobotanical record comprises microfloras, which are very essential when studying vegetation and climate dynamics of this time-span. To obtain consistent palaeoclimate and vegetation reconstructions from pollen and spores it is crucial to have a good, up to date standard. The working group started with the organization of data input coming from current taxonomical research of NECLIME members, and made available new results obtained in their specific fields of interest.

As has been stated on our last annual workshop (Warsaw '2015), as well as on previous palynological workshops and NECLIME meetings, there is some need to update our data base concerning taxonomy and Nearest Living Relatives of fossil taxa we use for climate and vegetation reconstructions. The working group aims to concentrate on key pollen types, identification of palynomorphs, assignment of NLRs, or on any other topic you might propose.

A co-operation with the "macro working group" of NECLIME ("taxonomy of the Neogene macrobotanical record of Eurasia") started with the joint workshop of both working groups, after the NECLIME annual meeting '2012 in Sofia, allowing for an integrative perspective. We kindly invite our colleagues from the macropalaeobotanical group to join our meeting.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> workshops of the working group "taxonomy of Neogene palynomorphs" in Warsaw, the following topics were appointed for our next meeting:



- The application of the combined TLM/SEM technique on the fossil pollen flora of Europe and West Asia opens up a new perspective bringing about refined NLR concepts that are also relevant for colleagues working on macroflora. In this context another joint meeting of the macro- and micro-groups of NECLIME is very essential.
- Possible correlations of the Central European Neogene palynomorph record with the Eastern Mediterranean, e.g. based on materials recovered from Messinian strata of the Central Anatolian Plateau as well as from other areas.
- Polish brown coal sections, available pollen records and the climate evolution inferred from the study of these comprehensive terrestrial archives were discussed in very detail. Joint studies are appointed in order to compare Neogene climate and vegetation evolution observed in these records with coeval data from NW Germany and the Eastern North Sea Basin.
- Development of the “Ghost Atlas” which represents a hoard of Neogene biodiversity and comprises 5 volumes with unpublished materials from the Polish Neogene, conifers, spores, angiosperms 1+2, and other palynomorphs.
- Palynomorph reference collections - the importance of reference collections in the context of the improvement of our data basis was outlined at our meetings in Sofia and Budapest. Access to reference materials of the Warsaw palynomorph collections can be organized on appointment.

This year's workshop will be focused on the taxonomy of Neogene palynomorphs and will be organized as a round-table discussion, where all participants present their achievements in the form of a short presentation. The workshop will include as well a general discussion and planning of further co-operations within the NECLIME framework.

We cordially invite you and your colleagues interested in climate change recorded in Cenozoic strata to participate in the workshop.

### **Preliminary topics proposed**

- 1) The application of TLM/SEM on fossil pollen flora as a specific focus. A lot of work was done here by our colleagues on North Sea, Central and Eastern Paratethys materials.
- 2) The Central European pollen record – taxonomy, palaeoecology. Possibilities for correlations with the Eastern Paratethys and Mediterranean.
- 3) Investigating reference sections as a model for vegetation dynamics in the Cenozoic and possible high resolving palynological studies including analyses of short-term climate and vegetation dynamics.
- 4) Non-pollen palynomorphs in Neogene sediments.



6) PLEASE feel free to propose to us more topics according to your preference. They will be included in the programme

To all of you who register for the workshop more details will be communicated in a second circular.

With kindest regards, and looking forward to welcoming you in Bratislava,  
Marianna Kováčová, Dimiter Ivanov and Torsten Utescher

**Place:**

Faculty of Natural Sciences, Comenius University in Bratislava  
Ilkovičova 6, Mlynská dolina  
SK-84215 Bratislava  
Slovak Republic

**Date**

29<sup>th</sup> November 2016 (registration, short presentations, round table discussion)  
30<sup>th</sup> November 2016 (microscopy and closing general discussion)

**Accommodation**

<http://www.hotel-druzba.sk>

Participants are asked to book their accommodation individually. Hotel Druzba is in a walking distance to the Faculty of Natural Sciences (you have to only cross the street). Don't hesitate to ask for help with an accommodation booking (contact: [kovacova@fns.uniba.sk](mailto:kovacova@fns.uniba.sk)).

**Deadline for registration and abstract submission**

Please register for the workshop until **October 10, 2016**, using the attached registration form.

Participation fee: **EUR 50.-**, payable on site.

**Information on the 10<sup>th</sup> ESSEWECA conference**

Please note that the 10<sup>th</sup> ESSEWECA conference will take place right after our workshop. This meeting will be held on 1st and 2nd December, 2016 in Bratislava, Slovakia, and is organized by the Department of Geology and Palaeontology. The 10<sup>th</sup> ESSEWECA conference will be devoted to the environmental, sedimentary, stratigraphical and structural evolution of the Western Carpathians, together with related Alpine orogenic zones and the Pannonian domain. More information is available at <http://esseweca.geoklub.sk>.

**Please timely contact Marianna if you wish to participate.**