



Youth Symposium “Geomorphology in Quaternary Research”

Borucino, Poland, 27. 06 – 01. 07. 2022.

Report on the Youth Symposium “Geomorphology in Quaternary Research”

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The Youth Symposium “Geomorphology in Quaternary Research” was held in Borucino, Poland in early summer. This event was the first Peribaltic Working Group meeting dedicated to Early Career Researchers, and because of that, many young scientists came together to discuss different aspects of Quaternary geomorphology (from coastal processes of the Adriatic Sea to the fluvial history of the Ganga Plain in India).

After the first, ice breaking day with the registration and a dinner, Tuesday was our first whole day in the programme. Damian Moskalowicz, the chair of the organising committee opened the symposium, and then Robert Sokolowski, the president of INQUA Peribaltic Working Group gave us an introductory lecture about the Quaternary stratigraphy of Poland. Until lunch break, we had many other lectures, but after that, we went for our first field trip of the symposium. Under the leadership of Karol Tylmann, we visited some glaciogenic landscapes around the venue during a ca. 4-hour long hike. To be honest, this is my favourite part in geomorphology: when I can get to know the forces, processes responsible for our surroundings and I can check them with my own eyes. With such a professional team, it was even more enjoyable. The next day was our turn, since we had to give presentations about our research projects (BSc, MSc or PhD). After each presentation, we had the opportunity to discuss (almost) every emerging question in detail, which was really useful for everyone. We had long-lasting brainstorming sessions in the coffee breaks on dating methods, discussed the possibilities of future collaborations and in general, we had fun doing what is our profession. In the afternoon, we participated in two useful workshops: on handheld gamma-ray spectrometry and on cosmogenic nuclide dating. However, this was far from the end of the day! After having a peaceful dinner, we had to form groups to play an outdoor geocaching game. We solved puzzles together, rambled around the nearby lake and forest, and competed with time and the other team. This evening recharged our batteries for the second half of the week, which was necessary because day 4 was field trip day! A bus took us to the coast of the Baltic Sea, where we had short lectures about storm deposits (Mechelinki), lacustrine sedimentary structures and even on the evolution of early settlements (Rzucewo 1 and 2). The last site we visited was near Dmuchowo, where we discussed glacial sediments and their deformation and till weathering. To end the day in a proper way, we had an evening barbecue at our accommodation. On the last day of the symposium, we had our last workshop (μ CT in Quaternary deposits), and some closing thoughts on the future of INQUA ECR and PWG perspectives from Damian.

We all agreed that this symposium was very useful for all of us. This five-day long symposium and the breath-taking Kashubian Lakeland was more than ideal to build professional connections, make friends and get to know a not well-known part of Poland from a scientific aspect. I am grateful for the grant I have got from the International Association of Geomorphologists to participate in this event, as well as for the organisers of the first youth symposium “geomorphology in Quaternary research” to put together such an amazing programme.



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Figure 1. Group photo with a drone - the most geomorphologists type of photo you can imagine.

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Figure 2. Having a lecture about storm deposits at the Baltic coast.

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Figure 3. Presenting my results from my PhD research so far about relict sand wedges in the Pannonian Basin. The abstract can be found online at <https://czasopisma.uni.lodz.pl/geophysics/issue/view/1095>.