

2019

SEQS-IFG SACCOM 1612F: 2019 activities, future perspectives and events

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The activities of SEQS during 2019 mainly focussed on the improvement of the IFG SACCOM 1612F DATESTRA devoted to the implementation of the Geographic Database of the Terrestrial Quaternary Sites with stratigraphic importance of Europe. DATESTRA will critically summarize the main sites containing Terrestrial Quaternary deposits in Europe trying to bypass their fragmentary nature and giving rapid access to the sections, techniques and methods used for their study. Each territory has its own regional names of the Quaternary units and regional stratigraphic schemes which sometimes have some problems when we try to correlate stratigraphical units from different parts of Europe. DATESTRA will therefore focus on Sites belonging to the main Quaternary stages as assessed by IGSC (Lower-, Middle-, Upper Pleistocene and Holocene) giving emphasis on the stage boundaries and transitions. This approach should give a summary and overview of the main characters of the subseries/stages across Europe. The Database will be made available as web-GIS applications like "Story Maps" in order to give to the wider audience as possible, also at informative level, the chance to have an overview of the European Terrestrial Quaternary stratigraphical setting (Pieruccini et al., 2018).

The goal for 2019 is to present the Prototype of the Database and Output at the INQUA 2019 Congress where the Session "The Quaternary of Europe: stratigraphical perspectives and tools for correlations" is also devoted to the results of DATESTRA. In the framework of this Session, the Conveners received 26 abstracts for Oral and Poster contributions.

In the meanwhile, SEQS Board and members worked on the preparation of the Quaternary International Special Issues regarding the Meetings held in the 2016-2019 Inter-Congress periods.

The Special Issue with the SEQS's community contributions to the Session of the INQUA Nagoya 2015 Congress (Japan) (Westerhoff et al., 2018), was published with 7 accepted manuscripts.

SEQS 2016 Meeting held in Yerevan (Armenia) is undergoing the final steps for publication. The Quaternary International Special Issue will be titled "Bridging Europe and Asia: Quaternary Stratigraphy and Palaeolithic Human occupation" (Guest Editors M. Fiebig, G. Danukalova and K. Meliksetian) and it will include 8 manuscripts.

SEQS 2017 Meeting, held in Tautavel (France), will be soon published in a Quaternary International Special Issue titled "Quaternary Stratigraphy and Hominids around Europe: SEQS 2017 Meeting" (Guest Editors P. Pieruccini, G. Danukalova, V. Celiberti) where 12 manuscripts were already accepted and sent to production and 2 manuscripts that are undergoing the final steps of revision.

Also, the SEQS 2018 Meeting, held in Postojna (Slovenia), will have a Quaternary International Special Issue titled "Quaternary Stratigraphy and Karst & Cave Sediments: SEQS 2018 Meeting" (Guest Editors G. Danukalova, A. Mihevijc, N. Zupan Hajna, M. Fiebig) that is undergoing preparation with a provisional list of 18 contributions.

SEQS is therefore warmly inviting all the interested Quaternary scientists to join the Session at the INQUA 2019 Dublin Congress, where also the SEQS Business Meeting will be held and that will be the occasion to discuss about the SEQS Board composition (any candidature for Board positions are welcome) and future activities for the next 2020-2023 Inter-Congress period, including Meetings and Projects for application to INQUA funding as International Focus Group.

References

Pieruccini, P., Danukalova, G. & Fiebig, M. (2018) - SEQS-DATESTRA a Database of Terrestrial Quaternary Stratigraphical Sites of Europe: INQUA funded International Focus Group 1620F SACCOM. *Alpine and Mediterranean Quaternary* 31, 185-188.

Westerhoff., W., Fiebig, M., Danukalova G., (Eds) (2018) - The Quaternary of Continental Europe: Stratigraphy, Correlation and New Data. *Quaternary International* 478, 1-108.