

Dear colleagues,

since 2013, the Earth Science Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences awards the Bohuslav Cambel Medal. This medal, named after the former director of the Geological Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, is granted to excellent geoscientists to appreciate their outstanding scientific contributions in geosciences research and for support and development of geosciences at the Earth Science Institute, Slovak Academy of Sciences.

This year, the Scientific Board of the Earth Science Institute decided to deliver the Cambel Medal to Professor Dušan Plašienka in recognition of his excellent geological research and for outstanding contribution to our knowledge about the structure and evolution of the Western Carpathians and related orogenic systems.

Professor Dušan Plašienka is an extraordinary scientific personality and internationally recognized expert in regional geology and Palaeoalpine tectonic evolution of the Western Carpathians. Focusing particularly on the Mesozoic tectonic development, he has published several influencing works that presented the basic scheme of regional geology and geodynamic evolution of the Western Carpathian orogenic system. His tectonics-oriented research concentrated mainly on the areas of the Malé Karpaty, Považský Inovec, Vepor and Gemer mountains. Based primarily on his own research, he defined the succession of Alpine tectono-metamorphic events in the Tatric, Fatric, and Veporic units. During the last decade, he has been dealing mainly with the interpretation of tectonic development and structure of the Pieniny Klippen Belt, creating fairly new views on this unique geological phenomenon.

Before moving to the Department of Geology and Palaeontology at the Comenius University in 2003, Prof. Plašienka was a postgradual student and then researcher at the Geological Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, the predecessor of the present Earth Science Institute. As a member of the Department of Tectonics, founded by Prof. Maheľ, he was among the first who were engaged in tectonics and structural geology at our institute. For more than 20 years he was also a member of the Editorial Board of international journal *Geologica Carpathica* issued at the Academy. In addition, he has been a long-years member of our Scientific Board and also after his leaving he has prolonged the scientific collaboration with our Institute – most of the research projects he led were solved in a joint cooperation. Therefore, the Earth Science Institute highly appreciates the scientific impact of Prof. Plašienka on deciphering geological problems of the Western Carpathians and his contribution to organization of scientific research and collaboration on a national as well as international levels.