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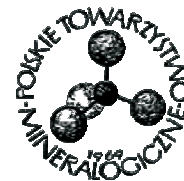
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MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF POLAND

POLSKIE TOWARZYSTWO MINERALOGICZNE

Editorial



## 2009: 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Mineralogical Society of Poland

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### 1. Introduction

The year 2009 was the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mineralogical Society of Poland (MSP), a leading scientific society within its field in this country. The anniversary provided an opportunity to look back at the history and heritage of mineralogy in Poland, and to discuss the present and the future of mineralogical sciences in a rapidly changing world.

The anniversary was marked by a number of scientific meetings. Two were of international character, namely, (1) the joint VII Meeting of the MSP and XVI Meeting of the Petrology Group of MSP (Święty Krzyż, 24–27 September, 2009) and (2) the Volcanological Workshop VENTS 4 (Kraków-Miękinia, 21–24 May, 2009). A number of occasional papers and notes were also published in Polish and international mineralogical journals.

### 2. Historical Notes

The Mineralogical Society of Poland (MSP) was founded on the 17<sup>th</sup> April 1969, initiated by Professor Andrzej Bolewski and his co-workers Jan Kubisz, Leszek Stoch and Witold Żabiński. The first President of the Society was Prof. Andrzej Bolewski, and the headquarters was established at the AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków. According to the Statute of the MSP, the Society “supports the development of mineralogical sciences and propagates them in Polish society”. The formation of the Society was highly anticipated by the wider Polish mineralogical community and, during the first year, the number of its members

reached 165 (Fig. 1). Soon after the formation of the MSP, the society journal Mineralogia Polonica was created (Fig. 2) and, for the long period 1970–2004, Witold Żabiński was its chief editor. A number of scientific and industrial institutions have become formal members of the MSP (Fig. 3). The MSP has been a very active society for forty years now (Figs. 4 and 5).

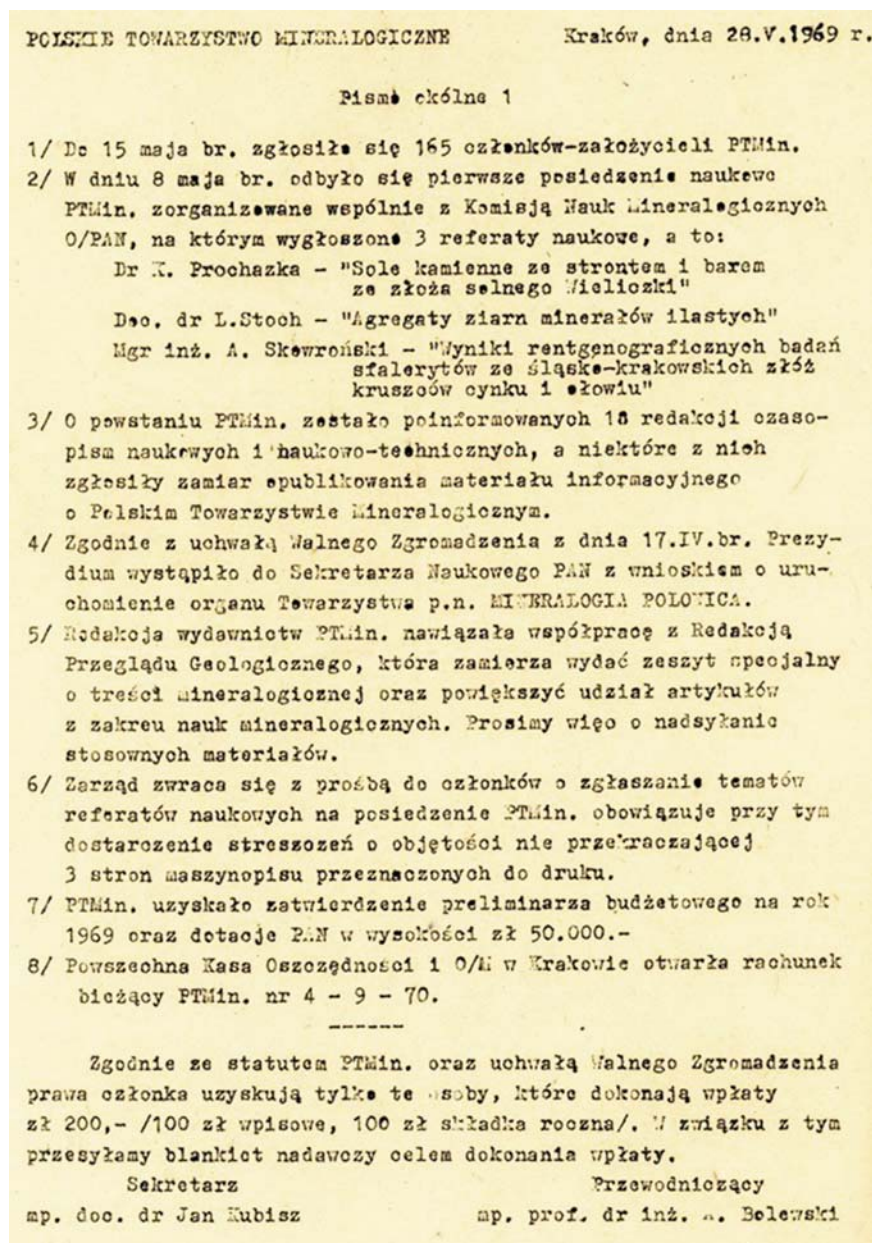


Fig. 1. "The first circular" about the first weeks of activities of the Mineralogical Society of Poland. (MSP archive)

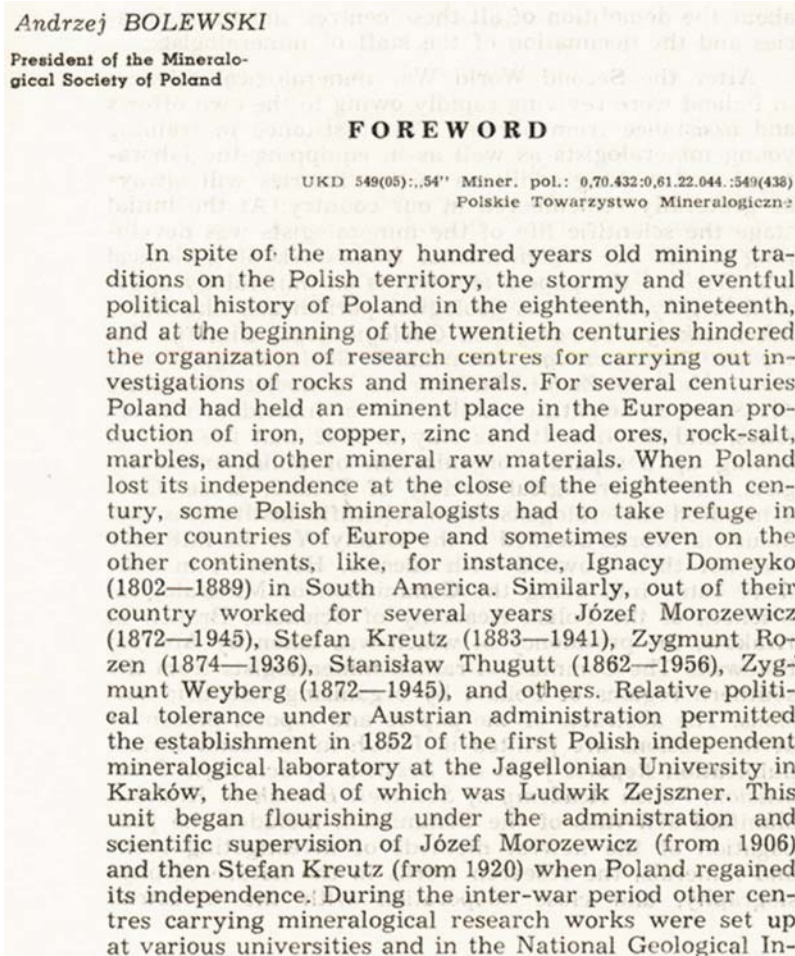


Fig. 2. Mineralogia Polonica vol. 1: Foreword by A. Bolewski. (MSP archive)

### 3. Present Day

The recent activities of the MSP are, in general, a continuation of those of the first decades of its history. Nowadays (2009), the Society has 222 members (including 13 honorary members) affiliated to four regional branches in Warsaw, Sosnowiec (Upper-Silesia), Wrocław (Lower-Silesia) and Kraków. Four specialist scientific groups of the Society have been formally established, the Clay Minerals, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Thermal Analysis Groups. The main activities of the regional branches and scientific groups are regular lectures, seminars and conferences. The Society is supported by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, the donations of supporting members and sponsors, and by membership fees. Since the beginning, the MSP has closely collaborated with the Commission on Mineralogical Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

The MSP has been a member of the International Mineralogical Association (IMA) since 1973 and of the European Mineralogical Union (EMU) since 1999. Representatives of the MSP are members of several commissions of the IMA.

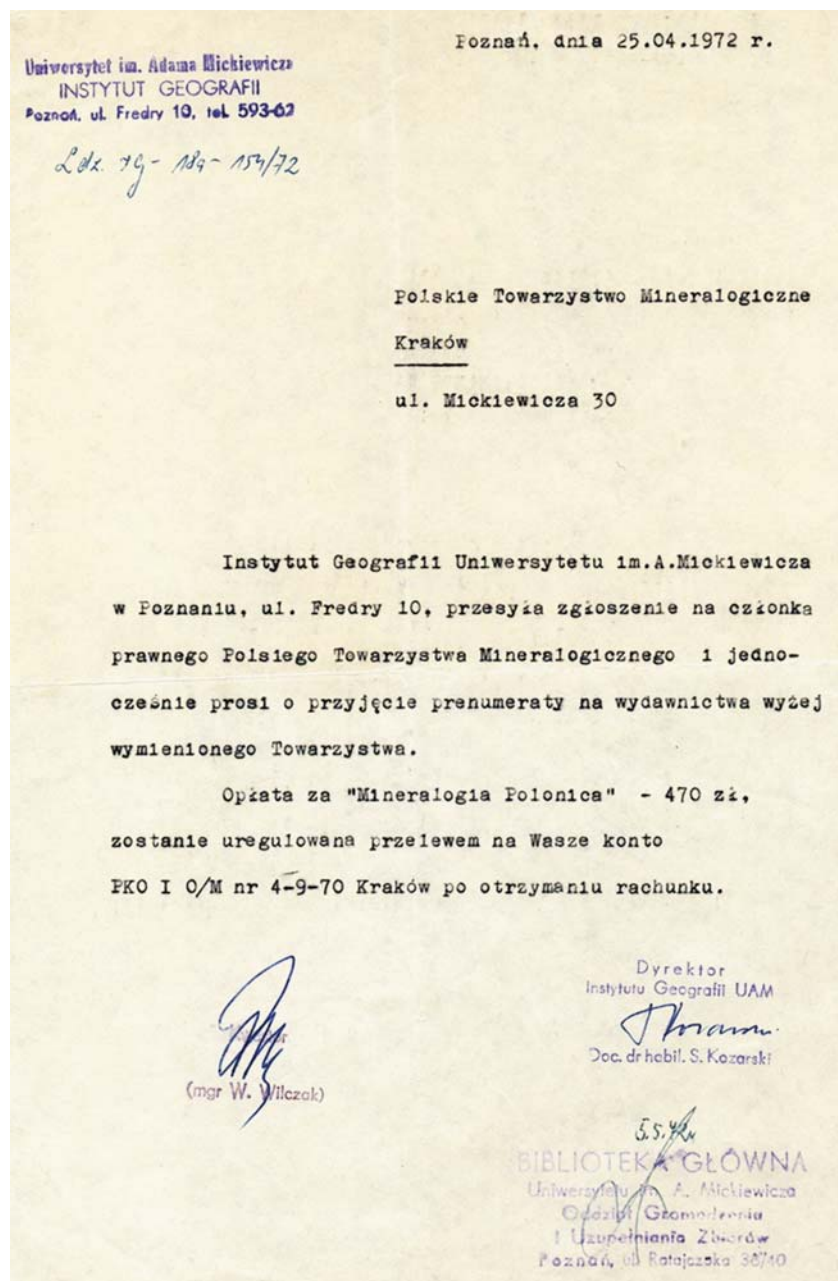


Fig. 3. Institute of Geography, UAM Poznań access declaration as a formal member of the MSP. (MSP archive)





Fig. 4. Meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mineralogical Society of Poland.  
Participants of the excursion to Wieliczka Salt Mine. (Phot. MSP archive)



Fig. 5. Meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mineralogical Society of Poland,  
plenary session: Profs. J. Zussmann, W. Narębski and A. Bolewski. (Phot. MSP archive)

### 3.1. Conferences

The MSP organizes regular and occasional conferences such as the annual meetings of the Polish Clay Group and of the Petrology Group, as well as general meetings of the MSP every two years. The conferences are usually attended by a great number of participants, including young researchers from Poland and from other countries. They have become important scientific events in the field of mineralogical sciences in Central Europe. The MSP also co-organizes international scientific meetings, e.g., the Mid-European Clay Conference, the Central-European Mineralogical Conference and the IMA 2010 General Meeting.

#### **Joint VII Meeting of MSP and XVI Meeting of the Petrology Group of MSP, Święty Krzyż, the Holy Cross Mountains, 24–27 September, 2009**

*(based on an unpublished report from J. Ciesielczuk, Ł. Karwowski and K. Szopa)*

The joint VII Meeting of the Mineralogical Society of Poland and the XVI Meeting of the Petrology Group of this Society, which took place at Święty Krzyż, was an unusual scientific event for at least two reasons, namely, the celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mineralogical Society of Poland and for the fact that, for the first time since its beginning 16 years ago, the Petrology Group annual meeting was organized in the Holy Cross Mountains. In the introductory session, the anniversary was recognized by special papers dedicated to the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the MSP (Kryza et al. 2009) and to the memory of one of the initiators and founders, Professor Witold Żabiński, who died on 15 January 2007 (Kwiecińska 2009).

The Holy Cross region is a unique place for geologists where fundamental aspects of geology can easily be taught and learnt. The main topic of the Conference was “Magmatism and metamorphism in the Holy Cross Mountains” – a bit provocative for a region built almost entirely of sedimentary rocks. The geological setting and geodiversity of the area was addressed in several invited lectures and during field trips.

Sixty participants from Albania, Austria, Egypt, Ireland, Slovakia, and Poland (Fig. 6) presented results of their recent investigations in 24 oral presentations and 24 posters, all covering broad aspects of geochemistry, petrology, mineralogy and environmental geology.



Fig. 6. Meeting on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mineralogical Society of Poland, Święty Krzyż, Holy Cross Mountains, 2009. (Phot. M. Awdankiewicz)

Four field sessions were organized: (1) “Geochemical studies in environmental monitoring and assessment – examples from the Holy Cross Mts.” (leaders: Z.M. Migaszewski, A. Gałuszka, A. Michalik, S. Dołęgowska), (2) “Magmatism and metamorphism in the Holy Cross Mts.” (leaders: Ł. Karwowski, R. Włodyka, S. Salwa, W. Trela, K. Szopa), (3) “Specific sediments for selected Paleozoic successions” (leaders: L. Marynowski, M. Racka) and (4) “Deposits of clay minerals and geotouristic aspects of the Holy Cross Mts.” (leaders: J. Szajn, Ł. Karwowski, J. Ciesielczuk, K. Szopa). All abstracts and fieldtrip guides were published in *Mineralogia – Special Papers*, vol. 35, which is available at <http://www.ptmin.agh.edu.pl/>.

The Meeting was co-organized by the Mineralogical Society of Poland, the Faculty of Earth Sciences of the University of Silesia, the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, the Faculty of Geology of Warsaw University, the Polish Geological Institute, and the Committee on Mineralogical Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The chairman of the organizing committee was prof. Łukasz Karwowski (Silesian University) and its members were Justyna Ciesielczuk, Agnieszka Gałuszka, Janusz Janeczek, Marek Michalik, Zdzisław Migaszewski, Jerzy Nawrocki, Sylwester Salwa, Ewa Słaby, Krzysztof Szopa, Wiesław Trela and Beata Zych-Habel. The joint meeting offered a great opportunity for the participants to learn about new Earth and environmental issues in the Holy Cross Mountains and to discuss current problems in mineralogical and related sciences.

#### **IV VENTS Field Workshop, Permo-Carboniferous Volcanism in the Kraków Region, Kraków-Miękinia, 21–24 May, 2009**

*(A. Lewandowska 2009)*

The VENTS Project has been carried on by scientists from the Czech Republic, Germany and Poland for six years and is devoted to the volcano-sedimentary evolution in Central Europe during late Palaeozoic times.

During the plenary session, 25 oral and poster presentations dealing with a wide range of topics related to late-Palaeozoic volcanism were given by 41 authors. Among over 30 participants from the Czech Republic, Germany and Poland, there were 13 students and PhD



Fig. 7. Participants of the IV VENTS Field Workshop, Kraków/Miękinia, 2009. (Phot. M. Awdankiewicz)

students (Fig. 7). The fieldtrips covered (1) Permo-Carboniferous volcanism of the Kraków region (leaders: Ewa Słaby and Anna Lewandowska) and (2) Cretaceous alkaline magmatism in the Polish Outer Western Carpathians (Leaders: Roman Włodyka and Łukasz Karwowski).

The Workshop was organized by the MSP together with the Jagiellonian University, the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, the University of Wrocław, Warsaw University and the Institut für Geologie, Technische Universität Bergakademie, Freiberg. The organizing committee was Anna Lewandowska (chairperson), Christoph Breitzkreutz, Ewa Słaby, Andrzej Muszyński, Marek Awdankiewicz, Mariusz Rospondek and Beata Zych-Habel. The abstracts and the field-trip guide were published in the 34<sup>th</sup> volume of Mineralogia – Special Papers.

### **Scientific Symposium of the Polish Clay Group of MSP, AGH University of Science and Technology, Kraków, 18–19 September, 2009**

*(based on unpublished report from J. Środoń)*

The Symposium was co-organized by the Polish Clay Group MSP, the Faculty of Geology, Geophysics and Environmental Protection, AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków and the Stanisław Staszic Scientific Society. The plenary session comprised six presentations devoted to selected problems of clay minerals, mineral resources and various aspects of modern mineralogy.

### **3.2. Publications**

The Mineralogical Society of Poland publishes two journals: “Mineralogia Polonica” (since 2008 “Mineralogia”) and “Mineralogical Society of Poland Special Papers” (since 2008 “Mineralogia – Special Papers”). “Mineralogia” publishes reviewed papers on the latest achievements in mineralogy, petrology and geochemistry in Poland and in other countries. “Mineralogia – Special Papers” publishes reviewed abstracts, texts of posters and oral presentations presented during conferences organized by the MSP. Recently, three volumes of Mineralogia have been completed (Vol. 39/1–2 and 39/3–4, 2008, and Vol. 40/1–4, 2009), and two volumes of Mineralogia – Special Papers issued (Vol. 34 – VENTS 4, Miękinia, May 2009; Vol. 35 – 7th Meeting of MSP & XVI Meeting of Petrology Group, Święty Krzyż, September, 2009).

The MSP co-publishes “Elements”, an International Magazine of Mineralogy, Geochemistry and Petrology, edited by the Mineralogical Society of America.

The 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of MSP was marked by occasional articles (Kryza et al. 2009; Kwiecińska 2009) and short notes dealing with the history of mineralogical sciences in Poland (Narębski: “First Polish textbooks on mineralogy”, this volume).

## **4. Conferences in 2010**

### **20th General Meeting of IMA, “Bonds and Bridges”, 21–27 August 2010, Budapest**

The MSP is a member of the Organizing Committee and will be the organizer of field excursions in Poland, namely, (1) Late-Palaeozoic volcanism in the Sudetes and Kupferschiefer-type deposits in the Fore-Sudetic Monocline, (2) Mineralogy of Lower Silesia, (3) Mineral deposits



of the Fore-Carpathian region and (4) weathering processes of monuments in polluted atmosphere in Kraków. <http://www.ima2010.hu>

**“Alkaline rocks: petrology, mineralogy, geochemistry” – Conference dedicated to the memory of J.A. Morozewicz. 19–21 September, 2010, Kyiv**

International conference co-organized by the M.P. Semenenko Institute of Geochemistry, Mineralogy and Ore Genesis of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and by MSP in collaboration with other institutions, and dedicated to the famous Polish petrographer, Józef A. Morozewicz, the pioneer investigator of the alkaline rocks in the Azov region.

<http://www.ptmin.pl/alkalinerocks/>

**1<sup>st</sup> Conference “Contemporary problems of geochemistry” organized by the Geochemical Group of MSP. 27–30 September 2010, Kielce**

The key topic of the conference is the application of geochemical, mineralogical and petrological studies in environmental sciences, e.g., geochemical processes and their influence on abiotic and biotic systems, identification of natural and anthropogenic pollution sources, establishment of background concentrations, and other environment-oriented aspects.

<http://www.ujk.edu.pl/geochemistry2010/>

**XVII Session of the Petrology Group of MSP, “Sudetic lamprophyres”. 14–17 October 2010, Kłodzko**

The annual meeting of the Petrology Group will have as its key topic the intriguing lamprophyre dykes in the Sudetes within the context of Variscan magmatism. An open session will be devoted to all other aspects of mineralogy, petrology and geochemistry.

<http://www.ing.uni.wroc.pl/~lamprophyres2010/>

## **5. Mineralogical Society of Poland: presidents, honorary members, structure**

**The Presidents of the Mineralogical Society of Poland:**

Andrzej BOLEWSKI (1969–1980)  
Witold ŻABIŃSKI (1981–1994)  
Marian BANAŚ (1995–1998)  
Janusz JANECZEK (1999–2002)  
Piotr WYSZOMIRSKI (2003–2004)  
Marek MICHALIK (2005–2008)  
Ryszard KRYZA (2009– )

**The Present Honorary Members of the Mineralogical Society of Poland:**

Pádhraig KENNAN, Ireland  
Jiří KONTA, Czech Republic  
Anna LANGER-KUŹNIAROWA, Warsaw, Poland  
Alfred MAJEROWICZ, Wrocław, Poland  
Andrzej MANECKI, Kraków, Poland

Wojciech NAREBSKI, Kraków, Poland  
Aleksiej Nikolajewicz PLATONOV, Ukraine  
Michał SACHANBIŃSKI, Wrocław, Poland  
Leszek STOCH, Kraków, Poland  
Manfred STÖRR, Germany  
Andrzej WIEWIÓRA, Warsaw, Poland  
Josef ZEMANN, Austria  
Jack ZUSSMAN, Great Britain

**The Late Honorary Members of the Mineralogical Society of Poland:**

Andrzej BOLEWSKI, Kraków, 1906–2002  
Antoni GAWĘŁ, Kraków, 1901–1989  
Dimitr Pawłowicz GRIGORIEW, Russia, 1909–2003  
Antoni ŁASZKIEWICZ, Warsaw, 1904–1980  
William Scott MACKENZIE, Great Britain, 1920–2001  
Kazimierz MAŚLANKIEWICZ, Wrocław, 1902–1981  
Günter Harald MOH, Germany, 1929–1993  
Henryk PENDIAS, Warsaw, 1921–1994  
Antoni POLAŃSKI, Warsaw, 1914–2002  
Paul RAMDOHR, Germany, 1980–1985  
Kazimierz SMULIKOWSKI, Warsaw, 1900–1987  
Tadeusz WIESER, Kraków, 1922–2005  
Jean WYART, France, 1902–1992  
Witold ŻABIŃSKI, Kraków, 1929–2007

**Regional Branches**

Kraków Branch  
President: Dr hab. Maciej Manecki (AGH Kraków)  
Lower Silesian Branch (Wrocław)  
President: Dr Czesław August (University of Wrocław)  
Upper Silesian Branch (Sosnowiec)  
President: Prof. Dr hab. Łukasz Karwowski (University of Silesia, Sosnowiec)  
Warsaw Branch  
President: Dr hab. Katarzyna Jarmołowicz-Szulc (Polish Geological Institute, Warsaw)

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Polish Clay Group  
President: Prof. Dr hab. Jan Środoń (Polish Academy of Sciences, Kraków)  
Geochemistry Group  
President: Prof. Dr hab. Zdzisław Migaszewski (Jan Kochanowski University, Kielce)  
Thermal Methods Group  
President: Prof. Dr hab. Anna Langier-Kuźniarowa (Polish Geological Institute, Warsaw)  
Petrology Group  
President: Dr hab. Marek Awdankiewicz (University of Wrocław)

## **Board of the Mineralogical Society of Poland, 2009–2010**

### ***President***

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## **6. Instead of conclusion**

After forty years of activity, the Mineralogical Society of Poland still retains its main goals as defined in the Statute of the Society: promoting and popularising mineralogical sciences in modern society. This work includes traditional issues as well as the latest research trends in mineralogy and related Earth and environmental, technical and material sciences. This is realized through the stimulating activities of the steering board, within regional branches and scientific groups, as well as by organizing scientific meetings, often in collaboration with national and international scientific institutions and societies.

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- The Mineralogical Society of Poland, homepage: <http://www.ptmin.agh.edu.pl/> and <http://www.ptmin.pl/>
- For more information, please visit <http://www.ptmin.agh.edu.pl/> or <http://www.ptmin.pl/>