MITT. OSTERR. MINGR. GES. 151 (2005)

METALLOGENIC MAP OF ALBANIA

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The Metallogenic Map of Albania scale 1:200 000, was re-edited in 1999 by the Albanian Geological Survey and Huber Kartographie München based on the previous edition published in 1989. The compilation of this map was based on the Geological Map of Albania and the Tectonic Map of Albania, editions of 1983 and 1985, respectively. The different raw materials (metallic, non-metallic, coals, water etc.) were classified according to genetic types, size, and main morphological features of ore bodies. The metallogeny of Albania is characterized by a diversity of mineralizations conditioned by characteristics of geological structure, stratigraphy and palaeogeographic development, magmatism and mineralization processes. The main tectogenesis are those of Late Hercynian, Jurassic, Cretaceous, Eocene, Oligocene, Burdigalian-Tortonian, Miocene and up to Late Pliocene. The earliest igneous activity recorded is of Paleozoic age and represented by basaltic and andesitic volcanism and by monzonite-syenite and granodioritic intrusives with weak polymetallic mineralization. Basaltic and intermediate to acid volcanics and associated mercury and polymetallic mineralizations are related to early continental rifting during the Lower-Middle Triassic. The Lower Jurassic pre-ophiolitic igneous activity (basaltic) is characterized by volcano-sedimentary Fe-Cu-sulphur mineralization.

Jurassic ophiolitic magmatism is the most promenent. The metallogeny of the ophiolite complexes is conditioned by their basic-ultrabasic character and the presence of two ophiolite types; Ti-rich MORB (western belt) and Ti-poor supra-subduction zone (SSZ; eastern belt) magmatism. The ophiolites contain chromite mineralizations (mainly metallurgic type) and hydrothermal metasomatic and volcano-sedimentary Fe-Cu (partly also Zn, Pb, Au) sulphur mineralizations. PGE mineralizations (related to chromites and Ni-sulphides), Fe-Ti, Ni-sulphides, arsenates, asbestos, talc, hydrothermal magnesite, laterite Ni-silicate and iron nickel mineralizations are also present. Other relevant industrial minerals in Albania include: olivinites, barite, fluorite, realgar-orpiment, zeolites, bauxites, phosphorites, evaporites (gypsum, anhydrite, salt) of Paleozoic and Miocene age, coal (Oligocene and Tortonian), natural bitumen, decorative stones (marble, limestone, gabbro, troctolite), chromite, ilmenite and garnet placers. The country has also many thermal mineral water springs and resources of drinking water.