

Karel POŠMOURNÝ

General information about the international project „Geological mapping in Central Europe in the 18th and early 19th centuries“ (Visegrad Fund)

Karel POŠMOURNÝ, Czech Geological Survey, Ministry of the Environment, Praha, karel.posmourny@seznam.cz

The set of geological maps collected within the completed international project "Visegrad Fund" includes maps that were compiled in the late 18th and early 19th centuries (CEJCHANOVA et al., 2011)



Fig. 1: Johann JIRASEK (1791) / Petrographic map of a part of the Bohemia Giant Mountains at the Silesian border. / Petrographische Charte eines Theils des Böhmisches Riesengebirges an der Schlesienschen Gränze.

It is a set that is to a certain extent heterogeneous, depending upon from what viewpoint these maps are looked at and assessed. There is no doubt that the origin of geological maps, as well as other special-purpose or thematic maps, which were compiled at that time, was determined by the pro-

gress of cartography, namely the development of cartographic imaging, which allowed the establishment of a basis for such activities, and to produce such a kind of superstructure.

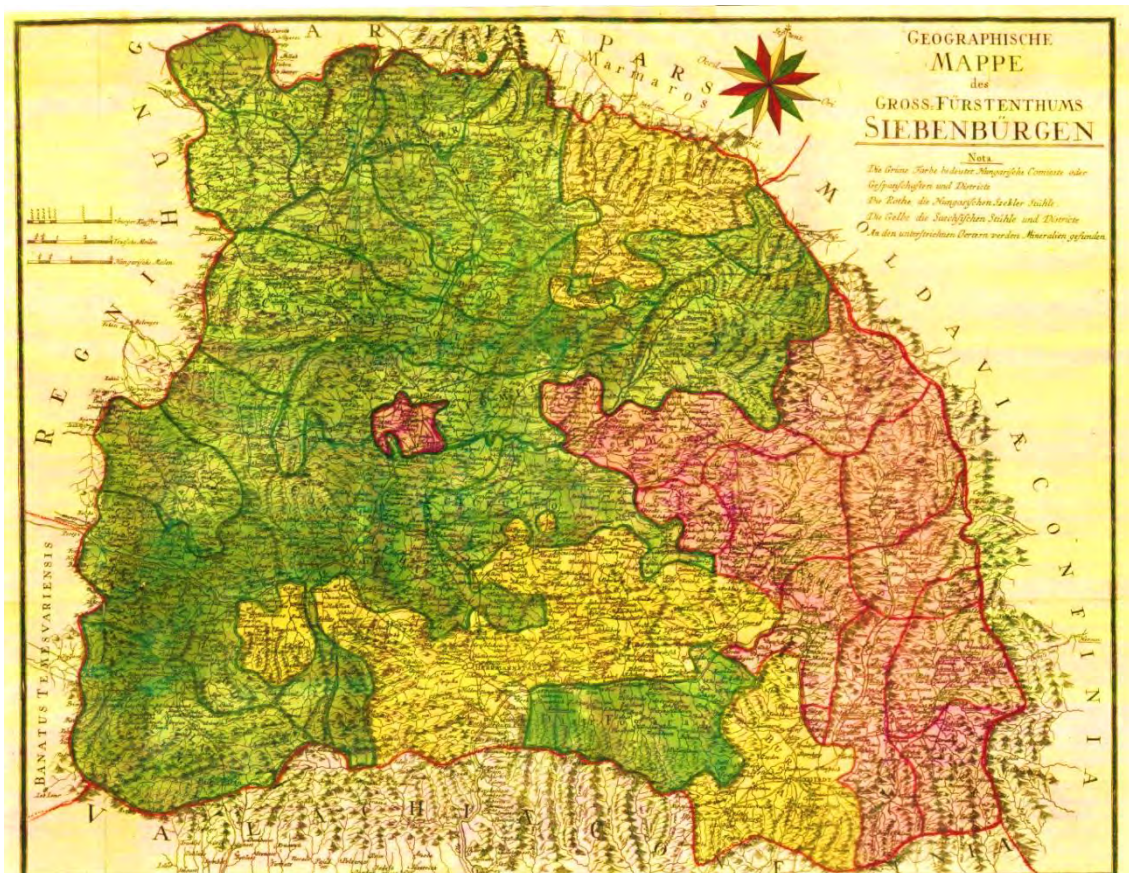


Fig. 2: Johann Ehrenreich FICHEL. 1780. / Geographic Map of the Great-principality of Transylvania, I. part / Geographische Mappe des Gross-Fürstenthums Siebenbürgen. I. Theil.

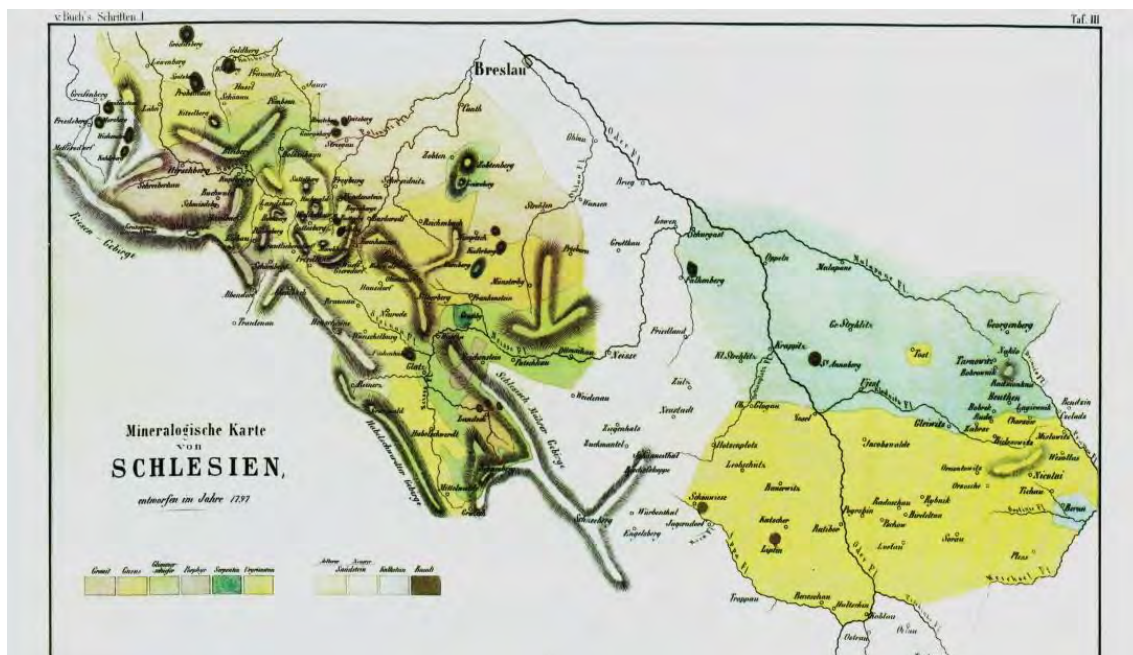


Fig. 3: Leopold von BUCH. / 1802. Mineralogical map of Silesia, designed in 1797. / Mineralogische Karte von Schlesien, entworfen im Jahre 1797.

In all 58 early geological maps were analysed and classified according to a compulsory framework, including e.g. author's name, map scale, editor, year of edition, map area, importance for stratigraphy, tectonics, lithology, cartographic information, current map storage information and author's biography.

The region of interest covered the Bohemian Massif, the Eastern Alps, the Western Carpathians and Polish Holy Cross Mountains. Research team consists of members of the Visegrad countries (the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary), participants from the Austria, Bavaria and Saxony were invited as partners.

The national teams mostly analysed maps from their own countries, some maps, however, covered a territory of more than one country. In these cases it was very effective to cooperate on an international level. The analysis of the early geological maps of the Central Europe enables future comparison with the development of geological cartography in Western Europe, mainly in France and Great Britain (CEJCHANOVA A. et al. 2010).

Literature

CEJCHANOVA A., KUKAL Z., KOZAK J. & POSMOURNY K. (2011): Geological mapping in Central Europe in the 18th and early 19th centuries. - Geoscience Research Reports for 2010, **44**, 193-197, Czech Geological Survey, Prague