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## Introduction to ICOS 4 field trip in the Prague Synform

Conodont studies in the Prague Synform have been developed mostly in carbonate successions of the late Silurian and Lower and Middle Devonian. It is almost unbelievable that 37 years elapsed from the last Conodont Symposium fieldtrip to the Prague Synform (Barrandian area). This first conodont fieldtrip took place in 1980 as a part of the Second European Conodont Symposium ECOS II held in Vienna and Prague. The fieldtrip was led by Prof. Ivo Chlupáč – a great paleontologist and geologist in the Barrandian area, Dr. Jiří Kříž – a great Silurian worker and paleontologist and Prof. Hans-Peter Schönlaub – a great conodont worker and alpine geologist. Their work, especially in light of the conditions of that time, was enormous. The present guidebook summarizes new and older conodont data and offers new views on biostratigraphy and sedimentology of several localities and sections around the Prague Synform. It is dedicated to the above mentioned workers and to the others (for all to be named Prof. Otto Walliser) who started the conodont studies in the Barrandian area.

The Fieldtrip to the Prague Synform represents the first part of the Post-conference Fieldtrip: Silurian and Devonian Conodonts and Stratigraphy of the Prague Synform and Ordovician to Carboniferous Conodonts and Stratigraphy of the Carnic Alps, that take place from July 1-9, 2017. The main focus of the fieldtrip is examination of the famous Silurian and Devonian sections in the Prague Synform, the conodont data in broad context and time-spatial delimitation of the major bioevents recognized in the carbonate succession.

I hope that fieldtrip to the Prague Synform will be a succesful part of the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conodont Symposium ICOS.

Enjoy it!

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