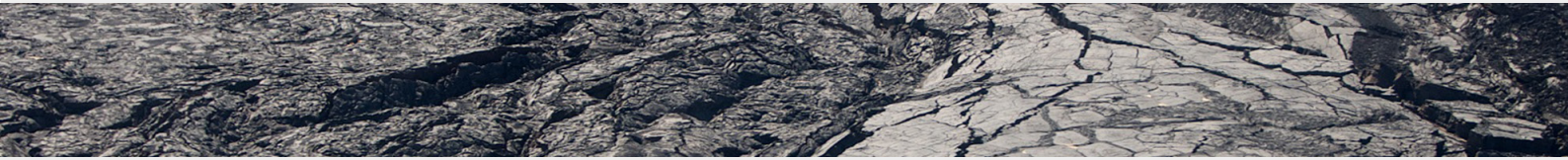




ProGEO

the european association for the
conservation of the geological heritage



of declaration
Chęciny

Chęciny, 2018

declaration of Chęciny

The participants of the 9th International Symposium of ProGEO, held at Chęciny (Poland), 25-28 June 2018, under the main theme 'Geoheritage and Conservation: Modern Approaches and Applications Towards the 2030 Agenda', recognizing that geodiversity and geoheritage and their proper management are fundamental elements for the accomplishment of many of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals proclaimed by the United Nations:

Reaffirm that:

- Both in situ and ex situ geoheritage is at risk due to human and natural factors, which justifies a need for geoconservation;
- Geoconservation policies should be established alongside nature conservation policies and implemented at all levels of public administration, from international to local. All these levels of action have their own merit, but can only be fully successful when integrated into a common strategy;
- The implementation of geoconservation actions requires a specialised knowledge and expertise. Management planning at all levels should consider the incorporation of advice and participation from geoconservationists, in particular recent graduates from universities and other institutes;
- New tools are being developed and should be used to monitor geosites and to promote an effective interpretation of geoheritage, thus contributing to increasing the awareness of society about the role of geodiversity in ecosystem services;
- Public administrations play a crucial role in guaranteeing the necessary statutory framework for geoconservation and to apply efficient conservation measures;
- Local communities play an important role in the maintenance of geoheritage, as geoparks of all levels are showing in so many countries.