

1. IDENTITY

National Fora/Committee: National Geoparks Council, Czech Republic,
<http://www.geology.cz/narodnigeoparky/rada-ngcr>, martina.paskova@mzp.cz

Year of inscription: 2007

2. MEMBERS

Chair: Martina Pásková, Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark,
martina.paskova@mzp.cz,

Members:

Martina Pásková - Ministry of the Environment, Department of Geology,
martina.paskova@mzp.cz

Martin Hruběš - Ministry of the Environment, Department of Geology, martin.hrubes@mzp.cz

Jiří Voves - Ministry for Regional Development, Department of Tourism, Jiri.Voves@mmr.cz

Veronika Štědrá, Ph.D. - Czech Geological Survey, veronika.stedra@geology.cz

Markéta Vajskebrová, Ph.D. - Czech Geological Survey, marketa.vajskebrova@geology.cz

Jaroslav Hromas - Cave Administration of the Czech Republic, hromas@caves.cz

RNDr. Luboš Stárka - Nature and Landscape Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic,
lubos.starka@nature.cz

Antonín Novák - CzechTourism Agency, novak@czechtourism.cz

Jiří Kvaček - National Museum, jiri.kvacek@nm.cz

Stanislava Kučová - National Monuments Institute, kucova.stanislava@npu.cz

Viktor Goliáš - Charles University, wiki@natur.cuni.cz

Martin Šauer - Masaryk University, sauer@econ.muni.cz

Blanka Nedvědická - Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark, info@geoparkceskyraj.cz

Luboš Gardoň - Barrandian National Geopark, gardon@eco-centrum.cz

Stanislav Stařík - Broumovsko National Geopark, stanislav.starik@broumovsko.cz

Jiří Loskot - Egeria National Geopark, loskot@muzeum-sokolov.cz

Daniel Smutek - Iron Mountains National Geopark, smutek@vz.cz

Kateřina Červenková - Knights of Blanice National Geopark, katka.cervenkova@csop.cz

Dalibor Kvita - Podbeskydí National Geopark, hajenka@centrum.cz

Lenka Mrázová - Ralsko National Geopark, lenka.mrazova@geoparkralsko.cz

Jan Švaříček - Vysočina National Geopark, jan.svaricek@gmail.com

3. ACTIVE APPLICATIONS

Active application in your country: None

Territories that you are advising:

- Barrandian National Geopark, Luboš Gardoň, gardon@eco-centrum.cz, <https://geoparkbarrandien.cz/>, 5 years
- Broumovsko National Geopark, Stanislav Stařík, stanislav.starik@broumovsko.cz, <https://geopark.broumovsko.cz/>, 4 years
- Czech-Bavarian Geopark which consists of two Czech National Geoparks (Egeria National Geopark a GeoLocí Geopark) and Bavarian National Geopark (Germany), Jiří Loskot, loskot@muzeum-sokolov.cz, <http://www.geopark.cz/en>, 6 years

4. ACTIVITIES

Institutional activities

The National Geoparks Council is an advisory body to the Minister of the Environment which, in addition to stimulating and coordinating the development and quality of national geoparks, also implements the goals of UNESCO Global Geoparks in the Czech Republic within the International Geosciences and Geoparks Program. At present, there is a UNESCO Global Paradise Geopark in the Czech Republic, eight national geoparks (Egeria, Iron Mountains, Knights of Blanice Region, Podbeskydí, Ralsko, Vysočina, Broumovsko, Barrandian) and two candidate national geoparks (Royal Šumava and Krajina břidlice).

Due to the pandemic situation, the spring Council meeting (May 18) took place in online format. The autumn meeting (September 22) was held in person (with some participants online) at the Barrandian National Geopark. Colleagues from the Interdepartmental Commission of the Geoparks Network of the Slovak Republic were present at this meeting for the first time, and common problems and challenges were discussed. This was followed by a Czech-German conference entitled *Earth's Heritage in Geoparks*, which took place in a hybrid form (most Czech, some Slovak and three German participants in person, other Czech, German, Slovak and Italian participants online). Two of the German participants were volunteers who, based on cooperation with the German Commission for UNESCO, worked for half a year in the Bohemian Paradise Geopark, thus continuing the six-month work of their predecessors.

Based on the results of the revalidation procedure, the Minister of the Environment was recommended to recertify the Iron Mountains and Bohemian Paradise National Geoparks for the next four years. The Council informed the Minister of the Environment about the need for a national strategy for Czech geoparks and created the first documents.

Promotional, educational and involvement activities

The first Czech delegate of the newly established platform of the Global Geoparks Network - Youth Forum - participated in December (as the only non-Korean participant) in the 9th UNESCO Global Geoparks Conference on Jeju Island (Korea).

The Ministry of the Environment supported the following three geologically oriented studies: 1. Petrography of volcanics and sediments of selected geotopes of the Broumovsko National Geopark, 2. Creation of an application of tourist geological points for the Vysočina National Geopark and 3. Historical iron ore mining in the Ralsko National Geopark.

Throughout the pandemic situation, the geopark-related education, geological heritage interpretation and geotourism was provided or supported online throughout the year. E.g. at the University of Hradec Králové, these topics are part of the curriculum of the Department of Recreation and Tourism and students are assisted to realize their practices and internships in Czech and foreign geoparks. This year, geoparks representatives and students of this university were again involved in the project supported by the Technological Agency of the Czech Republic which is dedicated to visitors flows stimulation from congested localities to the underappreciated geotrails and geosites of the Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark as well as Iron Mountains and Broumovsko National Geoparks.

Participation in the activities of the EGN and GGN

Representatives of the Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark and the Chair of the Council participated in all the online meetings of the Coordinating Committee of the European Geoparks Network, the Global Geoparks Network and the 9th UNESCO Global Geoparks Conference (membership in the Scientific Council of the conference and chairing of one of the conference sections). The chair participated also in the online workshop of the German Commission for UNESCO *Kulturweit networking meeting for UNESCO designated sites* (April 15), the online UNESCO workshop *International Day of Geodiversity* (April 16) and in the *Welcome Digital Event for the new UNESCO Global Geoparks* organized on the occasion of the International Mother Earth Day.

The Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark went successfully revalidation process and continues in the cooperation and work inside of the Global Geoparks Network.

In addition to attending an online meeting of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council, the chair of the Council conducted four assessment missions in aspiring UNESCO Global Geoparks (Germany, Luxembourg and two in Ecuador) and lectured on the role of indigenous community knowledge in Latin American geoparks in digital UNESCO Global Geoparks Workshop *GEO-SCHEMAS 2021 First Edition: Inter-regional workshop on creative economy*. She actively

participated in the plenary sessions of the Czech Commission for UNESCO and its relevant sections.

The cross-border Czech-Saxon project *Cooperation and promotion of UNESCO Global Geoparks in Euroregion Nisa*, in which the Bohemian Paradise UNESCO Global Geopark cooperated with Muskauer Faltenbogen UNESCO Global Geopark (Germany) has been completed.

Another cross-border project GECON (*Geological Cooperation Network*) was also successfully completed, which resulted in a fruitful partnership of Czech, German and Polish geoparks and geological institutions (study tours, workshops, summer schools, field trips, regional conferences, traveling exhibitions, methodological materials, etc.). The results of implemented projects and the possibility of involving other working group institutions are available on the website www.gecon.online.