Geotourist Potential of the Krupanj Area (Western Serbia)

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The two large geotectonic units are distinguished in the Krupanj area - Jadar terrane (part of the internal Dinarides) and Vardar Zone. According to scientific, educational and aesthetic values, five outcrops are selected as potential tourist sites. Each of them has geoconservation significance, representing the major geological events from the Paleozoic in western Serbia.

The Ivovik fossiliferous site is recognized by well-preserved brachiopod fauna of the Middle Carboniferous, unique in Europe. The Likodra thrust illustrates gradual transition of the Middle Carboniferous deep sea flysch into shallow-water formation with well preserved reef building fossils (e.g. tabulate corals *Chaetetes*). Limestones exposed in Kriva reka contain information of evolutionary history of fusulinid forams (the Middle Carboniferous-Lower Permian). The appearance of ophiolite melange in Rujevac (Paleogene) is enabling to explain the genesis of this 'exotic block'. Soko Grad site signifies well exposed tectonic contact between the Jadar terrane and Vardar Zone.

Although the distance among the first four sites enables one-day walking tour, Soko Grad takes additional time (12 km far away). As very instructive sites, they are planned for including in regular students' excursion. Integration of geological sites into tourist offer of Krupanj area would raise public awareness of geodiversity values.

Along with educational significance, the area has great tourist and cultural prospect. It is one of very few still well preserved landscapes in this part of Serbia. In picturesque and low populated area without industrial pollutants, there are also several cultural-historical sites (medieval monasteries and fortress).

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