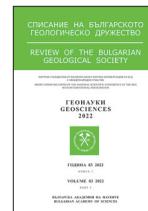




СПИСАНИЕ НА БЪЛГАРСКОТО ГЕОЛОГИЧЕСКО ДРУЖЕСТВО,  
год. 83, кн. 3, 2022, с. 329–330

REVIEW OF THE BULGARIAN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,  
vol. 83, part 3, 2022, p. 329–330



Национална конференция с международно участие „ГЕОНАУКИ 2022“  
National Conference with International Participation “GEOSCIENCES 2022”

## Academician Vladimir K. Petković (1873–1935) – a brief introduction to the life and work of one of the founders of the Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association (CBGA)

За живота и делата на Академик Владимир К. Петкович (1873–1935)  
– един от основателите на Карпато-Балканската геоложка асоциация (КБГА)

*Aleksandra Maran Stevanović*  
*Александра Маран Стеванович*

Natural History Museum in Belgrade, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia; E-mail: amaran@nhmbeo.rs

**Abstract.** Academician Vladimir K. Petković was one of the founders of the Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association (CBGA) in 1922. The announcement gives a brief information about his professional path and his contributions to the geology of Serbia.

**Keywords:** one of founders, CBGA, Vladimir K. Petković.

### Introduction

Academician Vladimir K. Petković is an important name in the field of Serbian natural sciences. According to many researchers and contemporaries, he is considered the founder of regional geology, the most competent expert on the geological structure and tectonics of eastern Serbia, as well as of the Cretaceous sediments in Serbia (Fig. 1).

During his fruitful career, Petković held different positions – professor of natural sciences at the St. Sava Theological Seminary, professor of geology and rector of the Belgrade University, member of the Serbian Royal Academy (SRA), founder of the Geological State Institute, editor of the journal *Annales Géologiques de la Péninsule Balkanique* and a long-term associate of the Natural History Museum in Belgrade (Maran Stevanović, 2020).

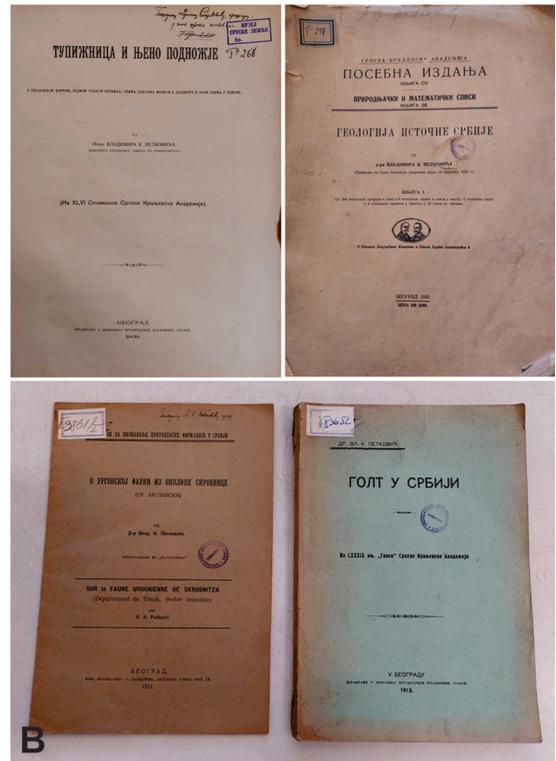
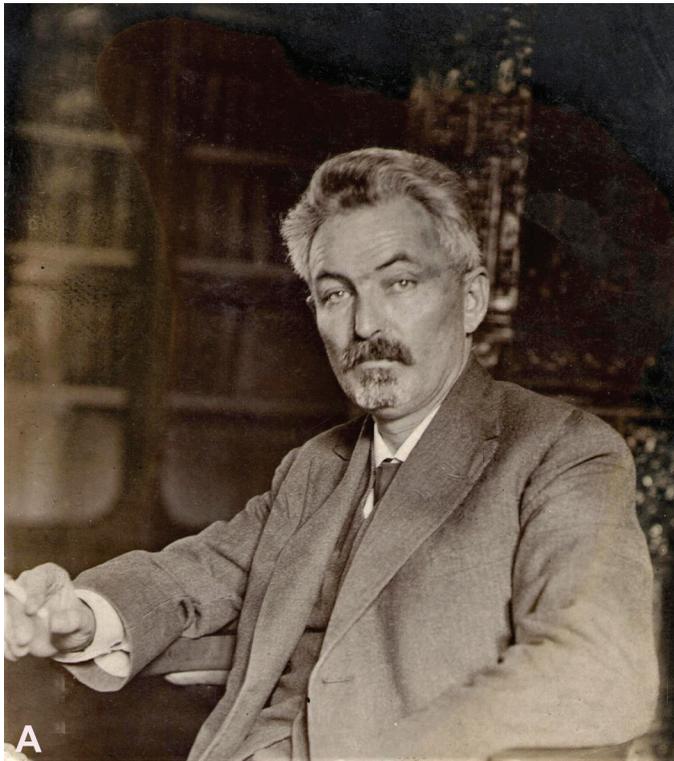
### Vladimir K. Petković: life and work

Vladimir Petković was born on June 19, 1873 in Boljevac, Eastern Serbia. He graduated from the Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

at the Faculty of Philosophy of the Great School in 1896 and continued his studies with the Austrian geologist, Professor Eduard Suess in Vienna. After succeeding the professorial examination (1901), he was elected assistant geologist at the Faculty of Philosophy of the Great School in March 1905, six months before the formal founding of the University of Belgrade.

At the Belgrade University, he began systematic geological field research in Eastern Serbia, studying the tectonic, morphological and paleontological structure of the wider area of Zaječar, Boljevac and Knjaževac. He received his doctorate in 1908 on the topic „Tupižnica and its foothills“ and became the first doctor at the University of Belgrade. He specialized in paleontology and stratigraphy of Cretaceous in Paris and Grenoble, applying the acquired knowledge in identifying the fossilized remains of the Lower and Upper Cretaceous fauna, collected in Eastern and Central Serbia (Maran Stevanović, 2021).

The Balkan Wars and the First World War he spent as a conscript on the battlefields, and in the short periods of the armistice he performed the duty



**Fig. 1.** A, Vladimir K. Petković (photo library of the Natural History Museum); B, selected papers of Vladimir K. Petković (photo A. Maran Stevanović)

of organizing schools in the liberated territories. From 1918 to 1920 he was the Head of the Ministry of Education in Corfu, Greece.

He was elected corresponding member of the SRA in 1921, and a full member in 1930 with the introductory speech „On the tectonic structure of Eastern Serbia“. Together with colleagues from Czechoslovakia, Poland and Romania, during the International Geological Congress held in Brussels in 1922, Petković initiated the founding of the Carpathian Geological Association – which later grew into the Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association (1958).

Petković was elected dean of the University’s Geological Survey for three terms; in the period 1930–1933, he was the rector of the University of Belgrade.

He has published more than 70 scientific papers, mainly in regional geology. His most important

works include: „Tupižnica and its foothills“ (1908), „Gault formations in Serbia“ (1913), „On the Barremian age of the Greben/Djerdap Gorge“ (1921), „On the tectonic structure of Eastern Serbia“ (1930), „On the geological composition and tectonic position of the southeastern part of the Timok Basin“ (1931) and posthumously, „Geology of Eastern Serbia“ (1935, Fig. 1-B).

Long illness, difficult financial situation and years of intensive work influenced Petković early death; he passed away in Belgrade on March 20, 1935.

## References

- Maran Stevanović, A. 2020. Natural History Museum: A journey through time and space. – *Bull. Natural History Museum*, 13, 7–47.
- Maran Stevanović, A., 2021. *The Story of Us*. Natural History Museum in Belgrade, Color press, Lapovo, 68 p. (in Serbian).