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Ostracods (Crustacea) as indicators of the middle Miocene Badenian marine transgression (Central Paratethys, Bosnia and Serbia)

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Middle Miocene Badenian (=Langhian) marine transgression was a significant regional event that affected the Central Paratethys (herein, Bosnia and Serbia represent its marginal part). The flood waters covered various rock units, both older, mostly Mesozoic formations, and the early Miocene continental-lacustrine deposits. Therefore, there is a transgressive and unconformable relationship between older rocks and the Badenian sediments that cover them (e.g., Ugljevik, Jadar Basin, Kolubara Basin, Belgrade area, central Serbia). The major indicators of such event are molluscs, foraminifers, calcareous nannoplankton, ostracods, algae, etc. Based on them, the timing of seawater movement was determined (e.g., Pezeli et al., 2013; Mandic et al., 2019; Jovanović et al., 2019). Ostracods are not key microfauna for the dating of that event, but they give important response regarding the water quality, temperature, salinity, aeration, depth of water column, and other paleoecological features (e.a., Mandic et al., 2019). In general, the following species dominate: Acanthocythereis hystrix (Reuss), Aurila haueri (Reuss), Callistocythere canaliculata (Reuss), Cletocythereis haidingeri (Reuss), Cnestocythere truncata (Reuss), Costa edwardsii (Roemer), Heliocythere vejhonensis (Procházka), Henryhowella asperrima (Reuss), Krithe sp., Loxoconcha hastata (Reuss), Paracypris polita Sars, Parakrithe dactilomorpha Ruggieri, Pokornyiella deformis (Reuss), Pterygocythereis calcarata (Bosquet), Tenedocythere sulcatopunctata (Reuss). Taxa such as Krithe and Parakrithe live in the infraneritic (circalittoral) to bathyal zone (Ayress et al., 1999). These genera and other deeper water ostracods (e.g., Paracypris) support an open sea influence. Callistocythere, Henryhowella, Xestoleberis, Costa, Acantocythereis and Ptervaocythereis occupy the infraneritic zone. Some genera are truly cosmopolitan (e.g., Aurila, Costa, Loxoconcha, Cnestocythere) and inhabit other provinces of that time (Mediterranean, Indo-Pacific). The shell size, its ornamentation and pronounced ultrastructure (e.g., Pokornyiella, Cletocythereis, Semicytherura, Tenedocythere) indicate conditions of a warm, shallow subtropical sea (Mandic et al. 2019).

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