



European Mineralogical Union

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EMU RESEARCH EXCELLENCE MEDAL 2023



One of the means by which the European Mineralogical Union (EMU) fosters and encourages research in the mineralogical sciences is to present a silver medal each year. The “**EMU Research Excellence Medal**” is presented to early-career scientists (no more than 15 years since completion of PhD*) who have made significant contributions to research *and* who are active in strengthening European scientific links. The medal is presented at an awards

ceremony during an international meeting, such as Goldschmidt, the European Mineralogical Conference, or a combined meeting of EMU member societies.

The EMU Medal Committee calls upon the member societies and all European mineralogists for nominations every year; the deadline in 2023 will be June 1. The nomination process is quite straightforward and requires only a cover page (available at eurominunion.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/cover-page-EMU-award-interactive.pdf), a cover letter from the nominator outlining the candidate's qualifications in light of the two criteria for the award, supporting letters from at least two, but no more than four co-sponsors, and a complete CV of the candidate that includes a full publication list. Nomination packages for 2023 should be sent to the Chair of the Medal Committee, Dr. Anders Meibom (Anders.Meibom@unil.ch), by midnight (GMT) on **June 1, 2023**.

All members of the EMU societies are encouraged to consider nominating suitable candidates from among their colleagues to recognize their outstanding scientific contributions to the mineralogical sciences (in the broadest sense).

Please feel free to contact the Acting President of the EMU, Prof. Isabelle Daniel (isabelle.daniel@univ-lyon1.fr), with questions or suggestions about the EMU Research Medal.

For more information, visit eurominunion.org/?page_id=152.

* The commission will consider career breaks and other non-standard career paths, e.g., part-time working patterns, parental leave, caring responsibilities, health issues, if these have had an effect on the 15-year limit since completion of PhD. The limit is applied to the closing date for nominations.

JAKUB KIERCZAK: MEDAL FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE 2022



The 2022 Research Excellence Medal of the European Mineralogical Union (EMU) has been awarded to **Dr. Jakub Kierczak** from the Department of Experimental Petrology, Institute of Geological Sciences, University of Wrocław (Poland).

Dr. Jakub Kierczak is internationally renowned for his work on the mobility and distribution of metals in natural and anthropogenic soils as well as for his achievements in studying metallurgical slags within a multidisciplinary context of environmental, archaeological, and metal recovery research.

His principal research interests are focused on reconstructing migration paths of metallic elements from ultramafic rocks and metallurgical slags. His research is interdisciplinary and combines methods of geochemistry, geology, mineralogy, soil science, and biology in studying rocks, soils, and plants. One of his main concerns is that of environmental impacts, and for ultramafic sites, he stresses that Ni, Cr, and Co are easily mobilized and may pose a health risk. For slag-related studies, his research also embraces other aspects such as the potential recovery of metals from slags, as well as the reconstruction of historical smelting technologies.

Dr. Jakub Kierczak showed the importance of the proper and detailed characterization of minerals in soils and metallurgical slags for the prediction of metal mobility from these materials. In addition to the main trends of his research activity, Dr. Jakub Kierczak collaborates with numerous scientists representing a diverse range of scientific disciplines providing mineralogical support for their research.

Dr. Jakub Kierczak is an excellent team leader focused on the development and promotion of young scientists. He has established an extensive network of international collaborations with scientists from several research institutions in Europe. Dr. Jakub Kierczak is deeply involved in the integration of the mineralogical community in Poland—first, through his activities as a member of the Society's Board, and second, since December 2020, as the President of the Mineralogical Society of Poland.