

FIRST CIRCULAR

International Field Symposium

“Glacials and interglacials of the Middle and Upper Pleistocene in central Poland”

INQUA PERIBALTIC WORKING GROUP MEETING 2026

June 28 – July 3, 2026, Łódź, central Poland

Next year, between 28 June and 3 July, another meeting of the Peribaltic Working Group will take place. This time, we will meet in central Poland. The oral and poster session will be held on 29 June, and the remaining days will be devoted to discussion and presentation of research results during the field part of the conference, in accordance with the schedule below. All topics related to geology, geomorphology and related Quaternary sciences are welcome during the first part of the meeting.

Central Poland has been a classic area of Quaternary research for over a hundred years. Due to the well-developed marginal zones of the last and previous glaciations, it is an area extremely rich in various types of erosional, deformational and accumulation forms, which are a direct result of the activity of the Scandinavian Ice Sheets in this area. Tectonic processes resulting from the activity of the sub-Quaternary substrate, including salt tectonics, played also a significant role in shaping the landscape. In the periods between successive advances of the Scandinavian Ice Sheet, fluvial and aeolian processes developed intensively, and lake sedimentation took place in glacial depressions. The last, but equally important, morphogenetic factor was periglacial processes, for which the area of central Poland is extremely important for the development of research into these processes. Finally, we will also have the opportunity to see how environmental features influenced the settlement of central Poland by humans in past centuries.

Our field trips will take us from the marginal zone of the last glaciation to areas within the reach of the Middle Pleistocene glaciations. For this reason, we will change our place of stay twice. However, we believe that this minor inconvenience will be compensated by the charming places where we will be staying and the interesting research sites that will be presented. Of particular importance will be two large open-cast lignite mines, which we will have the opportunity to visit during our field trips. We hope that our proposal for a scientific meeting will be met with great interest on your part.

Important dates:

15 December 2025 – Preliminary registration

15 January 2026 – Confirmation of participation

1 March 2026 – Final registration and abstract submission

15 April 2026 – Conference fee payment deadline

Registration and fees:

Participant registration is carried out via the online registration form ([fill the registration form](#)). Please complete and submit your registration by **15 December 2025**. Confirmation of registration will be sent to participants by **15 January 2026**.

Due to logistical constraints, particularly those related to the field trips (including visits to large lignite mines), the number of participants is limited. Once the limit is reached, additional applicants will be placed on a **waiting list**.

The conference fee is **550 EUR** with discount planned for **students and PhD candidates**. The fee covers accommodation, field trip transportation, full board (breakfast, lunch, dinner), and conference materials. Please note that it does not cover any health or travel insurance. The final amount of the conference fee and payment methods will be announced in the Second Circular to those with a preliminary registration. The final fee will depend on the amount of financial support obtained from potential sponsors.

Conference programme:

28 June 2026 (Sunday)

Arrival of participants; ice-breaker party

Accommodation: Łódź – Training and Conference Centre of the University of Łódź (Centrum szkoleniowo-konferencyjne Kopcińskiego)

29 June 2026 (Monday)

Official opening of the conference; oral and poster sessions

Accommodation: Łódź - Training and Conference Centre of the University of Łódź) Centrum szkoleniowo-konferencyjne Kopcińskiego)

30 June 2026 (Tuesday)

Field trip: geomorphology of the edge zone of Łódź Plateau; Geopark Owadów–Brzezinki (renowned for world-class palaeontological discoveries)

Accommodation: Spała

1 July 2026 (Wednesday)

Field trip: Szczerców Outcrop - Bełchatów Lignite Mine (one of the largest geological exposures of Quaternary in Central Europe); Ludwików pit (aeolian sediment site)

Accommodation: Spała



2 July 2026 (Thursday)

Field trip: Siedlątków site (Pleistocene glacial flood deposits); post-mining areas of the Adamów Lignite Mine

Accommodation: Mikorzyn

3 July 2026 (Friday)

Field trip: Tomisławice Outcrop – Konin Lignite Mine, medieval stronghold in Tum and the Warsaw-Berlin Proglacial Valley

Closing of the conference (Łódź)

Abstracts for oral and poster presentations:

Participants are invited to submit abstracts related to the general theme of the symposium by **1 March 2026**. All accepted abstracts will be published digitally in the Conference Abstract Volume. Further details, including the **abstract template** and formatting guidelines, will be provided in the Second Circular.

Travel information and venue:

The conference will start and end in **Łódź**, a centrally located city in Poland with very good transport connections. Łódź is easily accessible by train and FlixBus from major Polish and European cities. There are also convenient connections from Warsaw airport (Chopin Airport) to Łódź. There is also an airport in Łódź – Łódź Władysław Reymont Airport (LCJ). The **Faculty of Geographical Sciences University of Łódź**, where the first day of the conference will be held, as well as the Training and Conference Centre of the University of Łódź (accommodation site), are both located within a short walking distance from the Łódź Fabryczna Railway Station.

Other information:

For entry to the strategic facility – **lignite mines** – **ID or passport details** will be required. These data will be collected at a later stage of the registration process.

Following the conference, a special issue of ***Quaternary International*** is planned, comprising papers based on topics presented during the PWG meetings in Germany (2025) and Poland (2026). The registration form includes an option to indicate preliminary interest in contributing to this publication.

Contact information:

For any questions or further information, please contact Małgorzata Frydrych (malgorzata.frydrych@geo.uni.lodz.pl).

