

Activities of the Balkan, Black Sea and Caspian Sea Regional Network on Space Weather Studies

A. Özgüç

*Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute,
Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey*

e-mail: ozguc@boun.edu.tr

Received: 20 November 2007

Abstract. Information is given about activities, including the Annual Meeting of the Balkan, Black Sea and Caspian Sea Regional Network on Space Weather Studies held in 2006, Antalya, Turkey, and publication of papers presented in this Meeting.

© 2007 BBSCS RN SWS. All rights reserved.

Keywords: IHY, network activities, space weather

Introduction

In the International Journal "Sun and Geosphere", volume 1, number 2, 2006, and volume 2, number 1, 2007 (Guest Editor: A. Özgüç), the papers presented at the Annual Meeting of the Balkan, Black Sea and Caspian Sea Regional Network on Space Weather Studies (hereinafter "Meeting") held in March 30 - April 1, 2006, at the Süral Saray Hotel in Manavgat, Antalya, Turkey, were published.

All the manuscripts submitted to the editors were sent to anonymous international referees who made great efforts to review all of them and to improve the quality of the manuscripts. Only peer-reviewed papers were included in these issues.

The Meeting (for Meeting details visit: <http://www.ihy2007.boun.edu.tr/>) was organized by the Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey, right after the Total Solar Eclipse (TSE) on March 29, 2006. The time and the place of the Meeting were chosen at the occasion of the Total Solar Eclipse of March 29, 2006, whose line of totality was passing through the Meeting place. Most of the participants witnessed this exceptional, natural event for the first time in their lifetimes while other scientists have made relevant experiments on eclipse observations.

The Meeting was focused on two main parts:

- I. Scientific Conference Covering the Topics Relevant to the International Heliophysical Year (IHY);
- II. Organizational Meeting: To Coordinate the Observational, Scientific and Educational Activities Related to the IHY around the Regional Network.

The first part was focused on five areas of Space Weather Studies, namely:

1. Solar Physics and Solar Drivers of Geoeffective Events;
2. Solar Wind and Heliosphere;
3. Experimental Methods and Seismic Activity;

4. Magnetosphere and Ionosphere;
5. Space Weather Impacts on Technologies and Humans.

During the second part, regional and national IHY activities were presented.

The Meeting included invited talks (5) and oral contributions (31) as well as poster presentations (23) which created a unique collection of space weather and atmospheric studies.

The Scientific Organizing Committee (SOC) was co-chaired by A. Özgüç (Turkey) and K. Georgieva (Bulgaria) and consisted of representatives of USA, Russia, Ukraine and three South-Caucasus Republics.

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) from Boğaziçi University consisted of T. Ataç, A. Özgüç (Chair), R. Pektaş and H. Yeşilyaprak, and M. Kartopu (Der-Tur Inc.).

They expertly arranged the high-level Meeting at the Süral Saray Hotel in Manavgat, Antalya. During the Meeting the LOC arranged an excursion to Antalya to make possible to visit this Mediterranean city.

81 scientists and leading experts in various research areas of Space Weather from many countries, including Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Germany, India, Japan, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Turkey, Ukraine, USA as well as three South-Caucasus Republics attended this Meeting and presented 59 presentations.

31 participants were fully supported including travel, accommodation, living expenses and registration fees, 5 participants partly supported and 10 attendees' registration fees were waived.

Acknowledgment

The Meeting was sponsored by the Promotions Fund of the Turkish Prime Minister. Additional funding came from the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey and Boğaziçi University Research Fund by the project of 045103.