Letter to the editor

Comment on »Seismicity of Croatia in the period 1993–1996 and the Ston-Slano earthquake of 1996« by S. Markušić et al.

Received 11 July, 1999

Dear Sir,

In Vol. 15 of your journal, a paper by Markušić et al. was published on the seismicity of Croatia in the period 1993–1996. As is clearly visible from Figs. 3, 5, 6 and 7, the earthquakes presented in the maps were not felt only in Croatian territory, but also in substantial parts of Austria, Hungary and Slovenia. The macroseismic data from these countries are therefore important when it comes to presenting analyses of these regionally significant earthquakes.

In the seismological community intensity data are not considered to be purely routine bulletin-type information, and are usually exchanged only after a particular request. Nevertheless, the study of Croatian earthquakes has benefited from the long-lasting and fruitful co-operation between seismologists of the aforementioned countries in the exchange of macroseismic data. In the quite long and extensive paper 120 pages) by Markušić et al., however, the sources of macroseismic data for places outside Croatia were not mentioned, although the intensity maps, with numerous data points outside the country's borders, are presented in the paper. The institutions that had supplied the data (Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik, Uprava RS za geofiziko and Seismological Observatory of the Hungarian Academy of Science), as well as Hungarian Earthquake Bulletins (published by Georisk Ltd., and containing all the macroseismic data for one year) were not mentioned either in the text and acknowledgements or in the references. The same approach was taken by more or less the same group of authors in the paper on seismicity of Croatia in the period 1990–1992 (Markušić et al., Geofizika, Vol. 10).

We would have thought that such an acknowledgement of the origin of the data was required, not only for the purposes of establishing the documentation of data sources, but also as a matter of common courtesy to the institutions involved. We suggest it would be fitting if an addendum to the paper were to be published, to give the missing sources and make good this deficiency.

Yours faithfully,

Edmund Fiegweil, ZAMG, Vienna, Austria Ina Cecić, URSG, Ljubljana, Slovenia Tibor Zsiros, SO HAS, Budapest, Hungary

Reply

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Dear Sir,

The omission of macroseismic data sources for places outside of Croatia occurred due to our neglect and was by no means intentional. We therefore apologize and gratefully acknowledge cooperation of the Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik (Vienna, Austria), Uprava za Geofiziko (Ljubljana, Slovenia) and Seismological Observatory of the Hungarian Academy of Science (Budapest, Hungary).

With kindest regards,

S. Markušić, D. Herak, I. Ivančić, I. Sović, M. Herak and E. Prelogović