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The Microfossil Records and Their Paleoenvironmental Implications in Quaternary

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Message from the Guest Editors

The Quaternary sediment archives provide comprehensive information on the paleoclimates exhibiting both environmental trends and cycles. Regarding modern climatic changes, we need to understand the scenarios of long- to short-term development of natural systems. A reaction of biota on the environmental variations is documented in the specific microfossil assemblages forming within different paleogeographic states (warmings/coolings, transitions between, etc.). Studies of microfossils help to create the chronology and climatostratigraphy and to reconstruct the paleoenvironments.

Contributions to this Special issue are invited to exhibit interpretations of the microfossil distribution for terrestrial or marine biostratigraphy, paleoecology, paleogeography, paleoceanography, and paleoclimate. We also welcome new data on the Quaternary to modern taxonomy, ecology, and methodological questions, as well as micropaleontological information on the relationships of the biotic associations and abiotic factors. A use of microfossils in studies of the Antropocene, in archaeology, and in diverse areas of human activity can be presented.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

We live in a Quaternary world, that is, a world shaped by the interplay of the different compartments of the earth system—lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, cryosphere—during the last ~2.6 million years. It is not possible to understand the current world—and, hence, to anticipate its possible future developments—without knowing the Quaternary history of drivers, processes, and mechanisms that have generated it. Our own species is an evolutionary outcome of the Quaternary performance. Therefore, the journal *Quaternary* is born with the aim of being an integrative journal to encompass all aspects of Quaternary science focused on understanding the complex world in which we live and to provide a sound scientific basis to anticipate possible future trends and inform environmental policies.

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