



Clays, Clay Minerals and Geology

Guest Editor:

Dr. Francesco Cavalcante

Institute of Methodologies for
Environmental Analysis, Italian
National Research Council,
Rome, Italy

francesco.cavalcante@
imaa.cnr.it

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Message from the Guest Editor

The main environment where clay minerals form and evolve is represented by soils, where parent minerals are transformed into clay due to weathering the interaction with living organisms. Other important environments include hydrothermal systems, where clay minerals form due to the rise of high-temperature fluids. After their formation, clay minerals are transported by streams, wind, and glaciers and settle mainly in deep marine environments. The current distribution of clay minerals in the oceans suggests that the climate plays a fundamental control on the formation of these mineral phases. Subsequently, these minerals undergo important transformations at low temperatures within sedimentary basins, due to the sedimentary and/or tectonic load. From the above statements, it appears that clay minerals are crucial in the various disciplines of the earth sciences, such as geodynamics, basin analysis, sedimentology, climate change, reconstruction of depositional environments, tectonics, etc. Contributions focusing on clay minerals aimed at solving geological problems and understanding the formation and evolution of clay minerals within constrained geological environments are welcome.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Paul Sylvester

Endowed Pevehouse Chair,
Department of Geosciences,
Texas Tech University, Lubbock,
TX 79409-1053, USA

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Minerals welcomes submissions that report basic and applied research in mineralogy. Research areas of traditional interest are mineral deposits, mining, mineral processing and environmental mineralogy. The journal footprint also includes novel uses of elemental and isotopic analyses of minerals for petrology, geochronology and thermochronology, thermobarometry, ore genesis and sedimentary provenance. Contributions are encouraged in emerging research areas such as applications of quantitative mineralogy to the oil and gas, manufacturing, forensic science, climate change, geohazard and health sectors.

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Contact Us

Minerals
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
Fax: +41 61 302 89 18
www.mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/minerals
minerals@mdpi.com