Special Issue

Organic Geochemistry, Geochronology, and Paleogeography of Shale Deposits

Message from the Guest Editors

Shale deposits remain one of the most fascinating topics of study in sedimentary geology. These deposits have the potential to provide a huge amount of key information regarding the paleoenvironmental evolution at different scales (from molecular to seismic). The development of new analytical techniques allows the precise reconstruction of past aquatic environments through geochemical proxies while seismic attributes of shales support correlations at long distances enabling paleogeographic reconstructions. Furthermore, over the last decade, in addition to their fundamental role as the source rock in conventional petroleum systems, shale deposits became an important source of energy in the sense of unconventional deposits. Therefore, this Special Issue aims to embrace all the aspects associated with the shale deposits preserved along the geological record exploring relevant topics to the scientific community and the oil and gas industry. Topics include, but are not limited to:

- shale geochemistry
- paleogeography of shale deposits
- anoxic events
- source-rock geochemistry
- machine-learning applied to the characterization of shale deposits
- carbon capture and storage in shales

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About the Journal

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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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 18.2 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.6 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).

