



From the Editor

Dear readers, active and prospect authors,

I'm very happy to introduce a new issue of our journal devoted to the current challenges in the various fields of geological studies. It is the vast geography of submitted articles (from Canada, Armenia, Tajikistan to the Russian cities such as Ulan-Ude, Blagoveshchensk and, of course, Irkutsk) that differs this issue from the previous ones. Kilometers and miles lie between us, but, fortunately, all of us retain a common deep interest in geology, the desire to develop it, gain new knowledge, and expand the horizons of science. This issue of the journal contains the articles on new methods of geophysical, geological and mineralogical researches as well as on the development of exploration techniques and technologies for mineral prospecting and extraction.

As we approach the traditional Geologist's Day, I would like to congratulate all of you on our professional holiday and wish you travel unbeaten paths, generate brilliant ideas, make productive discoveries, take wise solutions when dealing with any geological problems, live in peace, prosperity and happiness!

**Raisa Lobatskaya,
The Editor-in-Chief**