

IN MEMORIAM
Farewell to Dr. Sci. Liudvikas Lukoševičius
(11 October 1938 – 26 April 2018)



The ranks of the Baltic Sea researchers are becoming rarer: on 26 April 2018, the marine geologist Dr Liudvikas Lukoševičius suddenly passed away at the age of 79.

Liudvikas Lukoševičius, or just Liudas for the friends, was born in Kaunas (11 October 1938), but since 1945 lived in Vilnius, where he attended and graduated from secondary school. In 1956–1961, he studied at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of Vilnius University, where he obtained the qualification of engineer-geologist. During studies, he became interested in marine geology – in 1960, Liudas together with two university friends improved practical skills at the R/V “Vitiaz” in the Black Sea (USSR). During this practice, Liudas mastered the methodology of marine fieldwork, received valuable knowledge and advices from geophysicist Dr J. Nepročnov and, especially, from the “father” of lithologists – academician N. Strachov. On the basis of collected marine

geophysical data he wrote a diploma thesis “Geological features of the northern part of the Black Sea”.

After graduating the University, L. Lukoševičius was assigned to work in Vladivostok, in the Pacific Branch of P. P. Shirshov Institute of Oceanology of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. L. Lukoševičius was appointed to the geophysical research group and in 1962 participated in a 5-month-long international oceanographic expedition in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. The expedition was attended by representatives from the USSR, USA, India, Indonesia, and other countries. According to the program of the International Geophysical Year, the bottom structure of tectonically active areas of both oceans was investigated during the expedition. L. Lukoševičius with the geophysical group studied bottom structures and sediments, performed depth measurements on the ship route: scientific achievements of this expedition were published in several articles published with co-authors. Impressive addresses of the areas visited during the expedition include: atoll Diego Garcia, Madras, Jakarta, Singapore, Perth... L. Lukoševičius described the impressions of the expedition in a popular science book “Four Times via Equator” (1966, in Lithuanian).

In 1963–1966, L. Lukoševičius continued his research activity at the Laboratory of Marine Geology, but already at the Atlantic Branch of the same P. P. Shirshov Institute of Oceanography, located in Kaliningrad. As a lithologist he participated in a number of scientific expeditions in the Atlantic Ocean and the Baltic Sea. The results of scientific researches received during this period of his working activity were published in the collective monograph “Sediment Formation in the Atlantic Ocean” (edited by A. P. Lisicin, 1975, in Russian).

In 1967, L. Lukoševičius came back to Vilnius: in the period from 1967 until 1970 he was a doctoral student (under the guidance of academician V. Gudelis) at the Department of Geography of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. In 1972, he defended his dissertation “Geology and geomorphology of the late- and post-glacial sediments of the south-eastern Baltic” and obtained the degree of candidate of

science (currently – doctor) in geology-mineralogy. After defence of dissertation he stayed to work at the same Department of Geography as a junior researcher (1970–1977); from 1978 – as a senior researcher and Head of the Baltic Sea Geology and Stratigraphy Research Group. In 1979–1982, L. Lukoševičius was involved in the international Baltic Sea bottom research program of the countries to the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, participated in the marine expeditions on the R/V “Profesor Dobrynin” (USSR), “Hidromet” (Poland), and “Aleksandr Humboldt” (GDR). In addition to direct scientific programs, L. Lukoševičius also participated in coastal expeditions on the Lithuanian seaside: investigated dynamics of deposits, introduced pneumatic drilling, etc.

L. Lukoševičius participated and lectured at the international conferences in Leningrad, Tallinn, Vilnius, Gdansk, and Varnemunde; the results of his scientific investigations are compiled and summarized in 28 scientific articles. L. Lukoševičius was a co-author of collective monographs “Geology of the Baltic Sea” (edited by V. Gudelis and E. Emeljanov, 1976, in Russian) and “Litho- and biostratigraphy of the Baltic Sea bottom sediments” (edited by V. Gudelis, 1985, in Russian), contributed a lot to the book “One Hundred Mysteries of the Ocean” (E. Emeljanov, 1986, in Lithuanian). At the same time, he worked a lot as a science populariser: wrote popular science papers, published the book “The Baltic is Telling” (1976, in Lithuanian), propagated knowledge about marine researches for society via television, etc.

Due to various circumstances, in the autumn of 1986 L. Lukoševičius left the Department of Geography and started a new period in his work activity associated with publishing and education. Until 1992, he led the Editorial Office of the Cartography and Illustrations of the Lithuanian State Encyclopaedia Publishing House. In 1992–1996, he was the Head of the Cartographic Department of the Publishing House “Prada” and in 1996–1999 – the Head of the Cartography Editorial Office of the Publishing House “Rosma”. L. Lukoševičius completed his work activity as a senior editor of the Publishing House “Naujoji Rosma” in 2000. He is a co-author of over 40 atlases in geography and history for secondary schools, prepared many exercise books and training brochures. During all his working carrier, L. Lukoševičius remained an active science populariser in press, disseminated scientific ideas in lectures and other discussion space.

Liudas loved and cared for the family very much; he even sacrificed his scientific career for it. Together with his wife Vilė they grown up daughters Jurgita and Evelina, celebrated the golden wedding. Liudvikas Lukoševičius, as a calm, reserved, full of sense of humour colleague and fellow will remain in the memory of his friends and all who knew him.

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