

George Harlow (left), Satoshi Matsubara, Franco Mancini, and Hiroshi Miyajima inspecting a 150 ton jadeite boulder (!!) in Omigawa river, near Itoigawa (Japan), September 2000.

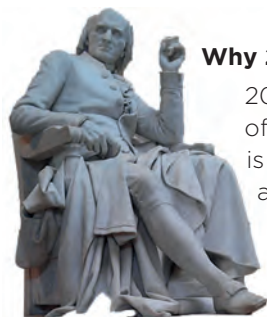
Mineralogy is a very active and rapidly evolving field with a tremendous impact on many facets our society:

- *mineralogy* is the basis of geology, which underpins and supports the whole earth science system (*Minerals, the Alphabet of Geology, and Rocks, the Words of Geology*: C.V. Guidotti).
- *mineralogy* is closely related to crystallography, which directly applies the fundamental principles of crystal symmetry to the theory of specific minerals.
- *mineral* diversity and evolution is an indicator of planetary evolution including the apparition of life. Hence it is a key factor in planetary sciences including the remote search for life in exoplanets.
- *mineralogy* is essential in searching for new sustainable resources (strategic metals, etc.) either in natural deposits or from human-made products. The search for new natural resources represents a grand strategy for many developing countries
- it would be difficult to imagine a world without ruby lasers, quartz watches, coltan (minerals of the columbite-tantalite group) and perovskite structures used for mobile phones, computer chips, TV screens, aircraft engines. For example, zeolites are used in hydrocarbon catalysis, to remove heavy metals

and emerging organic pollutants (e.g., drugs, PFAS) from groundwater, as softeners in detergents, for solar-energy storage, as soil amendments and as pozzolans in cements, etc.

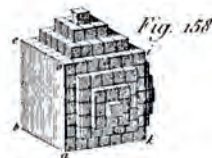
- there is growing interest in understanding the interaction between the mineral world and the biosphere, which often involves major implications for human health.
- *minerals* offer a promising approach for carbon capture and storage which could help to reverse climate change.
- *minerals* affect environmental quality and control environmental pollution

2022: a year to celebrate Mineralogy



Why 2022?

2022 is the bicentennial of the death of René Just Haüy (born 1743) who is a father of modern mineralogy and crystallography.

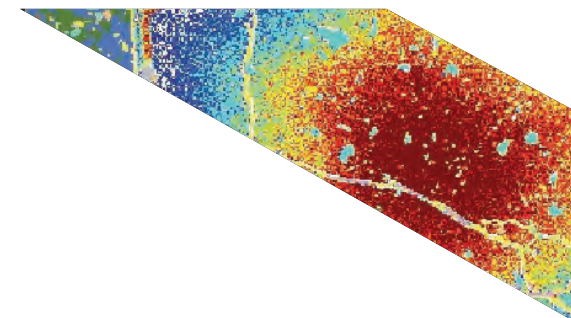


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MINERALOGY 2022

A year to celebrate Mineralogy





HOW CAN NATIONAL SOCIETIES PARTICIPATE?

- By hosting public or outreach lectures which are advertised to members of the public.
- By running special mineralogical events in museums.
- By encouraging Society members to make themselves available to help promote our subject to young people.
- To arrange for scientists from any country to be able to participate in Society events and to encourage collaboration with those scientists in terms of research projects, international conferences, etc.

THE OBJECTIVES ARE:

- to generate public interest in the science of matter and how it underpins most innovations and developments in our modern society
- to attract young people to science through fascination with natural crystals
- to illustrate the universality of science
- to support the emergence of mineralogical societies in developing countries, especially those where natural resources are exploited
- to foster international collaboration between scientists worldwide, especially by building North-South networks and collaborations
- to promote education and research in mineralogy, crystallography and their links to other sciences
- to increase public awareness of the importance of natural resources



The main event will be a series of public lectures held during the IMA General Meeting in Lyon during mid-July <https://www.ima2022.fr/>. These will be advertised to the public in Lyon and broadcast live and hosted on Youtube.

‘Mineralogy 2022’ will be a worldwide celebration of mineralogy to highlight its importance in our everyday lives.

Approved by UNESCO, it is part of the ‘International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development’ (IYBSSD2022).



2022 is already upon us. The IMA encourages you to undertake new projects or to adapt existing initiatives so that this can truly become an international effort to grow interest in our subject. The objectives listed above shouldn’t end in 2022. As IYBSSD will close in mid-2023, we welcome suggestions of projects beyond 2022 and 2023. They should continue into the future. Look at 2022 as merely the beginning!

Your events can be uploaded to our ‘2022 Year of Mineralogy’ website (www.min2022.org) where they will be available to all to see. This site will be promoted widely so your initiatives and programmes will achieve an international dimension (enabling your Society to fulfil diversity and inclusivity ambitions). We will also use Twitter ([#Mineralogy2022](https://twitter.com/Mineralogy2022)) in an attempt to garner widespread engagement.

The International Mineralogical Association (IMA) is the world’s largest organization which promotes mineralogy. Thirty nine national mineralogical societies or groups are members of IMA. The IMA is an affiliated organization of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) which adheres to the International Science Council (ISC) and maintains close contacts with UNESCO, in order to participate in long-term scientific programmes and projects.