

## **Periglacial tors in Curvature Carpathians - identification, spatial distribution, climatic implications and touristic potential**

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Periglacial tors have been defined as solid rock outcrops, originated in selective deep weathering and subsequent removal of regolith. They are one of the most characteristic landforms found at the surface of the Curvature Carpathians, especially in Ciucas Massif. Although they are representative for the geomorphological context of the area, few recent studies have been conducted regarding their spatial distribution, climatic implications and touristic potential. Ciucas Massif, located in the Curvature Carpathians, is an important area for geomorphological and climatic characteristics, making it representative for the whole region. This study focuses on analyzing periglacial tors using old maps and GIS tools for an updated inventory of the landforms, GPS tools for on site identification and telemeter for measurements. Already identified periglacial tors have been manually extracted from old maps and several new sites were added, scattered throughout the Curvature Carpathians. During the fieldtrips conducted in specific parts of the study area, GPS and morphometrical data was gathered. The data has been processed using ArcGIS software, resulting in spatial distribution and density maps. Using regional climatic studies, the connection between periglacial tors and climate was investigated. Furthermore, the analysed landforms can have touristic potential for niche tourism.