Geotectonic and sedimentological constraints concerning the palinspastic paleogeography of the Carpathians

Mircea Sãndulescu¹

¹Faculty of Geology and Geophysics, University of Bucharest, Romania

The modern palinspastic paleogeographical reconstructions of the folded belts are, or at least should be, dominated by two groups of constraints: the geotectonic (structural and evolutive) and sedimentological (source areas versus basin locations). The paper try to select the most important elements which must rule the palinspastic reconstructions of the Carpathians.

The geotectonic constraints concern following questions: 1. where is located the main Tethyan suture zone and when suecced its main squeesing (oceanic closing) moments; 2. what group of deformed tectonic units are situated on the Tethyan continental margins; 3. the structure of the tectonic units proceeding from the continental margins in order to determinate the geotectonic framework of their evolution; 4. the structural and consequently the palinspastic relationships between the continental crust bearing tectonic units of the East and South Carpathians and the main Tethyan suture. All this points are developed and discussed with different key examples from the Carpathians.

The sedimentological constraints concern the following questions: 1. the mutual relationships between the external parts of the Flysch Zone and the foreland siliciclastic source area(s?); 2. the intrabasinal source areas and their structure; 3. the source areas situated on the inner part of the flysch basin(s); 4. the postractogenetic basins and their siliciclastic source areas. All this cases will be analysed with specific Carpathian examples.