

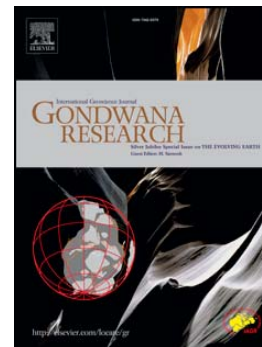
Accepted Manuscript

Convergent margins and related processes: Introduction

Yener Eyuboglu, M. Santosh

PII: S1342-937X(16)00036-8
DOI: doi: [10.1016/j.gr.2016.01.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gr.2016.01.002)
Reference: GR 1568

To appear in: *Gondwana Research*



Please cite this article as: Eyuboglu, Yener, Santosh, M., Convergent margins and related processes: Introduction, *Gondwana Research* (2016), doi: [10.1016/j.gr.2016.01.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gr.2016.01.002)

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Editorial

Convergent margins and related processes:

Introduction

The role of plate tectonics in the processes of construction and destruction of continents and cratons, and the assembly and disruption of supercontinents, have been focal themes of research in Earth Science. Among the various plate boundaries, convergent margins play the most crucial role, with subduction zones acting as a conveyor belt for the production and destruction of continental crust. Oceanic subduction zones are also the potential regions of mass exchange between Earth's exterior and interior. The geochemical characteristics of magmatic rocks, pressure-temperature conditions of metamorphic rocks and the depositional environments of sedimentary rocks in fossil convergent margins provide important clues on the accretionary growth of continents. The huge earthquakes on subduction megathrusts, tsunamis, landslides, intense volcanic eruptions and other geohazards in modern convergent margins also threaten human life, ecosystems, infrastructure and economy.

This special issue of *Gondwana Research* stems from an international workshop on "Convergent Margins" that was held in Karadeniz Technical University (Trabzon, Turkey) during May 21-23, 2014. Here we assemble a set of contributions on the current understanding on convergent margins and related processes.

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