

This book deals with the geological record and the evolution of ideas concerning the Variscan orogenic belt in France and neighboring regions.

Volume 1 is based on a general introduction concerning the imprint of the Variscan period on the geology of France, as well as on the particularities of the study of this ancient orogen. A history of the concepts applied to the Variscan belt is proposed in order to consider this orogen in the history of Earth Sciences. A paleogeodynamic analysis of the Variscan cycle sets the general framework for the evolution of the orogen, which is then tackled through the prism of the magmatic, metamorphic and tectonic record of the early phases (from Cambrian to Lower Carboniferous).

Volume 2 proposes an analysis of the late evolution of the Variscan orogenic belt, reflecting its dismantling in a high-temperature context during the Upper Carboniferous and Permian. The sedimentary archives are described, as well as the questions raised by the specificities of this ancient orogen.

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Preface	ix
Yoann DENÈLE and Julien BERGER	
Introduction	xi
Yoann DENÈLE and Julien BERGER	
List of Figures	xxi
Chapter 1. The Variscan Belt: History of the Evolution of Methods and Concepts	1
Olivier VANDERHAEGHE	
1.1. Introduction	1
1.2. Beginnings of geology, from the Renaissance to the Industrial Revolution . .	3
1.2.1. From Earth's history to regional geology	3
1.2.2. Stratigraphy of the Paleozoic at the front of the Variscan belt	5
1.2.3. Concepts of deep magmatism and metamorphism	7
1.2.4. Microscopic analysis of crystalline rocks	9
1.2.5. Theory of magmatic uplifting	10
1.2.6. Geosynclinal theory developed from the Appalachians	12
1.2.7. Mountain belt vergence theory	13
1.3. Debate between fixists and mobilists from the late 19th to early 20th centuries	14
1.3.1. Geosynclinal theory and the European Variscan belt	14
1.3.2. Zoneography of metamorphism in the Variscan belt	15
1.3.3. Nappes, migmatites and plutons of the internal Variscan belt	18
1.3.4. The Variscan belt and continental drift	23
1.4. Unification of the Earth sciences in the late 1960s	27
1.4.1. The Variscan belt at the time of plate tectonics	27
1.4.2. Principal sutures and continental blocks	29

1.4.3. Paleogeographical reconstructions	31
1.4.4. Geodynamic tectonic models	31
1.5. Conclusion and challenges of the 21st century	33
1.6. References	34

Chapter 2. Paleogeographical and Paleo-Geodynamic Context of the Variscan Belt 47

Jean-Marc LARDEAUX and Karel SCHULMANN

2.1. Introduction	47
2.2. Litho-tectonic zonation of the Variscan belt and identification of the principal “paleogeographical domains”: contribution of great precursors and evolution of ideas	48
2.3. Paleogeographic reconstructions: paleontological, paleo-climatological and mineralogical data	69
2.4. Paleomagnetic data and paleogeographic reconstructions	77
2.4.1. First investigations: 1980–2010	77
2.4.2. Paleomagnetic, mantle and unified kinematic models: 2010–2020.	82
2.5. Concluding remarks	88
2.6. References	89

Chapter 3. Pre-collision Magmatism 111

Julien BERGER

3.1. Introduction	111
3.2. Cadomian magmatism in brief	112
3.3. Geochronological data: two magmatic phases in the Lower Paleozoic	113
3.4. Cambrian–Ordovician magmatism	117
3.4.1. Ophiolites	117
3.4.2. Metabasites: amphibolites, eclogites and basic granulites of allochthonous units	121
3.4.3. The leptyno-amphibolite complex.	125
3.4.4. Orthogneisses of allochthonous metamorphic units	126
3.4.5. Magmatism of autochthonous and para-autochthonous units	130
3.4.6. Summary, petrogenic and geodynamic proposals	133
3.5. Devonian magmatism	139
3.5.1. Calc-alkaline plutons	140
3.5.2. Subalkaline lava.	142
3.5.3. Central and North American dolerites	143
3.5.4. The ophiolites issue.	143
3.5.5. Summary, petrogenic and geodynamic proposals	145
3.6. Conclusions and perspectives.	147
3.7. References	148

Chapter 4. Early Metamorphisms and Deformations in the French Variscan Belt	163
Michel FAURE	
4.1. Introduction	163
4.2. Metamorphisms and deformations in the Moldanubian domain	165
4.2.1. Eo-Variscan events	170
4.2.2. Lower Carboniferous Variscan tectono-metamorphic events	180
4.3. Metamorphisms and deformations in the Saxothuringian domain.	193
4.4. Metamorphisms and deformations in the eastern Variscan branch	195
4.4.1. Massifs free of alpine superimposition: Maures–Tanneron and Corsica–Sardinia Massif.	195
4.4.2. Alpine Variscan substratum	202
4.5. Conclusion	207
4.6. References	208
List of Authors	227
Index.	229