

Geowissenschaftliches Kolloquium

Subduction without magmatism - mélanges without subduction? Challenges of the Alpine orogen

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The Alps are one of the best studied and complex collisional mountain belts. They are often compared to modern circumpacific subduction and collision zones, yet they show a series of features that are fundamentally different - most notably, the Alps display 'unusual' ophiolites, abundant high pressure rocks, but almost no convergence related magmatism. Some of these features will be presented, with an emphasis on petrological issues, and some alternative interpretations will be discussed.



Prof. Othmar Müntener received his PhD in 1997 at ETH Zürich and is a full professor at University of Lausanne since 2006. He is a petrologist interested in the formation and evolution of the continental and oceanic crust, and ocean-continent transition zones, combining field studies, petrology, geochemistry and experiments.

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