



Forum

P3.

Phylogeographic patterns of the Western-Balkan lacertids: a plethora of scenarios on a small stage

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At the western side of Dinarides-Hellenides mountain chain 12 species of lacertid lizards occur. All hitherto investigated species appeared to be phylogeographically highly structured. Their present phylogeographic patterns are the result of the complex topography and the geotectonic history of the region, multiple events of range retractions and subsequent expansions during Pleistocene climatic oscillations but also distinct ecological preferences of the species, interspecific competition, overwater dispersals and unintentional anthropogenic introductions. The phylogeography of *Podarcis siculus*, *P. melisellensis*, *P. tauricus*, *Algyroides nigropunctatus*, *Dalmatolacerta oxycephala* and *Dinarolacerta mosorensis* will be discussed in details.

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