



EUROMARGINS Programme: an overview of the Collaborative Research Projects

B. Avril (1) for the EUROMARGINS Project Members

(1) European Science Foundation, 1, quai Lezay-Marnésia, 67080 Strasbourg Cedex, France, (bavril@esf.org; fax. +33 3 8837 0532)

The nations of Europe share one of the world's longest margin systems. A remaining frontier for natural resources, passive margins mark the complex transition between continental and oceanic crust, with large sedimentary accumulations. In addition, passive continental margins, associated with unstable slopes, represent a major source of natural hazards. The EUROMARGINS Programme provides the international framework for promoting innovative, interdisciplinary work for the imaging, monitoring, reconstruction and modelling of the physical, chemical, and biological processes in the European passive continental margins. It encourages the development of new technologies and conceptual models aiming at the advancement of integrated research into the mechanisms responsible for continental break-up and ocean margin formation. The pooling of human resources, training of a new generation of interdisciplinary geoscientists, and optimal sharing of observational platforms or analytical and modelling facilities are considered important "value-added" ingredients of the EUROMARGINS Programme. The poster will present on behalf of the EUROMARGINS Project Members the current activities and few key achievements within this programme. The EUROMARGINS programme is financed by funding agencies from 10 European countries: FWO, Belgium; CNRS, France; DFG, Germany; CNR, Italy; NWO, the Netherlands; NFR, Norway; FCT, Portugal; CSIC and MCYT, Spain; VR, Sweden; NERC, the United Kingdom, and by the European Science Foundation (ESF) under the EUROCORES Programmes, with support by the European Commission, DG Research (Sixth Framework Programme, contract ERAS-CT-2003-980409).