



Coastal and submarine landslides as agents of tsunami generation in the Mediterranean Sea

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Updated tsunami catalogues of the region of the Mediterranean Sea and connected seas, like the Marmara Sea and the Black Sea, include more than 300 cases of tsunamis events documented to have occurred from the antiquity up to the present. The main cause of tsunami generation is the shallow, strong earthquake activity. However, tsunami waves were also generated by volcanic eruptions and landslides (the term landslide is here used to include earth slumps, ground settlements and rock falls). Cases of such tsunamigenic landslides caused by strong earthquakes are reported, such as the 1861 coastal settlement near Aeghion, SW Corinth Gulf, Central Greece, and the 1693 rock falls in Eastern Sicily. Others, however, were either natural, aseismic coastal earth slumps, like the 1963 one in SW Corinth Gulf, or of anthropogenic origin like the 1979 one in Nice, Côte d'Azur. In addition, tsunamigenic earth slumps have been also reported in association with volcanic eruptions. We compile a data basis of tsunamis generated by landslides occurring either along coastal segments or in submarine environment in the Mediterranean and connected Seas and classify them according to their features and generation mechanisms. In addition we present a scheme for the simulation of the aseismic landslide and associated tsunami of height of c. 6 m that occurred on 7 February 1963 in the west part of Corinth Gulf, Central Greece.