

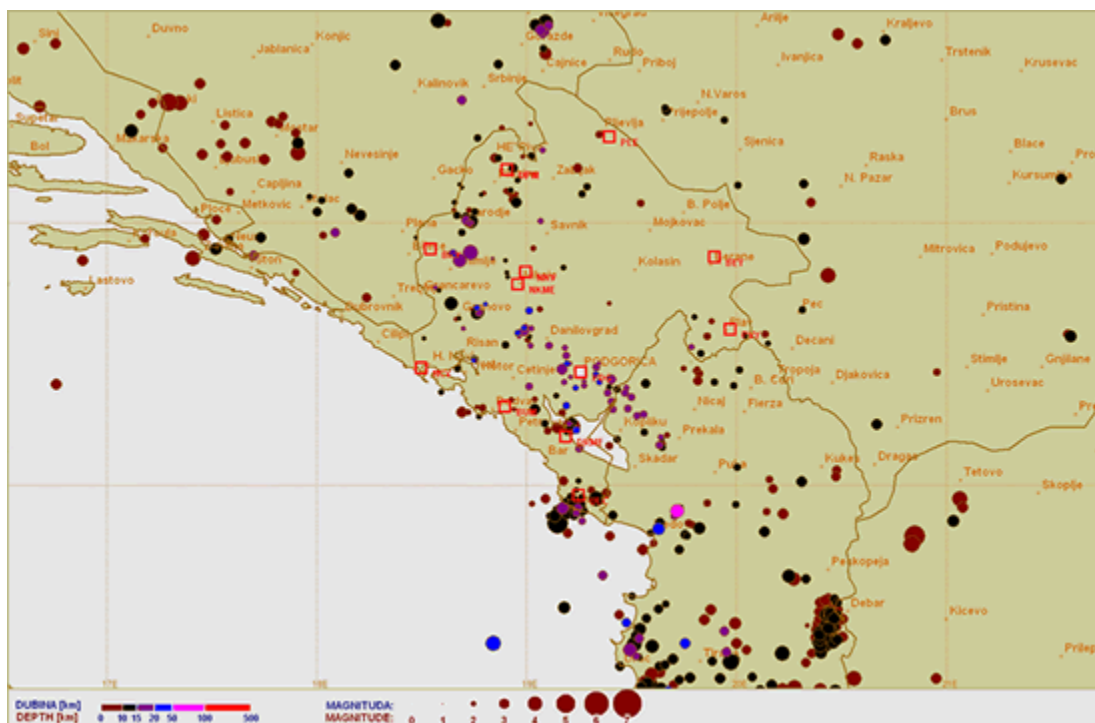
Seismicity of Montenegro and its surroundings for year 2009

During the year 2009, Montenegro Seismological Observatory, using seismic network containing 12 stations, has registered a bit increased seismic activity on the Montenegro territory. At that period, 203 earthquakes were recorded totally. During the day time, 116 of total number of earthquakes occurred and 87 at the night. An average number of earthquakes per month, for the Montenegro territory, were 17 and the maximum - 57 was registered during August as a result of increased seismicity at Ulcinj and the central Albania.

The strongest earthquake on the Montenegro territory occurred on the 21st of August at 15:39 local time, with Richter magnitude of 4.8. Epicenter of earthquake was in Adriatic Sea, on 9 km southwest of Ulcinj. Epicentral intensity on the Petrovac, Budva and Ulcinj surroundings was IV–V degrees on the Mercalli Scale. After this earthquake, 30 aftershocks were recorded.

Increased seismic activity was observed at the Skadar Lake, where 7 earthquakes were registered on 10th of December. In the series of these earthquakes, the first one occurred at 12:20 local time, with Richter magnitude of 3.7 and 4 minutes later another earthquake happened, with Richter magnitude of 3.8. It was the strongest in this series and felt with intensity of IV degrees on the Mercalli Scale on the Podgorica, Petrovac and Bar regions.

Weak seismic activity was noticed in the vicinity of Podgorica and Danilovgrad towns. On the northwest part of Montenegro, at the Piva artificial lake region, an induced seismic activity was recorded, probably caused by the effect of water mass on surrounding rocks.



The epicenters of recorded earthquakes at the Montenegro territory and its surroundings (2009).

On the western part of the Montenegro, at the Grahovo, Velimlje and Golija surroundings seismic activity was also registered. During August, the sequence of about 15 earthquakes was recorded, at Golija locality. The strongest one was occurred at 06:37 local time, with Richter magnitude of 3.2. The series of weak earthquakes was observed on 19th March, near Grahovo.

During last year, in our surroundings several strong earthquakes were registered. Increased seismic activity was observed in the Macedonia, at the Valandovo and Tetovo areas. In the vicinity of Valandovo, 16 earthquakes were recorded and the strongest one occurred on 24th of May at 18:17 local time, with Richter magnitude of 5.3. The earthquake with Richter magnitude of 4.9 was registered on 8th of January, near Tetovo (northwest Macedonia).

Increased seismic activity was observed on the Albania territory, especially in its central part, which culminated on 6th September, at 23:49 local time, with earthquake 5.3 magnitude. This earthquake was felt on the whole territory of Montenegro and with intensity of IV degrees on the Mercalli Scale on the Ulcinj, Bar, Podgorica and Skoplje regions.

In the south Greece and the Ionian Islands region 7 earthquakes, with magnitude 5.0 or bigger, were recorded and the strongest one was on 1st of July at 11:31 local time, with Richter magnitude of 6.2, near the Crete coast.

Using Seismic network of Montenegro, devastating earthquake was recorded on 6th April, occurred in L'Aquila, central Italy. This earthquake happened during night, at 03:32 and had Richter magnitude 6.3. After this earthquake, 40 aftershocks were recorded.

