

Placoderms from the Lower Devonian “placoderm sandstone” of the Holy Cross Mountains, Poland with biostratigraphical and palaeobiogeographical implications

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The siliciclastic sequence of the Lower Devonian of the southern part of the Holy Cross Mountains in Poland is renowned for abundant vertebrate fossils, including ostracoderm, sarcopterygian, acanthodian, chondrichthyan, and placoderm remains. Study of the vertebrate assemblage from the “placoderm sandstone” from Podłazie Hill in the Holy Cross Mountains reveals that the remains belong to *Kujdanowiaspis* sp. among other unspecified actinolepids and brachythoracids. The Polish actinolepid material is characterised by sizes bigger than those of the Podolian specimens; this may be related to geographic variation. Owing to the proximity between Podolia and Holy Cross Mountains we suggest that *Kujdanowiaspis* sp. from the Holy Cross Mountains may be a refugee of some species of *Kujdanowiaspis* from the Lochkovian–Pragian of Podolia and/or from Spain. Some anterolateral plates provisionally assigned to *Arthrodira* indet. probably represent a new genus due to the high overlapping surface for median dorsal and anteroventrolateral plates.

Key words: Placodermi, Arthrodira, Actinolepidoidei, palaeobiogeography, Devonian, Poland, Holy Cross Mountains.

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