SULPHIDE MINERALIZATION IN THE ULTRABASIC ROCKS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO CONCENTRATIONS OF GOLD, NICKEL-SULPHIDE AND PGE IN BULQIZA MASSIF (ALBANIA). Astrit Turku, Center of Scientific and Technical Information and Documentation, Tirana, Albania.

Bulqiza ophiolite massif is the most remarkable one in the Eastern ophiolite belt of Albania and in the Eastern Mediterranean ophiolites. This massif is characterized by the large development of mantle sequence and a high metallogenic potentiality. Huge chromite concentration of metallurgic type is the most conspicuous feature. In the mantle-crust transition zone, massive dunites are largely exposed. They are associated with plagioclase impregnated ultrabasics, pyroxenites etc. The cumulate section is reduced (~150 m). Wehrlite intrusions cut the layered gabbro and the massive dunites. The topmost part of the section represented of gabbro-norites is covered by Tertiary deposits. An intensive hydrothermal metamorphism has affected the ultramafic-mafic passage.

Petrologic-geochemical variations conditioned an interesting metallogenic picture. Interesting refractory chromites with PGE-bearing nickel sulphide mineralization are located in the dunites and wehrlites. In the uppermost mantle, PGE-bearing aluminous chromites crop out as well. Their distribution is relatively limited.

In the mantle-crust transition zone, specific sulphide mineralizations represented of Ni-Cu sulphides, Cu-Co-Ni sulphide-arsenides are exposed. Generally, they contain a variable amount of PGE. These mineralizations show a dissemination and vein character being located close to chromite ores or within them. These ores are related to hydrothermal fluids produced during the serpentinization process.

PGE-bearing Ni-Cu sulphide mineralization is considered of the first hand importance. Among them, Qafe Dardha area is the most interesting.

Besides PGE-bearing Ni-Cu sulphide mineralization, gold mineralization merits attention. The transition ultramafic-mafic levels are affected by intensive hydrothermal processes. Locally, in some areas high gold concentrations are identified. There is need of the specialized oriented prospecting works for the gold mineralization. Interest for gold represent also the quartz-sulphide mineralization located within gabbro.

PGE-bearing refractory chromites, situated in dunite-wehrlite association merit a special attention. Cerruja chromite deposit is the most significant for this mineralization type. There exist real possibilities to increase the PGE-bearing chromite reserves.