

5. Collaboration with Developing Countries

The support of developing countries is not among the principal aims of the GDCh as laid down in our constitution. Until now, there was only very limited contact to chemical societies from Africa, Latin America or other economically disfavored areas of the world.

However, there is a strong interaction with our neighbors to the East. Even though the Central and Eastern European countries are far from being developing countries there still is a need for help. For example, GDCh has in the past few years organized the donation of complete chemistry libraries from chemical companies which are no longer needed (because restructuring or the change to e-only) to universities in Bratislava (Slovakia), Siedlce (Poland), or Sofia (Bulgaria). Similarly, we support the cooperation with societies in these countries through joint conferences, travel grants, and assistance in many other areas. It is worth mentioning that GDCh created reciprocal name lectures with the chemical socities of Poland (Marie Skłodowska-Curie - Wilhelm Klemm Lecture), the Czech Republic and Slovakia (Heyrovsky - Ilkovic - Nernst Lecture) and Romania (Nenitzescu - Criegee Lecture). A similar agreement with Hungary (George de Hevesy Lecture) is in the planning.