

Hydrocephalus cf. minor (Boeck, 1827) (TH562a)

Hydrocephalus → Redlichiida → Redlichiina → Paradoxidoidae → Paradoxididae → Hydrocephalinae

Provenance : Czechia; Jince

Formation : ?Jince Fm

Age : Middle Cambrian

Details : Only a cranidium (and not quite a complete one at that, with its minor damages on both left and right side), but a relatively large one (although a lot of smaller specimens are available, this paradoxidid trilobite could grow up to 20cm in length). The genus' name is under continuous scrutiny ever since Barrande (1846) made it a subgenus, naming it after the fact that during ontogeny (the growth fazes during which the animal was not yet 'adult', meaning, having its maximum of thorax segments) the glabella was rather inflated, from which it got its name which translates as "water head" (a characteristic which is lost in holaspids – therefore many following researchers found the use of *Hydrocephalus* at the genus level somewhat problematic). Several Hydrocephalinae were described from Czechia : *H. minor* from the Jince Formation was originally described as *Trilobites* by Boeck (1827), and placed in Barrande's newly erected subgenus, alongside *H. carens* (Barrande, 1846) from the Buchava Formation. *Paradoxides paradoxum* (Hawle & Corda, 1847) and *Paradoxides rotundatus* (Barrande, 1847) were at a certain time considered to be hydrocephalines, but the first was placed back into *Paradoxides*, while the second was placed into a new subgenus, *Rejkocephalus* (more recently researchers seem to feel ambivalent about the validity of the genus). A valid addition to the subgenus would be *H. mandiki* Kordule, 1990, also from the Jince Formation. Additional remark : I wonder what those weird damage lines (running from left below to right above) might be from...slight tectonic compression, perhaps?

Bought on : 7-8/10/2023

Bought at : Val Li Pierrys, Rue du Val, Vien (Anthisnes)

Event : Paleoforum 2023



