

Evgeny Petrovich Kharin

(6 February 1933 – 11 September 2013)

Evgeny Petrovich Kharin was born on 6 February 1933. He graduated from Lvov Polytechnic Institute, specializing in geophysics, and was a candidate (PhD) of geological and mineralogical sciences. He held positions in Siberian geophysical industrial organizations; the Geology Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences in Yakutsk; the Institute of Terrestrial Magnetism, Ionosphere, and Radio Wave Propagation of the USSR Academy of Sciences (laboratory of polar geomagnetic researches); as well as participating in the 17th Soviet Antarctic Expedition in 1971–72.

Dr. Kharin worked in the Geophysical Center of Russian Academy of Sciences for 41 years. For 30 of these years, he was Director of the World Data Center (WDC) for Solar–Terrestrial Physics, and under his leadership the WDC was incorporated into the ICSU World Data System in 2012. Dr. Kharin was a highly qualified specialist in the field of geomagnetism, and had extensive experience working with geophysical data. He did much to develop an international system for the collecting and storing of data on the Earth's magnetic field, ionospheric phenomena, solar activity, and cosmic rays. His contribution was especially great to formation of the long observation series of geomagnetic variations and indices that are included in the international SPIDR system. Through Dr. Kharin's management and direct involvement in international projects, he helped to successfully save historic magnetograms, in addition to collecting data and information from the International Polar Year 2007–2008 (IPY) programme. From 2011, he also took an active role in developing the national node for collection of geomagnetic data to service Russian involvement in INTERMAGNET.

The scientific interests of Dr. Kharin were connected to the study of geomagnetic variations and the correlation between solar and geomagnetic activity and seismic activity, and he authored more than 200 scientific publications in those subjects. His awards include the Diploma of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Diploma of the Organizing Committee for the participation of the Russian Federation in preparing and performing activities for IPY, and the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy Long Service Medal—recognizing Dr. Kharin's vast contribution to the accumulation, retention, and dissemination of data on the Earth's magnetic field required for fundamental scientific research.