

3 rd Circular



3RD BALKAN SPELEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE (BSC 2023)

a conference to be held at

SOFIA , BULGARIA
19th – 22nd of October , 2023

Organized by

Bulgarian Caving Society
National Museum Earth and Man
Bulgarian Federation of Speleology

Under the patronage of [European Federation of Speleology](#) and [Balkan Speleological Union](#)

Dear Colleagues and Friends of Caveology and Speleology!

The Organizing Committee have the pleasure to inform you that the third stage of the organization of the conference has been overcome. We have received 26 submissions from 56 authors & co-authors and also listeners from 10 countries as follows: Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Germany, Italy, Kosovo, Serbia, Slovenia. They declared intention to present 26 lectures. The edition of the Proceedings of the Conference was finished and the book is ready to be printed.

DEADLINES

As there are only one important deadline, please let us remind and inform you that:

25 September 2023: Deadline for excursions [Registration](#);

There will be 2 free of charge guided field trips during the conference:

1.KARST IN THE GORGE OF THE RIVER ISKAR, BALKAN MOUNTAIN

The Iskar Gorge is a natural miracle carved out of the stone breasts of the Stara Planina. The total length of the gorge is 156 km. The central - most beautiful and distinct part of the gorge is actually located among between the town of Novi Iskar and Lyutibrod Village and is 67 kilometres long. In this central part of the gorge there are natural geological, geomorphologic phenomena. There are also known plenty of caves in this region.

The canyon is formed by Iskar River after the drainage of the Sofia Lake to the sea located on the territory of the Moesian Platform in the middle of the Dacian Stage about 4,5 million years ago. Now Iskar River takes its source from Rila Mountain, the highest mountain on the Balkans, crosses the Balkan Mountain through the picturesque Iskar Canyon, then the Moesian Platform and flows into the Danube. Iskar Gorge offers a number of scenic landscapes and remarkable rock outcrops of various metamorphic, igneous, volcanic and sedimentary rocks, representing the whole Phanerozoic history of the Earth.

Program of the excursion

Stage 1. Cherepish The historic Cherepish Monastery. Here over an area of 3 sq. km are known more than 170 caves. The longest cave is "Studenata" with length of 602 m. After Cherepish, along the gorge the road pass through Zverino,

Opletnya, Lakatnik, Bov and Tserovo.

Stage 2. Lakatnik Lakatnik Rocks – an unique piece of nature’s art! These stone walls are the perfect challenge for any climber.

There are 86 caves in the area among the famous Temnata Dupka Cave with length more than 8000 m and the Zhitlub Karst Spring. Other long caves near Lakatnik are Kozarskata Peshtera (709 m), Razhishkata Dupka (316 m) and Svinskata Dupka (300 m).

Stage 3. Visting Iskrets village, Iskrets Karst Spring and caving trip in Dushnika Cave (Length - 876 m. Depth - 12 m). The cave is the largest dynamic karst spring in Bulgaria with maximal discharge of 35.900 l/s. The cave is easy penetrable!!!

Requirements for tour: The participants need to have headlamp or torch, cascue, caving clothes & shoes. The organizers provide transport, professional guide. It would be better if the participants bring themselves drinking water and sandwiches. Something in mind for to have a lunch in bistro on the road. The excursion will start in 9 o'clock a.m from Sofia 21 – th October participants will be get back to Sofia in the same day in the late afternoon or evening

2. SUNDAY HALF DAY SIGHT SEEING OF SOFIA ON FOOT.

Reservations for the guided trips will be based on the order in which you register. Reservations will not be held for persons who have not registered and did not pay participation fee. Please be so kind to make final registration for guided trips full feeling the [REGISTRATION FORM](#) and sending it before **25 September 2023!**

Time	Thursday 19 th October
9:00	Opening Congress Office
9:00 – 14:00	General Registration (Congress Office)
14:00	Opening Ceremony – Great Hall of National Museum Earth & Man
	1 st Conference Session
16:00	Coffee Break
	2 nd Conference Session
19:00	Welcome Party
Friday 20 th October	
9:00 – 10:30	1 st Morning Session
10:30 – 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:30	2 nd Morning Session
	Lunch Break
14:00	1 st Afternoon Session
	Coffee Break
	2 nd Afternoon Session
Saturday 21 st October	
9:00 – 18:00	Guided tour
20:00	Banquet
Sunday 22 nd October	
9:00 – 12:00	Guided tour

Below you will find the preliminary program of the conference. The organizers have the right to make changes!



Please pay attention that the registration in the conference will begin on October 19th in the morning at 9.30 and we kindly ask you to be accurate. Please note that the entrance to the Conference hall is on the back side of the building of the Museum (look on the maps and photo)! The payment of participation fee is in Bulgarian Currency (BGN Lv) **equivalent of 40 Euro. (~ about 80 BGN)**

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM OF PRESENTATIONS

Time	Thursday 19 th October
	Official Opening
	1st Afternoon Session
14:00	A. ZHALOV: The exploration of the karst & caves in Sboryanovo National - historical-archaeological
*	
15:30	G. LAZARIDIS et al. : Exploring the caves of Agion Oros: a comprehensive geological synthesis of field
	At. RUSEV: Research with GPR (Ground penetration radar) in the Bosnek karst region
	O. OGNIANOV et.al. Orthophoto mapping and terrestrial laser scanning of karst terrains and caves in 3D reconstruction
----	AI. STOEVI, P. MUGLOVA: Generating cave models: challenges to physical cave monitoring
16:00	AI. ZHALOV : Bulgarian – Kosovo cave explorations 2017-2022
*	Ev. KOEV : Underground karst lakes according to their way of formation, feeding, main features and features
17:30	A. BALTAKOVA : Forms in travertine /bigor in Bulgaria
	Friday 20th October
	1st Morning Session
9:00	P.DELCHEV : Passporting of caves in Bulgaria
*	S. MAGNI et.al : Are the stylolites important in the karst formation?
10.30	H. DUNDAROVA et.al.: Bat diversity from a high-altitude karst area in Pirin mountains, Bulgaria
----	L.KENDEROV: A new species of the genus <i>Niphargus</i> (<i>Amphipoda</i> : <i>Crustacea</i>) found in a water gallery under the courtyard of the Monastery of Saint George , Athos , Greece
	Y. ATANASOVA et.al.: Nontuberculous mycobacteria diversity in Bulgarian caves
11.00	R.RASHID et.al. : Bats and men – sharing life under one roof
*	P. STEFANOV, D. STEFANOVA : ProKARSTerra-Edu: Education and Training for/through karst
12.30	M.SPASOVA et.al. STEM training and opportunities for project-based training and integrative knowledge in speleology
	2nd Afternoon Session
14:00	K. PARAGAMIAN et.al: The cave of Maroneia (Rodopi, Northern Greece): biodiversity, significance,
*	I.KARAMAN : Results of the first project of the Serbian biospeleological society
15.30	K. PARAGAMIAN: Protecting Greece's cave biodiversity: the environmental imperative
	P. MUGLOVA et.al.: Archaeoacoustics in cult caves on the territory of Bulgaria
	Ev. GEORGIEV : The reliquary chambers' in the preserved altar tables of cave churches along
----	A.FABBRICATORE: Isonzo front: the caves of karst plateau
	Ev.KOEV: Architectural-historical anthropogenic karst landscapes, as a model for comprehensive research, systematization and documentation of the cultural-historical heritage in karst
16.00	AL. PETROVIĆ et.al. : The results of new speleological research of the Petnička cave
*	H. PRODANOVA: Modeling of cultural ecosystem services in karst territories: a case study of the Poreche region in the Republic of North Macedonia
17.30	F. BAJRAKTARI, S.BEHRAMI: The role of caves in the development of tourism in Kosovo
	S.LAPAKOV: Depression and anxiety as role stressors in cavers
	Saturday 21st October
9 – 18	Guided sightseeing karst trip
20.00	B a n q u e t
	Sunday 22nd October
9-12	Guided sightseeing trip Sofia



Accommodation

Many possibilities of accommodation are in Sofia City (hotels, pensions or private accommodation). Detailed offers concerning to accommodation in Sofia you can find on website <http://www.booking.com> where is a great choice of accommodation in Sofia and in its surrounding. We offer to you to book your accommodation in the most nearest (270 m.) to the Conference Halls Hotel „Hemus“ - see the map

For all your inquiries, contact the conference organizers: contact@bgcave.org or zhalov@gmail.com

