

18th EuroSpeleo Forum & Meeting of Croatian Speleologist

Pazin, ISTRA, Croatia
13. – 15. 11. 2026.

18th EuroSpeleo Forum
MUNDUS SPELAEUS
Skup speleologa Hrvatske - Pazin 2026.

Host of the event:
Speleological Society Istra

Lukina jama, photo Dinko Stopić



3. CIRCULAR

18th EuroSpeleo Forum
and
Meeting of Croatian Speleologists,
Pazin, ISTRA, 13–15 November 2026.

Host of the event:
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Dear colleagues from the speleological community, welcome to Mundus Spelaeus 2026!

We invite you to join us for around 40 presentations, showcasing the work of our hosts and fellow speleologists from across Europe. Expect great company, a wealth of posters and workshops, casual chats, new friendships, plans for future field projects, and the discovery of hidden subterranean mysteries...
This third and final circular contains the schedule of activities, along with a link to a Google Maps map showing all key locations—including venues for presentations, posters, and workshops, as well as accommodation and party areas.

See you in Pazin! ;)

Link to the places where we'd like to see you
https://maps.app.goo.gl/5PWx4Gp9sbHtgLsY6

Programme

Friday, 13. 11. 2026.

8:30 – 10:30	Registration of presenters, 21st Century Researchers (Memorial House)
10:30	Opening of interactive workshops **"From Curiosity to Discovery and Understanding - 21st Century Researchers"**, poster exhibition **"Rašpor/ Raspo 1925-2025 - Memories of 100 Years of Exploration of the Pits at Rašpor/L'Abisso Bertarelli"**, poster exhibition **"Karst, Caves and Their Natural, Scientific and Cultural Values"**, photo exhibition **"Caves and pits of Istria"**, and Photo Exhibition: **"Underground France"** from France, Réunion Island, Austria, Israel, **Photo diaporama Underground France** (5 min) and **Beneath the Volcanoes** (4 min) Author: Philippe Crochet (Memorial House – during all three days, free admission)
10:30 – 14:30	**Program of interactive workshops for children, kindergartens and schools "From Curiosity to Discovery and understanding - Researchers of the 21st century"** (Memorial House)
12:00 – 14:00	**Round table "The problem of the Pazin abyss and the Pazinčica river basin"** (Great Hall, Municipal Building, closed meeting only for invited experts and stakeholders)
17:00 – 20:00	**Gathering, registration** (School-City Hall)
17:00 – 20:00	**Setting up stands, associations, associations, exhibition, posters, speleological equipment** (School-City Hall + Gymnasium)

ACCOMMODATION OF PARTICIPANTS:

Sleeping in a bag (from Thursday, 12.11.2026.):
Aleksandar Anzur Bocce Center (on the ground floor and stands)

Sleeping in a personal tent: Green area behind the Memorial House

Sleeping in a camper:
parking lot opposite LIDL, parking lot behind the bus station

EXPERT TRIPS TO CAVES AND PITS

08:00 – 21:00	**Friday all day:** Jama kod Rašpora, Ponor Bregi, Kumbašeja velika, Radota cave, Piskovica (cave in flysch), only registered participants who have confirmed the reservation of the trip.
10:00 – 18:00	Alma Espinosa and María Espinosa Spínola: ESPELEOLOGIA CON ALMA (ESP) – Inclusive speleology, terrain, Rašpor (HGSS station Istria in collaboration with ESPELEOSOCORRO SIN FRONTERAS Spain)
18:00 – 02:00	**Food and drinks - Speleobar** (big tent - grilled dishes, burgers, veggie burgers....grill until 00:00)
21:00 – 02:00	**Entertainment program - Speleobar** (big tent live band Dino & Acid Salvia)

Saturday, 14. 11. **Multipurpose hall** (School-City Hall)

8:30 – 14:00	**Registration of participants** (School-City Hall)
9:40	**Opening of the Conference.** Welcome speech by representatives of the City of Pazin, FSE, HSS, KS HPS, SD Istra
	LECTURES:
10:00 – 11:30	**First block of lectures: Scientific research and professional activities in speleological facilities** • Josip Rubinić: HYDROLOGY ASPECTS OF PAZIN CAVE • Nina Trinajstić: RADON IN KARST; FROM EXTREME CONCENTRATIONS TO UNPREDICTABLE CHANGES • Alessio Fabbricatore and Donatella Cergna: CONTURINES CAVE REPRESENTS ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PALAEOCLIMATIC ARCHIVES OF THE SO-CALLED "ALPINE CAVE-BEAR PERIOD", WHICH LARGELY, BUT NOT ENTIRELY, CORRESPONDS TO THE GEOLOGICAL MIDDLE WURM • Dalibor Paar: CLIMATE EXTREMES IN MOUNTAIN PROTECTED AREAS: INFLUENCE ON CONDITIONS IN LARGE SPELEOLOGICAL FEATURE • Nenad Buzjak and Mladen Jekić: MICROCLIMATE DYNAMICS OF PAZINA CAVE
11:30 – 13:00	**Second block of lectures: Scientific research and professional activities in speleological facilities** • Jozsef Meszaros: FROM 10 M TO 3 KM – THE EXPLORATION OF LACI CAVE IN HUNGARY • Joseph Meszaros: SPELEO STUDIO BRINGING CAVE SURVEYS TO LIFE IN 3D • Damir Basara and Roman Ozimec: SPELEOLOGICAL-BIOSPELOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF THE PONOR ZONES OF GACKO POLJE, LIKA-SENJ COUNTY • Ema Buljan and Olga Jerković Perić: SPELEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION NORTHERN VELEBIT 2026 • Dora Kermek: THE ISTRIAN OLM (PROTEUS SKETI): A NEWLY DESCRIBED SPECIESIN NEED OF DISTRIBUTIONAL AND CONSERVATION REASSESSMENT
13:00 – 14:00	**The third block of lectures: Scientific research and professional activities in speleological feature, Inclusive speleology** • Branko Jalžić, Damir Basara, Gordan Polić and Milan Vojinović: NATURAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BOROVČEVE PIT IN POSTRANA ON THE ISLAND OF KORČULA

- Jelena Beželj: SPELEOLOGY EXPEDITION SNJEŽNICA 1234 VOL.3
- Ana Mladenović: KARST GEOMORPHOLOGY ALONG THE COMPLEX FAULT SYSTEM: TIMOK FAULT SYSTEM, CARPATHO-BALKANIDES (EASTERN SERBIA)
- Alma Espinosa and María Espinosa Spínola: ESPELEOLOGIA CON ALMA (ESP)

14:00 – 15:00

ORGANIZED LUNCH FOR REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS

(speleobar-ex barracks)

15:00 – 16:30

Fourth block of lectures: Publishing, scientific speleology research, expeditions

- Vlado Božić and Igor Krnjeta: PRESENTATION OF THE BOOK "FORTIFIED CAVES IN ŽUMBERK AND FORTIFIED CAVES OF KRBAVSKO POLJE
- Domagoj Madunić: 17TH INTERNATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH EXPEDITION MIJATOVI DVORI 2026.
- Pier Anić and Iva Palatinuš: SPELEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION MIDDLE VELEBIT
- Philippe Crochet: Movie trailer, author; Antonio Consentino - Turkmenistan Expedition May 2026

16:30 – 18:00

Fifth block of lectures: Scientific research and professional activities in speleological features

- Tomasz Pawłowski, Janusz Będkowski, Loris Redovniković: POMIARY JASKIN LIDAREM 3D MANDEYE MR.
- Janusz Bedkowski: HOW TO QUANTITATIVELY AND QUALITATIVELY EVALUATE 3D MOBILE MAPPING ALGORITHMS? SO, WE CAN CREATE RELIABLE SEARCH AND RESCUE SOFTWARE.
- Loris Redovnikovic: GENERATION OF CAVE PLANS AND EXTENDED PROFILES FROM 3D POINT CLOUDS
- Ivor Jankovic: RECENT SPELEOARCHAEOLOGY IN THE BEZDANJAČA CAVE
- Nicolae Alexandru: SpeleoLoc + SilexGIS: FROM CAVE NAVIGATION AND EXPLORATION DOCUMENTATION TO SPELEOLOGICAL DANA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS

18:00 – 19:30

Sixth lecture block: Speleological exploration, camps and expeditions

- Teo Barišić and Aida Barišić: SPELEOLOGICAL EXPLORATION OF THE NORTHERNEST PART OF THE CRNOPAC CAVE SYSTEM IN 2026
- Dinko Stopić: 30 YEARS OF RISES AND FALLS
- Lovel Kukuljan: NEW OLD KRKUŽ
- Damir Basara: SPELEOLOGICAL CAMP KLEMENTA 2026
- Venio Fabijančić: BURINKA
- Dario Mrkonjić: EXPLORING THE BIOKOVKA CAVE AND THE SPELEOLOGY EXPEDITION "BIOKOVKA 2026."

EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition of selected photographs and voting of participants throughout the day (School-City Hall)

Poster presentations, photo exhibition, stands with equipment and literature (throughout the day, Memorial House, School-City Hall and Gymnasium)

19:30 **Announcement of the winners of the speleophoto competition** (School-City Hall)

SELF-RESCUE WORKSHOP, SPELEOPOLIGON – SOCIALIZING AND ENTERTAINMENT:

(Speleobar, large tent – ex barracks)

20:00 **Self-rescue workshop, demonstrator; HGSS station Istra** (organized for all interested parties, personal equipment and a protective helmet are required, interested parties are asked to register by 10.11.)

21:00 **21:00 – Speleopoligon** (large tent, ex barracks)

21:30 **21:30 – Speed climbing competition** (large tent, ex barracks)

14:00 – 00:00 **14:00 – 24:00 – Food and drinks - Speleobar** (large tent, grilled dishes, burgers, veggie burgers...)

22:00 – 02:00 **22:00 – 02:00 - Entertainment program - Speleobar** (large tent, live band TTRT Štrpin & Co.)

Saturday, 14. 11.

Blue Hall - Gymnasium

10.00 – 14:00 **FSE - WORKSHOP ON KARST UNDERGROUND PRESERVATION**

10:00 – 10:10 Welcome address

10:10 – 10:45 **Cave Pollution: Can Problems of the Past Determine Our Future?**
Jure Tičar, PhD, Anton Melik Geographical Institute of the Research Center of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia

10:45 – 11:20 **Conservation of speleological features in Croatia – from inventory and monitoring to practical conservation activities**
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Green Transition, Zagreb, Croatia

11:20 – 11:55 **Public institution Natura Histrica – 30 years of protecting Istrian caves**
Andrea Deklić, MSc, Senior Expert Associate, Public institution Natura Histrica, Pula, Croatia

11:55 – 12:10 Coffee Break

12:10 – 12:45 **Clean underground: a grassroots model of cave protection**
Ruđer Novak, PhD, Clean underground program, Zagreb Speleological Association, Zagreb, Croatia

12:45 – 13:20	**Twenty Years of "Puliamo il Buio": Cleaning, Mapping, and Protecting Italy's Subterranean Caves** Francesco Maurano, PhD, Puliamo il Buio, Società Speleologica Italiana, Bologna, Italy
13:20 – 13:40	**Cave Protection in-and-for Europe** Jean Claude Thies, President of the European Cave Protection Commission (ECPC), President of the Fédération Spéléologique Européenne (FSE)
13:40 – 14:00	Discussion and Workshop closing
14:00 – 15:00	**ORGANIZED LUNCH FOR REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS** (speleobar-ex barracks)
15:00 – 16:15	**Seventh block of lectures: Cooperation, ecology, speleological research and professional activities in speleological features** • Ema Marcu: A NEW VISION FOR BALKAN SPELEOLOGICAL COOPERATION • Ivor Janković: SPELEOARCHAEOLOGY: POTENTIAL AND CHALLENGES • Lovel Kukuljan: TOWARDS COMPLETE AUTOMATION OF SPELEOLOGY'S CABINET WORK USING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE • Matteo Zausnig: COOPERATION BETWEEN HGSS AND THE MUP'S EXPLOSION PROTECTION SERVICE IN REMOVING MINE AND EXPLOSIVE DEVICES FROM SPELEOLOGICAL FEATURES • Nicolae Alexandru: AVENUL DE SUB VÂRFUL GRIND: RECENT EXPLORATIONS IN ROMANIA'S DEEPEST CAVE
16:30 – 17:45	**Eighth block of lectures: Scientific research, history and professional activities in speleological facilities** • Valeria Rossi, Ruđer Novak: POLLUTED SPELEOLOGICAL FEATURES IN CROATIA - OVERVIEW OF THE STATE IN THE PERIOD 2020 - 2026 • Željko Miletić: CONTRIBUTION OF BIOKOVO SPELEOLOGY TO THE STUDY OF ICE MANAGEMENT • Dalibor Reš: CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPELEOLOGY IN THE KVARNER AREA – THE STORY OF THE THIRD "UNKNOWN" CORNER OF THE TRIANGLE OF CLASSIC KARST, KRAS, CARSO CLASICO • Dubravko Grčević; BEZDANJAČA AND BOBINAC KOSERINA – CAVE LOCATIONS IN GACKA
17:45 – 18:45	**Ninth block of lectures: Scientific research, expeditions and professional activities in speleological features** • Robert Mišić: LAZARE'S CAVE AND ROBERT'S ABYSS – RESEARCH RESULTS AND INDICATIONS OF POSSIBLE MORPHOLOGICAL CONNECTION (2018-2026) • Dino Grozić and Jure Šarić: HGSS SPELEOSAVANCE COMMISSION AND SPELEOLOGY COMMUNITY: COOPERATION, EDUCATION, PLANNING AND PREVENTION

- Najla Baković, Gordan Golja, Igor Anić, Damir Basara and Robert Baković: HOW CAN THE COMPOSITION AND CONCENTRATION OF GASES, TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY HELP US TO RECOGNIZE DANGERS IN SPELEOLOGY FEATURES WITH WASTE?
- Paol Karoshi and Vedran Ferečak: SPELEOLOGY TRIP TO VIETNAM

Saturday, 14. 11.

Reading room – Gymnasium

15:00 – 17:00	**FSE public meeting: Projects, programs, information** This meeting is intended to explain FSE projects and programs to the wider speleological community Award ceremony for the EuroSpeleo Youth Contest

Sunday, 15. 11.

9:30 – 15:00	**Meetings of speleological organizations** (Croatian Speleological Association, Speleology Commission of the Croatian Mountaineering Association) (Gymnasium, Blue Hall + reading room)
9:30 – 13:00	Clearing of stands, posters, exhibitions

TRIPS TO SPELEOLOGICAL FEATURES:

10:00 – 13:00	Visit to the Pazin Cave (depending on hydrological conditions) – for registered participants (max 20 people), reservation, Mladen +385 91 5121528 WhatsApp, www.pazin-cave.com
10:30	Tour of Piskovica, cave in flysch 1036 m (Gologorica), max 15 people (helmet with lighting, overalls required) Info: https://hrcak.srce.hr/file/290381

ADRENALINE EXPERIENCE:

10:00 – 13:00	Zip-line Pazin Cave (depending on the weather) – discount for participants of the speleologists' meeting (discounted price 20.00 euros/person), mandatory announcement, Romina: +385 91 5437718, https://www.facebook.com/zipline.pazin/?_rdr

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13. – 15. 11. 2026.

Organizing Committee:

Mladen Jekić (president), Neven Šuica, Dalibor Reš, Dinko Stopić, Hrvoje Cvitanović, PhD
Dalibor Paar, Ruđer Novak, Venio Fabijančić, Zoran Brajković

Main Organizers:

Speleological Society "Istra", Pazin
Croatian Speleological Association – speleo.hr

Co-organizers:

Speleological Club "Ursus spelaeus"
Speleological Society Karlovac
Speleological Association Estavela
Speleological Department Velebit
Clean Underground - ZSS
Breganja Association
Tourist Board of Central Istria
HGSS Station Istra
Center for Culture and Education Pazin

Patrons:

European Speleological Federation
City of Pazin
Croatian Speleological Association
Croatian Mountaineering Association Speleology Commission
JU Natura Histrica

Grad Pazin

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Branko Šavor