



5th EuroSpeleo Protection Symposium **24-25 August 2018**

"Connecting Science with Cave Protection"

during the **12th EuroSpeleo Forum**

23-26 August 2018 in Ebensee
Austria



1st CIRCULAR

The 5th EuroSpeleo Protection Symposium
" Connecting Science with Cave Protection "

will be held in Ebensee (Austria)
from the 24th to the 25th of August 2018

<http://www.eurospeleo.at>

On behalf of the European Cave Protection Commission, we kindly invite all speleologists and scientists interested in - or working for - cave and Karst protection, to participate at the 5th EuroSpeleo Protection Symposium organized jointly by *The Austrian Speleological Association in collaboration with the Speleological Society of Ebensee* and the European Cave Protection Commission (ECPC) of the European Speleological Federation (FSE).

Organizing institutions

European Cave Protection Commission, European Speleological Federation

<http://www.eurospeleo.eu/>

The Austrian Speleological Association in collaboration
with the Speleological Society of Ebensee

<http://www.eurospeleo.at>

Coordination

Jean-Claude THIES (LU)
Bärbel VOGEL (DE)

Background

Since its origin in 1990, the Fédération Spéléologique Européenne (FSE) has tried to promote Cave Protection at the European scale. 17 years later, the FSE General Assembly decided in August 2007 in Sweden to create a commission called European Cave Protection Commission (ECPC) whose tasks would be to sustain the FSE efforts in actively promoting cave and karst protection at the European level. At this point, the mission is based on the IUCN Guidelines for Cave and Karst Protection and the Habitat Directive (Council *Directive* 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the Conservation of natural *habitats* and of wild fauna and flora) and the Recommendation on conservation of geological heritage and areas of special geological interest (Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, 2004) and other existing conventions at the European and Global level.

Context

Caves and Karst are important sites of the European landscape and have intrinsic natural beauty and value. However they are constantly exposed to numerous human impacts, directly inside the cave environment or indirectly in the associated surrounding. Karst regions suffer from destruction, air and water pollution associated mainly due to forestry, agricultural chemicals, quarries, landfills, mining, urban and rural development and uncontrolled mass tourism. The techniques of protection of this underground heritage varies throughout Europe.

The 2018 EuroSpeleo Protection Symposium's theme of **Connecting Science with Cave Protection** will focus on scientific and technical aspects of cave and Karst protection and conservation, on speleological input, best practice and exchange of knowledge.

Aims of the symposium

The Symposium will provide a platform for scientists, speleologists and authorities active in the domain of cave and Karst protection.

The Symposium will inform about caves and Karst protection with the help of scientific means

Stakeholders active in this domain may share common views and discuss on case related issues. Technical aids can be tested in workshops and fieldtrips.

Symposium schedule

Friday, 24th of August 2018: 09:00-17:00

Saturday, 25th of August 2018: 09:00-17:00

Please note that this program is provisional and may be modified depending on the number of accepted contributions. It will be scheduled in due time on the internet site of the Forum.

Official languages

The official languages of the symposium will be **German and English** for the lectures but the abstracts to be included in the proceedings should be provided **in English only**.

Hence there will be sessions in German respectively English only.

Due to technical reasons, no real-time language translations will be possible in the lecture rooms.

Call for Abstracts and Posters

The 2018 EuroSpeleo Protection Symposium's team is inviting you to submit proposals for oral and poster presentations. As the topic "Connecting Science with Cave Protection" is covering a wide range of interest, we welcome additional perspectives in submitted proposals for abstracts and posters.

Abstracts for oral presentations or posters should have a maximum of 250 words or extended abstracts (max. 4 pages in length) and in English language. If any applicant has difficulties in translating an abstract, please contact us in advance so that we can assist you.

Abstracts should be submitted to science@eurospeleo.at by **January 31st, 2018**.

Please indicate clearly whether the submission is for an oral or poster presentation at the EuroSpeleo Protection Symposium. With abstract submission and the presentation at the Symposium you agree that the abstracts will be published in the proceedings of the EuroSpeleo Forum and on the ECPC website.

More information on this may be found at the official website of the EuroSpeleo Forum:

<http://www.eurospeleo.at/symposia.html>

Timeline for symposium organization

Abstract submission deadline:

January 31st, 2018

Abstract acceptance notification:

March 31st, 2018

Registration

In order to register for the EuroSpeleo Protection Symposium please visit the online registration tool of the EuroSpeleo Forum at:

<http://www.eurospeleo.at/registration.html>

The registration will be possible after the 1st of November 2017.

See you in Austria

The ESPS organisation team



FSE - Fédération Spéléologique Européenne

ECPC - European Cave Protection Commission

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