



30th International Karstological School »Classical Karst« and the 30th Anniversary

KARST – APPROACHES AND CONCEPTUAL MODELS

Postojna, 19–23 June 2023
Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU

FIRST CIRCULAR

We have been organizing the International Karst School "Classical Karst" (IKS) since 1993. The school offers a framework in which both, young and established karstologists from all over the world present new research in the field of karstology, socialize and get to know Classical karst. Every year, we choose a leading topic, the history and state of research of which are presented by invited lecturers, while the other participants present their research in the form of lectures or posters. The red thread of the school are the afternoon and full-day excursions, where the leading theme is presented in the field sites of the Classical Karst. The last full-day excursion is entirely dedicated to the general presentation of the most important areas of the Classic Karst.

ANNIVERSARY - 30TH INTERNATIONAL KARSTOLOGICAL SCHOOL

This year we are celebrating the School's 30th anniversary. The school will be officially opened on Monday, June 19th, and officially closed with a gala dinner accompanied by live music on Thursday, June 22nd.

We have invited eminent and world-renowned scientists and researchers who, with their contribution to science, have charted the path to karstology as we know it today.

Among the confirmed opening and keynote speakers are Derek Ford, Paul Williams, Wolfgang Dreybrodt, Ugo Sauro, Pavel Bosák, Stein-Erik Lauritzen, Arthur Palmer and Peggy Palmer, Aurel Persoi, Joanna Doummar, Ira Sasowsky, Slavko Polak, Paul Griffiths, Gašper Hrastelj, Secretary General of the National Commission for UNESCO, Tadej Slabe, head of the Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU, and many others.

THE TOPIC

The 30th International Karstological School will be devoted to different approaches in karst research and the evolution of conceptual models of karst systems.

Karst is a complex three-dimensional environment, where different processes, forms and life intertwine through feed-back loops. In the 19th century, modern scientific methods began to be used in karstology. During the last decades, the advancement of scientific approaches and methods have changed our understanding of karst systems dramatically. Computational approaches, molecular methods in life sciences, new instrumentation and automatic monitoring, the advancement of data processing, and new methods for dating and isotopic analyses have brought us a rich new understanding of karst, speleogenesis, karst aquifers and ecosystems. Thus, the study of karst is based on research into the development and characteristics of caves and the cave environment, hydrology, knowledge of ecosystems and life in caves and their relationship with the karst surface and the geological characteristics of the rocks in which the karst is formed. Due to the diversity of research, in-depth new insights and different methodological approaches, individual aspects of karst research were already the topic of past schools, but karst and research in it were never presented as a whole.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

The program of this year's school will be first and foremost enriched with extensive topics of invited lectures, which will be followed by oral and poster presentations.

Excursions will be suited to the School's topic. The social events will tend to unite the participants with inspiring debates, food and music.

| | Monday June 19 th | Tuesday June 20 th | Wednesday June 21 st | Thursday June 22 nd | Friday June 23 rd |
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| Morning | Registration 30 th Anniversary Opening ceremony S01: <u>SPELEOLOGY n°1</u> | S03: <u>GEOMORPHOLOGY</u> S04: <u>HYDROLOGY</u> | S05: <u>GEOLOGY</u> S06: <u>BIOLOGY & MICROBIOLOGY</u> S07: <u>OUTREACH IN KARSTOLOGY</u> | Whole day excursion – ponor of Reka and Škocjan caves | Whole day excursion – groundwater flow of Ljubljana “a new twist” |
| Afternoon | S02: <u>SPELEOLOGY n°2</u> Poster sessions | Field trip – active and relict contact karst of Postojna Basin: Sajevško polje blind valley with the Rakuliščica ponor and the Unroofed cave Loza | Field trip – Pivka intermittent lakes: latest research on cave Ždink – a reserve water source | | |
| Evening | Ice breaker & “Karst Jam” | | | Gala reception with the concert of »Geobanda« | |

REGISTRATION

Online-only registrations are possible at <https://iks.zrc-sazu.si/en/prijava/>, until **30th April 2023**.

The registration fee is 180 EUR, and 75 EUR for undergraduate students. The registration fee covers the costs of the excursion guide with a book of abstracts, excursions, snacks and drinks during lectures and refreshments at social events.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The official languages of the IKS are Slovenian and English. **Abstracts must be written and submitted in English by April 16th**. Participants can choose the form of their presentation (poster/lecture).

However, the number of oral presentations is limited by the number of time slots available for lectures. Therefore, the organizer will suggest some of the proposed lectures to be changed to posters. Authors will be approached in time.

All authors are encouraged to prepare and submit manuscripts based on their presentations to **Acta Carsologica**.

New: Awards for the best student contribution will be given. All Bachelor and master students who will register and submit their abstracts will be automatically considered for award. If the student does not want to participate in the competition, he can let the organizers know by the contact e-mail address. More information about the prizes will be provided on the website and in the next announcement.

SUPPORT

Slovenian National Commission for UNESCO, Research Centre SAZU, Slovenian Research Agency, UIS – International Union of Speleology, JZS – Speleological Association of Slovenia, Pileus – Monitoring Solutions, IGU Karst Commission, Kulturni dom Postojna, Zavod za Znanje Postojna, Notranjski muzej, Občina Postojna.

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