

International Scientific and Practical Conference
**PROTECTED KARST TERRITORIES –
EDUCATION AND TRAINING**
(23-26 September 2015, Sofia)



Protected Karst Territories – Lifelong Learning

The upcoming successive Third international forum in Bulgaria, dedicated to Protected Karst Territories is organized by the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography.

This forum is in memory of the distinguished Polish Geographer, World-wide recognized Karstologist and great friend of Bulgaria, **Professor Marian Pulina** (1936-2005).

MAIN TOPICS



Karst and integration between science and education:

- Modern scientific concepts in Karstology – place, role and importance for education and training. Integration between the scientific concept about karst geosystems and the educational concept of “Lifelong Learning” – status, problems and perspectives.

Place and role of protected karst territories (PKT) in education and training:

- Cognitive and academic-educational importance of PKT. Educational resources of PKT. Inter-institutional coordination. International cooperation – the network of PKT: contemporary challenges and innovations.

Didactic and pedagogical significance of karst in school education:

- Karst themes in the methodologies of teaching different subjects. Interactive teaching about karst. The interdisciplinary role of karst. Development of systematic thinking through the concept of karst geosystems.

Karst in the legal framework of schooling:

- Educational strategies, concepts and curricula. Karst in textbooks and school materials. Educational models about karst. Extracurricular form of teaching about karst. Educational projects about karst.

Karst in University education:

- Specialized courses, programs, practices, schools, specializations. Professional orientation and realization of young researchers in Karstology and forms of training and qualification.

Training about karst in system of speleological organizations (federations, associations, caving clubs):

- Traditions, state and problems. Forms of training. Good practices.

Training about karst in management and control of karst territories:

- Training in karst and karst geosystems as a part of the professional qualification of managerial and administrative authorities. Aims and forms of training. Best practices.

Application of Information and Communication technologies in education and training about karst:

- State and perspectives. Good practices. Dedicated Web-based networks and sites.

Karst and UNESCO:

- Karst sites of the World natural and cultural heritage. The role of UNESCO in education and training about karst.

Promotion of karst:

- Promotion of karst – information accessibility and modern forms of mass media. Specialized publications. Contests, exhibitions, competitions.

SPECIAL TOPICS



Karst in preschool education – challenges, opinions, practices.

Integrated education of disabled people in karst environment.

ROUND TABLE



International initiatives:

- International Karst Olympiad
- International Year of Karst and Caves

COMPETITION



Within the framework of the Scientific Forum the **Third International Competition** “*Karst under protection – gift for the future generations*” will be held

The Scientific Forum develops the ideas of the International conferences held in Shumen, Bulgaria:

"Protected karst territories - conditions, problems, perspectives"

(18-21 October 2005, <http://prokarstterra.bas.bg/karst2005>)

"Protected karst territories - monitoring and management"

(17-21 September 2012, <http://www.prokarstterra.bas.bg/forum2012>)

For the latest information: <http://www.prokarstterra.bas.bg/forum2015>

For contacts: forum2015@prokarstterra.bas.bg; forum2015@abv.bg