

State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, Banská Bystrica
Slovak Caves Administration, Liptovský Mikuláš
Slovak Museum of Nature Protection and Speleology, Liptovský Mikuláš
Slovak Speleological Society



RESEARCH, UTILIZATION AND PROTECTION OF CAVES

16th Scientific Conference

on the occasion of the
100th Anniversary of the Discovery of Domica Cave

under the patronage of the
International Union of Speleology (UIS)
International Show Caves Association (ISCA)

October 6 – 8, 2026
Liptovský Mikuláš

FIRST CIRCULAR

Organizing Committee

Chairman: Ing. Andrea Lešová, PhD.

Igor Balciar, Mgr. Laura Dušeková, PhD., Viera Granátová, Ing. Peter Holúbek, RNDr. Juraj Littva, PhD., Mgr. Miloš Melega, RNDr. Lucia Pristašová, PhD., RNDr. Zuzana Višňovská, PhD.

Scientific Committee

Chairman: doc. RNDr. Pavel Bella, PhD.

prof. RNDr. Pavel Bosák, DrSc., RNDr. Ľudovít Gaál, PhD., prof. Dr hab. Michał Gradziński, Mgr. Dagmar Haviarová, PhD., doc. RNDr. Zdenko Hochmuth, PhD., prof. RNDr. Ľubomír Kováč, CSc., RNDr. Peter Malík, CSc., RNDr. Vladimír Papáč, PhD.

Secretariat address

Štátnej ochrany prírody Slovenskej republiky

Správa slovenských jaskýň

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Professional focus

Since 1997, the Slovak Caves Administration has been organising the scientific conference "Research, Utilization and Protection of Caves", presenting the latest results of research, monitoring, and protection of caves, especially from Slovakia and neighboring Central European countries. Caves as natural monuments are protected in terms of their geological, mineralogical, geomorphological, hydrological, climatic, biological, paleontological, archaeological or historical values.

Conference topics

- geological conditions of karst and cave formation, morphology and genesis of caves
- mineral cave fills, cave sediments, paleoenvironmental changes in karst
- karst hydrogeology, hydrology and geochemistry
- cave climate
- cave biota and biodiversity
- palaeontological and archaeological findings in caves, cave settlements, history of speleology
- utilization and environmental protection of karst landscape and caves, management of show caves
- information systems and documentation of karst phenomena and caves



Conference venue

Slovak Museum of Nature Protection and Speleology

Školská 1124/4, 031 01 Liptovský Mikuláš

tel.: +421(0)44/5477230

e-mail: smopaj@smopaj.sk

www.smopaj.sk

Programme

October 6, 2026 (Tuesday)

- 08.00 – 09.00 Registration
 09.00 – 09.30 Conference opening
 09.30 – 12.30 Lectures
 12.30 – 14.00 Lunch
 14.00 – 16.45 Lectures
 17.00 – 17.30 Exhibition on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the Domica Cave
 18.00 Dinner and social gathering

October 7, 2026 (Wednesday)

- 08.00 – 18.00 All-day excursion to the Domica Cave and its surroundings
 (Slovak Karst, south-western part of the Silická Plateau)

October 8, 2026 (Thursday)

- 08.30 – 12.00 Lectures
 12.00 – 12.30 Poster presentation
 12.30 – 14.00 Lunch
 14.00 – 15.30 Lectures
 15.30 Conference closing



Lectures and posters

In the case of a large number of submitted lectures, the scientific committees reserves the right to reassign some lectures to poster presentations. Posters will be presented in a panel discussion. Maximum poster size: 75 × 120 cm (width × height).

Lecture and poster abstracts will be published in the journal Aragonit, volume 31, issue 1, which participants will receive upon registration at the conference. An extended abstract (1,500 to 3,000 characters) must be sent no later than May 31, 2026, to the addresses: pavel.bella@ssj.sk, milos.melega@ssj.sk. Abstracts may be in Slovak, Czech or English. If necessary, a list of references cited in the text and figures may be included at the end of the abstract. The individual authors should be listed with their complete workplace addresses.

The original scientific articles from the conference, after review and consideration by the editorial board, will be published in 2026 and 2027 in the journals Slovenský kras and Aragonit.

Registration

You can register until May 31, 2026. You can use one of two ways of registration:

- a) online via "Google" form (<https://forms.gle/qzdueLs8y3SihsMu6>)
- b) written („Registration Form“ is attached), which can be sent to the e-mail address milos.melega@ssj.sk

Conference fee

The participation fee is 150 €. It can be paid either by bank transfer (see below) or in cash upon the registration of participants at the conference. It covers organizational costs, including social gathering (October 6, 2026), cost of an all-day excursion (October 7, 2026), all conference materials, refreshments during breaks, as well as publication of abstracts in the journal Aragonit and papers in the journals Slovenský kras and Aragonit.

Payment

Bank address: Statna pokladnica, Radlinskeho 32, 810 05 Bratislava, Slovakia

BIC/ SWIFT: SPSRSKBAXXX

IBAN: SK86 8180 0000 0070 0063 5876

Beneficiary's account name: BU–Vydavky, SSJ LM

Beneficiary's address: State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Caves Administration
Hodžova 11, 031 01 Liptovský Mikuláš

Country code: SK

Remittance information: **name and surname of participant**

Variable symbol: **152024**

Catering and accommodation

Individual, not provided by the conference organizer (except for dinner at the social gathering and lunch during the day excursion)

Accommodation options near the conference venue:

HOTEL	DISTANCE FROM VENUE	CONTACT
Jánošík	600 m	www.hoteljanosik.sk
Europa	400 m	www.hoteleuropalm.sk
Atlas (Bonifác)	200 m	www.penzionatlas.eu
Rotunda	400 m	www.penzionrotunda.sk
Squash	400 m	www.squash-liptov.sk
Klar	1000 m	www.klar.sk

