

the “Emil Racoviță” Institute of Speleology

and

the Romanian Society for Speleology and Karstology

are honored to invite you to

the IVth International Conference

Climate Change: the Karst Record KR IV



a special edition
of the

Theoretical and Applied Karstology

International Symposium (XIXth edition)



Băile Herculane — Romania

May 26–29, 2006

under the aegis of



THE ROMANIAN ACADEMY



PAST GLOBAL CHANGES



Karst Waters
Institute



“BABES-BOLYAI” UNIVERSITY

SECOND CIRCULAR

As announced in the first circular and on the webpage www.karst.ro, **the IVth International Conference “Climate Change: the Karst Record” (KR IV)** will be organized in Baile Herculane, Romania, as a special edition of the “Theoretical and Applied Karstology” International Symposium.

This second circular will give you details on the meeting, schedules, and final prices. For any other questions you may have or for last-minute changes, please feel free to contact the Organizing Committee at any time.

General information

The conference will be held at “Ferdinand” Hotel from **Băile Herculane Spa** — a small resort-town located in the Southwestern Carpathians, close to the Danube and to the some of the most spectacular karst areas in Romania. In the end of May the climate is very pleasant, the monthly average temperature reaching 18 °C.

The scientific sessions will begin on May 26 at 9 a.m. in the Main Conference Room of the “Ferdinand” Hotel and will last until May 28. The Secretariate will open at the same hotel beginning with May 25, 2 p.m. “Ferdinand” Hotel offers two conference rooms, so parallel sessions may be organized. In addition, a third conference room may be available at “Sadoveana” Hotel for off-topic presentations (e.g. karst hydrogeology, karst geomorfology, etc.) if such a session will be required.

Access

- By car:** National Road DN6 (E70) from Bucharest to Timișoara (~380 km from Bucharest; ~150 km from Timisoara).
- By train:** Main train station on the track Bucharest-Timișoara. Regular minibuses link the station to the center of the town at each train.
- By plane:** If you travel by plane, the best choice is to fly to the one of the international airports in Bucharest, Timișoara or Cluj; then continue the travel by train. Upon request, the organizers may arrange guided transfers by car or minibuses from the international airports of Bucharest and Cluj at low fares. Also, for participants arriving until May 25 at 8 p.m. the organizers can provide transport and booking assistance (transfer airport-railway station; booking for hotels and/or train tickets, etc.).

Important!

If you plan to participate to the post-symposium field trips, please keep in mind that Field trip 1 (Southern Carpathians) will end in Bucharest, and Field trip 2 (Western Carpathians) will end in Cluj. Plan your return flights considering that you will need to travel one night with an express train between the two cities if the airport of return is not the same as the final destination of the field-trip.

Sessions, topics, publication

Main topics:

- present-day karst environments;
- paleoclimate as derived from karst records;
- karst evolution, karst modeling and paleokarst;
- cave fossil remains and paleoclimate;
- karst archaeology and climatic interpretations

The official language of the symposium is English. Both **oral** and **poster** presentations are welcomed. Oral presentations will be limited to a max. 15 minutes. **General reviews** or **keynote speeches** may also be presented (max. 45') pending on prior arrangement with the Scientific and Organizing Committees. **Video** movies, **multimedia** and **slide shows** on symposium's topics are also welcomed and will be scheduled in the evenings. Please inform the Secretariate about the subject, the duration and the equipment required. The abstracts (including extended abstracts, up to 4 pages-long, figures included) will be published prior to the conference as a *special publication of the Karst Waters Institute (KWI)* as well as the field-trips guides. Full papers may be published in special issue of the *Theoretical and Applied Karstology (TAK)* journal. Submission of contributions for the special issue of TAK can be made at conference's desk in electronic form accompanied by two hard copies, or by mail, before July 1st, 2006.

Registration fees

Full member: Entitled to take part to all the meetings and social activities, to present papers and to submit them to TAK journal. Entitled to receive all the printed matters of the conference (KWI special publication, Field-trips Guide) the 19th volume (2006) of TAK and to take part to the closing banquet.

Registration fee: **EUR 175 before January 15, 2006; EUR 225 on the spot.**

Accompanying member: A person accompanying a full member. He/she may take part to all activities, and receive all the printed matters of the conference except the TAK volume.

Registration fee: **EUR 125 before January 15, 2006; EUR 175 on the spot.**

Student: Students (a valid student ID may be requested) may participate for a special price while having the same status as a full member.

Registration fee: **EUR 125 before January 15, 2006; EUR 175 on the spot.**

Early registration fees may be made by bank wire or using PayPal. Cancellations are accepted only before April 1st, 2006 (EUR 40 will be deducted). Any other fees may be paid at the Secretariate, on arrival, in any hard currency or Romanian currency (see "Payments" for details).

Prices

The following are final prices as negotiated by the Organizing Committee:

Accommodation and meals

	Price/person/day (EUR)
“Ferdinand” Hotel (4 stars) (www.hotel-ferdinand.ro)	
(F1) single-bed room	50
(F2) double-bed room	35
“Sadoveana” Hotel (2 stars)	
(S1) single-bed room	25
(S2) double-bed room	18

All prices include breakfast. The distance between “Ferdinand” and “Sadoveana” hotels is ~3 km — shuttle minibuses will be available in the mornings and during lunch and dinner-breaks. The prices for dinner & lunch fixed menus are **EUR 20** at “Ferdinand” Hotel and **EUR 10** at “Sadoveana” Hotel.

N.B: Various options for accommodation and dining are available in Baile Herculane, but the discounts for KR4 Conference are limited to these two hotels only.

Field trips

The post-symposium field-trips will cost **EUR 250** for 5 days, everything included (transport, access fees, 4 overnights, meals, field-trip guide, etc.). See details in the separate section.

Transfers

The cost of transfers from Bucharest, Cluj, or Timisoara is estimated at a maximum **EUR 20** (minibus or express trains).

Registration and payment

Online registration and email submissions are strongly encouraged. Please use the web page <http://www.karst.ro> and the online registration form. Mail/fax registrations using the attached registration form and all correspondence concerning the KR4-TAK Conference shall be addressed to:

dr. Silviu Constantin (TAK Symposium)

Institutul de Speologie “Emil Racovita”, str. Frumoasa 31, 010986 Bucuresti 12, Romania

tel/fax: +40-21-3181425; +40-21-3110829;

email: karst2006@gmail.com; Silviu.Constantin@geo.uib.no

The registration fees can be paid by bank wire to the following accounts (EURO or USD):

Beneficiary: Societatea Romana de Speologie-Carstologie

Bank: Banca Comerciala Romana, Sector 1, Calea Victoriei 155, Bucuresti, Romania

Account #: RO42 RNCB 5010 0002 3400 0002 (EURO)

RO15 RNCB 5010 0002 3400 0003 (USD)

Any other fees may be paid on arrival, at the Secretariate, in any hard currency or Romanian currency.

NEW !

You may now pay the registration fees using PayPal. The payments shall be made to Silviu.Constantin@geo.uib.no. Please specify “KR4 registration fee”.

Field trips

The Danube Gorge (May 29 - conference field trip)

Interests: karst geomorphology and evolution, fluvial entrenchment, speleogenesis.

Key-points: the Danube Gorge in the “Cazane” sector, Ciucarul Mare Plateau (karst morphology, sinkholes, fluvial terraces), Ponicoava Cave System (tiered cave; ~1 km long).

Equipment: Visit of the Ciucarul Mare plateau, located on the left side of Danube Gorge (320 m elevation) requires an easy walk of ~1 hour. For the visit of Ponicoava Gorges and Ponicoava cave, mountain shoes and light devices are required.

Transportation: mini-bus

Meals: lunch in the field

Price: included in the registration fee.

Post-conference field trips (May 30 - June 3)

Field trip 1: Southern Carpathians

Route: Băile Herculane, Topolnița Cave System, Baia de Aramă, Cloșani, Tismana, Tg. Jiu, Rm. Vâlcea, Bucharest (arrival in the evening of June 3rd).

Key-points: the karst system Topolnița-Epuran (over 22 km in length); karst depressions on the Mehedinți Mts. Ridge; Cloșani laboratory cave; the karst system of Bulba-Ponoarele (including caves, a natural bridge, limestone pavements); Sohodol, Olteț and Galbenul Gorges, historical and religious caves in Southern Carpathians. At least five caves will be visited (two show caves).

Accommodation: the Institute's laboratory house in Cloșani (dormitory); local hostels (usually double-bed rooms).

Field trip 2: Western Carpathians

Route: Băile Herculane, Hațeg, Alba Iulia, Gârda, Chișcău, Oradea, Șuncuiuș, Cluj-Napoca (arrival in the evening of June 3rd).

Key-points: Cioclovina cave (minerals, paleontology); Gârda valley and caves; Scărișoara Ice Cave (underground glacier); Bears Cave (show cave); Criș Gorges and Wind Cave (the longest in Romania).

Accommodation: en-route, in speleo huts and hostels.

Common points for both post-conference field-trips

Transport: Mini-busses and cars

Meals: three meals a day, minimum one warm meal, lunch usually in the field.

Equipment: Whenever possible, surface trips are offered as an alternative to cave tours. Please note that many of the visited caves (including Topolnița and Wind Cave) are not show-caves; regular caving equipment is required, including boots or mountain shoes, warm clothing and doubled light devices. Carbide will be provided by the organizers; you may also borrow some pieces of equipment (e.g. helmets) but these must be requested in advance.

Price: EUR 250, everything included.

IMPORTANT: Please note that **the number of participants to the post-conference excursion is limited**. Although no advance payment is required we kindly ask you to reserve your place by April 15, 2006. After this deadline, there will be no guarantee for available places to the field trips.

KR4 ESSENTIALS

Schedule:

25.05 — arrival, registration

26.05 — arrival, registration, opening (10 a.m.), scientific sessions

27–28.05 — scientific sessions (9.30-13.00; 15-19)

29.05 — conference field trip; final meeting: conclusions and perspectives

30.05–03.06 — post-symposium field trips

Deadlines

January 15, 2006 — last day for early registration

January 15, 2006 — last day for abstracts' submission

April 1, 2006 — last day for registration cancellation

April 15, 2006 — last day for final registration

For the final registration please use the online form at www.karst.ro, or the fill in the form on the backside of this page and send it to us by fax, post, or email attachment by April 15, 2006.

We are looking forward to meet you in Romania!



Final Registration Form

Title: Full name:

Institution:

Mail address:

Tel: Fax:

Email:

Presentation(s): author(s) + final title(s):

Oral presentation: poster: keynote speech:

For my presentation I need:

slide projector: 24x36 6x6 overhead projector videoprojector

Other presentations (video/multimedia/slide shows):

(type, equipment required, author & title, duration)

Registration:

full member: student: accompanying:

Field trips: #1 (Southern Carpathians) #2 (Western Carpathians)

Travel details: **Arrival:**

I will travel by

car

train

plane

Departure:

Need transfer reservation to / from Baile Herculane.

Booking request form

Please check the boxes that apply; use the space below or contact us for any suggestions or request not included in the table below.

Day	Accommodation				Meals <input type="checkbox"/> vegetarian		Field trips	Transport reservation		Arrival/Departure (place and time)	Comments
	Bucharest		Cluj		lunch	dinner		car	train		
	single	share	single	share							
24.05	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	n/a	n/a	—	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Ferdinand 4★		Sadoveana 2★								
	single	share	single	share							
25.05	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	n/a	n/a	—	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		last minibus departure from Bucharest at ~ 3 p.m
26.05	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	—	n/a	n/a		
27.05	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	—	n/a	n/a		
28.05	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	banquet	—	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/>		train reservation from B. Herculane; hotel reservation in Bucharest upon request
29.05	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	field trip	<input type="checkbox"/>	Danube	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/>		
30.05	accommodation and meals included in the field trips prices						NO: please write above the number of chosen field trip	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/>		
31.05								n/a	n/a		
01.06								n/a	n/a		
02.06								n/a	n/a		
	Bucharest		Cluj								
	single	share	single	share							
03.06	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		n/a		n/a	n/a		

IMPORTANT: Please fill in this form and return it to the Symposium's Secretariat **by April 15, 2006.**

Mail address: TAK-KR4 Conference, Institutul de Speologie "E. Racovita", str. Frumoasă 31, R-010986 București 12.

Te/fax: +40-21-3181425; email: karst2006@gmail.com; Silviu.Constantin@geo.uib.no

SUGGESTIONS/REQUESTS:

Date: _____

Signature