

## GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

### Chief Patron of the event

Dr. Tibor Navracsics,  
Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Administration and Justice

### Organising Institutions

#### *Societas Europaea Herpetologica (SEH)*

Societas Europaea Herpetologica has a Pan-European herpetological network which provides an exchange of information, and aims to bring together herpetologists (neo- and palaeo-) and regional societies, in order to develop closer collaboration between them. Membership is open worldwide to individuals and institutions interested in the study of amphibians and reptiles, and their conservation. The Society aims to strengthen co-operation by means of Ordinary General Meetings, held biannually in different European countries, and by participation in the network through provision of news and other information under News from regional societies (see below). In addition, the Society publishes the quarterly journal AMPHIBIA-REPTILIA (indexed in Current Contents), the online journal Herpetology Notes, congress proceedings and other works. The working language of the Society is English, but contributions of news items in French, German and Spanish are welcome.

*President:* Dr. Claudia Corti

*Vice President:* Prof. Uwe Fritz

*General Secretary:* Dr. Anna Rita Di Cerbo

*Vice Secretary:* Prof. Jelka Crnobrnja Isailović

*Treasurer:* Dr. Susanne Hauswaldt

*Vice Treasurer:* Dr. Petros Lymberakis

*First Co- Editor:* Dr. Sebastian Steinfartz

*Second: Co- Editor:* Dr. Sylvain Ursenbacher

*Chairman of the Conservation Committee:*  
Dr. Anton Stumpel

*Chairman of the Mapping Committee:*  
Neftalí Sillero

#### *Hungarian Ornithologist and Nature Conservation Society/BirdLife Hungary (MME)*

The Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Group of MME BirdLife Hungary was formed in November 1993. Their priority is to draw the public's attention to the necessity of the protection of the herpetofauna, a part of our natural heritage. One difficult task is to alter the public opinion about these animals and show that they are not only interesting, but in many cases, pretty, colourful or even cute. They also direct attention to the importance of amphibians and reptiles in the ecosystem. Fortunately, through herpetoculture and "nature TV-channels" more and more people turn to the herps of Hungary with sympathy, which gives the Association a unique opportunity to invite an increasing number of people into their activities. Besides public awareness campaigns they run small scale surveys and habitat restoration programmes and a website targeting mapping of the Hungarian herpetofauna.

## ***University of Pannonia, Department of Limnology, Veszprém***

The University of Pannonia is one of the most dynamically developing higher educational institutions in the country, the number of students having increased tenfold over the last ten years. The university has a rich history and strong traditions, the range of studies now on offer covering almost every branch of science, social science, and the humanities, with 11 thousand students pursuing their studies in its five faculties in Hungarian, English and German. The significance of the institution is indicated by seven accredited doctoral schools and internationally renowned research.

## ***Hungarian Natural History Museum (HNHM)***

The Museum is a more than 200 years old, internationally recognised museum in the field of natural sciences. It has five scientific departments (Anthropology, Botany, Geology – Palaeontology, Mineralogy – Petrology and Zoology), library and the Exhibition and Public education departments. More than 10 million natural history items, including 44,110 primary types and 300 000 library items are preserved in the collections. The collections hold important reference and historical information for the whole world with a particular strength in Europe from the Carpathian Basin, the Balkans, etc.

## **Local Organising Committee**

### **Judit Vörös**

Museologist, Curator of Collection of Amphibians and Reptiles  
Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest

### **Bálint Halpern**

Project manager  
Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Society (MME), Budapest

### **Gabor Seress**

Assistant lecturer  
Ornithological Group, Department of Limnology,  
University of Pannonia

### **Júlia Tünde Gál**

MSc student  
Szent István University

## **Scientific Board members (in alphabetical order)**

Gergely Babocsay (Károly Róbert College, Gyöngyös, Hungary)

José Brito (CIBIO – University of Porto, Portugal)

Salvador Carranza (Institute of Evolutionary Biology – CSIC-UPF, Spain)

Miguel Angel Carretero (CIBIO – University of Porto, Portugal)

Dan Cogalniceanu (Ovidius University Constanta, Romania)

Claudia Corti (Museo di Storia Naturale dell' Università di Firenze, Italy)

Mathieu Denoël (University of Liège, Belgium)

Trent Garner (Zoological Society of London, UK)

Bálint Halpern (MME/Birdlife Hungary, Hungary)

István Kiss (Szent István University, Hungary)  
Luca Luiselli (University of Rome, Italy)  
Petros Lymberakis (Natural History Museum of Crete, Greece)  
Sebastian Steinfartz (University of Bielefeld)  
Zoltán Tamás Nagy (Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Belgium)  
Ljiljana Tomović (University of Belgrade, Serbia)  
Sylvain Ursenbacher (University of Basel, Switzerland)  
Miguel Vences (Technical University of Braunschweig, Germany)  
Judit Vörös (Hungarian Natural History Museum)  
Ben Wielstra (Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, The Netherlands)

## **QUICK GUIDE TO VESZPRÉM**

Veszprém with 59,000 inhabitants lies in the central Transdanubian region, at the meeting-point of the Bakony Hills and the Balaton Uplands.

The history of the city goes back to the Hungarian settlement of the country in the ninth century, when Veszprém belonged to the estate of the ruling family; it became the City of Queens thanks to Giselle, the consort of Hungary's first king, St. Stephen and in 1001 it grew to be one of the most significant centres of the Catholic Church as the bishop's seat. Historic documents mention St. Michael's Cathedral, situated in the castle surrounded by wonderfully preserved baroque buildings, as the first and oldest cathedral in the country. The Catholic Church has remained a vital force in the life of Veszprém as our city has been an archdiocese since 1993.

Outstanding sights include the Archiepiscopal Palace, the Giselle chapel, the Queen Giselle Museum and St. George chapel.

In the galleries and exhibition halls of the House of Arts, for example in the Modern Art Gallery - László Vass Collection the works of contemporary artists are exhibited. The permanent exhibition from Károly László's collection is opening in the renovated Dubniczay House in autumn of 2006.

At the same place the Brick Collection of the Hungarian Construction Industry Museum, as well as the Exhibition of minerals await visitors in this wonderfully restored environment.

In the Dezső Laczkó Museum interactive exhibitions of local history are presented. In the past the building housed the first public library in Hungary. The neighbouring House of Bakony was one of the first open-air ethnographic museums in Hungary.

Veszprém is known for a vivid cultural life throughout the year. Three theatres and a whole series of festivals provide entertainment to inhabitants and visitors alike all year round. Besides the cultural events and the historic sights you can find here the Kittenberger Kálmán Botanical Garden and Zoo Park of well-deserved European fame.

### **Map of Veszprém**

A map of Veszprém will be included in your congress bag. The venue of the congress, the official congress hotels and some public institutions will be indicated on this map. Should you need further help for your orientation, please contact the congress bureau at University of Pannonia.

# CONGRESS INFORMATION

## Venue of the congress

University of Pannonia  
8200 Veszprém, Egyetem út 10.

Parking: there is an out-door parking lot in front of the main building of the university. Parking places are available in limited number for congress participants. After you have reached the parking gate, press the button and say the code-word: SEH congress.

### Lecture Halls:

The plenary sessions (congress room) will take place in the Aula, this is the place where the posters will be on display. The sessions will take place in building A, in rooms 1 and 2.

## Congress bureau before and after the congress

ALTAGRA Business Services and Travel Agency Ltd.  
H-2100 GÖDÖLLŐ  
Örösi Pál Zoltán sétány 0172/19 hrsz. Hungary  
Phone: (36)-28-432-985  
Fax: (36)-28-419-647  
e-mail: [biszkup@altagra.hu](mailto:biszkup@altagra.hu)  
homepage: [www.altagra.hu](http://www.altagra.hu)

## Congress bureau during the congress

University of Pannonia/Aula  
H-8200 Veszprém, Egyetem út 10.  
Phone: +36 30 340 0013

## Opening hours

22 August, Thursday	14.00 – 20.00
23 August, Friday	08.00 – 18.30
24 August, Saturday	08.00 – 17.00
25 August, Sunday	08.00 – 18.30
26 August, Monday	08.00 – 16.00

## Smoking

Smoking is banned in all enclosed spaces, including offices, restaurants and pubs as well as on public transportation, in playgrounds and in underpasses.  
Please look for the smoking allowed sign.

## Telephone

Country code: 36. Outgoing international code: 00. Veszprém code: 88.

## Mobile telephone

GSM dual band 900/1800, coverage throughout the country.  
Network operators include: Telenor, T-Mobile, Vodafone

**Emergency** (ambulance, police): 112

### **Language**

The official language of the Congress will be English. No translation facilities will be available.

### **Bank and currency exchange**

The currency is the Hungarian Forint. Notes are in denominations of Ft: 20 000, 10 000, 5000, 2000, 1000, 500. Coins are in denominations of Ft: 200, 100, 50, 20, 10, 5.

Delegates may change foreign currency and travellers' cheques at the airport upon arrival in Budapest, at several banks located in Veszprém, and also many exchange bureaus at the railway station or in most of hotels. International credit cards are accepted for payment in hotels, restaurants, and shops. Credit and debit cards can be used to withdraw money from ATMs.

### **Internet access**

Free Wi-Fi is available in the University halls.

### **Message board**

You will find a message board in the Aula of the University.

### **Insurance**

The organisers of the Congress recommend that participants arrange their own insurance for health, travel and property. The organisers will not accept any liability for personal injury or for loss of, or damage to property.

### **Electricity**

220 volts AC, 50Hz, European two-pin plugs are used.

### **Clothing and weather**

At the end of August the weather is usually warm with lots of sunshine during the days, but evenings may be cool. Showers may occur. You are advised to bring warm clothing and an umbrella or a raincoat with you.

### **Delegate identification**

Admission to scientific sessions and other events is permitted only to those wearing the official Congress badge.

Accompanying persons are kindly asked not to attend any part of the scientific programme.

### **Merchandise**

You can buy T-shirts at the registration desk.

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE HOTELS

### **Betekints Hotel \*\*\*\***

8200, Veszprém, Veszprémvölgy u. 4.  
Phone: +36-88-579-280  
<http://www.betekints.hu>

### **Villa Medici\*\*\*\***

8200, Veszprém, Kittenberger K. u. 11.  
Phone: +36 88 590 070  
<http://hotelvillamedici.hu>

### **Oliva Hotel**

8200, Veszprém, Buhim u. 14-16.  
Phone: + 36 88/403-875  
<http://oliva.hu>

### **Hotel Magister**

8200, Veszprém, József Attila u. 34/2  
Phone: +36/88 623 000  
<http://hotelmagister.hu>

Plenty of parking place is available within the out-door parking lot of the hotel. For admission, press the button on the parking gate when you arrive.

## MEALS

**Breakfast** is included in the hotel room price.

Breakfast at hotel Magister: Magister Buffet is providing breakfast for those delegates who have reserved rooms via the Congress Secretariat. Ask for your breakfast ticket at the buffet.

### **Coffee**

Coffee, tea, soft drinks, mineral water and small cakes will be served during the coffee breaks in the dining room adjacent to the Aula.

Please note, that it is prohibited to consume meals or drinks in the Aula!

### **Lunches**

Please note, that lunches are not included in the registration fee. However, we offer you lunches between 23 and 26 August, at the venue of the Congress (price per lunch 12 EUR). Limited number of lunch tickets will be available to purchase on site.

Lunch will be served at the Menza of the University.

The buffet lunch includes: warm dishes (soups and main courses), salads, desserts, mineral water, soft drinks and coffee.

## SOCIAL EVENTS

### ***Opening Ceremony and Welcome Party***

Date: 22 August (Thursday)

Time: 19:00 hrs

Place:

Opening Ceremony: University of Pannonia/Aula

Welcome Party: University of Pannonia/Dining room adjacent to the Aula

Please note, that it is prohibited to consume meals or drinks in the Aula!

H-8200 Veszprém, Egyetem út 10.

Transfer: no transfer will be provided

Admission is free for congress participants and for their registered accompanying persons

### ***Wine tasting with dinner in Balatonfüred-Csopak Wine Region (23 August, Friday and 24 August Saturday)***

Date: 23 August (Friday) and 24 August (Saturday)

To be visited: Szent Donát winery Csopak

Transfer: will be provided

Meeting point: Entrance of the Aula

Departure time: 18:30

Transfer back: approx. at 21:30

Admission: only with ticket, tickets are available in limited number at the registration desk.

Price: € 30

Balatonfüred - Csopak Wine Region located on the Northern shores of Lake Balaton, this district has about 1500 hectares of grapes between Balatonalmádi and Zánka. Wine growing around Lake Balaton dates back to the days before the Romans came to the area. Grapes: Italian Riesling, Traminer, Chardonnay, Sauvignon blanc, Pinot gris, Muscat Ottonel. Wines: Italian Riesling, Rizlingszilváni. The wine has a unique acid content, a nice body and aroma which are very typical of the region.

### ***Morning raffle***

Every morning five minutes before the plenary talk we will hold a morning raffle with valuable prizes. Registration numbers on the congress badge will serve as raffle ticket. In order to win, one has to be present. If owner of number is absent, other ticket will be selected.

### ***Congress photo***

A picture of participants will be taken and later uploaded to the congress website.

Place: stairs front of Aula building

Time: 24 August, 12:30

### ***Silent auction***

For the first time in SEH history, SEH Council and Local organising Committee of the 17<sup>th</sup> SHE Congress will hold a silent auction of which the entire profit will go towards student support (travel grants for students to aid in attending SHE meetings and presentation awards). All attendants of the 17<sup>th</sup> European Congress are invited to participate by donating items such as herp related books (Chimaira and Laurenti-Verlag also kindly agreed to donate several books), T-shirts (can be used, but washed ☺), herp-paraphernalia and memorabilia that you think somebody else is interested in spending at least some money on. Please, drop off your

donation at the registration desk (in the Aula building) until noon of Friday, August 23. Items will be on display next to the registration desk during the registration hours, starting on Friday, August 23 at 14:00. Each item will start off with an entry bid of 200 HUF (~ € 0.7). Bidding will end at 16:00 on Sunday August 25. All items have to be collected and paid for cash by the highest bidder between 17:00 and 18:00 on August 25. Items that nobody was interested in bidding in (hopefully none) have to be collected by the respective donator during the same period.

### ***Gala Dinner***

Date: 25 August (Sunday)

Duration: 19.00 – 23.00 hrs

Place: Betekints Étterem (Restaurant)

8200 Veszprém, Veszprémvölgyi u. 4.

Transfer: will be provided

Meeting point: Entrance of the Aula

Departure time: 18.30

Transfer back: between 21.30 and 23.00 continuously to all official congress hotels

Admission: only with ticket, tickets are available in limited number at the registration desk.

Price: € 20

## **PRE-CONGRESS TOUR**

Those registered for the pre-congress tour will be picked up at the airport upon arrival. Please inform the Congress Secretariat about your flight details!

Look for the guide having a SEH2013 sign in her hand. She will explain you where to find the bus. If your flight is cancelled or delayed, please inform the Congress Secretariat immediately.

You will be taken to your hotel in Budapest, the name of the hotel is: Lion's Garden. Free time in the afternoon. Meeting at the Aula of the hotel at 18.15 with your guide. She will explain the program of the next 2 days.

## **FIELD EXCURSIONS**

### ***1. Visiting the Hungarian meadow viper (*Vipera ursinii rakosiensis*) Conservation Centre in Kiskunság***

Date: 27 August (Tuesday)

To be visited: Hungarian Meadow Viper Conservation Center

Services provided: transportation by bus, English speaking guide, lunch

Meeting point: Aula of the University

Departure time: 08.00

Transfer route after the tour: Budapest airport - arrival not later than 18.00 hrs  
Budapest city centre Erzsébet square approx. at 18.30 hrs

Admission: ticket

Price: € 25

## ***2. Kis-Balaton (Balaton Uplands National Park)***

Date: 27 August (Tuesday)

To be visited: Kányavár Island and other sections of the protected area and the Buffalo Reserve

Services provided: transportation by bus, English speaking guide, lunch

Meeting point: Aula of the University

Departure time: 08.00

Transfer route after the tour:

Veszprém University – approx. at 16.30 hrs

Budapest airport – approx. at 19.00 hrs

Keleti railway station: approx. at 19.30

Budapest city centre Erzsébet square approx. at 19.45

Admission: ticket

Price: € 25

## **POST-CONGRESS TOUR**

### ***Visiting the Káli Basin***

Date: 28 August (Wednesday)

To be visited: Monoszló (Hegyestű Geological Interpretive Site) – Szentbékálla – Kékkút–Salföld - Tapolca Lake Cave - On the way back to Veszprém, short stop at Balatonfüred

Services provided: transportation by bus, English speaking guide, entrance tickets, lunch

Meeting point: Aula of the University

Departure time: 08.00

Transfer route after the tour: Veszprém University – approx. at 16.30 hrs

Please note, that no transfer to Budapest will be provided.

Admission: ticket

Price: € 38

## **SPECIAL INVITATIONS**

### ***Free entrance to the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden***

Budapest Zoo & Botanical Garden is the oldest zoo park in Hungary and one of the oldest in the world. It has 733 animal species and is located within Városliget Park.

Thanks to the management of the Zoo, the participants of the congress can visit this interesting place for free between 21th and 30th August. Free check-in available between 09 and 18.30 hours at the cashier where your name has already been registered.

Address:

1146 Budapest Állatkerti körút 6-12

The service is available for those participants and accompanying persons who have registered for the Congress not later than 15 August.

### ***Free entrance to the Tropicarium***

Tropicarium Budapest is a particular indoor Zoo, where you can find Central Europe's biggest shark aquarium. Thanks to the management of Tropicarium, the participants of the congress can visit this interesting Zoo for free between 21th and 28th August. Free check-in available between 10 and 19 hours at the cashier where your name has already been registered.

Address:

1222 Budapest, Nagytétényi út 37-43

The service is available for those participants and accompanying persons who have registered for the Congress not later than 15 August.

### ***Free entrance to the Hungarian Natural History Museum's exhibitions***

Thanks to the management of Museum, the participants of the congress can visit the Museum for free between 20th August and 1st September. Free check-in available between 10 and 17 hours.

Please contact the information desk to pick up your visitor's card. You only have to tell, that you are a SEH 2013 participant, the clerk in the desk will have the list of registered participants.

Address:

1083 Budapest, Ludovika tér 2-6.

The service is available for those participants and accompanying persons who have registered for the Congress not later than 15 August.

## **PROGRAMME FOR ACCOMPANYING PERSONS**

Accompanying persons are kindly invited to join the delegates at the Opening Ceremony and the Welcome Party. Accompanying persons are also welcome to the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden, the Tropicarium and the Hungarian Natural History Museum.

## **INFORMATION ABOUT TRANSFERS**

Liszt Ferenc International Airport is located 24km (15 miles) southeast of Budapest. Veszprém, the congress venue, is situated approx. 110 kms away from Budapest, the capital of Hungary. In order to facilitate your arrival at Veszprém, congress transfer buses are available between Budapest and Veszprém as indicated in the schedule.

The travel time to Veszprém is approx. 3 hours.

Bus transfers should be reserved in advance!!! Please inform the Congress Secretariat about your flight details!

Upon arrival to the airport, look for the guide having a SEH2013 sign in her hand. She will explain you where to find the bus. If your flight is cancelled or delayed, please inform the Congress Secretariat immediately.

In Veszprém, the bus will take you to the congress venue and the official congress hotels.

## Budapest – Veszprém bus transfer

Date	Liszt Ferenc International Airport	Price per person
22 August 2013	12.00 hrs	€ 25
22 August 2013	15.00 hrs	€ 25
22 August 2013	18.00 hrs	€ 25
23 August 2013	12.00 hrs	€ 25

## Veszprém – Budapest bus transfer

Date	Veszprém	Liszt Ferenc Intl. Airport	Budapest City center	Price per person
27 August 2013	06.00 hrs	08.45 hrs	09.15 hrs	€ 25
27 August 2013	09.00 hrs	11.45 hrs	12.15 hrs	€ 25
28 August 2013	06.00 hrs	08.45 hrs	09.15 hrs	€ 25
28 August 2013	09.00 hrs	11.45 hrs	12.15 hrs	€ 25

Meeting point: Parking place of Hotel Magister

Address: 8200 Veszprém József Attila St 34/2, Hungary

Those who have reserved accommodation in another hotel are kindly requested to take a taxi to Hotel Magister.

Meeting time: 15 minutes before departure

Transfer route: Budapest airport  
Budapest city centre Erzsébet square

## PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

### *Poster display*

Posters will be on display during the whole Congress. Authors are responsible for setting up their poster at the beginning of the congress and removing it after the end of the congress.

Venue	University of Pannonia/Aula ground floor and gallery
Poster boards	White wall elements in aluminium frame construction. Each poster will be attached to the boards with Blu-tack which will be provided free of charge. Push pins are not allowed.
Poster size	The maximum size allowed for each poster is 80 cm wide and 120 cm high. Poster position: vertical. Posters that do not adhere to the dimensional limits cannot be displayed.
Set-up	22 August (Thursday) 14.00 – 18.30

	No poster should be set up during the Opening Ceremony!!!
Poster removal	26 August (Monday) 14.00 – 16.00 No poster should be removed during the Closing Ceremony!!!
Poster session 1.	23 August (Friday) 17.00 – 18.30 Wine and snacks will be served in the dining room adjacent to the Aula. Please note, that it is prohibited to consume meals or drinks in the Aula!  Topics: Climate change, Ecology, Monitoring
Poster session 2.	24 August (Saturday) 17.00 – 18.30 Wine and snacks will be served in the dining room adjacent to the Aula. Please note, that it is prohibited to consume meals or drinks in the Aula!  Topics: Behaviour, Morphology, anatomy and development, Distribution, Diseases and parasites, Phylogeography, Phylogeny, Population genetics, Systematics, Physiology, Tropical herp biodiversity, Symposium: ENPARTS

### ***Oral presentations***

Length of the oral presentations will be 12 minutes with 3 minutes discussion, 15 minutes altogether.

If using a PowerPoint or Adobe PDF presentation, presenters will be required to submit it on a pendrive or CD/DVD, and upload it onto session room's computer.

Prezi is also accepted. A technician will help the presenters in each session room. Please, contact the technician at least one hour before the start of the session.

Presentation computers are running Windows 7 with PowerPoint 2003; ppt and pptx files are accepted.

If combining video files with PowerPoint, please make sure to check it during a coffee or lunch break prior to your session.

Presenters also have a possibility to send their PowerPoint or Adobe PDF presentations by e-mail to: info @ altagra . hu before 21 August 2013.

In this case, the presentation will be uploaded to the session room's computer.

Important note for Apple Mac users

In order to use Mac presentations on a PC compatible computer please note that you need to prepare it according to the instructions below:

- Use a common font, such as Arial, Times New Roman, Verdana etc. (special fonts might be changed to a default font on a PowerPoint based PC).
- Insert pictures as JPG files (and not TIF, PNG or PICT – these images will not be visible on a PowerPoint based PC ).
- Use a common movie format, such as AVI, MPG and WMV (MOV files from QuickTime will not be visible on a PowerPoint based PC).

You may use your own Macintosh laptop computer as a back-up. In such a case please make sure to provide a Mini DisplayPort to VGA Adapter (Dongle).

The congress is not offering traditional overhead and slide projectors as a part of the standard room setup.

Please, contact the technical staff if you have additional requests.