



University of Rzeszów, Poland Department of Biology and Agriculture and
Centre for Ecological Research, Hungarian Academy of Sciences
are pleased to invite you to the international conference on:

Wooded rural landscapes of Central and Eastern Europe: biodiversity, cultural legacy and conservation

20–22 September 2017

University of Rzeszów (PL),

with optional study trip to wood pastures in Bükk National Park (HU)

2nd CALL



Thematic framework:

Wooded rural landscapes are an invaluable natural and cultural legacy of Central and Eastern Europe. A concentration on particular, strictly classified natural sites or plant communities, national and European conservation systems ignores, neglects or undervalues the meta-systems of dynamic rural landscapes dependent on the multiple traditional use of land. Intensive farming and modern forestry, accompanied by the development of conservation models based on segregated land-uses, mean that there are now 'hard' boundaries, both philosophically and physically, between spatial units of economic or conservation interest. Despite the increasing knowledge of the role of dynamic processes in the well-being of populations and ecosystems, these boundaries cause substantial reduction of horizontal movements of species. As a result, what had once developed as highly dynamic patchy landscapes, have started to shift towards mostly static and much simplified spatial patterns. In

addition, the boundaries discourage researchers from seeing the landscape as a whole; instead, they may concentrate on just what happens in side one patch or type of patch.

Objective:

The conference aims at fostering interdisciplinary discussion and analysis. We seek to encourage the sharing of knowledge from researchers studying wooded rural landscapes and representing from across disciplines: from taxonomy and ecology, from paleo-ecology and environmental history, from ethno-ecology, from spatial planning and landscape architecture, from land use economy involving ecosystem services. We believe such a platform will provide a theoretical foundation for the development of a new management and conservation approach that is essential for sustaining the richness and values of wooded rural landscapes in Central and Eastern Europe.

Thematic scope:

- Wooded pastures and silvo-pastoral woods: their status in contemporary Europe (abundance and geographic distribution, syntaxonomic status, conservation); ecology (including ecological history, paleoecology, processes and factors); their biodiversity; how they will fare under climate change
- Local and traditional knowledge connected to wooded rural landscapes: gathering and using the wisdom of farmers, herders, conservationists or others
- Wooded landscapes in contemporary land use economy and policies: what does modern farming and forestry, tourism and recreation, nature conservation, landscape architecture and spatial planning need from these systems.
- Towards future sustainable social-ecological systems: assessment of ecosystem services in the region, the cultural heritage: threats and opportunities in eco-development.

Scientific Committee:

- Per Angelstam – landscape ecology and planning, ecosystem services valuation, biodiversity; Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
- Andrzej Bobiec – woodland ecology; University of Rzeszów
- Zdzisław Budzyński – modern history of Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe, statistics of demography; University of Rzeszów
- Tibor Hartel – social-ecological systems, wood-pastures; Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania
- Keith Kirby – temperate forest ecology, management and conservation; grazing in wooded systems; Oxford University
- Jacek Kozak – land use and land cover change, GIS, remote sensing; Jagiellonian University
- GMJ (Frits) Mohren – forest ecology, forest management and economics; Wageningen University
- Katalin Mázsa - botanical and stand surveys/monitoring; forest historical studies; Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- Zsolt Molnár – ethnoecology; Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- Péter Ódor – botany, ecology; Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- Kinga Öllerer – landscape ecology, conservation biology; Romanian Academy
- Tobias Plieninger – ecosystem services in cultural landscapes; University of Copenhagen
- Tomas Samojlik – environmental history; Polish Academy of Sciences
- Dagmar Štefunková – traditional agrarian landscapes; Institute of Landscape Ecology of SAS, Bratislava
- Péter Szabó – historical ecology; Czech Academy of Sciences
- Frans Vera – grazing ecology and forest history; Netherlands

Organizing Committee:

Andrzej Bobiec, University of Rzeszów, e-mail: a_bobiec[at]ur.edu.pl

Katalin Mázsa, Centre for Ecological Research, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, e-mail: mazsa.katalin[at]okologia.mta.hu

Paweł Czarnota, University of Rzeszów, e-mail: pczarnota1[at]gmail.com (publications)

Agata Ćwik, University of Rzeszów, e-mail: acwik[at]univ.rzeszow.pl (logistic and technical assistance)

Idalia Kasprzyk, University of Rzeszów, e-mail: idalia[at]univ.rzeszow.pl

Preliminary programme:

Day 0 (19 Sep): registration. Registration will be continuous, with possibilities for single day attendance.

Day 1 (20 Sep):

- Invited key speaker lecture and regular presentations (15+5 min Q&A)
- poster session
- late afternoon, before dinner 2-3 hrs moderated topical workshop sessions

Day 2 (21 Sep):

- Outdoor session: excursion to Kalwaria Pałacowska (70 km SE from Rzeszów) after early breakfast; packed lunch; 2-hrs drive to Kalwaria; 4-5-hrs hike to exemplary oak woods with interpretation talks and discussions; depending on weather, either outdoor or indoor key-lecture
- Bonfire dinner with cultural event; listening to deer rutting
- Return to Rzeszów

Day 3 (22 Sep):

- Invited key speaker lecture and regular presentations (15+5 min)
- simultaneous poster session
- late afternoon, before dinner 2-3 hrs moderated topical workshop sessions; accepting conference conclusions, formulating messages, resolutions
- Young researcher prizes

Workshop sessions will be informal thematic discussion panels providing opportunity for the establishment of new research groups as well as for formulating and drafting addresses or petitions referring to the use and conservation of rural landscapes.

Optional program (23–25 Sep):

Days 4–6 Study trip to Cserépfalu near the Bükk National Park, 20 km north from Eger. Hiking in Cserépfalu wooded grasslands, the near forest reserve and other tourist monuments of the Bükk National Park (interactive map: <http://prognav.bnpi.hu/hu/terkep/>) and visiting the historic town of Eger (<http://www.eger.hu/en/tourism>).

The language of the conference:

Although the conference language is English, the organizers will provide basic interpretation/communication support (in Polish, Hungarian, Romanian and Ukrainian) to colleagues who request such need ahead the registration deadline. For details, please contact Dr Agata Ćwik, University of Rzeszów, e-mail: [acwik\[at\]univ.rzeszow.pl](mailto:acwik[at]univ.rzeszow.pl)

Conference publications:

All contributions will be compiled in the Book of Abstract, which will also be published online on the conference homepage. The organizers aim to organize a special feature with selected contributions at an international, peer-reviewed journal.

Important dates

31 August 2016 – launch of the conference website

31 December 2016 – 3rd announcement with details on the recruitment of contributions, travel and accommodation options

15 April 2017 – deadline for abstract submission

15 May 2017 – editorial decision of the Scientific Committee on submitted abstracts; deadline for conference registration

Conference location and excursion sites

University of Rzeszów - <http://www.ur.edu.pl/en> is located in Rzeszów, the biggest city in south-eastern Poland, in the Subcarpathian Voivodship <http://podkarpackie.travel/en>

Kalwaria Pałacowska (N 49.631864°; E22.706396°)

Visas

Poland is a member of the European Union, therefore, depending on your country of origin you might need a visa. If you need a visa, please apply at the Polish embassy or consulate in your country