Since 2009, the world community of palynologists and palaeobotanists has met every four years to discuss the latest research, and to exchange experiences. The 15th International Palynological Congress (IPC-XV 2020) and the 11th International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conference (IOPC-XI 2020) are coming soon. This joint congress will be held in Prague (12th–19th of September 2020), hosted by Czech palynologists and palaeobotanists.

1820 is considered the starting point for palaeobotanical nomenclature. In that year, Caspar Maria Sternberg published the first volume of his „Flora der Vorwelt”. We are delighted to dedicate this meeting in honour of 200 years of Palaeobotany.

It will be an excellent opportunity for the Czech Republic (a country rich in plant fossil finds, palynological sites, and palynological and palaeobotanical history) to host the leading experts in various disciplines, and to promote scientific innovations. Joint symposia are planned to foster interaction and integration between palynologists and palaeobotanists, as well as plenary sessions of general interest. The meeting is promoted by the collective efforts of the International Federation of Palynological Societies (IFPS) and the International Organisation of Palaeobotany (IOP).

Please complete the registration form on our website:  

Facilities

The hotel offers accommodation in 559 rooms. All rooms and public areas are fully air-conditioned. Catering is provided in 3 hotel restaurants, which can seat 900 people. Conference facilities are divided into 23 halls and meeting rooms, comfortably seating up to 2,500 participants. The facilities are equipped with state-of-the-art audio-visual technology.

Transport access

Transfers from the International Airport are available via the hotel’s limousine service, by public transport as well as Airport Transport services. A station for the Metro B line is adjacent to the hotel. Trams and buses run outside, and a train terminal is three minutes walk away.

Practical hints

Climate

September usually brings pleasant early autumnal weather with colder mornings and hot afternoons. Temperatures of around 15–18°C can be expected.

Transportation

Arriving by plane – Václav Havel Airport is served by many international airlines. It is located 15 km from the city center and 18 km from the conference venue. Taxi from the airport to the venue is at present about €35. A shuttle bus service operates as well. City bus No. 119 will take you from the airport to the Veleslavín metro terminal from where you can go by metro line A to Můstek, switch to line B and go to station Vysočanská (see City transportation).

Arriving by rail or car

Prague is easily reached by rail or car. If you arrive by train, you will find metro stations (line C) at the Central Railway Station and at the Holešovice Railway Station. From either you can go to Florenc station and switch to line B to go to Vysočanská station.

Parking

Clarion Congress Hotel has its own parking area priced 400 Kč/day/car.

City transportation

City Transportation Prague has a comprehensive network consisting of three metro lines, and trams and buses. Single tickets or travel passes can be purchased at most newspaper stands or from the coin machines at metro stations.


Car rental

Most of the major car rental companies (e.g. Avis, Sixt) have offices in Prague. Detailed information is available from the Symposium secretariat. We recommend making reservations in advance.

Currency

Official currency is the Czech Crown (Kč). The present exchange rate is about 26 CZK per 1 Euro. Major credit cards are accepted in most shops, restaurants and hotels. You can buy Czech Crowns at banks and other authorized money exchange offices. ATMs accept most bank and credit cards. Travellers’ cheques are only accepted by leading banks.

Visa Policy

Participants from most European countries and the USA can enter the Czech Republic without a visa. Other participants are advised to check requirements at their closest Czech embassy or consulate, and make their own arrangements. Detail information can be found on https://www.mzv.cz/en/consulatevisa/vizovaagenda/obecnivizovainformace/index.html. An official letter of invitation will be sent on request. Such a letter will not grant any financial support.

Insurance

The Organizing Committee does not accept any liability for personal injuries or loss of property belonging to participants or accompanying persons. Kindly check your personal and travel insurance before you travel.

Electricity

Electricity supply is 220 V, 50 Hz.
Tips for Prague visitors

Honest Guide: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLM9-KZNiwe8EZE-d4Mx8lOFvKszTRLL12](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLM9-KZNiwe8EZE-d4Mx8lOFvKszTRLL12)

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7o9i31b9VD7vRbc1bNjIA

List of symposia, workshops and colloquium

It is our pleasure to announce these submitted symposia so you can register your presentation (talk or poster) in one of them.

The following list of symposia was accepted by the Organizing Committee. Every participant can present only one talk OR one poster as a presenting author. Please select the most suitable for your presentation.

Please note that if there are not enough presentations in the symposium you choose, your presentation will be placed in another appropriate symposium.

Lecture / Poster: if there are too many lectures, your presentation may be changed to a poster. You will be informed in advance.

**Symposia**

**A01** Advances in Devonian palaeobotany – a symposium in honor of Philippe Gerrienne

**A02** Cryptosporophytes: a new group of early land Plants

**A03** Permian plant succession and the global climate changes

**A04** Glimpses into the evolution of Fungi

**A05** Late Palaeozoic continental ecosystems of Gondwana

**A06** Palaeozoic palaeobotany: taxonomy, diversity and palaeoecology

**B01** Perm-Carboniferous peat-forming tropical forests buried in situ by volcanic ash in the light of palaeobotanical and palynological research; results from the Czech Republic and China

**B02** Palaeozoic palynology: a CIMP and Aramco-CIMP Special Project symposium dedicated to the memory of Professor Bernard Owens

**C01** The innovations of plants in the Mesozoic

**C02** Amber palaeobotany: What did the forests for all the fossil insects look like?

**C03** Palaeoentomology and Palynology of the Late Cretaceous–Paleocene Deccan Intratropical Beds of Central India

**C04** Mesozoic plants: taxonomy, diversity, and palaeoecology

**C05** Evolution of Neotropical ecosystems

**C06** The Legacy of Plant diversity and environmental background across the critical intervals of the Mesozoic

**C07** Vegetation history and evolution of terrestrial ecosystems in Southern Africa, from early land plants to modern vegetation

**C08** Mesozoic plant cuticles: implications for evolution and palaeoenvironment

**D01** Honoring palaeopalynologist Reinhard Zetter

**D02** Mesozoic and Cenozoic palynology, mesofossil and palaeoecofacies analysis: a tribute to the memory of David J. Batten

**D03** Reproductive organs of fossil plants and their in-situ spores and pollen

**H01** Quantitative reconstruction of Holocene land-use and land-cover change: advances and applications

**H02** Forward to the past – research development on quantifying land-cover change and its implication for the biosphere

**H03** Application of palynological and palaeoecological information in conservation and restoration

**H04** Back to the Future? Sub-boreal vegetation and climate as a reference for future environmental dynamics

**H05** Changing Island Ecosystems

**H06** Palynology for Sustainability: the Long Term Perspective of Human Impact on Landscape for Environmental Change (LoTEC)

**H07** Long-term tropical forest dynamics; critical knowledge in a changing world

**H08** Mountain Palaeoecology on the move: the future of mountain ecosystems as seen through palaeoecology

**H09** Big events – Big Impacts. Success and adaptation strategies of ancient populations to climate changes

**H10** High resolution palaeo-records tracking species and community responses to past fire dynamic

**M01** Modern pollen-vegetation studies for past land-cover reconstructions and calibration of the fossil pollen record

**M02** Exploring trends in surface pollen deposition in response to biotic and abiotic drivers

**M03** Recent advances in dinoflagellates and their cysts as environmental tracers

**M04** Extra microfossils in pollen slides: from environmental indicators to biotic interactions

**M05** Forensic Palynology

**M06** Pollen wall morphology, development, and developmental mechanisms

**M07** Pollen record from cave environments: The dark side of palynology

**M08** Fire as an ecological and evolutionary driver of terrestrial biota

**M09** Molecular proxies in palaeoecology: recent developments and their implications for understanding past environments and ecosystems

**M10** Biopolymers in palynological and palaeobotanical research (session co-organised by the Palynology Specialist Groups of the Linnean Society and the Micropalaeontological Society)

**M11** Applied palynology: methodological innovations

**M12** Global forest dynamics: from pollen-based past reconstruction to future prediction

**Q01** A global view on Early Pleistocene Climate and Vegetation dynamics

**Q02** Exploring ecological concepts in the Quaternary

**Q03** Marine pollen records for direct land-sea correlation of Earth system dynamics

**Q04** Glacial-interglacial cycles as natural experiments

**Q05** Impact of aridity on vegetation: past and present evidence reveals our future

**T01** The evolution of plant diversity under palaeoenvironmental changes of the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau Region

**T02** Cenozoic continental climate and vegetation patterns on both sides of the North Pacific – an open NECLIME symposium

**Z01** IAWA Fossil Wood Symposium IPC-IOPC 2020

**Z02** Palaeobotany at the forefront of gender equality

**Z03** Phylogenetic Palaeobotany

**Z04** IAPT Early Career Investigator Symposium: New fossils, New Ideas

**Z05** Palynology and palaeobotany in the digital era

**Workshops & colloquium**

**W01** Navigating Nomenclature – Publishing, typifying and naming fossil-taca (The International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants)

**W02** Estimating pollen productivity with R tools/discover package

**W03** Registration of Plant Fossil Names

**W04** Artistic session

**NC** Celebration of 200 Years of Palaeobotany – Botanical Nomenclature in Palaeobotany and Palaeopalynology
FEES & TERMS

Early registration
May 1, 2020 at the latest
490 EUR / 390 EUR student

Regular registration
May 2 – June 30, 2020
590 EUR / 490 EUR student

Late/Onsite registration
July 1 – September 19, 2020
690 EUR / 590 EUR student

Deadline for abstract submission
May 1, 2020

Abstract book
Abstracts will be published only if payment is made before June 30, 2020.

FIELD-TRIPS

Permian continental ecosystems of SE Germany (Chemnitz, Manebach, Tambach)
(Pre-Conference Field Trip, 3 days; 330 EUR)
15–20 attendees (transportation by minibuses; including the participants luggage)
Expected length: 800 km (bus), 2 km (walk)
Special requirements: Field dress and shoes
Costs includes pick-up service from Dresden airport, accommodation and transport during excursion, breakfasts + lunch packages + dinners and transfer to Prague, transportation by minibuses (including the participants luggage).
The field trip will present classical outcrops, ongoing excavations and leading exhibitions, which show fossil assemblages found in Permian terrestrial strata of SE Germany. Anatomically preserved plants, animals and their taphonomic pathways will be presented and discussed as modern methods of „fossil hunting“ and collecting.
Guides: Ronny Rössler, Steffen Trümper

Lower Paleozoic of the Barrandian area
(Mid-Conference Field Trip, 1 day; 71 EUR)
1 bus = ca. 50 attendees
Expected length: 150 km (bus), 2 km (walk)
Special requirements: Geological hammer is recommended.
The excursion will provide a brief review of Cambrian, Ordovician and Silurian stratigraphy of the Barrandian area. Five visited outcrops will comprise: middle Cambrian at Medář Mýln (greywackes containing prasinophytes and cyanobacteria), Middle/Upper Ordovician locality at Kazín (shales with abundant chitinozoans), Upper Ordovician locality at Hlášná Třebáň (shales with abundant cryptospores), Wenlockian Vysokčíka in Prague (black shales and limestones with common chitinozoans), and Přidolí at the Kosov quarry near Beroun (limestones with tuffites containing remains of early land plants).
Guides: Oldřich Fatka, Jakub Vodička

Late Cretaceous of the Bohemian Cretaceous Basin
(Mid-Conference Field Trip, 1 day; 79 EUR)
1 bus = ca. 50 attendees
Expected length: 150 km (bus), 2 km (walk)
Special requirements: Geological hammer is recommended.
The excursion consists of a day trip (approximately 150 km) in the Bohemian Cretaceous Basin with visits to outcrops of late Cretaceous terrestrial formations. The trip will combine geological and fossiliferous visits with professional talks, discussions and collection.
Guides: Ronny Rössler, Steffen Trümper
**Expected length:** 150 km (bus), 3 km (walk)  
**Special requirements:** Visited localities are situated in open-cast lignite mines, so solid shoes will be needed. Geological hammer is recommended. A field trip to three localities: Horoušany, Vyšehořovice and Pecínov, where the exposed Peruc-Korycany Formation (Cenomanian, Late Cretaceous) will provide an overview of palaeobotany and sedimentology of the mid-Cretaceous part of the Bohemian Cretaceous Basin. In Horoušany and Pecínov, collecting of fossils and sampling for microfossils will be possible.

**Guides:** Jiří Kvaček (palaeobotany), David Ulčný (geology), Marcela Svobodová (palynology)

Neogene of north-western Bohemia  
(Mid-Conference Field Trip, 1 day; 108 EUR)  
1 bus = ca. 50 attendees  
**Expected length:** ca. 200 km (bus)  
Preliminary itinerary: https://goo.gl/maps/QArWp7p8zqRE6cfK8  
**Special requirements:** Both visited localities (Vršany, Bílina) are situated in open-cast lignite mines, so solid shoes are needed. Geological hammer is recommended.

Eocene to Pliocene sediments are preserved in depressions and grabens along the Krušné hory Mts. Besides fresh-water coal-bearing deposits, products of volcanic activity occur in Western and Northern Bohemia, forming the eastern branch of the European Cenozoic Volcanic Alkaline Province. We will visit lower Miocene sediments of the Most Basin with two stops, first in Vršany in the morning, and second in Bílina in the afternoon. The first stop will be devoted to collecting fossil plants within the main lignite seam; the second will be focused on an explanation of the overall geological situation in which the sediments were deposited, from the basement to the uppermost parts, situated in the MMC0.

**Guides:** Jakub Sakala (palaeobotany), Petr Šulcek and Tomáš Novotný (geology - Vršany), Karel Mach (geology - Bílina)

Postglacial of Šumava National Park  
(Mid-Conference Field Trip, 1 day; 81 EUR)  
1 bus = ca. 50 attendees  
**Expected length:** 400 km (bus), 8 km (walk)  
**Special requirements:** The visited lake is situated in a remote area, away from the road, only accessible on foot. The total hike is about 8 km. Only persons able to undertake such a lengthy trail are allowed to register! Bring walking shoes and outdoor clothing (altitude of 1100 m).

This excursion will cover late Quaternary vegetation changes, with focus on long-term dynamics of natural mountain spruce forests and their disturbances. We will visit an investigated lake of glacial origin and a peat bog, where results from sedimentary archives will be presented. Along the trail, we will have an opportunity to observe mountain spruce forests that were recently affected by severe bark beetle infestations and wind disturbances, and are currently regenerating.

The excursion will lead through the most protected parts of the national park, only accessible on foot. A hike leading from a bus parking lot to a glacial-origin lake is planned with a total length of 8 km.

**Guide:** Petr Kuneš

Late Pleistocene and the Holocene of Bohemian Paradise  
(Mid-Conference Field Trip, 1 day; 82 EUR)  
1 bus = ca. 50 attendees  
**Expected length:** 250 km (bus), 1 km (walk)  
**Modern pollen deposition in relation to Holocene vegetation changes in the Krkonoše Mts.**  
(Mid-Conference Field Trip, 1 day; 91 EUR)  
1 bus = ca. 50 attendees  
**Expected length:** 300 km (bus), 7 km (walk)  
**Special requirements:** The visited sites are situated in a quite remote area, away from the road, only accessible on foot. The total hike is about 7 km. Only persons able to undertake such a lengthy trail are allowed to register! Bring walking shoes and outdoor clothing (altitude of 1400 m).

This excursion will visit our highest mountain range in NE Bohemia. In this iconic landscape covered in its highest part by azonal tundra accompanied by many peatbogs, a long-term pollen monitoring project has been carried out, since 1997. We will concentrate on pollen monitoring results in relation to Holocene development of mountain tundra and mountain forest.

Two or three hours walk around the Krkonoše plateau at an
Special requirements:

Guides:

Holocene of Bohemian Switzerland and Doksy region
(Mid-Conference Field Trip, 1 day; 93 EUR)
1 bus = ca. 50 attendees
Map: https://en.mapy.cz/s/numuhozada
Expected length: 300 km (bus), 1–2 km (walk)
Sandstone areas in the western part of the Czech Cretaceous basin developed in two contrasting landscapes. Bohemian Switzerland is characterized by spectacular rock towers and deep moisty gorges covered by peatlands. This steep geomorphological gradient is covered by a fine-grained mosaic of coniferous and broadleaved forests. We will visit the largest natural rock gate in Europe (Pravčice gate), and an adjacent peat deposit with pollen and charcoal record spanning the Late Holocene.

Sandstones in Doksy region are in the last stage of pseudokarst development. Gently sloped tablelands and shallow peaty basins prevail over sandstone hummocks. Dominance of pine, disjunct floristic elements, vacillating human colonization and unusual stability of vegetation development since the Early Holocene have put the area among the westernmost exclave populations of hemiboreal taiga.

Guides: Vojtěch Abraham, Přemysl Bobek

Permo-Carboniferous of the Krkonoše Piedmont Basin
(Post-Conference Field trip, 2 days; 206 EUR)
1 bus = ca. 40 attendees
Expected length: 350 km (bus), 2–3 km (walk)
Special requirements: Field dress and shoes, geological hammer
1st day: Arrival at the Nova Paka Museum (Klenotnice), which is well known for its large collection of gemstones and silicified woods. The Castle Pecka (pecka = nodule in English) will be visited. This castle was built on the Carboniferous (Kasimovian) rocks of the Kumburk Formation containing silicified woods. A locality near Nova Paka with silicified woods will be visited, and a field with occurrences of silicate rocks and silicified woods. At the end of the day, we will travel to Vrchlabí city, where we will stay overnight. This city is on the northern edge of the Krkonoše (Gigant) mountains.

2nd day: Study of the Vrchlabí section that encompasses practically the whole Rudník Horizon (Permian, Asselian). 600 m in length, this horizon is about 180 m thick, with nine fossiliferous layers, from which about five are still available. 39 plant species have been identified—Sphenopsids (Calamites, Annularia), marattialean ferns, pteridosperms (e.g. Odontopteris, Autonio), cordaitaleans and conifers (Culmizschia, Ernsteinodendron and Walchia). From animals: sharks, acanthodians, actinopterigians, amphibians, molluscs and conchostracans. The next locality will be in Nedvězí, where the tailing heap of the Otto adit is accessible. This adit exploited the Čikvásky coal seam (Carboniferous, Gzhelian), and it is still possible to find some fossils there. Flora of the Čikvásky Horizon is not very diverse: Lycopsids (Sprigndendron), sphenopsids (Calamites), marattialean ferns, pteridosperms (Alethopteris, Odontopteris) and cordaitaleans; only fish scales from fauna. If time permits, a field (near Bítouchov village) with silicified woods will be also visited. In the evening we return to Prague.

Guides: Zbyněk Šímůnek, Václav Menc, Jana Drábková.

Miocene - Quaternary of Southern Moravia (Palynology: Carpathian Foredeep, Moravian Karst, Archeological localities)
(Post-Conference Field Trip, 2 days; 232 EUR)
1 bus = ca. 50 attendees

Expected length: 730 km (bus), 2–3 km (walk)
This area of South Moravia is known not only for Czech vineyards and wine cellars (Mikulov), but also for Miocene deposits of the Carpathian Foredeep, several prehistorical localities and the Moravian Karst, with 15 palynologically evaluated caves. We will visit these localities: 1st day – Kůlna Cave (known for Neanderthal skeletal remains), Podbržice (Langhian marine sediments, Bryozoal limestones), Pavlov (Archeopark - Upper Paleolithic settlement), Mikulov (wine cellars in the evening); 2nd day – Hevlín (Upper Burdigalian deposits), Pohansko (Early Medieval Settlement), Čejč Lake deposits (Pleistocene-Holocene).

Guides: Nela Doláková, Eva Břízová, Marianna Kováčová