

# 100 YEARS BULGARIAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

## Smart Geography

International Conference

2-4 November 2018  
Sofia, Bulgaria



BULGARIAN  
GEOGRAPHICAL  
SOCIETY



EUROPEAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
GEOGRAPHERS  
(EUROGEO)



FACULTY OF  
GEOLOGY AND  
GEOGRAPHY  
SOFIA UNIVERSITY

100  
YEARS

Supported by

National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy  
and Geography – BAS  
Ecosystem Services Partnership  
International Association of Landscape Ecology  
Bulgarian Cartographic Association

# SECOND INVITATION

The celebration of the **100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bulgarian Geographical Society** is undoubtedly an occasion for retrospection and analysis of the development of geography in Bulgaria. It is, however, also a reason for an attempt to look into the future and outline the prospects for geographic science, education and practice. Last, but not least, this conference is a way to pay a tribute and extend our gratitude in the first place to the founder of the Society, Academician Anastas Ishirkov, but also to all geographers who worked for it during the past century. We also want to widen the space for presenting new research in the different geographic disciplines and to discuss the changes that we need to undertake to address the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Global changes** and particularly the development of information, including geo-information, technologies are radically changing the ways in which economic, social, and public systems function. Our conceptualizations of basic geographic notions, such as "place", "space", "environment", "sustainability", etc., are also constantly being amended. Access to the ever-increasing information flows becomes a key feature describing location, along with its situation, boundaries, and other characteristics. Geo-spatial databases, generated by the new technology, play an increasingly important role in the choice of policies for governing regions, as well as managing and adapting to the consequences of global change. It is the geographers, who can play a key role in the utilization of the "flood" of geospatial information to uncover processes and interconnections in geosystems, evaluate and predict their sustainability and future development. Research on ecosystems and their services has proven its value to environmental protection and sustainable use of natural resources. In view of the intensive migration and urbanization processes in today's world, cities are trying to offer "smart" solutions, in order to deal effectively with demographic and environmental pressures. The complex interdependence among these processes raises a number of geographic problems that require innovative approaches and solutions and contribute to the implementation of the EU **Smart Specialization Strategies**.

**Geography of the 21<sup>st</sup> century** is expected to facilitate the development of human capital and the knowledge society, offer place-specific solutions for sustainable regional development and utilization of the planet's natural and human capital to improve social wellbeing. We entrust this conference to provoke a discussion on how to stimulate "smart" geographical thinking, as an aspect of the genius that has led mankind throughout the millennia to better understand and adapt to its beautiful planet. We believe that the participation of colleagues from all geographic and "sister" disciplines will make a real contribution to this process.

The Organizing Committee

# CONFERENCE TOPICS

## I. Physical geography

Climatology  
Hydrology  
Geomorphology  
Biogeography

## II. Human geography

Geodemography  
Social geography  
Economic geography

## III. Geoinformation science

GIS and geospatial science  
Remote sensing  
Cartography and cartographic visualization

## IV. Interdisciplinary studies

Landscape ecology  
Ecosystem services  
Urban and regional studies  
Mountain studies  
Natural hazards  
Tourism  
Virtual Water Values

## V. Teaching and education in geography

Geographical education

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Barbaros Gönençgil (Istanbul University)  
Benjamin Burkhard (Leibniz Universität Hannover)  
Chad Staddon (University of the West of England, Bristol)  
Dan Balteanu (Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy)  
John Pickles (University of North Carolina)  
Milan Konečný (Masaryk University, Brno)  
Robert Begg (Indiana University of Pennsylvania)

## PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Participants will have options to publish their work after the conference in:

- Peer-reviewed book in Springer series on Key Challenges in Geography
- Special Issue in European Journal of Geography
- Special Issue in Journal of Bulgarian Geographical Society
- Special Issue in Journal Problems of Geography

**CONFERENCE WORKING LANGUAGE IS ENGLISH**

# ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

## Chairs

Stoyan Nedkov (NIGGG-BAS), Karl Donert (EUROGEO), Georgi Burdarov (Sofia University)

## Members

Georgi Zhelezov (NIGGG-BAS), Mariyana Nikolova (NIGGG-BAS), Kliment Naydenov (Sofia University), Stelian Dimitrov (Sofia University), Boian Koulov (NIGGG-BAS), Tsvetan Kotsev (NIGGG-BAS), Nadezhda Ilieva (NIGGG-BAS), Alexander Kotsev (European Commission-JRC), Emil Gachev (SW University), Evgenia Sarafova (Sofia University), Dimitar Zhelev (Sofia University), Aleksandra Ravnachka (NIGGG-BAS), Kalina Radeva (Sofia University), Dimitar Simeonov (University of Veliko Turnovo), Dimitar Vladev (Shumen University).

## Support team

Lidia Semerdzhieva (NIGGG-BAS), Zvezdelina Aydarova (NIGGG-BAS), Velimira Stoyanova (NIGGG-BAS), Boris Kazakov (NIGGG-BAS), Desislava Hristova (Sofia University)

## International Program Committee

Anton Popov (Sofia University)  
Barbaros Gönençgil (Istanbul University)  
Biljana Apostolovska-Toshevskva (University of Skopje)  
Bilyana Borisova (Sofia University)  
Daniela Zlatunova (Sofia University)  
Evgeniya Rumenina (SRTI – BAS)  
Fatbardh Sallaku (Agricultural University of Tirana)  
Galina Petrov (University of Veliko Turnovo)  
Ines Grigorescu (Institute of Geography - RA)  
Ivica Milevski (University of Skopje)  
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Mihaela Sima (Institute of Geography - RA)  
Milan Konečný (Masaryk University)  
Milan Radovanović (Geographical Institute Jovan Cvijic, Belgrade)  
Monica Dumitrașcu (Institute of Geography - RA)  
Nina Nikolova (Sofia University)  
Pelo Mihaylov (Agricultural University)  
Rahman Nurković (University of Sarajevo)  
Raisa Gracheva (Institute of Geography - RAS)  
Svetla Stankova (Shumen University)  
Timo Cumpula (University of Eastern Finland)  
Tihomir Lichev (Academy of Economics, Svishtov)  
Vasil Marinov (Sofia University)  
Zita Izakovičová (Institute of Landscape ecology - SAS)  
Zoya Mateeva (NIGGG – BAS)

## IMPORTANT DATES

15 February 2018

Opening of abstract submission and registration

30 June 2018

Deadline for abstract submission

31 July 2018

Notification for abstracts acceptance

15 September 2018

Deadline for early bird registration

2-4 November 2018

Conference dates

## CONFERENCE FEES (€)

Registration Fee	Early Bird	Standard
Standard	150	180
BGS and EUROGEO members*	100	130
Students	70	100
Students (BGS and EUROGEO)	40	70
One day registration	-	65
One day registration (students)	-	30

\*reduced fee is also for ESP and BCA members

## CONFERENCE VENUE

**SOFIA UNIVERSITY**

15, *Tzar Osvoboditel* Blvd. 1504 SOFIA, BULGARIA

<https://www.uni-sofia.bg/eng>

## JOIN US AT

100-years.geography.bg

conference100bgs@geography.bg