



**Commissions for Local and Regional Development and Land Use and Land Cover Change  
at the International Geographical Union (IGU)  
and  
Bulgarian National Science Program "Environmental Protection and Reduction of Risks of Adverse  
Events and Natural Disasters"**

## **PRE-CONGRESS SEMINAR ON LOCAL AND REGIONAL ASPECTS OF NATURAL HAZARDS**



**12 – 14  
August 2021**

**Varna, Bulgaria**

## Dear colleagues,

As most of you know, the 2021 IGU Congress in Istanbul will take place online! However, we would still like to create for you an opportunity for a **face-to-face** meeting with colleagues at the pre-IGU Congress seminar, that will take place in the period **August 12 to 14, 2021** in Varna, Bulgaria.

The seminar, entitled *Local and Regional Aspects of Natural Hazards* is organized by **two** International Geographical Union (IGU) commissions: Local and Regional Development (LRD) and Land Use and Land Cover Change (LUCC), and the Bulgarian National Science Program "Environmental Protection and Reduction of Risks of Adverse Events and Natural Disasters"

An optional guided bus trip to Istanbul will be provided at the end of the seminar. Please make a reservation at the address below!

## Registration Fee

There is no seminar participation fee.

## Call for papers

The commissions for Local and Regional Development and Land Use and Land Cover Change at the International Geographical Union (IGU) and the Bulgarian National Science Program "Environmental Protection and Reduction of Risks of Adverse Events and Natural Disasters" are pleased to announce a call for papers for the Pre-Congress Seminar on *Local and Regional Aspects of Natural Hazards*, to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> of August 2021. We currently seek submissions of abstracts within any of the proposed sub-themes by the **30th of June 2021**. Please send abstract (300-500 words) in doc format, as an attachment, to Dr. Velimira Stoyanova [stoyanovavelimira@gmail.com](mailto:stoyanovavelimira@gmail.com). The language of the seminar is English. Following acceptance of abstracts, authors will be notified and invited to submit complete papers for peer review. Selected seminar papers will be published in a refereed, nationally indexed volume.

## Main topics

The ultimate goal of the Varna seminar is to provide an international venue for exchange, publication, promotion, and collaboration on the latest geoscience research, which will contribute to a safer and sustainable future of humanity on Planet Earth by addressing fundamental and applied aspects of society's protection from nature-based adverse events, hazards, and disasters. Provision of evidence-based geoscience and public health status information, sharing physical geography databases, knowledge, and understanding will support building of a collaborative community of researchers, set on producing geoscientific expertise, crucial for meeting global societal challenges.

The Seminar will cover a range of topics, including, but not limited to:

- Local and Regional Vulnerabilities to Natural Hazards - Resilient Cities and Communities
- Challenges of Urban and Rural Areas - Impacts on Local and Regional Development
- Socio-economic Disparities and Local and Regional Development
- Land Use/Cover Change and Land Degradation
- Causes and Consequences of Land Use/Cover Changes
- Ecosystem Services
- Biodiversity
- Natural Hazards and Risks
- Geographic Information Science

## Venue

The seminar will take place at the **Creativity House of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS)**, situated at the Black Sea coast. The address is: **Bulgaria, Varna, Chaika quarter, bus stop "Journalist"**, 43°15'50.3"N 28°01'53.9"E; 43.263963, 28.031628. (web site: <https://bas-chg.com/>).

## Accommodation

The costs for accommodation and board (3 meals/day) are 65 € per day (single room) or 45€ (double room). Please reserve your room ASAP, as single rooms are limited in number!

***For reservations: Ms. Diana Tuzharova, e-mail: [tdban\\_varna@abv.bg](mailto:tdban_varna@abv.bg), mobile: +359-889-804-757.***

The name of the "seminar" taxi company, with an office at Varna Airport, that will handle your transfer from/to airport at your expense, will be announced in advance, as well as the negotiated special price.

## Excursions (optional)

Short visits to Nature Park "Zlatni Pyasatsi" (Golden Sands) with options for trekking and the botanical garden and winery (w/ tasting) of the Euxinograd State Residence will be offered.

A visit to one the best sand beaches on the Black Sea takes a 15-minute walk from our place of stay.

### Scientific Committee

- **Barbaros Gönençgil** (Turkey), Vice President of Turkish Geographical Society, Vice President of the IGU, Head of LOC 2021 IGC İstanbul, Istanbul University
- **Jerzy Bański** (Poland), Chair, Commission on Local and Regional Development at the IGU, Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Polish Academy of Sciences
- **Monica Dumitrascu** (Romania), Chair of IGU-LUCC Commission, Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy
- **Ines Grigorescu** (Romania), Vice-Chair, Commission on Local and Regional Development at the IGU, Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy
- **Michael Sofer** (Israel), Honorary member, Commission on Local and Regional Development at the IGU, Faculty of Social Sciences, Bar-Ilan University
- **Matej Gabrovec** (Slovenia), Anton Melik Geographical Institute, Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- **Monika Kopecká** (Slovakia), Institute of Geography, Slovak Academy of Sciences
- **Kostadin Ganev** (Bulgaria), National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Nikolay Rachev** (Bulgaria), Faculty of Physics, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"
- **Bilyana Borisova** (Bulgaria), Faculty of Geology and Geography, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"
- **Boian Koulov** (Bulgaria), National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Georgi Gadzhev** (Bulgaria), National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Emil Burnazki** (Bulgaria), Climate, Atmosphere and Water Research Institute at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Marian Varbanov** (Bulgaria), National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Nikolay Valchev** (Bulgaria), Institute of Oceanology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Reneta Dimitrova** (Bulgaria), Faculty of Physics, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

- **Kristalina Stoykova** (Bulgaria), Geological Institute "Strashimir Dimitrov" at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Anna Ganeva** (Bulgaria), Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Steliyan Dimitrov** (Bulgaria), Faculty of Geology and Geography, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"
- **Bojko Berov** (Bulgaria), Geological Institute "Strashimir Dimitrov" at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Dimcho Solakov** (Bulgaria), National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Iva Apostolova** (Bulgaria), Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Anton Popov** (Bulgaria), Faculty of Geology and Geography, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"
- **Velimira Stoyanova** (Bulgaria), National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

### **Organizing Committee**

- **Boian Koulov** (Bulgaria), National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Monica Dumitrascu** (Romania), Chair of IGU-LUCC Commission, Institute of Geography, Romanian Academy
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- **Velimira Stoyanova** (Bulgaria), National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy, and Geography at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Ms. Nelly Bratoeva** (Bulgaria)
- **Ms. Diana Tuzharova** (Bulgaria)