

INTRODUCTION

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the 7th edition of the International Conference on Cartography and GIS in Bulgaria. The Conference is organized under the patronage of the President of the National Assembly of Bulgaria Mrs. Tsveta Karayancheva and during Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU, 2018. The previous events took place in Borovets (2006, 2008), Nessebar (2010), Albena (2012, 2016) and Varna-Riviera (2014). The conference is organized by Bulgarian Cartographic Association and University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy (UACEG) in Sofia. Co-organizers are Military Geographic Service and Bulgarian Red Cross. The event is organized with the support of the Bulgarian Science Fund and in cooperation with Sozopol Municipality, Bulgaria. This year, 2018, the ancient seaside town Sozopol will welcome the participants from 18 to 23 June for the first time of the Conference's history. The organizers' aim is to collect knowledge and information about the latest achievements of cartography combined with GIS with special accents for the region of the Balkan Peninsula, Europe and global aspects. Another goal is to discover and offer decisions for satisfaction of the ever increasing demands for analyses, handling and visualization of geo-spatial data in the area of science, economy, management, ecology, early warning and crises situations in smart ways coming in modern times at a national, regional and global scale.

The main topics of the conference and the Proceedings are:

- GIS Technologies and Related Disciplines
- Web Cartography and Digital Atlases
- Digital Earth for Smart Solutions
- 3D Cartographic Modeling
- Virtual Geographic Environment
- Map Design and Production
- Cartographic Visualization
- GIS for Geology, Natural Sciences and Ecosystems
- Cartography and GIS in Education
- Geodetic Coordinate Systems and Map Projections
- Geoinformation for Smart Cities
- Geo-Spatial Analysis and Data Mining
- Geospatial Data Acquisition by Remote Sensing Technologies for Cartographic Purposes
- UAV Applications and New Trends
- Seminar on Early Warning & Disaster Management

In these years, marked by social and natural crises, these topics allow us to outline the hunger of our users for cartography achievements. They also show the need of businessmen, government representatives and scientists for real time cartographic representations and better SDI, GPS and GIS solutions. To deliver them, we need support and cooperation of domain specialists in different branches of the Earth sciences.

During the conference, three ICA commissions on:

- Cartography and Children,
- Cartography on Early Warning and Crises Management, and
- Map Projection

will have their annual meetings.

Two-day Seminar with EU Cooperation on Early Warning and Disaster / Crises Management is organized by Prof. Dr. Milan Konečný, Chair of Commission on Cartography on Early Warning and Crises Management and ICA President (former) under the auspices of the Czech ambassador to Bulgaria His Excellency Mr. Dušan Štrauch and with co-organizer Faculty of Science, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic.

Special Session Digital Earth for Smart Solutions is organized and supported by International Society for Digital Earth.

Free training course “Research and User Support: Exploiting Copernicus satellite data within a cloud computing environment for GIS and cartographic applications” will be organized for young scientists by Serco.

The conference is supported by different ministries and government institutions that expect significant results to be achieved and many new projects to be started during the event. As NATO member since 2004, EU member since 2007 and President of the Council of the EU in the moment, Bulgaria welcomes all ideas for collaboration in the field of Earth sciences. An example for such cooperation is the above-mentioned Seminar that has acquired EU dimension built around the Bulgarian and Czech combined efforts. Among the members of the Local Organizing Committee, numerous universities that specialize in the field of Cartography and GIS can be distinguished. The organizers are proud to announce that the following leader companies in geoinformatics and cartography domains participate as sponsors of the event: ASSECO (Platinum), ESRI (Gold), CartGeo, Geopan and DataMap.

Our media partners are GIS Professional, GeoConnection, Geomedia-Bulgaria, Coordinates, Remote Sensing Journal, and International Journal of Geo-Information.

World-famous scientists are invited to present keynote speeches:



Prof. Lynn Utery / ICA Vice-President / USA

“Cartographic Evolution: From Hand-Drawn Graphics to Ubiquitous Web Cartography and Maps as Knowledge Bases”



Prof. Huadong Guo, President, ISDE / China

“DBAR: Digital Belt and Road Science Program for Global Sustainable Development”



Prof. Wolfgang Kainz, University of Vienna, Austria

“Cartography and the Others – Aspects of a Complicated Relationship”



Filip Kaderabek. ASSECO Central Europe / Czech Republic

“Cartography 4.0: Geodata as a Digital Twin for Intelligent Infrastructure”



Nick Land, ESRI Europe / United Kingdom

“The Science of Where”

The main international organizer is the International Cartographic Association (ICA) with the exclusive supports of the Secretary General of ICA Prof. Laszlo Zentai, Vice-President Lynn Usery, Past-President Prof. Georg Gartner and many chairs of ICA commissions. This cooperation arouses interest among 200 participants from 40 countries.

I would like to wish all colleagues successful work, inspiring discussions about present issues and many new opportunities for improvement and collaboration in the near future.

Prof. Dr. Temenoujka Bandrova,
President of Organizing Committee