



ZRC SAZU



UNESCO Chair on Karst Education  
University of Nova Gorica in cooperation with  
ZRC SAZU Karst Research Institute

32<sup>nd</sup> International Karstological School "Classical karst"

## EXTREME CONDITIONS AND EVENTS IN KARST

Postojna, June 16<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> 2025  
Karst Research Institute ZRC SAZU

### FIRST CIRCULAR

Since 1993, the International Karstological School "Classical Karst" (IKS) has been organised continuously. The school offers a framework in which young and established karstologists from all over the world present new research in the field of karstology, socialize and get to know the Classical Karst. Each year we choose a leading topic, history and state of research of which are presented by invited lecturers, and other participants present their new findings in the forms of lectures or posters. The red thread of the school are afternoon and all-day excursions, where the leading theme is presented on the example of the Classical Karst. The last full-day excursion is entirely dedicated to the general presentation of the most important areas of the Classical Karst.

### MAIN TOPIC

Climate changes and the unrestricted growth of population result in increasing frequency and intensity of extreme hydrological and climatic events in karst regions, posing significant threats to both people and the ecosystem. The 32<sup>nd</sup> International Karstological School will focus on monitoring these extreme events and understanding their underlying mechanisms, while exploring strategies for early warning, prevention, and mitigation of their impacts. The program will examine how surface changes influence the karst subsurface and provide a platform to share experiences, challenges, and solutions in monitoring such events. Additionally, attention will be given to extreme events in geological past, with insights drawn from cave sediments and other cave or surface formations. Finally, discussions will address policies and measures aimed at reducing the impact of extreme events on karst environments and the communities that depend on them. Participants are encouraged to contribute by sharing their experiences, the challenges they have faced and the insights they have gained.

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

The program of this year's school will be enriched with topics of invited lectures, which will be followed by oral and poster presentations. Excursions will be suited to the School's topic. The social events will tend to unite the participants with inspiring debates, food and music.

|           | Monday<br>June 16 <sup>th</sup> | Tuesday<br>June 17 <sup>th</sup> | Wednesday<br>June 18 <sup>th</sup> | Thursday<br>June 19 <sup>th</sup> | Friday<br>June 20 <sup>th</sup> |
|-----------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Morning   | Registration Sessions           | Sessions                         | Sessions                           | Whole-day excursion               | Whole-day excursion             |
| Afternoon | Sessions & Poster session       | Field trip                       | Field trip                         |                                   |                                 |
| Evening   | Ice breaker & "Karst Jam"       |                                  | Meeting – IAH Karst Commission     | Gala reception                    |                                 |

## IAH: MEETING OF THE KARST COMMISSION

This year, the International Karstological School will host the yearly meeting of the **Commission on Karst Hydrogeology** of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH; <https://iah.org/>). In addition, the traditional **Young Karst Researcher Prize** of the Karst Commission will be delivered at the **conference closing ceremony Thursday 19.06 evening**. This prize is intended to recognize the outstanding achievements of three young researchers in the field of karst hydrogeology.

## REGISTRATION

Online-only registrations are possible at <https://iks.zrc-sazu.si/en/prijava/>, until **18<sup>th</sup> April 2025**.

**The registration fee is 200 EUR, and 75 EUR for undergraduate students.** The registration fee covers the costs of the excursion guide with a book of abstracts, excursions, snacks and drinks during lectures and refreshments at social events.

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The official languages of the IKS are Slovenian and English. **Abstracts must be written and submitted in English by April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.** Participants can choose the form of their presentation (poster/lecture).

However, the number of oral presentations is limited by the number of time slots available for lectures. Therefore, the organizer will suggest some of the proposed lectures to be changed to posters. Authors will be informed in time.

All authors are encouraged to prepare and submit manuscripts based on their presentations to **Acta Carsologica**.

**Awards for the best student contribution will be given.** All Bachelor and master students who will register and submit their abstracts will be automatically considered for award. If the student does not want to participate in the competition, he can let the organizers know by the contact e-mail address. More information about the prizes will be provided on the website and in the next announcement.

The Second Circular with the detailed IKS program is expected to be available at the end of **April 2025**.

## **SUPPORT**

Slovenian National Commission for UNESCO, Scientific Research Centre SAZU, Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency, Kulturni dom Postojna, Zavod za Znanje Postojna, Municipality of Postojna.

## **ORGANIZER**

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