



NECLIME Workshop 2018: Climate and vegetation evolution in the Paratethys and Eastern Mediterranean

Sofia, January 25, 2018

Dear Colleagues and NECLIME members,

We are pleased to announce the **Extended NECLIME Workshop 2018: "CLIMATE AND VEGETATION EVOLUTION IN THE PARATETHYS AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN"** and joint meeting of the NECLIME working groups on **taxonomy of the Neogene macrobotanical record of Eurasia, taxonomy of Neogene palynomorphs, and the working group on fossil woods** which will be held in **Sofia (Bulgaria) from 25th to 28th September 2018.**

The extended NECLIME workshop

The extended NECLIME workshop in Sofia, complementary to our NECLIME sessions at the EPPC 2018, August 12-17, Dublin, Rep. of Ireland, will focus on **climate and vegetation evolution in the Paratethys and Eastern Mediterranean realm, including Black Sea area, and Turkish lacustrine basins.**

Main topics

- palaeobotanical records (micro/macro) of the Central and Eastern Paratethys
- reconstructing vegetation and climate dynamics from palaeobotanical records (micro/macro) – taxonomical basis and methodological standards – vegetation modeling
- higher resolving reconstructions - time series and their analyses
- plant diversity patterns in pollen records
- the application of digital data on plant distribution in biodiversity reconstruction
- Neogene climate and vegetation gradients from the Eastern Mediterranean to the Eastern and Central Paratethys
- aridification trends and large scale changes of palaeovegetation patterns - evidence from plants and vertebrates
- the Plio-Pleistocene transition – evidence from the Eastern Mediterranean, Black Sea, and surrounding lacustrine basins
- multi-proxy approaches in continental palaeoclimate reconstruction



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- evolution and dynamics of lacustrine systems

In the frame of the given regional focus we invite contributions on vegetation and climate interactions, plant and animal migration and evolution, driving mechanisms, development of open landscapes, evolution of wetlands, and climate change and variability in time and space.

Joint meeting of the Macro- and Micro- working groups of NECLIME

– co-operation and possible ways of exchange within NECLIME

The idea of a joint meeting of our working groups on macro- and micropalaeobotany was proposed by the “macro” and “woods” groups, and was kindly appreciated by the participants of the 8th workshop of the “micro” group held last year in Brno. The need of close co-operation between colleagues working on macro- and micropalaeobotany has been emphasized several times. The NECLIME network provides multiple possibilities for joint studies, e.g., integration of diverse plant records and proxies.

It is our pleasure to invite colleagues from other working groups, digital data on plant distribution, detailed and high-resolution records, and Neogene stratigraphy of the plant bearing horizons in Central and East Asia to join the Sofia workshop. Colleagues working on Neogene mammals are also kindly invited to contribute the Extended NECLIME Workshop, and to share their recent results and new ideas.

- topics proposed for the round table discussion (suggestions are welcome!)

- new updates for the improvement of the NECLIME NLR database;
- methods and ways/possibilities of the integration of the macro- and micropalaeobotanical records (e.g., taxa complexes);
- recent advances in plant molecular genetics, potential to improve/update the current NLR data;
- advances in pft classification and pft-based vegetation reconstructions;
- palynomorph taxa critical with respect to taxonomy, botanical affinity and climatic evaluation;
- re-evaluation of Neogene palynomorph records using TLM/SEM in combination;
- activities and information on ongoing research;
- relevant resources available to palynologists for botanical identification of palynomorphs.



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The venue

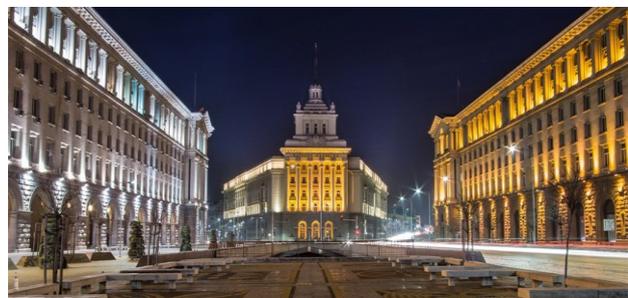
NECLIME Conference and Workshop will be held at the Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria. Detailed information about the place of the meeting will be communicated later.



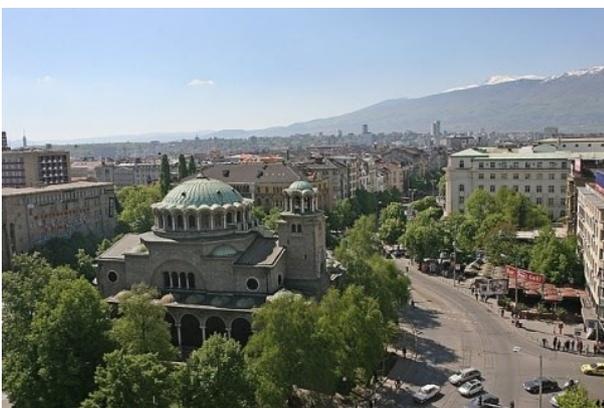
The Monument of St Sofia, Sofia



Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia



City Center



The St Nedelya Church



National Palace of Culture



***NECLIME Workshop 2018: Climate and vegetation evolution in the Paratethys and Eastern Mediterranean
Registration and abstracts***

Please register for the workshop by sending email to dimiter@cu.bas.bg, dimiter@gbg.bg or vladimir.bozukov@yahoo.com.

Abstracts for oral and poster contributions have to be submitted as Word files, font Times New Roman 12, single spaced, and should not exceed one page. All submitted abstracts will be published in an abstract volume.

We offer to organize publication of reports as a special issue (or in regular volume) in the ***Phytologia Balcanica***. It is an international journal publishing original scientific articles and communications concerned with the following fields of study: taxonomy or biosystematics of plants, chorology, floristics, evolution, phytocoenology, palaeobotany, palynology, plant anatomy, embryology, ecology, monitoring, biology and chemistry of medicinal and aromatic plants. The articles are submitted in English. All manuscripts are subject to critical review by anonymous reviewers. The Editors reserve the right to accept or reject the submitted material.

Moreover, it will be possible to include selected papers in the next **NECLIME Special Issue**. The planned SI, organized by A.A. Bruch, A.-J. Henrot, L. François, and T. Utescher, has the working title "Biodiversity and floral patterns in the course of Cenozoic climate change", and is intended for publication in the Geological Journal (John Wiley & Sons).

Conference fee

The conference fee of 70 EUR includes welcome dinner, lunch, coffee breaks, abstract volume, and other conference facilities, and is payable on site or by bank transfer.

Travel and accommodation

There are several reasonably prized hotels within short walking distance of the conference venue, offering a good service and familiar atmosphere.

The international airport of Sofia is ca. 10 km from the venue and connected to the City Centre by public transport.

More details on accommodation and transport will be sent to you after registration.

Organizing committee

Dimiter Ivanov, Torsten Utescher, Vladimir Bozukov, Marianna Kovacova, Jacub Sakala, Angela A. Bruch, and Boglárka Erdei.

Important dates

Deadline for registration and abstract submission: June 15, 2018



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Preliminary schedule:

September 25th

Pre-meeting of the NECLIME palyno-group (details will be appointed)
Registration and welcome

September 26th

Oral and poster presentations

September 27th

Oral and poster presentations
Round table discussion of the working groups

September 28th

Departure

September 28th - September 30th (optional)

We propose a 3 days field trip to the SW Bulgarian Paleogene and Neogene Basins - a unique opportunity for all the colleagues to visit spectacular outcrops and scenery in that part of the country. Additional information will be delivered soon.

We are looking forward to your registrations and to seeing you in Bulgaria.

Welcome to Sofia!!!

The Organizing committee