



Dear Mycologists,

We are pleased to publish **the second announcement** and invite all of you to attend the XIX Congress of European Mycologists (XIXCEM), which will be held in Perugia, Italy, from 4 to 8 September 2023. Please note that a pre-Congress (3 September) and a post-Congress (9 September) meeting will be also organized.

We would like to start the second announcement with the **letter of Izabela L. Kalucka, President of the European Mycological Association:**



Dear Mycologists,

It is my great pleasure to invite you to the XIX Congress of European Mycologists, which will be held from 4 to 8 September 2023 in Perugia, Italy. The Congress is organised under the auspices of the European Mycological Association by the Italian Botanical Society (Società Botanica Italiana) and the University of Perugia (Università degli Studi di Perugia). Italy, a country of great fungal diversity, with such icons as *Tuber magnatum* and *Amanita caesarea*, and its rich mycological history including Micheli, Saccardo and Bresadola, hosts the Congress of European Mycologists for the second time – after the VIII CEM held in 1981 in Bologna.

Since 1956 and the first CEM in Brussels, this conference has regularly and without a break brought together young and established scientists from various fields of mycology and from countries all over Europe and beyond to present their latest results, to exchange new ideas and to promote collaboration. The scientific programs of each Congress have always reflected mainstream and emerging topics in mycology, important both from fungal and human perspectives.

The XIX CEM in Perugia will not be different in this respect. It will address the themes that place fungi and mycology on the frontline of science in a world that faces catastrophic changes both in ecology and in a humanitarian sense – violated climate, habitat loss, species extinctions, lack of water and a global food crisis, human migrations, pandemics and war. Fungi are one of the least known and most vulnerable groups of organisms, involved in key interactions and global ecological cycles. Their diversity merits urgent investigation and they deserve protection. On the other hand, they pose a threat to human health and well-being worldwide as pathogens and destroyers. But finally, their incredible diversity and plasticity give us hope for new drugs, healthy food and useful materials, and for biodegradation and biotransformation capacities, that may rescue our environment.

The XIX CEM will offer 4 keynote lectures, 11 thematic sessions, poster sessions, and a workshop. One of the afternoon sessions will be of a special character. It is my great pleasure to invite all young Mycologists – students and young researchers, to take part in the session Mycology by Young Scientists. You are the future of European mycology, the floor will be yours!

The XIX Congress will be accompanied by two special pre-congress and post-congress open meetings, both of great importance for European mycology. Please, check the programme and feel cordially invited to both of them.

The European Mycological Association, established at the XIV CEM in Crimea, Ukraine, in 2003, a proud initiator and co-organizer of the Congresses since that time, will celebrate its 20th anniversary at the XIX CEM in Perugia this year. Let's make this Congress memorable not just for its scientific, but also for its social significance, particularly in this period when we are re-establishing direct contacts with other mycologists after the pandemic. As EMA President, it is a great honour and pleasure to invite all of you to participate.

Latest News

NEW DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION: 18th of June 2023

Registration and submission of abstracts are possible for one or more days with a discount for students. Check the Congress website for more information.

BRIEF INFORMATION ON THE CONGRESS

Regularly check information and updates on the Congress website.

<http://vnr.unipg.it/xixcemperugia2023/>

You can also delight yourself with the original pictures of fungi and Perugia's old city.

Congress Venue

The Congress will be held in the Hotel Giò, via Ruggero D'Andreotto 19, Perugia.

Click the link <http://vnr.unipg.it/xixcemperugia2023/index.php/congress-venue/>

to see the map and to get information on how to reach Perugia.

Programme

The preliminary programme shown on the Congress website is going to be finalized soon. It will mostly follow the traditional organization of CEM meetings with morning plenary lectures, and parallel thematic sessions (morning and afternoon).

A workshop on **Fungal data management & Open Science** is organized on the first day – 4th of September 2023 from 17.00-18.30 (Congress venue).

A special session is dedicated to young mycologists (not more than 35 years old, can be a student/PhD student or obtained her/his PhD not earlier than 2019) with **awards** for the best presentations – 7th of September 2023 (Congress venue).

i Special Congress Events

ECCF Open Discussion Forum – 5th of September 2023 at 17:00 (Congress Venue)

An open meeting of the European Council for the Conservation of Fungi (ECCF) is offered for country representatives and all Congress participants interested in discussion and co-operation in the field of fungal conservation in Europe.

EMA General Assembly – 7th of September 2023 at 17:00 (Congress Venue).

A meeting for the European Mycological Association members and for all interested in its activities. During this meeting, Association's honours and awards will be presented. In line with the Association's constitution, elections of the EMA Governing Committee officers for the next term will take place. Also, proposals for the next Congress venue will be presented and voted on.

i Special pre-Congress and post-Congress events

Red listing of Mediterranean fungal species. Workshop by IUCN SSC Fungal Conservation Committee – 3rd of September 2023 (Congress Venue). Workshop on threatened Mediterranean fungi and global fungal red list. Please, see the announcement here: [Announcement for Italian Workshop 2023](#)

Mycological Groups & Societies in Europe: how can we cooperate? – 9th of September 2023 (Congress venue). The meeting of mycological groups and societies from different European countries on the possible collaborative actions and projects. Please, see the invitation letter here: [XIXCEM societies meeting](#)

i Social Programme

Congress Dinner – 5th of September 2023 at 20:00 (Congress Venue)

During dinner, participants will taste traditional regional dishes.

i Congress Excursions

We will offer two possible **excursions** on the 6th of September 2023:

- to the Sacred Wood of Monteluco near Spoleto – collecting fungi with a local mycological association;
- to a truffle field near Città di Castello.

Afterwards, an aperitif with gastronomic specialities of the Umbria region and truffle tasting will be offered.

i Accommodation

Please see the link <http://vnr.unipg.it/xixcemperugia2023/index.php/accommodation/> to the list of conveniently located accommodation for Congress participants to book in Perugia. Please note that the Hotel Giò is the Congress Venue and can be booked for accommodation at <https://www.hotelgio.it/en/xix-congress-of-european-mycologists.php>

i Registration

To register for participation in the XIX CEM please use the signup form available under the “Register now” tab on the Congress website <http://vnr.unipg.it/xixcemperugia2023/index.php/registration/>

Registration is open till the 1st of September. It’s also possible to pay the Registration Fee directly at the Congress.

Please note that it is possible to register for one day or more at a lower price for students.

XIXCEM Organizing Committee