XIII CONGRESS OF MICROBIOLOGISTS OF SERBIA
MIKROMED REGIO 5

FROM BIOTECHNOLOGY TO HUMAN AND PLANETARY HEALTH

ORGANIZER:

WITH THE HELP OF:

Serbian Society for Microbiology

Federation of European Microbiological Societies

Република Србија
Ministarstvo просвете, науке и технологског развоја

Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia
MESSAGE FROM THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

On behalf of the scientific and organizing committees of the Congress, we would like to cordially invite you to participate.

The aim of this event is to present the latest developments in microbiology that contribute to a better understanding of the role of microorganisms in nature and to bring together microbiologists from Serbia and the region with the best professionals from all over Europe, including microbiologists of various disciplines: bioinformaticians, geneticists, molecular biologists, biochemists, epidemiologists, pediatricians, infectious disease physicians and all other scientists with common interests.

This regional meeting will address all current microbiological problems and offer solutions to overcome them by world-class experts in the field. The resistance of microorganisms to antimicrobial drugs is causing major problems in veterinary and human medicine, necessitating the improvement of vaccines and the discovery of new drugs, but also alternative treatment models. Growing antimicrobial resistance, especially biofilm-related, requires alternative measures to biocontrol the spread of the microorganisms in various environments. These sessions will discuss the possible alternatives to the common antimicrobials, varying from bacteriophage applications, new natural compounds biotechnology or nanotechnology, as well as biological control, for the inactivation of the pathogenic and/or resistant phenotypes of the microorganisms.

In addition, food manufacturers and retailers have been trying for decades to reduce the material damage and risks to human health posed by biofilms in food processing facilities. The environment is already too polluted by many human missteps, so any help from microorganisms to remove or process waste materials can be a big help. We are getting better and better at using microorganisms in technological processes, firstly in the medical field, but also in agriculture, industry and the energy sectors.

Our knowledge of how microbial diversity is distributed in natural environments and how microbes influence ecosystems is constantly evolving as public databases are established and new techniques based on massive sequencing are developed. The microbiomes found in anthropogenic environments and on human-made materials are generally much less complex than those found in natural environments. Despite this simplicity, it is very difficult to link cause and effect when it comes to determining the role of individual microorganisms. Improved genome engineering tools in model organisms allow for a comprehensive remodeling of metabolic and regulatory networks.
At the same time, a growing number of non-model organisms can be modified with different traits so that they can be further used in different applications and environments. This expanded range of engineering capabilities and modified species brings their application in the real world closer and has the potential to make a real contribution to sustainability and addressing global health challenges.

Microorganisms are the key drivers of ecosystem functions, and microbial diversity plays a central role in maintaining the stability and sustainability of ecosystems. These sessions will examine some of the principles that shape and maintain this biodiversity and explore the factors that shape microbiomes and contribute to the success of specific members of communities in different habitats. Presentations will focus on omics techniques such as metagenomics, metatranscriptomics, proteomics and metabolomics, which are used to better understand why the health of humans, animals and plants depends on microbial interactions. In this way, the complex microbiomes and the interactions between the microbiota and a variety of host organisms from different domains of life will be explored.

The Congress is in the process of accreditation by the Health Council of the Republic of Serbia.

So, SAVE THE DATE for the Congress FROM BIOTECHNOLOGY TO HUMAN AND PLANETARY HEALTH to meet people, expand your network and get an insight into new trends in microbiology.

We look forward to meeting you in Belgrade in April 2024.
SESSIONS AND TOPICS OF THE CONGRESS

INDUSTRIAL AND FOOD MICROBIAL BIOTECHNOLOGY
- Microbial valorization of wastes and secondary materials
- Biotechnology and synthetic microbiology
- Food Microbiology

ENVIRONMENTAL MICROBIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY
- Antimicrobial resistance: a One Health challenge
- Biodeterioration of materials/Extreme environments
- Towards a more sustainable agriculture and soil microbial legacy
- Host-microbe interactions
- Phytopathology

MICROBIAL GENETICS, METAGENOMICS AND METAPROTEOMICS
- Microbiomes and recent developments
- High-resolution bioinformatics & modeling
- Microbial genomes and their evolution

ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES IN ANTIMICROBIAL CONTROL
- Bacteriophages applications
- Biotechnological approach of using natural products
- Nanotechnology in microbiology

ACTIVE IMMUNIZATION AS THE KEY ELEMENT IN INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL
- Antipneumococcal vaccine
- Eradication of Poliovirus: Vaccination and Surveillance
- Vaccines for Influenza and COVID-19 – What We Need to Know
- Progress, Challenges, and Innovations in the Development of Vaccines Against Hepatitis B and C
- Research and Development of New Vaccines with a Focus on the Novel RSV Vaccine
- MMR Vaccine and Seroprevalence of IgG Antibodies Against Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Among Medical Students in Serbia
- HPV Vaccines in the Prevention of Carcinomas – Recommendations and Challenge

MULTI-DRUG AND PAN-DRUG RESISTANCE/HEALTH MICROBIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

INTRAHOSPITAL INFECTIONS

BIOINFORMATICS WORKSHOP - NGS TECHNOLOGY AND ITS APPLICATION IN MICROBIOLOGY
Lecturers Confirmed So Far

Jose Alexander
Clinical Microbiologist and Director of Microbiology, Virology and Immunology; AdventHealth Central Florida, USA

Alexander Osmolovskiy
Lomonosov Moscow State University Russian Federation

Alfonso Esposito
Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, University of Enna “Kore” Italy

Luís Daniel Rodrigues de Melo
CEB – Centre of Biological Engineering, University of Minho Portugal

Stéphane Compan
AIT Austrian Institute of Technology, Center for Health and Bioresources, Bioresources Unit, Tulln Austria

Elena Perrin
Department of Biology, University of Florence Italy

Cecilia Flocco
Leibniz-Institute DSMZ Germany

Svetlana Ugarčina Perović
Laboratory of Computational Metagenomics, Department of Cellular, Computational and Integrative Biology – CIBIO, University of Trento Italy

Mariagrazia Di Luca
Department of Biology, Microbiology Lab, University of Pisa Italy

Muzaffer Arikan
Department of Medical Biology, Faculty of Medicine, Medipol University, Istanbul Turkey

Nikolina Udiković Kolić
Division for Marine and Environmental Research, Ruđer Bošković Institute, Zagreb Croatia

Gergely Marótí
1 Institute of Plant Biology, Biological Research Centre, Szeged, Hungary; 2 University of Public Service, Faculty of Water Sciences, Baja, Hungary; 3 Seqomics Biotechnology Ltd. Hungary

Tamar Sachaneli
Deputy dean for science and international direction Georgian Technical University, Faculty of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering Science Georgia

Vittorio Venturi
International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), Trieste Italy

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LECTURERS CONFIRMED SO FAR

Aleš Lapanje
Department of Environmental Sciences
Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana
Slovenia

Maja Rupnik
Microbiologist at NLZOH
professor at University of Maribor
Slovenia

Jovana Grahovac
Department of Biotechnology, University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Technology Novi Sad
Serbia

Nemanja Kuzmanović
Julius Kühn-Institut – Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants
Germany

Paul Cos
University of Antwerp
Belgium

Tatjana Stević
Institute of Medicinal Plant Research “Dr. Josif Pančić”
Serbia

Mirna Mrkonjić Fuka
Department of Microbiology at the Faculty of Agriculture
University of Zagreb
Croatia

Matjaž Hladnik
The Faculty of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Information Technologies, University Primorska, Koper
Slovenia

Marina T. Milenković
University of Belgrade - Faculty of Pharmacy
Serbia

Ines Mandić Mulec
Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana
Slovenia

Djordje Bajić
Section of Industrial Microbiology, Department of Biotechnology, Technical University Delft, Delft
The Netherlands

Mirjana Rajilić-Stojanović
Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy of the University of Belgrade
Serbia

Stoimir Kolarević
Institute for Biological Research “Siniša Stanković” - National Institute of Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade
Serbia

Livia Leoni
Università Degli Studi Roma
Italy

Marina Soković
Institute For Biological Research “Siniša Stanković” - National Institute of Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade
Serbia

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FROM BIOTECHNOLOGY TO HUMAN AND PLANETARY HEALTH

LECTURERS CONFIRMED SO FAR

Continued from previous pages

Nikola Unković
University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology
Serbia

Nemanja Mrković
University of Belgrade - Faculty of Agriculture
Serbia

Katarina Novović
Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering (IMGGE), University of Belgrade
Serbia

Dušan Milivojević
Group for eco-biotechnology and drug development, Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering (IMGGE), University of Belgrade
Serbia

Aleksandar Sovtić
University of Belgrade - Mother and Child Health Institute of Serbia
School of Medicine,
Serbia

Nataša Golić
Group for Probiotics and Microbiota-Host Interaction, Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering (IMGGE), University of Belgrade, Serbia

Tamara Kastrin
Department for Public Health Microbiology, National Laboratory of Health, Environment and Food, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Ana Banko
University of Belgrade - Faculty of Medicine
Serbia

Aleksandra Knežević
University of Belgrade - Faculty of Medicine
Serbia

Aleksandra Šmitran
Faculty of Medicine, University of Banja Luka
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ina Gajić
University of Belgrade - Faculty of Medicine
Serbia

Nataša Opavski
University of Belgrade - Faculty of Medicine
Serbia

Vera Karličić
University of Belgrade - Faculty of Agriculture
Serbia

Ivana Čolovic Čalovski
University of Belgrade - Faculty of Medicine,
Serbia

Nevena Jovičić
University Children Hospital Tiršova,
Serbia

Marko Veljković
Department for vaccine preventable diseases surveillance and immunization. Institute of public health of Serbia “Dr Milan Jovanović Batut”,
Serbia
FROM BIOTECHNOLOGY TO HUMAN AND PLANETARY HEALTH

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Tamara Janakiev, Serbia
Katarina Kruščić, Serbia
Nenad Antić, Serbia
Marko Janković, Serbia
Miloš Jovičević, Serbia
Jovana Kabić, Serbia
Ana Tomić, Serbia

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Alexander Osmolovskiy, Russian Federation
Alfonso Esposito, Italy
Cecilia Flocco, Germany
Konstantinos Papadimitriou, Greece
Luís Daniel Rodrigues de Melo, Portugal
Mariagrazia Di Luca, Italy
Ivana Gobin, Croatia
Nikolina Udiković Kolić, Croatia
Svetlana Ugarčina Perović, Italy
Tamar Sachaneli, Georgia
Vittorio Venturi, Italy
Aleš Lapanje, Slovenia
Nemanja Kuzmanović, Germany
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Djordje Bajić, The Netherlands

Vaso Taleski, North Macedonia
Nataša Opavski, Serbia
Jovana Grahovac, Serbia
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Miloš Jovićević, Serbia
Jovana Kabić, Serbia
Ana Tomić, Serbia

Sanja Jeremić, Serbia
Aleksandra Šmitran, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Hugo Alexandre Mendes de Oliveira, Portugal
Paul Cos, Belgium
Aleksandra Knežević, Serbia
Ina Gajić, Serbia
Branko Jovčić, Serbia
Srđan Miletić, Serbia
Nedjeljko Karabasil, Serbia
Milica Ljaljević Grbić, Serbia
Dejan Baskić, Serbia
Stoimir Kolarević, Serbia
Gordana Subakov Simić, Serbia
Snežana Jovanović, Serbia
REGISTRATION, FEES AND DEADLINES

• **ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPECTED TO COVER THEIR TRAVEL COSTS.** A limited number of grants will be available for selected Ph.D. students and Early Career Scientists who are FEMS members; this grant will cover registration fee and accommodation for the period of the Congress.

• **CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF FEMS SUPPORTED PARTICIPANTS** – Selection will be based on the applicant’s abstract, one-page CV and letter of motivation; preference will be given to Ph.D. students and Early Career Scientists (maximum 5 years after obtaining Ph.D.). Please provide proof of your institution and/or a diploma confirming your Ph.D. status. All documents should be combined into a single PDF file no larger than 10 MB before submission.

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Registration, Abstract & Grant submission: **JANUARY 31, 2024**
- Abstract acceptance announcement: **FEBRUARY 10, 2024**
- Early fee payment due: **FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

### RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Congress Fee (in EUR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Member of SSM</td>
<td>Non-Member of SSM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior delegate</td>
<td>Early (till Jan 31, 2024)</td>
<td>180</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Late (after Feb 1, 2024)</td>
<td>220</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students and Early Career Scientists</td>
<td>Early (till Jan 31, 2024)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Late (after Feb 1, 2024)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accompanying Person*</td>
<td>All the time</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tbody>
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*The rate for accompanying persons is only possible for attendees who are an accompanying person for some of the active participants.

**REGISTRATION FEE FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE INCLUDES:**

- Access to the all scientific sessions
- Congress materials & Certificate of attendance
- Access to Exhibition sponsors area
- Access to coffee breaks, lunches, welcome cocktail & Congress Dinner
VENUE

MONA PLAZA HOTEL
Cara Uroša 62-64, Belgrade, Serbia

Located in downtown Dorćol an urban crossroads of cultures and styles, Mona Plaza is the largest convention center in the old part of town. You can book your stay in one of the 170 rooms and suites overlooking the most beautiful parts of the Serbian capital. In addition to the large multifunctional convention and exhibition area of over 2000 m², the hotel also includes a cafeteria with a wide range of chocolate treats, a restaurant, a bar, wellness and fitness center and a two-level underground parking lot.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Serbian Society for Microbiology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Belgrade
Nemanjina 6, 11080 Belgrade, Serbia
Chair of the Organising committee:
e-mail • serbiansocietymicrobiology@gmail.com
Registration, payment, booking and other practical matters:
e-mail • simpozijumi@micromedregio.com