

Report on the International Symposium - Challenges for Engineering Geology and Geotechnics after Natural Disasters.

In 2016 the Bulgarian National Group of IAEG organized the IAEG sponsored meeting, the International Symposium-Challenges for Engineering Geology and Geotechnics after Natural Disasters. The Symposium was held on June 20-23 in the National Palace of Culture in Sofia, Bulgaria, organized by the Secretary of the Bulgarian national group Assoc. Prof. Kiril Anguelov.

● European IAEG NG Presidents Meeting

Before the Symposium, the two vice presidents for Europe, Giorgio and Rafiq organized a European IAEG NG Presidents Meeting on June 19, 2016, with 22 representatives from Algeria, Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Iran, Italy, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Spain, UK. We are also very glad to have many leaders of national groups who are young professionals, like representatives from Algeria, Greece, Iran, Italy, Serbia, all of these young leaders gave good talks at the meeting.



Photo of European IAEG NG Presidents Meeting

Important topics have been discussed during the meeting:

- ✓ Panel ERC PE10 list: activities to include disciplines such as Engineering Geology, Geomorphology, Hydrogeology and Natural Hazard Sciences.
- ✓ Horizon 2020: the role of IAEG NG Presidents in the creation of a network aimed to propose common European projects applications.
- ✓ Possible common activities between European and North African NGs like for example: Euro-Mediterranean Journal for Environmental Integration
- ✓ the support of NG presidents to the IAEG Commissions for the preparation of some symposia for the next IAEG Congress in San Francisco.

● International Symposium Event

The opening day of the Symposium was on June 20, 2016, with over 70 participants attending the conference. It is also honored with the participation of IAEG President Prof. Scott Burns. The organizer Kiril Anguelov gave the opening address before the conference.

The topics of during the event were including:

- History and Geography of the Latest natural disasters
- State Policy for Protection of the population from Disasters
- Engineering Geology investigations in Disaster-Struck Areas
- Hazard and Risk Assessment in Disaster – Struck Areas
- Projects and constructions in Disaster – Struck Areas
- Case studies. Conclusions and Recommendations.

These topics were covered with more than 30 presentations from different delegates. During the symposium we have the pleasure to have delegates from USA, Italy, Russia, Turkey, Greece, Serbia, China, UK, Iran, and many others. All of them have given excellent presentations and reports in the session.



Photo of Opening Address before the Symposium

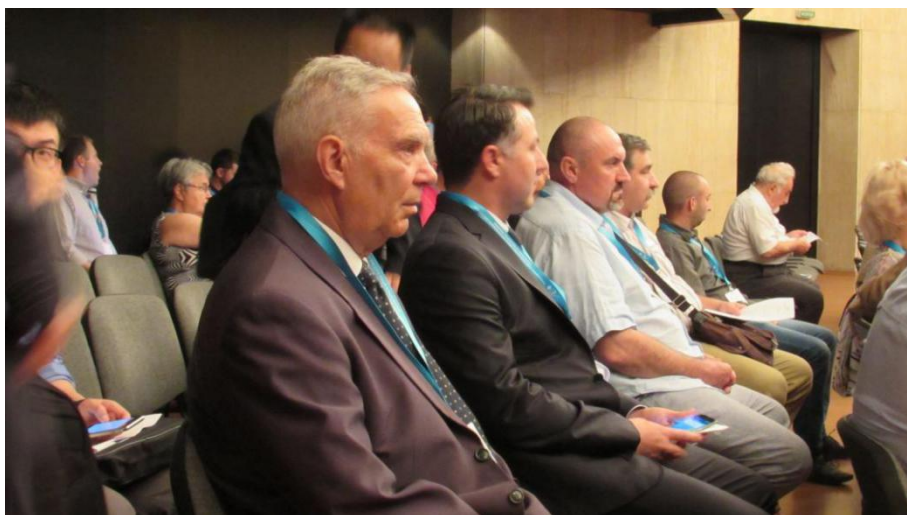


Photo of Participants Attending the Symposium

All the presentations and reports given by the delegates can be downloaded via the link:
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/c0ek2cgdupicswt/AACgbKGiR0PmIKVhF2eY5hMGa?dl=0>

● Music and Culture

During the event, a lot of music and dance were shown to all the delegates. The first day 4 opera singers sang at the end of the talks before lunch. The second evening, all of the delegates watched the National Folklore Ensemble -Bulgare in the theater, all of them enjoyed the group dancers showing off the national costumes and the national dances.



Photo of Music and Dance During the Symposium

● Field Trips

There was a cultural field trip to the south in the country on June 23, 2016. The participants visited the famous Rila Monastery and Tzari Mali Grand in Bulgaria, also visited a hot spring and a castle during the field trip.

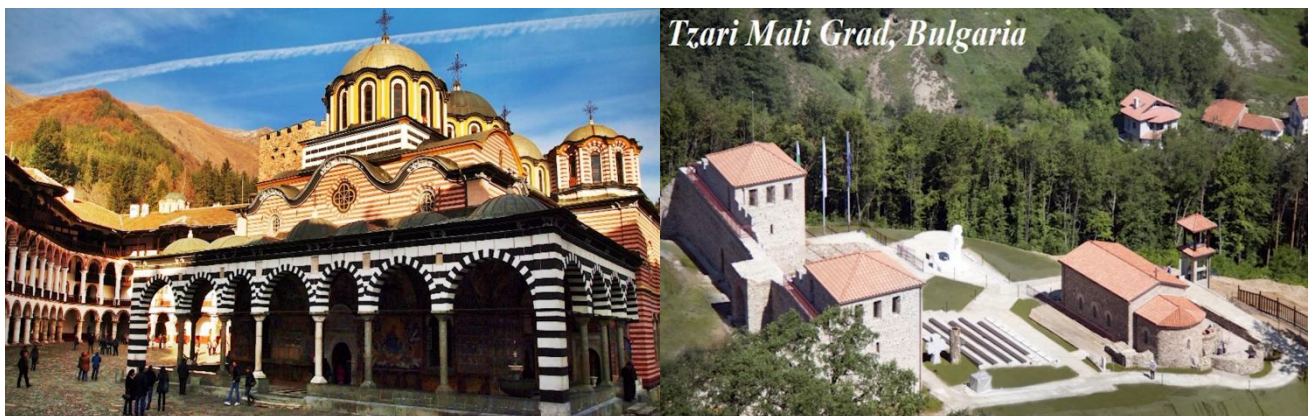


Photo of Field Trip