

180

Croatian
Natural History
Museum

First
Announcement

Congress

180 years
of Dedication
to Natural
History Heritage
– A Museum
for the Future

Zagreb
7th–9th December 2026

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Hrvatski
prirodoslovni
muzej

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Congress

The Croatian Natural History Museum is organising the Congress “**180 Years of Dedication to Natural History Heritage – A Museum for the Future**”, to be held in Zagreb, Croatia, from 7th to 9th December 2026.

The Congress is organised to mark the **180th anniversary of the Museum’s founding (1846–2026)**. This anniversary provides an opportunity to evaluate and celebrate the Museum’s rich history, its achievements, and the role that natural history museums play in contemporary society and in shaping the future.

Over nearly two centuries of activity, the Croatian Natural History Museum has developed into the leading national institution for the collection, research, preservation, and interpretation of the natural history heritage of the Republic of Croatia. The Museum’s collections documenting geological and biological history, its scientific research projects, educational programmes, and international collaborations have significantly shaped the development of natural sciences and the museum profession.

The Congress will bring together museum professionals, scientists, naturalists, nature conservation experts, educators, students, and representatives of cultural and scientific institutions from Croatia and abroad. Through lectures, discussions, round tables, and poster presentations, participants will exchange experiences, present their research, and jointly discuss the role of natural history museums in the future.

Main Topics

- History, development, and contribution of the Croatian Natural History Museum to science and culture
- Natural history collections: collection management, preservation, and accessibility
- Digital transformation of museums and digitisation of natural history collections - challenges of the 21st century
- Museums as centres of science communication, education, and science popularisation

Round Tables

- The role of natural history museums in the protection, professional care, and legal status of natural history collections
- Natural history collections and the coordinating role of national museums: current issues in professional practice

Abstract Submission Topics

- 1. History, development, and contribution of the Croatian Natural History Museum to science and culture**
 - institutional development through the decades
 - collections, research, and achievements
 - national and international cooperation
- 2. Natural history collections: collection processing, preservation, and accessibility**
 - collection management and development
 - documentation, conservation, and restoration of collection material
 - collections as a foundation for scientific and museological research
 - the role of museum collections in monitoring changes in nature and biodiversity
- 3. Digital transformation of museums and digitisation of natural history collections - challenges of the 21st century**
 - digitisation of collections and documentation
 - new technologies in research and presentation of museum collections
 - open data and online accessibility of natural history collections
 - artificial intelligence, 3D technologies, and digital tools in natural history museums
 - management of digital data and metadata standardisation
- 4. Museums as centres of science communication, education, and science popularisation**
 - popularisation of natural sciences
 - museum education and educational programmes
 - science communication for diverse audiences
 - interinstitutional and international cooperation
 - the museum as a space for dialogue between science, culture, and society
 - museum marketing and public relations
 - citizen science and volunteer programmes

First Call for Participation

We invite you to participate with an oral or poster presentation and share the results of your research, professional projects, and practical experiences.

Accepted presentations may be submitted as full papers for publication in a supplement of *Natura Croatica*, the scientific journal of the Croatian Natural History Museum, which will be published in 2027. Instructions for authors are available on the journal's website: www.hpm.hr/natura-croatica/.

The official languages of the Congress are Croatian and English.

Participation without a presentation: Anyone interested may register to attend the Congress as a non-presenting participant, without submitting a paper or delivering a presentation.

Abstract Submission and Participant Registration

Applications for oral presentations, poster presentations, and participation without a presentation should be submitted via the online registration form www.hpm.hr/hpm180/registracija or by email to HPM180@hpm.hr.

For oral and poster presentations, please submit:

- title of the contribution
- author's full name
- affiliation
- author's contact details (e-mail address)
- abstract (up to 250 words in Croatian and up to 250 words in English)
- keywords (up to 5 in Croatian and English)
- information on whether the submission is an oral presentation, poster presentation, or participation without an oral or poster presentation

Plenary lectures are 45 minutes in duration, while all other oral presentations are 15 minutes long.

Posters should be prepared in A1 format.

Organising Committee

Prof. Tatjana Vlahović, PhD, director

Iva Mihoci, PhD, museum advisor

Assoc. Prof. Draško Holcer, PhD, museum advisor

Sanja Japundžić, museum advisor

Snježana Mikulčić Pavlaković, MSc, senior curator

Biserka Radanović-Gužvica, MSc, museum advisor

Jasminka Poklečki Stošić, museum advisor

Renata Brezinščak, PhD, museum advisor

Branimir Ivić, head of museum marketing

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Ivan Razum, PhD, museum advisor

Suzana Buzjak, PhD, museum advisor

Renata Brezinščak, PhD, museum advisor

Vlatka Mičetić Stanković, PhD, senior curator

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Darija Čaleta, senior librarian

Marijana Vuković, MSc, museum advisor

Sanja Šuica, PhD, curator

Igor Boršić, PhD, curator

Katarina Krizmanić, museum advisor

Important Dates:

First Announcement: 7th July 2026

Deadline for Abstract Submission: 1st October 2026

Notification of Acceptance: 14th October 2026

Congress Dates: 7th–9th December 2026

Submission of Full Papers for the Supplement of the journal *Natura Croatica*: 31st January 2027

Contact Information

Congress “180 Years of Dedication to Natural History Heritage – A Museum for the Future”

**Croatian Natural History Museum
Demetrova 1, Zagreb**

Tel: +385 1 4851700

E-mail: HPM180@hpm.hr

Website: www.hpm.hr/hpm180

Venue:

Croatian Natural History Museum,
Demetrova 1, Zagreb 10000, Croatia

Registration fee:

There is no registration fee for participation in the Congress.

We look forward to welcoming you and engaging in discussions on the importance of preserving natural history collections for the future, the role of museum activities, and the contribution of museums to the promotion of scientific and professional knowledge among the public.

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