

**Ninth International Conference
Mineralogy and Museums (M&M 9)
5-7 July 2020
Sofia, Bulgaria**

Initiative Committee (2017-2018)

Ruslan I. Kostov – Prof. DSc.

National Representative at the International Mineralogical Association (IMA)
President of the Bulgarian Mineralogical Society
Head of the Museum of Unique Crystals “Ilia Deleff”, University of Mining and
Geology “St. Ivan Rilski”, Sofia

Kamen Bogdanov – Prof. Dr.

Department of Mineralogy, Petrology and Economic Geology; Faculty of Geology and
Geography; University of Sofia “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Sofia
Member of the Board of the Bulgarian Mineralogical Society

Nikolai Spassov – Prof. Dr.

Director of the National Natural History Museum, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences,
Sofia

Chavdar Nachev – Eng.

Director of the “Earth and Man” National Museum, Ministry of Culture, Sofia

Rositsa Nikolova – Prof. Dr.

Director of the Institute of Mineralogy and Crystallography “Acad. Ivan Kostov”,
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia

Radostina Atanassova – Assoc. Prof. Dr.

Scientific Secretary of the Geological Institute, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia
Member of the Board of the Bulgarian Mineralogical Society

Rositsa Vassileva – Assoc. Prof. Dr.

Department of Mineralogy and Mineral Resources, Geological Institute, Bulgarian
Academy of Sciences, Sofia
Member of the Board of the Bulgarian Mineralogical Society

Larisa Nesheva – MSc

Curator at the “Earth and Man” National Museum, Ministry of Culture, Sofia
Member of the Board of the Bulgarian Mineralogical Society
National representative in the IMA Commission on Museums

Ognyan Todorov – Assis. Prof. Dr.

Director of the Regional Natural History Museum, Plovdiv

Alexander Dikov – Eng.

Manager “Intergeoresource Ltd.”, Sofia

Ninth International Conference Mineralogy and Museums (M&M 9) July 5-7, 2020 Sofia, Bulgaria

To be held at the “Earth and Man” National Museum, Sofia

Topics

Museums and mineralogical research

Systematic and regional mineralogy; nomenclature and classification; new minerals; crystal morphology; meteorites; gemstones; biominerals; speleominerals; analytical techniques.

Museums and cultural heritage

Geoarchaeological mineralogy; archaeogemmology; archaeometry.

Museums and collection management

Trends in mineralogical or complex geological and natural history museums; acquisition; conservation; unique samples; databases; exhibits; computer and video applications.

Museums and society

History of mineralogical collections and museums; education programs; specific exhibits (ethnomineralogy; archaeomineralogy; ecomineralogy; medical mineralogy; technical mineralogy); minerals and the arts; public relations; geotourism and geological heritage.

Conference language

The official congress language will be English.

Conference Field Trips “Minerals: Natural History and Cultural Heritage”

- **Pre-conference trip – 2 days**

Sofia – Plovdiv (European town of culture 2019) (Regional Natural History Museum; Regional Archaeological Museum) – Haskovo (Alexandrovo Thracian tomb – Museum of Thracian Culture) – Kurdzhali (“The Wedding” zeolite geosite; Regional Historical Museum; “Perperekon” geoarchaeological site) – Sofia

- **Post-conference trip – 3 days**

Sofia – Stara Zagora (Museum “Neolithic Dwellings” – first copper for Europe; Regional Historical Museum) – Kazanluk (Museum of Thracian treasures) – Varna (Archaeological Museum with the oldest gold treasure from the Varna Chalcolithic necropolis; “Pobitite Kamani” geosite or Aladzha Rock Monastery) – Madara (“Madara Horseman” UNESCO site and museum) – Veliki Preslav (second Bulgarian capital) (Archaeological museum) – Sofia

- **One day post-conference trip** – Elatsite porphyry copper-gold deposit

- **Sofia** – National Archaeological Museum, National Historical Museum, Boyana Church (UNESCO site) and mineralogical museums at the National Natural History Museum, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” and University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski”

Number of museums and sites which can be visited: 19 museums and 5 sites (2 UNESCO sites)

- **Pre-conference trip** – 2 mineralogical museums; 3 archaeological museums with archaeomineralogical impact; 1 geological and 1 geoarchaeological site
- **Post-conference trips** – 6 archaeological museums with archaeomineralogical impact; 2 geological and 2 geoarchaeological sites (including one on the UNESCO list)
- **Sofia** – 5 mineralogical museums (2 national and 3 university museums) and 3 national archaeological and historical museums with archaeomineralogical impact (one UNESCO site)