

# **First Circular and Call for Abstracts**

## **CEFORM 5<sup>th</sup> Central European Forum for Microbiology**

Organized by

the Hungarian Society for Microbiology,  
the Croatian Microbiological Society, the Slovenian Microbiological Society,  
and the Foundation of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology

18-20 October, 2017  
Hunguest Hotel Helikon, Keszthely, Hungary

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Presidium of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology (HSM), the Croatian Microbiological Society (CMS) and the Slovenian Microbiological Society (SMS), we cordially invite you to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> Central European Forum for Microbiology, co-organized by the inviting societies, to be held October 18-20, 2017 at Hotel Helikon, Keszthely, on the coast of Lake Balaton, Hungary.

The CEFORM meetings traditionally attract participants from Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia and Slovenia. The organizers welcome participants from all parts of Europe, and the World to get acquainted with the newest results of our colleagues in the broad field of microbiology. Moreover to enjoy the wonderful late autumn mood at the Lake Balaton, the vine-harvest, the Hungarian cuisine.

The program will cover all major branches of microbiology. Though, two scientific topics will be highlighted this year: fungal and yeast biotechnology, and tumorigenic viruses, both presented by renowned experts of the fields.

The official language of the Congress is English. Presentations will include invited plenary and semiplenary lectures (20+10 min), lectures (10 + 5 min), and poster sessions.

We are looking forward to see you at the Congress and we hope that you will find it a stimulating scientific event and happy personal experience.

Dr. Károly Márialigeti  
President, HSM

Dr. Danko Hajsig  
President, CMS

Dr. Maja Rupnik  
President, SMS

### **Organizing Committee**

Mikael Andersen (DTU, Copenhagen) \ Lawrence Banks (ICGEB, Trieste) \ Andrea K. Borsodi (Eötvös L. University, Budapest) \ Katalin Burián (University of Szeged) \ Judit Deák (University of Szeged) \ Levente Emődy (University of Pécs) \ Levente Karaffa (University of Debrecen) \ József Kónya (University of Debrecen) \ Gábor M. Kovács (Eötvös L. University, Budapest) \ Kálmán Könczöl (Gedeon Richter Co., Budapest) \ Anna Maráz (Corvinus University, Budapest) \ János Minárovits (University of Szeged) \ Vladimir Mrša (University of Zagreb) \ Elisabeth Nagy (University of Szeged) \ Uroš Petrovič (University of Ljubljana) \ Miklós Rusvai (Veterinary University, Budapest) \ Bernhard Seiboth (TU Wien, Austria) \ Ivan-Krešimir Svetec (University of Zagreb) \ Vjekoslav Tomaić (Ruđer Bošković Institute, Zagreb) \ István Tóth (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Agricultural Institute) \ Adrian Tsang (Concordia University, Montreal, Canada) \ Ronald de Vries (University of Utrecht, The Netherlands), and Orsolya Dobay Congress Secretary (e-mail: fotitkar@mmt.org.hu)

## **Preliminary Scientific Program**

### *Accentuated topics*

- Fungal and yeast biotechnology
- Tumorigenic viruses

### *Agricultural Microbiology*

- Soil – plant – animal - microbe interactions in crop production (including GMO-s)
- Forest microbiology
- Bio-indication and bio-sensorics
- Biotization, rhizosphere and phyllosphere technology
- Simulation modelling

### *Bacteriology*

- Molecular biology, physiology and evolution of bacteria and their phages
- Human and veterinary pathogens and pathogenesis
- Traditional and molecular diagnostic methods, vaccination
- Asymptomatic carriage of pathogenic bacteria
- Genetic background and mechanisms of antimicrobial resistance
- Bacteriophages

### *Clinical Microbiology*

- Case reports
- Possibilities and restrictions in gene therapy
- Diagnostic methods
- STD-STI (syphilis, HIV/AIDS, genital herpes, HPV, *Chlamydia* infections)
- Microbial interactions
- Beta-lactamase resistance in the clinical praxis

### *Environmental Microbiology*

- Microbial taxonomy in the genomic era
- Ecology, function and interactions of microbial communities
- Biodiversity and adaptation of extremophiles
- Metagenomics in the environmental microbiology
- Biogeochemical cycles and climate change
- Microbial ecology of artificial and polluted environments

### *Food Microbiology*

- Improvement of microbiological safety of foods
- Food safety and agricultural raw materials, microbiological risk assessment
- Rapid microbiological methods
- Pro- and prebiotics, biopreservation
- Microbial interactions
- Stress adaptation of food microbes, “new” spore formers in foods

### *Immunology and Parasitology*

- Infection and immunity
- Immunogenetics, immunodiagnostics
- Control of infectious diseases: vaccination
- Host-parasite interactions, new and emerging parasitic diseases
- Helminthology, and protozoal diseases, taxonomic questions of parasites

### *Industrial Microbiology – Fungal Industrial Biotechnology*

- Microbial and non-microbial fermentations and bioconversions
- Fungal platforms in industrial biotechnology
- Applied fungal genomics
- Molecular physiology of enzyme and metabolite production
- Biochemical engineering, bioreactor design, modelling
- Fermentation analytics, control and regulation

### *Mycology*

- Evolution and phylogenetics of fungi
- Fungal cell biology and physiology
- Genetics, genomics, proteomics and metabolomics of fungi
- New tools for fungal genome engineering
- Fungi as pathogens, host-fungal interactions, epidemiology
- Diagnostic methods and platforms in mycology
- Applied mycology

### *Virology*

- All aspects of human, animal and plant viruses
- Evolution of viruses, molecular virology, tumour inducing viruses
- Pathogenesis of virus diseases, virus-host interaction
- Diagnostics of viral diseases
- Novel endogenic and exogenic retroviruses in the pathogenesis of human diseases, aging and viruses
- Vaccination and therapy, bioterrorism

## **Call for Papers and Abstract Submission**

### *Language*

The official language of the Congress is English.

### *Call for Papers*

Papers related to any topic covered by the sessions of the congress will be considered. Please use the homepage of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology ([www.mmt.org.hu](http://www.mmt.org.hu)) for registration and abstract submission. Authors should express their preference for oral or poster presentation. There are limited possibilities for oral presentations, therefore some abstracts submitted as an oral presentation may be converted to posters. However, some oral presentations will be selected for the semiplenary sessions. All authors concerned will be notified in due time. (If you are unwilling to make a poster presentation please indicate it on the registration sheet!) Speakers at lectures will have 15 minutes, which includes questions and discussion. The time limit will be strictly kept, whenever reasonable. **Deadline for abstract submission is 15 August.**

Standard audio-visual equipment will be provided. Please indicate your special needs (e.g. two video-projectors) in the registration form.

Posters will be displayed for three full days. Adhesive, etc. for poster affixation will be provided. During the Poster Session authors of posters are requested to be present at their posters at the time specified in the programme. This will give all congress delegates the

opportunity for questions and discussion. Poster displays should be self-explanatory even in the absence of authors. Posters should not exceed a size of 85 cm (width) x 120 cm (height) (standing A<sub>0</sub> format).

The Abstract Book of the 5<sup>th</sup> Central European Forum for Microbiology will be published as a supplement issue of *Acta Microbiologica et Immunologica Hungarica*. The abstract (including author/s/ + affiliation/s/ + address/es/ + text body) should not exceed 3500 characters. Please follow the instructions in the online abstract submission system!

### *Poster competition*

Participants under 35 years with poster presentation will be eligible for prizes. To compete in the awards, a letter confirming the age must accompany the online submitted abstract to the Congress Secretariat (e-mail: [fotitkar@mmt.org.hu](mailto:fotitkar@mmt.org.hu))!

## **Preliminary Schedule**

October 17, 2017 (Tuesday)	Afternoon from 5 pm - 8 p.m.	Arrival and registration
October 18, 2017 (Wednesday)	Morning from 8 a.m. From 10.30 a.m.	Arrival and registration Opening ceremony, Manninger Memorial Session Inaugural Lectures of Honorary Members of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology
	Afternoon	Plenary Session: Yeast and fungal biotechnology
	Evening	Facultative programme (Visit to Keszthely Castle and dinner with wine tasting)
October 19, 2017 (Thursday)	Morning	Plenary Session: Tumorviruses Semiplenary scientific sessions
	Afternoon	Scientific sessions and poster presentations
	Evening	Congress banquet
October 20, 2017 (Friday)	Morning	Semiplenary scientific sessions and poster presentations
	Afternoon	Scientific sessions and poster presentations
	Late afternoon	Closing ceremony, Best Poster Award, Farewell drink

## Participation and Fees

### *Congress Participants*

Early registration fee	before August 15, 2017	150.- €
Registration fee	after August 15, 2017	170.- €

The registration fee includes participation at the scientific program, commercial exhibition and banquet (19 October), a congress bag, a supplementary issue of *Acta Microbiologica et Immunologica Hungarica*, coffee/refreshment tickets, farewell drink.

## The Country, Lake Balaton/ Keszthely, the Congress venue and Accommodation

### *Hungary (<http://gotohungary.com/>)*

Hungary is situated in Central Europe. The country covers an area of less than 100,000 km<sup>2</sup> and it has roughly 10 million inhabitants, who speak a unique language which is not used anywhere else in the world. Hungary has become a full member of the European Union from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004.

In the year of 2000 the nation celebrated the thousandth anniversary of the foundation of the Hungarian State. Since the time of the state founder King Saint Stephen, Hungary had to go through several repeated trials and tribulations besides its golden eras, but it could stay on its feet despite its stormy history. Today, Hungary is one of the most popular destinations of visitors who wish to encounter this beautiful country with its natural, historical, cultural and gastronomic attractions.

Lake Balaton (*Lacus Pelso* in Latin) is the largest lake of Central Europe, a characteristic component of Hungarian hydrology. This shallow lake is stretching 77 km long with in average 7,5 km breadth in the middle of transdanubian Hungary. The Ca, and bicarbonate ions dominated alkaline water had been a favoured bathing water documented from the Roman times. It attracts lovers of all kinds of summer and winter aquatic sports (e.g. sailing, skating). Its natural richness, and the magnetic beautiful landscape had been inspiring all kinds of artists.

Keszthely, located in the north-west corner of the lake and its neighbourhood is inhabited validly since 6000 bC. The Romans turned it into a huge fortress, which gave actually its name too (fortress equals in the Slavic language 'keszthely'). Since this time it gradually became the administrative and ecclesiastic centre of the region. The Hungarian kings acknowledged it as a „city” (oppidum), and following the Turkish times the Festetics family determined the development of the city. They launched even an agricultural 'academy' there. Today besides the higher education, tourism is the driving force of the development.

### *Congress Venue and Accommodation*

The Congress and the connected Exhibition will be held in Hunguest Hotel Helikon (H-8360, Keszthely, Balatonpart 5.) where we provide also accommodation for participants. The prices include halfboard (breakfast and lunch), taxes and the use of the hotel swimming pool.

Economy room with half board:	single room	57 EUR/room/night
	double room	90 EUR/room/night
Standard room with half board:	single room	67 EUR/room/night
	double room	100 EUR/room/night

Please make your reservation for accommodation in the online registration system at the homepage of the conference ([www.mmt.org.hu](http://www.mmt.org.hu)). Do not forget to tick the box if you do want to share your room, and please indicate the name of your room-mate.

### ***Meals and Banquet***

The banquet will also take place in the restaurant of Hunguest Hotel Helikon (19 October). All meals are arranged on a buffet basis and include a broad selection of different types of main dishes (including vegetarian), soups, desserts, etc. Meals (lunch/dinner) can be ordered separately at a price of 18 EUR. Please indicate your choice in the online registration system.

### ***Evening Programme (optional) on 18 October***

The presentations will be followed by a short trip to the Festetics Castle where participants will visit the Castle Museum and afterwards can enjoy a dinner accompanied with wine tasting in the Cellar Restaurant.

Participation fee is 50 EUR.

## **Deadlines and Payment Information**

**Deadline for Abstract Submission:**

**15 August 2017**

**Deadlines for Registration and Payment:**

**Early registration**

**payment before 15 August 2017**

**Regular registration**

**payment after 15 August 2017**

**Cancellation charge:**

**80% Refund**

**before 15 September 2017**

**No Refund**

**after 15 September 2017**

Please register at the homepage of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology ([www.mmt.org.hu](http://www.mmt.org.hu)). Please follow the instructions in the online registration system at submission of your registration/accommodation preferences.

Payments (registration fee, accommodation fee, optional meals, etc.) should be sent to Weco Travel Ltd. (Szép u. 2., Budapest, H-1053 Hungary; phone: +36-1-266-7032; fax: +36-1-266-7033; e-mail: [mmt@wecotravel.hu](mailto:mmt@wecotravel.hu)) by means of:

- bank transfer to MKB Bank (Váci utca 38., Budapest, H-1056 Hungary) account No. 10300002-50320164-26304880 (IBAN code: HU 30-10300002-50320164-26304880; SWIFT code: MKKB-HU-HB) with reference: CEFORM2017+name of participant.

- Credit card mail order

Please kindly note that all bank charges (if any) should be covered by the payee.

### ***Cancellation***

Registration cancellations must be made in written form to the Congress Secretariat ([mmt@wecotravel.hu](mailto:mmt@wecotravel.hu)).

### **Letter of Invitation**

If you require a letter of invitation please notify the Congress Secretariat. Invitation is only to assist participants to obtain travel grants, visa, etc. and does not imply any commitment of the Congress Administration to provide financial support.

## **Exhibitions/Sponsors**

A commercial exhibition related to microbial diagnostics, research and biotechnology for laboratory suppliers, publishers, and consultants will be organized during the meeting. A sponsorship program ensures contributing organizations receive maximum exposure during the meeting. For further information please contact the Congress Secretariat [mmt@wecotravel.hu](mailto:mmt@wecotravel.hu).

## **Travelling to Keszthely**

Participants arriving by plane, will arrive to Budapest. We recommend the “Airport Shuttle Service” or a taxi directly to Népliget bus station (*Népliget Autóbusz-pályaudvar*). There is a direct bus from the Népliget bus station to Keszthely:

Departure		Arrival
Tuesday, 17 October, 2017		
14:15	Budapest, Népliget	16:45 Keszthely
16:15	Budapest, Népliget	19:25 Keszthely
19:00	Budapest, Népliget	21:30 Keszthely
Wednesday, 18 October 2017		
7:00	Budapest, Népliget	9:20 Keszthely
9:00	Budapest, Népliget	11:20 Keszthely

The hotel is in a 10-minute walking distance from the bus station of Keszthely.

Those who come by car should notice that Hotel Helikon is located close to the harbour of Keszthely. The use of the parking places of the Hotel is free for all CEFORM participants. You should ask for a card at the Reception Desk upon leaving.

## **Climate and clothing**

The climate in October is usually calm and can be very pleasant. The average daytime temperature is around 15°C degrees. Daily maximum values will reach 20-23°C. However, in the morning and late in the evening it can be cold and sometimes foggy. A season coat, pullover and some wet weather protection might be useful, as rain can also be expected. Please look up the weather forecast a few days before your trip.

## **General Information**

Currency: Hungarian Forint.

Credit cards: Visa, Eurocard, MasterCard, American Express, is accepted in Hotels and most restaurants and stores. Please ask before ordering! Shopping hours: usually 10.00 to 18.00. Most shops are closed on Sunday's.

Power supply: 220 V, AC 60 Hz.

Value Added Tax: VAT (in Hungarian ÁFA) is charged (except in duty-free shops), the rate is 27 % (in restaurants 18%).

Tipping: Tips in restaurants and for taxis – depending on the service – are optional but expected. Maximum rate is 10 %. There are some restaurants where a service charge is billed, in this case do not tip.