

INQUA–INTAV International Field Conference and Workshop **Crossing New Frontiers - Tephra Hunt in Transylvania** **24-29 June 2018 in Romania, Europe**



Dear colleagues,

The [INQUA](#) International Focus Group on Tephrochronology and Volcanism ([INTAV](#)) cordially invites you to participate in the **Crossing New Frontiers - Tephra Hunt in Transylvania** international field conference that aims to continue the long tradition of very successful inter-INQUA congress tephra meetings, as held previously in the USA, New Zealand, France, Canada and Japan over the past 2–3 decades. **Crossing New Frontiers** will be the first full INTAV-led tephra meeting since the Kirishima conference in Japan in 2010 and is not to be missed!

Crossing New Frontiers facilitates the opportunity for presenting and discussing your latest concepts and scientific accomplishments in all aspects of tephra or cryptotephra research and its applications. The conference is guided thematically by INTAV's current EXTRAS project: *EXTending tephRAS as a global geoscientific research tool stratigraphically, spatially, analytically, and temporally*. The main aim of EXTRAS is to help improve and develop new methodologies of tephrochronology to support and facilitate many Quaternary research initiatives ranging from paleoenvironmental reconstruction to archaeology, as well as geochronological and volcanological applications. In addition to a wide-ranging scientific programme, the conference's field components will add exceptional insight into the history of recent Carpathian volcanism and geotectonics, as well as synchronization of regional records - including land-sea connections, landscape evolution and Quaternary palaeoenvironments.

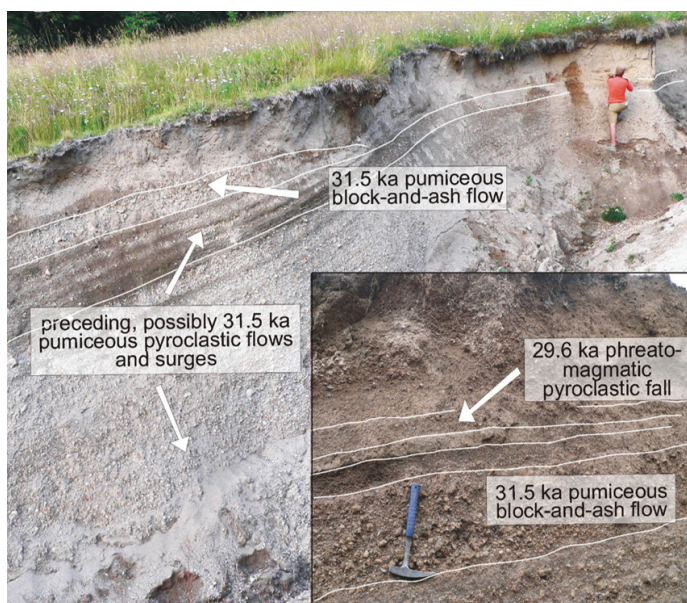


Venue for “Crossing New Frontiers– Tephra Hunt in Transylvania”, the Resort ‘Cheile Gradistei’ Fundata, on the karst plateau of Fundata, Moieciu de Sus village, Romania.

Dates, venue, and outline of programme

The meeting venue is [Resort 'Cheile Gradistei' Fundata](#) in the village of Moieciu de Sus, Romania. The conference venue is located in an idyllic [Transylvanian](#) rural mountainous landscape, near the city of [Brasov](#), dotted with medieval castles (including [Dracula's](#) castle) and renowned for the majestic panorama the venue provides over the Carpathian Mountains. The setting will allow for a stimulating and informative yet relaxed meeting in a refreshingly different location with opportunities for fostering collaborations with like-minded, enthusiastic specialists, early career researchers and students in tephrochronology, as well as with many others who use our unique discipline to enhance their research – truly crossing new frontiers geographically, culturally, and scientifically. The resort is excellently equipped, including spas, gyms, swimming pools, and the outdoors provide an extensive network of walking paths, with many trails that will allow you to replenish your energy in-between conference sessions.

After an ice-breaker in late afternoon on Sunday June 24, the main meeting is scheduled to run from Monday June 25 to Thursday June 29, 2018, comprising three days of scientific presentations and a one-day intraconference field excursion in the Persani volcanic field. The conference will be followed by a 3-day post-conference field excursion from Friday June 29 to Sunday July 1, 2018, targeting Carpathian volcanism, Quaternary geology and geomorphology as well as distal tephra deposits in loess/fluvial records by the Danube River and in the Black Sea area. The post-conference trip will finish at Bucharest.



ABOVE: View of Ciomadul lava dome complex, East Carpathians, Romania, that has seen the latest explosive eruptions c. 29,000 years ago

LEFT: Spectacular tephra deposits from eruptions of Ciomadul volcano during last 31.5 ka

Please book the dates:

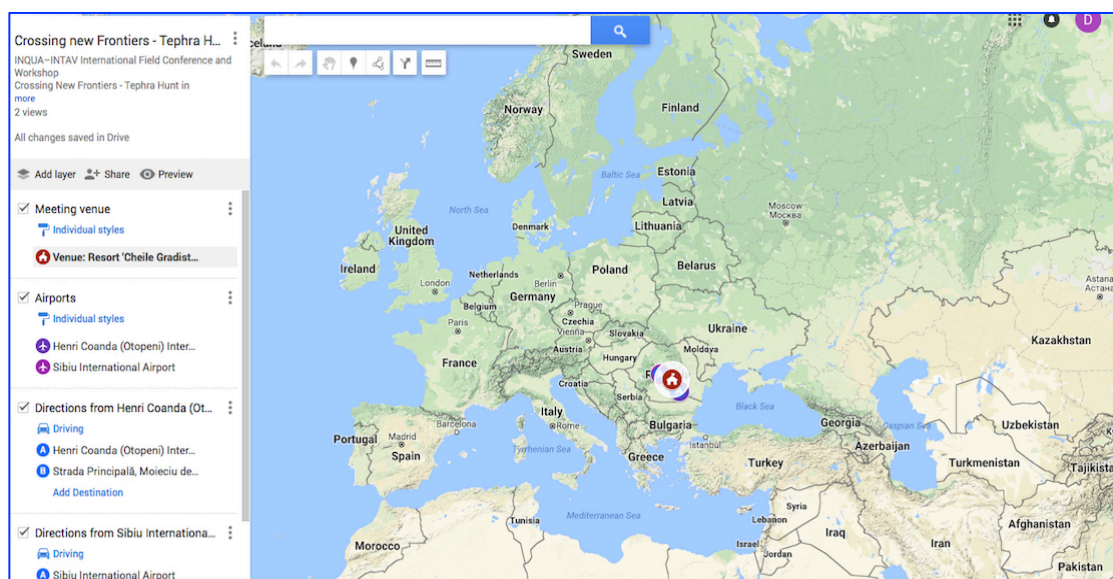
- Sunday June 24, 2018: Arrivals and welcoming party (late afternoon-evening)
- Monday June 25, 2018: Talks, posters and keynotes
- Tuesday June 26, 2018: Intraconference fieldtrip in Persani basaltic volcanic field
- Wednesday June 27, 2018: Talks, posters and keynotes
- Thursday June 28, 2018: Workshops, keynotes, and closing ceremony
- Friday June 29 to July 1, 2018: Postconference fieldtrip (optional)

How to get to Resort ‘Cheile Gradistei’ Fundata

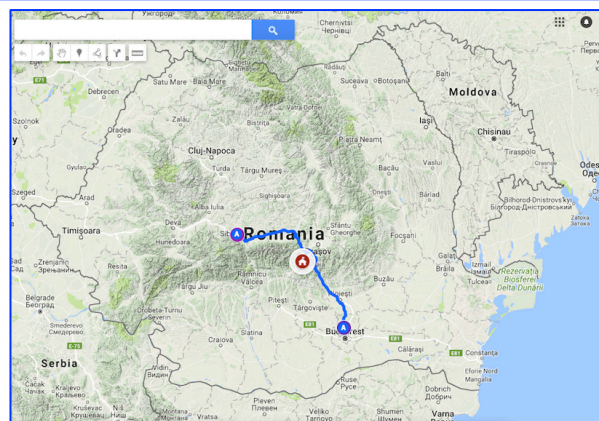
Resort Fundata is located in the village of Moieciu de Sus, at 35 km from Brasov city. Travel arrangements and transfers (paid by the participants) from/to Bucharest or Sibiu International Airports, as well as to/from Brasov city train station can be arranged upon request by the organizing committee. The shuttle (private comfortable cabs with English speaking drivers) services are available at the price of:

- 67-68 euro 1 person/cab
- 23-24 euro/person for 3 seat shared cab
- 20 euro/person on a 7 seat shared cab

We advice that participants book their flight tickets as soon as possible – a range of international companies, as well as many low budget flights operate at these airports.



Location of Romania in SE Europe and directions from Bucharest and Sibiu International airports to the meeting venue at Resort Cheile Gradistei Fundata



Visas

Please consult the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) webpage for the [list of states](#) whose holders of simple passports are required a visa to entry Romania. In case you need a visa please contact Daniel Veres (daniel.veres@ubbcluj.ro) as soon as possible.

Registration costs ('early bird' rates)

Regular: 310 euro

Student: 230 euro

Opens: 20 January 2018

Closes: 20 April 2018 (late registration dates and cost to be determined by second circular)

Post-conference field trip details and costs will also be available by the second circular.

The registration fee will cover most subsistence costs (welcome, coffee breaks, lunches, evening meals each day), the conference dinner, abstract volume, and the one-day intra-conference excursion. Participants are responsible for booking their accommodation at Resort Fundata (in single or twin suites, which includes breakfast). Please quote INTAV-RO when making your room reservation.

Accommodation cost for single room: 40 euro/night/room

Accommodation cost twin share room: 45 euro/night/room



Some of the locations we will visit during the intra and post conference excursions.

Students and early career researchers (ECRs)

We strongly encourage students and ECRs to attend this meeting. All previous tephra meetings have included a large cohort of students and ECRs who have benefitted greatly from them through networking and mentoring, as well as gaining knowledge and field experience. Many students and ECRs at the Kirishima meeting in 2010 are now established professional geoscientists and tephrochronologists. INTAV has applied to INQUA for funding mainly to support student travel costs (or possibly to waive registration fees) to help encourage students to attend the conference. *A limited number of modest grants* will likely be available to students (or other participants with very limited resources from developing countries) that are not fully funded by their host institutions. A short application by students will be required at the time of registration if they wish to be considered for such grants. Applications will need to be endorsed by supervisors. Successful applicants will be notified in early April 2018. We would also encourage students and ECRs to explore local funding sources and the INTAV committee and LOC would be happy to provide letters of support or conference invitations if required.

Detailed information about grants, travel options, accommodation, registration, programme, and submission of abstracts will be provided in the second circular to be released in January 2018. In case you plan to make your travel and booking arrangements prior to the release of the second circular, please contact us directly.

Keynote speakers and scientific programme

Our invited speakers represent a diversity of experience and expertise, capturing the varying disciplines connected to the field of tephrochronology and its application. Confirmed speakers include:

John Westgate (tephrochronology, geochemistry) University of Toronto, Canada

Sabine Wulf (tephrochronology, luminescence dating) University of Portsmouth, UK

Michael Sigl (sulphate records in ice cores, volcanic impacts on climate) Paul Scherrer Institute, Switzerland

David Karatson (physical volcanology, remote sensing) Eotvos University, Hungary

Caroline Bouvet de la Maisonneuve (volcanology, petrology and tephrochronology) Nanyang Technological University, Earth Observatory of Singapore

Maarten Blaauw (radiocarbon dating, age modelling) Queen's University Belfast, N Ireland, UK

Vera Ponomareva (volcanology, tephrochronology) Institute Of Volcanology and Seismology, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia

This meeting, guided by wide-ranging themes from EXTRAS, will be built around the expertise of our invited keynote speakers. These include (but are not limited to):

1. Past, present and future directions of classical tephrochronology
2. Characterising and correlating tephras: improved and new methods
3. The integration of multiple disciplines in discerning climatic impacts of volcanism
4. The revolution continues: distal and ultradistal cryptotephra dispersal, deposition, and detection
5. The interplay of physical volcanology, tephrochronology, and petrology in understanding volcanoes
6. The 'number' challenges in tephrochronology and volcanology - age modeling, databases and statistics

Local organizing committee and supporting organizations

The local organizing committee (LOC) consists of:

- Daniel Veres, Romanian Academy, Institute of Speleology and Babes-Bolyai University, Romania (chair/convenor)
- Ulrich Hambach, University of Bayreuth, Germany
- David Karátson, Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest, Hungary
- Alida Timar-Gabor, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj, Romania
- Alexandru Szakacs, Sapientia University, Cluj, Romania
- Ioan Seghedi, Institute of Geodynamics, Romanian Academy, Romania
- Cristian Panaiotu, University of Bucharest, Romania

With support from INTAV executive especially VPs Britta Jensen and Peter Abbott

Should you have any enquiries, do not hesitate to contact us through dsveres@gmail.com or intavromania2018@gmail.com

For more information on INTAV:

INTAV website: <http://www.comp.tmu.ac.jp/tephra/intavtmu/top.html>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/INTAV/>

Publication of proceedings

INTAV has secured a provisional agreement with the editor-in-chief of Quaternary International (QI), the flagship journal of INQUA, to publish papers arising from the “*Crossing new frontiers*” conference in a possible special volume dedicated to tephra and cryptotephra studies (subject to conditions). INTAV has an outstanding track record in publishing special tephra volumes following inter-INQUA tephrochronological meetings. The volume arising from the Kirishima meeting in Japan in 2010, published in QI in the calendar year (2011) following the conference, was described by Prof Norm Catto, former ed-in-chief for QI, as an “outstanding QI volume” and “one of the most commonly downloaded through the Elsevier website”. Hence, as with the special issue on tephras in Quaternary Geochronology published in 2017, such collections provide firstly an impetus to get your work written up and published, and secondly they enhance the impact of your work because the special issues tend to be more widely seen and read as a collective than as individual papers.

Details about the guest editors for the special tephra issue “*Crossing new frontiers*” of QI, and the deadline and process for submission of manuscripts, will be provided at the conference. Currently, it is anticipated that the deadline for submitting papers is within 6 months of the meeting date (i.e. no later than ~31 December 2018).

With administrative and logistical support from Romanian Academy – Cluj Branch through Institute of Speleology ‘Emil Racovita’, and BayCeer, University of Bayreuth, Germany, and with additional support provided by Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest, Hungary and Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

