

Report of activity of the Pseudokarst Commission of UIS between July 2017 and June 2022



Hartmut Simmert
Secretary

Rudolf Pavuza
Vice-President

Jan Urban
President

MEMBERSHIP

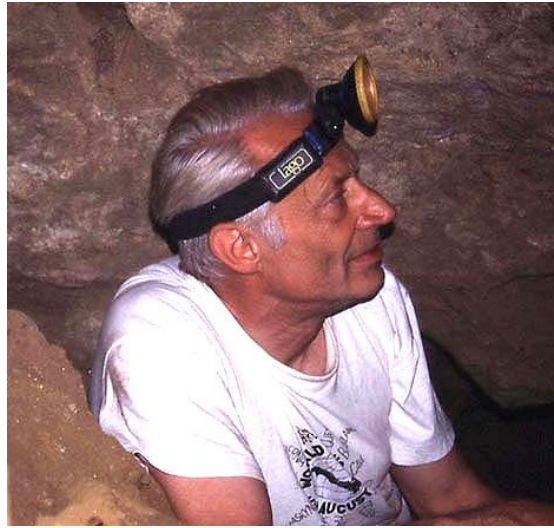
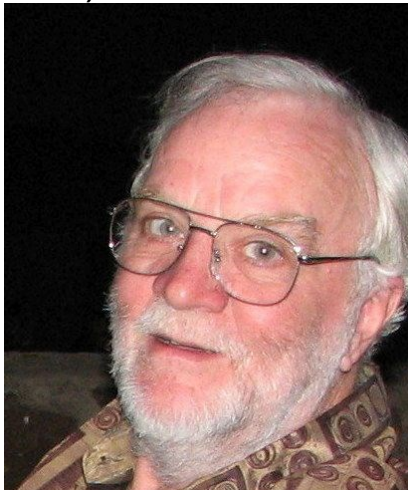
Functionaries of the Commission:

Jiří Kopecký (honorary president), István Eszterhás (honorary president up to 2nd August 2020), Jan Urban (president), Rudolf Pavuza (vice-president), Hartmut Simmert (secretary).

Members - 32: Jiří Adamovič, Ilya Agapov, Ivo Baroň, Bartosz Baturo, Pavel Bella, Peter Crossley, Filip Duszyński, Ludovít Gaál, William R. Halliday, Kacper Jancewicz, Jiří Kopecký, Jan Lenart, Konstantin Kostov, Włodzimierz Margielewski, Douglas Medville, Jan Paul van der Pas, Rudolf Pavuza, Wioleta Porębna, Saul Riffel, Juan Ramón Vidal Romani, Jill Rowling, Hartmut Simmert, Rabbe Sjöberg, Herman de Swart, George Szentes, Peter Tarsoly, Maurizio Tavagnutti, Marcos Vaqueiro Rodriguez, Jan Urban, Marina Vdovets, Josef Wagner, Karel Žák.

During the reported period **11 new members** were adopted into the Commission, while **four ones died**:

Ahmad Afrasiabian (17.07.2017),
John Dunkley (1.02.2018),
Istvan Eszterhás (2.08.2020),
Erich Knust (6.07.2021).



MEMBERSHIP

Consequently, the total number of the Commission members **has increased by 8 persons and comprises 32 members.**

The Commission members represent the following countries:

Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Brazil, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Spain and United States of America.



COMMISSION MEETING

Last Commission meeting - 17th Intern. Congress of Speleology, Sydney, Australia, 2017.

- about 10 persons (including George Veni), 2 members of the Commission;
- Commission report for the period 2013-2017, discussed: there are a lot of exploration and scientific activities in pseudokarst caves/landforms; these activities should be reflected in the activeness of the Commission

The Commission Assembly was planned during the 15th Intern. Symp. on Pseudokarst, Chęciny, Poland, in June 2020, two times postponed.

In the third term, in **May 2023**, the 15th International Symposium on Pseudokarst will be held in Karłów (Sudetes), Southwestern Poland, and the Commission Assembly will be organised then and there.



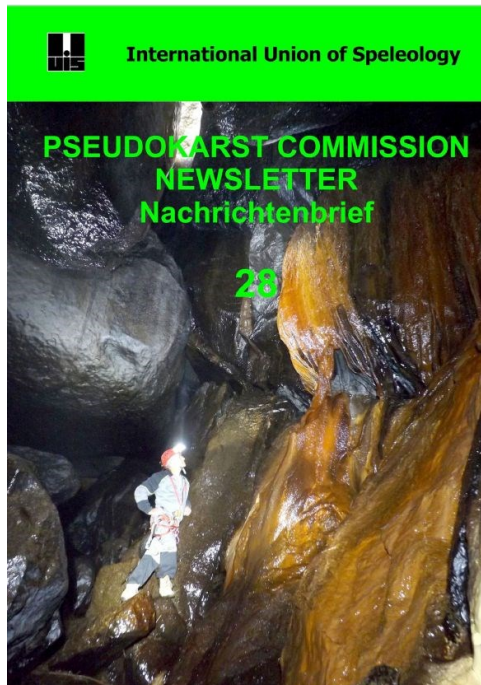
PUBLICATIONS

Pseudokarst Commission Newsletter - once a year or two years; editors: J. Urban, R. Pavuza, Ch. Pfarr; distributed both in digital version and in printed copies.

No. 28 (December 2018) - 4 scientific papers (47 pages).

No. 29 (December 2019) - 4 scientific papers (48 pages).

No. 30 (March 2022) - on the occasion of the International Year of Caves and Karst (IYCK) - 11 scientific-popular papers Promoting pseudokarst caves in nine countries (82 pages).



The **report** on the Pseudokarst Commission activity in 2015-2017 - **UIS Bulletin 59.2/2018**.
In the UIS Bulletin - **obituaries** of the members and collaborators of the Pseudokarst Commission: Grzegorz Klassek, Niels Axel Mörner, István Eszterhás.

WEBPAGE

Pseudokarst Commission Webpage

<http://www.pseudokarst.com/>

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Pseudokarst Commission of the UIS

The **Pseudokarst Commission** (Commission du Pseudokarst) is a commission of the **Union Internationale de Spéléologie (UIS)**, founded during the International **Congress of Speleology in August 1997** in Switzerland, owing to the initiative and attempts of the Jiri Kopecký (CR) and István Eszterhás (HU).



The participants of the 13. Symposium in September 2015
Kuncice pod Ondřejníkem - Czech Republic -
(Photo: Jan Lenart)

The main objectives of the Pseudokarst Commission is organisation of the international **Symposia on Pseudokarst** and other **events and meetings** dedicated to the pseudokarst, as well as promotion and stimulation of activeness in the exploration and scientific studies of the non-karst caves and pseudokarst features. The Pseudokarst Commission has published the "**Newsletter**" ("Nachrichtenbrief") two times a year.

14th International Symposium on Pseudokarst

Following the postponement of the 18th International Congress of Speleology in France to the summer 2022, the Organising Committee of the 14th International Symposium on Pseudokarst decided to postpone this meeting to the spring 2022



Merlins Cave at Tintagel Castle
Cornwall / South England
(Photo: Hartmut Simmert)



Dragon's Cave ("Drachenhöhle"), a Bolder Cave in Upper
Austria
(Photo: Rudolf Pavuza)



A water-pool in Jaskinia Miecharska, a pseudokarst, gravitational, crevice-type cave (1838 m long), developed in flysch sandstone; Beskid Śląski
Mountains, Outer Carpathians, Poland
(Photo: Jan Urban)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Information on events related to cave and karst exploration - redistributed to the Commission members and friends.

Such relations between the Commission executive and its members make possible to get contacts also in other, inner-Commission affairs.

Polish-Czech Speleological Workshop (Jiří Kopecký) – presentation related the objectives, activeness and problems of the Pseudokarst Commission (resulted in an encrease of member's numer

Participation in preparation of the IYCK webpage, collecting the set of photographs of pseudokarst caves.

CURRENT AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

The crucial problem in the reported period was organization of the Commission assembly (meeting) which was planned during the 14th International Symposium on Pseudokarst. The ultimate term of this meeting is May 2023 and the meeting will be held in two ways: in the place and online, so as to make possible participation of highest number of members of the Commission.

Despite the meeting problems, the number of the Commission members has distinctly increased and – the more important – the composition of the Commission has been evidently rejuvenated.

In the Commission Assembly held during this Symposium new objectives and ways of their realization by the Commission, adequate to modern possibilities and challenges, will be discussed and then implemented.

Obviously the **election of new executive group** of the Commission will be held, and new, young functionaries will be appointed. Nevertheless, all the Commission members are still requested to look for young people working on pseudokarst and ask them to join the Commission.

The traditional – previously and currently realized – activeness of the Commission, is and will be continued, so the Pseudokarst Commission Newsletter will be issued, the website will be managed, the activity of Commission members in other media (UIS Bulletin, etc.) will be visible.