

**9th International Conference
Mineralogy and Museums
August 24-26, 2021
Sofia, Bulgaria**

Contact: <https://www.bgminsoc.bg/> E-mail: MM9@bgminsoc.bg

This is final update on the scientific event: the deadline for early registration is **10 June 2021**. A hybrid type conference is suggested that combines a "live" in-person event with a "virtual" online component.

Online platform for registration: <https://events.cmebg.com/mm9/203/>



Company in charge of registration:

Congress Management and Events Ltd.

17, Frederic Joliot-Curie Str., bldg. 2, fl. 5, office 9

Sofia 1113, Bulgaria

tel: (+359)29877422, 0896700951; www.cmebg.com

The **French Society of Mineralogy and Crystallography (SFMC)** offers one **travel grant (300 €)** to a student either French or working in a French laboratory, and giving an oral or poster contribution as presenting author. Applications should be submitted on the SFMC website

https://sfmc-fr.org/?page_id=2403&lang=fr.

Dear colleagues, On behalf of the Organizing Committee, it is our great pleasure to welcome you to the

9th International Conference

Mineralogy and Museums (MM9)

August 24-26 2021, Sofia, Bulgaria

MM9 will deal with mineralogy, museums and related fields of science, with a special focus on archaeological mineralogy and minerals in cultural heritage. The conference intends to bring together both professionally oriented scientists and museum curators, providing them with an opportunity to share ideas and strengthen international links.

MM9 (Sofia, 2021) is the ninth edition of the international conference series organized by the **Commission on Museums** of the **International Mineralogical Association (IMA)** since 1988. Previous MM conferences were held in: 1. London, UK (1988); 2. Toronto, Canada (1992); 3. Budapest, Hungary (1996); 4. Melbourne, Australia (2000); 5. Paris, France (2004); 6. Golden, Colorado, USA (2008); 7. Dresden, Germany (2012); 8. China (2016, canceled).

Organizers	Bulgarian Mineralogical Society Earth and Man National Museum, Sofia
Organizing Committee	Ruslan I. Kostov (University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski”, Sofia); Chair Kamen Bogdanov (Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Sofia), Program Committee Larisa Nesheva (Earth and Man National Museum, Sofia) Ognyan Todorov (Regional Natural History Museum, Plovdiv) Pavel Stoev (National Museum of Natural History, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia) Radostina Atanassova (Geological Institute, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia) Rositsa Nikolova (Institute of Mineralogy and Crystallography “Acad. Ivan Kostov”, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia) Rossitsa Vassileva (Geological Institute, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia) Svetlana Encheva (Earth and Man National Museum, Sofia)
International Advisory Committee (IMA-CM)	Mike Rumsey (Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom); Chair Stuart Mills (Victoria Museum, Melbourne, Australia) Kim Tait (Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada)
National Scientific Committee	Kamen Bogdanov ; Chair Dobrinka Stavrakeva, Ognyan Petrov, Thomas Kerestedjian
Venue	Earth and Man National Museum National Museum; Blvd. Cherni Vrah 4; Sofia 1421; BULGARIA
Time	August 22-23, 2021 (pre-conference field trip B) August 24-26, 2021 (conference) August 27-29, 2021 (post-conference field trips A and C)
Registration	Starting March 10, 2021
Contact	https://www.bgminsoc.bg/ E-mail: MM9@bgminsoc.bg

Patronage and Sponsorships

Sponsors:

- Assarel-Medet
- Geotechmin
- Pensoft Publishers

International Partners:

- International Mineralogical Association (IMA)
- Society of Mineral Museum Professionals (SMMP)
- French Society of Mineralogy and Crystallography (SFMC)

National Partners:

- Geological Institute “Strashimir Dimitrov”, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia
- Institute of Mineralogy and Crystallography “Acad. Ivan Kostov”, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia
- National Museum of Natural History, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia
- Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Sofia
- University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski”, Sofia
- Regional Natural History Museum, Plovdiv
- Intergeoresource Ltd., Sofia

Scientific Program (oral and poster presentations to be organized in four sessions)

- **Session 1: Mineralogical research and museums**
Systematic and regional mineralogy; nomenclature and classification; new minerals; symmetry and crystallography; crystal morphology; gem minerals and aggregates; meteorites; cave minerals; analytical techniques and methods.
- **Session 2: Archaeomineralogy and cultural heritage**
Archaeological mineralogy; archaeogemmology; archaeometry.
- **Session 3: Collection management and development**
Trends in mineralogical or complex geological and natural history museums; acquisition; conservation; unique samples; databases; computer and video applications.
- **Session 4: Museums, environment and society**
History of mineralogical collections and museums; education; specific exhibits (archaeomineralogy; ecomineralogy; ethnomineralogy; biominerals; medical mineralogy; technical mineralogy); minerals and the arts; public relations; geoheritage and geotourism.

Keynote speakers:

Lee A. Groat (Canada); Marco Pasero (Italy); Hristo Smolenov (Bulgaria)

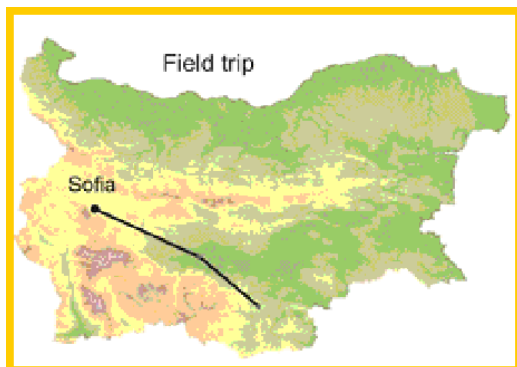
Business Meetings of IMA Commissions

Field Trips

A. Post-conference one day trip (27 August 2021 Friday; Stara Planina Mountain): Sofia – Elatsite porphyry copper-gold deposit (the largest open pit mine in Bulgaria)

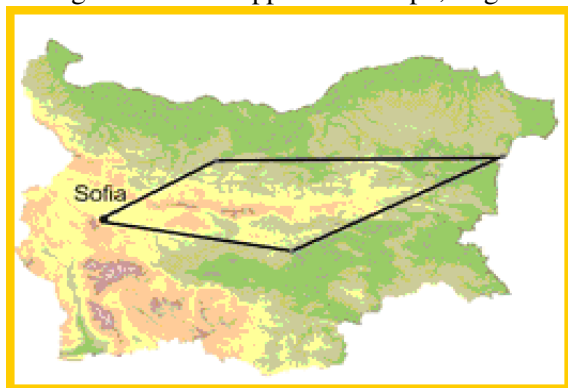


B. Pre-conference trip 22-23 August 2021 Sunday-Monday; 2 days; Southern Bulgaria – Eastern Rhodopes): Sofia – Plovdiv (European town of culture 2019; Regional Natural History Museum with largest mineralogical collection in Southern Bulgaria) – Haskovo (Alexandrovo Thracian tomb – Museum Center “Thracian Art of Eastern Rhodopes”) – Kardzhali (Regional Historical Museum including artifacts from the earliest Balkan nephrite culture, Natural Sciences Department; natural zeolite geosite; “Perperikon” rock-cut geoarchaeological site) – Sofia



Nephrite zoomorphic amulet from the Early Neolithic (early 6th mill. BC) Kardzhali site (Balkan nephrite culture); Regional History Museum, Kardzhali

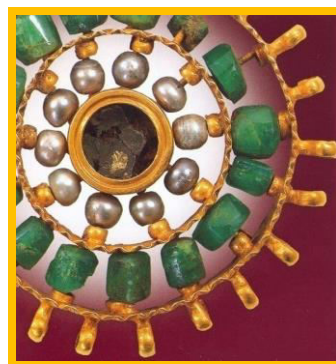
C. Post-conference trip (27-29 August 2021 Friday-Sunday; 3 days; Northeastern and Central Bulgaria); canceled: Sofia – Veliki Preslav (Second Bulgarian capital; Archaeological Museum with Medieval jewellery and gem treasures) – Madara (rock-hewn “Madara Rider” UNESCO site and museum) – Varna (Archaeological Museum with the “Oldest Gold of Mankind” from the Varna Chalcolithic necropolis including first complex faceted carnelian beads; Aladzha Rock Monastery) – Stara Zagora (Museum “Neolithic Dwellings” and first copper for Europe; Regional Historical Museum) – Sofia.



The “Madara Rider” UNESCO site



“First Gold of Mankind” and mineral artifacts from the Varna Chalcolithic necropolis



Emeralds and pearls from the Medieval Preslav gold treasure (Veliki Preslav)

A field trip can be canceled if less than 7 persons are registered (prices are for transport and hotel – bed and breakfast).

Exhibition and company promotion

Intergeoresource Ltd. (Bulgarian minerals); August 25-26, 2021.

Special Conference Exhibitions at the Earth and Man National Museum

First Bulgarian Geologists-Mineralogists; Mineralogical Education in Bulgaria; Minerals and Poetry; Gemstones in World Literature; Minerals and Gems on Stamps; Photo Gallery of Bulgarian Minerals; Mineral as object of art; Prehistoric gems, gold and copper.

Conference language

The official conference language will be English.

Cultural program

- **Welcome Party.** To be held on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 (for all conference participants).
- **Coffee-breaks** will be organized in the museum for all registered participants according to the program.
- **Conference Dinner.** Conference dinner will be held on August 25, 2021 (for conference participants who have booked it in their registration 50 EUR; can be paid also at the museum).

Mineralogical collections in other museums in Sofia (optional: afternoon August 25, 2021).

The mineralogy collection of National Natural History Museum of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences is the oldest in Sofia. Collections with minerals from Bulgaria and abroad are on display in both university museums (Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”; University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski”, including the Museum of Unique Crystals “Ilia Deleff”).



National Natural History Museum



Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”

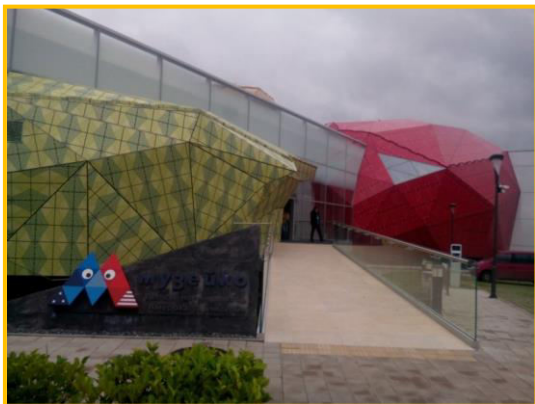


Museum of Unique Crystals “Ilia Deleff”



University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski”

- **Museum for children “Muzeiko”**



Muzeiko (2015) is a 3500 m² space with over 130 interactive games created for children and curious adults. It is the largest science museum (including geology) for children in South-East Europe.

Location: next to the University of Mining and Geology “St. Ivan Rilski”; metro station “G. M. Dimitrov”.

- **Sofia sightseeing and museums:** National Institute of Archaeology with Museum; National Museum of History; Boyana Church (UNESCO site); St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral Crypt Icon Museum; Sofia History Museum; National Museum of Military History; National Polytechnical Museum; National Anthropological Museum; Kvadrat 500 (International and National Art Museum); Museum of Socialist Art; Sofia Arsenal Museum for Contemporary Art; Art galleries.

Important deadlines

- **March 15, 2021** Open online conference and field trip registration and submission of abstracts.
- **June 10, 2021** Deadline for abstract submission and early bird registration.
- **August 22-23, 2021** Pre-conference field trip B.
- **August 24-26, 2021** Opening of conference; conference sessions.
- **August 27-29, 2021** Post-conference field trip A.

Registration fees

The conference fee (regular, deadline June 10, 2021 – 300 EUR; after June 10, 2021 – 350 EUR) includes admission to the scientific program of the conference, badge and bag with conference materials, refreshments during the official program (coffee-breaks and two lunches at the museum), one first-author abstract in the book of abstracts (fee for a second abstract as first author is 20 EUR), welcome reception. Accompanying persons are welcome (150 EUR: attendance of all conference sessions; welcome party). Online participants can pay 50 EUR for a single abstract and 100 EUR in case of a second abstract as first author (after 10 June 2021: 70 or 140 EUR). The registration fee does not include any insurance for personal injuries sustained, or for loss or damage to property belonging to conference participants (or persons accompanying them) during the conference. Student registrations (100 EUR) are required to upload a copy of student card or a scan of confirmation of student status from corresponding institution. The Conference Dinner on August 25, 2021 is not included in the registration fee (it can be booked for 50 EUR per person; it can be paid also at the museum).

For online participants: 1 – live online participation in Zoom sessions; 2 – pre-recorded video participation (sent in advance); 3 – participation with a poster, which will be included in the correspondent poster session (sent in advance).

Fees can be refunded after the conference, according to the following policy: cancellations received before 10 June 10, 2021 – 100% refund less 30 EUR for bank and other charges; cancellations received before July 10, 2021 – 50% refund less 30 EUR for bank and other charges; cancellations received after July 10, 2021 – no refund can be made.

Online registration: <https://events.cmebg.com/mm9/203/>

Congress Management and Events Ltd. – CME Ltd. (www.cmebg.com) is appointed by the Organizing Committee in charge of registration. You may contact CME for information on registration.

Contact persons: Business development manager Mrs. Dilyana Potzkova (E-mail: dilyana@cmebg.com; tel. +359-896 700 951; +359-29877422); For registration issues contact Mrs. Mira Bonova (E-mail: mira@cmebg.com).

Registration and submission of abstract (please copy, fill in and send to: MM9@bgminsoc.bg)

MM9 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Surname..... First name(s)..... Title.....

Institution.....

Address.....Country.....

E-mail address.....

Phone number..... Fax number.....

I plan an oral or/and a poster presentation in session 1 , 2 , 3 , 4 , entitled:

1.....

.....

2.....

.....

I will participate in:

Pre-conference trip A (one day).....

Pre-conference trip B (two days).....

Post-conference trip C (three days).....

I wish to book an exhibition area.....

Conference registration fee (in EUR):

Payment	Deadline June 10, 2021	After June 10, 2021
Conference registration fee (1 abstract)	300	350
Conference registration fee (2 abstracts)	320	370
Student	100	100
Accompanying person	150	150
Online participant with 1 abstract (2 abstracts)	50 (100)	70 (140)
Conference dinner*	50*	50*
Field trip A – 1 day	50	50
Field trip B – 2 days	160	160
Field trip C – 3 days	320	320
Exhibition area for promotion*: per day for 1 m ²	15*	15*
Total	xxx	xxx

*Can be paid also at the museum.

Date.....

Sample and guidelines for extended abstract (two A4 pages, including figures and references; top, bottom, left and right – 2 cm page margins). Please, send to: MM9@bgminsoc.bg

Title for the MM9 Conference (bold; left aligned; 14 pts; font Times New Roman; single line spacing; leave six lines 14 pts before and one line after title)

First Author¹, Second Author², Third F. Author³ (bold; left aligned; 12 pts; superscript numbers only for 2 or more co-authors with different addresses; underline the name of communicating author only if more than one author)

¹Affiliation, City, Country; email@crystal.com (left aligned; 12 pts)

²Affiliation, City, Country; email@mineral.org

³Affiliation, City, Country; email@museum.bg (leave one line after the last co-author)

Example

Text (12 pts) should be simple spaced and justified; indent each paragraph by 1 cm; subtitles if any, must be left aligned and underlined.

References should be cited in the text as follows: one author (Stone, 2021); two authors (Goldsmith, Stone, 2020; Stone, Goldsmith, 2021); more than two authors (Smith et al., 2021).

Figures and Tables: size 11 pts for Figures (text below; centered) and Tables (text above; aligned left), but 10 pts in the Table; justified depending on number of columns if any; leave one blank line before and after figure or table; to be cited in the text as (Fig. 1) or (Table 1).



Fig. 1. IMA logo

References (leave one line before subtitle; text justified, 11 pts; paragraph hanging by 1 cm)

Author, A. 2018. *Mineralogy and Museums*. Science Publishers, Sofia, 200 p.

Author, B., C. Author. 2019. Crystals and museums. – *Amer. Mineral.*, 20, 3-4, 167-189.

Author, D. E., F. G. Author, H. I. Author. 2020. Gems in ancient glyptic art. – In: *Gemstones in World Museums* (Eds. Smith, I., J. K. Stone). Publishing House, London – Paris, 123-145.

General information

Presentations. One or two extended abstracts (each 2 pages with references) by a single author and/or first co-author may be submitted as oral and/or poster presentation(s). Please note that the review committee also reserves the right to offer the opportunity for either a poster or an oral type presentation. All oral presentations (25 min. plenary; 15 min. normal) will be made using computers provided by the organizers. For your poster presentations, please print your posters in max. size A0 (~119 x 84 cm; portrait orientation) or smaller. Poster tables and fixing material will be provided. Your abstract(s) will not be published until your registration fee is received. By submitting an abstract, the author(s) attest that the abstract submitted has not been previously published elsewhere and transfers, assigns, or otherwise conveys the copyright for its publication.

For online participants: 1 – live online participation in Zoom sessions (presentation sent in advance); 2 – pre-recorded video participation (sent in advance); 3 – electronic participation with a poster, which will be included in an online poster session (sent in advance).

Full texts of presentations can be published in the journal of the Bulgarian Mineralogical Society and the Geological Institute: *Geochemistry, Mineralogy and Petrology (Sofia)*.

Transport

Taxis operate throughout the city (max. 2.00 Lev/km in day hours; if you use taxis at the airport, inside the airport turn to the right exit, where there is an official taxi stop). From the Sofia International Airport metro station to the conference venue it should cost you only 1.60 Lev (=0.8 EUR): ~50-60 minutes travel – transfer from the red metro line at the central Serdica Station to the blue metro line for two stops in direction Vitosha, to station *European Union* which is just in front of the Earth and Man National Museum and the Hemus Hotel. At the airport there is also bus N84 or N284 to downtown (tickets can be bought at the kiosk outside the airport or from the driver; 1.60 Lev). If you arrive at Sofia International Airport Terminal-1 (low cost flights), take a bus to Terminal-2 to the metro station (~5 minutes travel), or you can take a bus or a taxi downtown. If you arrive by train at Sofia Central Railway Station or by bus at the near-by International Bus Station, you can find your way to the metro station and you can travel 4 stops on the blue metro line to the *European Union* station (~15 minutes travel; 1.60 Lev).

Visiting Bulgaria

Currency. The local currency is the Bulgarian Lev (1 Lev ~ 0.5 EUR). Credit/debit cards (VISA, MasterCard, Maestro) are frequently accepted in hotels and larger shops throughout the country. However, you should have some cash when travelling (to buy a metro ticket at the airport station or to take a taxi). Getting some cash from an ATM might be more convenient than using exchange offices.

Electricity. We use a 230-V/50-Hz electricity network. Make sure your appliances are compatible (or get a travel adapter).

Emergency numbers. If you need assistance from an ambulance or the police, call 112 from any phone (including your mobile phone while roaming).

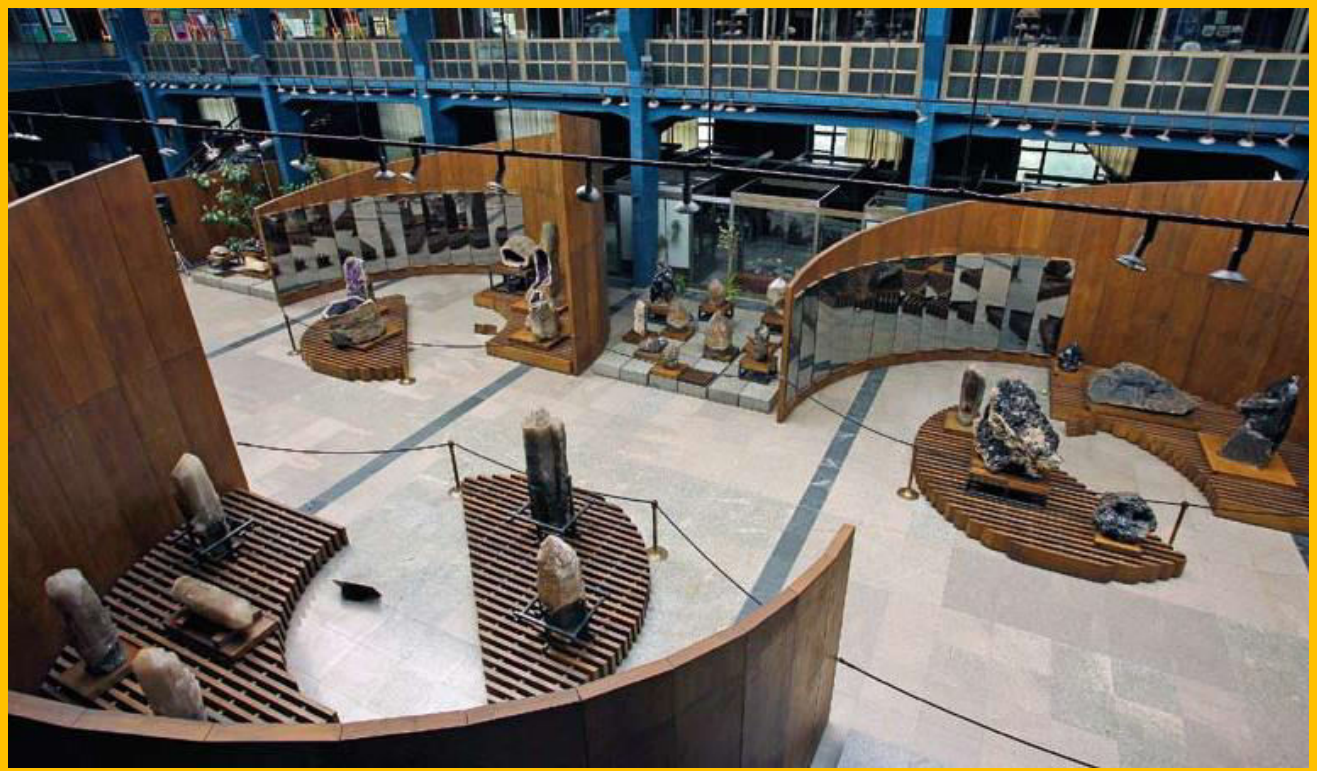
Visa. Participants from certain countries must have a Bulgarian visa from a Bulgarian embassy or consulate. In this case one must send his names, birth date and international passport data to the hosting the conference institution and a standard invitation letter can be received.

E-mail: earth.and.man@gmail.com; office@earthandman.org

Conference venue

The MM9 conference will take place at the Earth and Man National Museum in Sofia, Bulgaria.
Address: Sofia 1421; Blvd. Cherni Vrah 4;
E-mail: earth.and.man@gmail.com; office@earthandman.org;
http://www.earthandman.org/?page_id=951&lang=bg

The registration desk at the Earth and Man National Museum will be open during the following hours on August 24-25, 2021: 9.00-14.00 h.



Contact us

Conference website: <https://www.bgminsoc.bg/>

E-mail (general information queries): MM9@bgminsoc.bg

In case of specific queries please contact corresponding team member below:

- **Ruslan I. Kostov** – Chair, Organizing Committee
(E-mail: rikostov@yahoo.com; phone: +359 889180137)
- **Kamen Bogdanov** – Chair, Program committee
(E-mail: kamen@gea.uni-sofia.bg; phone: +359 2 9308256)
- **Larisa Nesheva** – Registration and finances, partners and sponsors
(E-mail: larisanesheva@abv.bg; phone: +359 2 8661456)
- **Radostina Atanassova** – Abstracts
(E-mail: radi@geology.bas.bg; phone: +359 2 9792207)
- **Rossitsa Vassileva** – Exhibitions; public relations
(E-mail: rosivas10@yahoo.com; phone: +359 2 9792273)