

Invitation to Scientific Congress

„Zoológia 2026“

November 18 – 20, 2026

Faculty of Science

Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice



First Announcement

Scope and Aim of the Congress

The Zoology 2026 congress follows a series of previous events held in Zvolen (2012, 2018), Prešov (2014), Nitra (2016), Smolenice (2022), and most recently in Stará Lesná (2024).

Participants will have the opportunity to present research results from various fields of zoology. The congress is open to everyone interested in zoology—both professionals and amateurs. Researchers, teachers, and students from academic institutions, as well as professionals from public administration and nature conservation in Slovakia and the Czech Republic, are warmly invited. Representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations working with fauna are also welcome.

Participants may present research results in all areas of zoology, including:

- taxonomy
- morphology
- ecology
- ethology
- parasitology
- applied zoology
- animal physiology
- monitoring and conservation
- paleontology
- evolutionary zoology
- molecular ecology

- evolutionary developmental biology (evo-devo)

The main goals of the congress are:

- to provide inspiration from new research directions in zoology
- to enable personal interaction among zoologists and enthusiasts from academic and non-academic sectors

Organizing Committee

Staff of the Institute of Biological and Ecological Sciences, Faculty of Science, UPJŠ in Košice:

Peter Luptáčik – Chair, Monika Balogová, Ľubomír Kováč, Andrej Mock, Natália Raschmanová, Barbora Trofímovič, Marcel Uhrin, Dalibor Uhrovič

PhD students of the Faculty of Science, UPJŠ:

Michal Hurka, Tamara Šašková, Anastasiia Skakun

Members of the Presidium of the Slovak Zoological Society:

Vladimír Kubovčík, President

Ivan Baláž, 1st Vice President

Peter Manko, 2nd Vice President

Peter Maršalek, Secretary

Slavomír Stašiov, Treasurer

Jozef Oboňa, member of the presidency SZS

Alexander Csanády, member of the review committee SZS

Jakub Fedorčák, member of the review committee
SZS

Scientific Committee

prof. RNDr. Peter Bitušík, CSc. – Matej Bel
University in Banská Bystrica
doc. Mgr. Martin Hromada, PhD. – University of
Prešov, in Prešov
prof. RNDr. Ľubomír Kováč, CSc. – UPJŠ in Košice
doc. RNDr. Andrej Mock, PhD. – UPJŠ in Košice
prof. RNDr. Marcel Uhrin, PhD. – UPJŠ in Košice

Organizers and Co-organizers

Main organizers



Faculty of Science
Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice

and

Slovak Zoological Society (Slovak Academy of
Sciences)

Co-organizers



Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Sciences
Technical University in Zvolen



UNIVERZITA
KONŠTANTÍNA FAKULTA
FILOZOFA PRÍRODNÝCH VIED
VNITRE A INFORMATIKY

Faculty of Natural Sciences and Informatics
Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra



Faculty of Humanities and Natural Sciences
University of Prešov



Raptor Protection of Slovakia



National Forestry Center, Institute for Forest
Management, Spišská Nová Ves

Venue – Faculty of Science, UPJŠ in Košice

In 2026, the congress will be held at the Faculty of Science of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, located at Šrobárova Street No. 2. The venue is situated within a historical campus in the centre of Košice. It comprises a complex of buildings enclosed by Šrobárova, Kuzmányho, Dr. Kostlivého, and Moyzesova streets.

The location of the conference room (Building RB) offers the advantage of close proximity to the historical centre of Košice. The landmarks of the pedestrian zone in the city centre include St Elisabeth's Cathedral and the historical building of the National Theatre Košice.

The venue is accessible from the train and bus stations, as well as from other parts of the city, via public transport or on foot (see the map of the Košice city centre at the end of this announcement). A walk from the train and bus stations to the venue takes approximately 20 minutes. When travelling from the railway or bus station to the conference venue by public transport, we recommend taking tram No. 2 (alight at the "Krajský súd" stop) or bus No. 17 (alight at the "Hlavná pošta" stop).



The building of the rectorate of the Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice on Šrobárová Street.



Entrance to the RB building, the venue of the conference. (NB: RB is the name of the building within the university's rectorate complex on Šrobárová Street)

Presentation of contributions

- The official languages of the congress will be **Slovak, Czech, and English**. Contributions may be presented in the form of either oral presentations or posters. In the event of a high volume of submitted presentations, the scientific committee of the congress reserves the right to select the most relevant and engaging contributions in order to compile a thematically diverse and appealing programme. Authors of other submitted presentations will be requested by the committee to present their work as posters. Authors will be informed by the scientific committee regarding any such **change from an oral presentation to a poster** no later than **September 30, 2026**.
- Oral presentations will be divided into several thematic sessions. Should there be a high number of registered presentations, the programme will run in parallel sessions.
- The **duration of each presentation** is strictly limited to **15 minutes** (a 10-minute presentation followed by 5 minutes of discussion). Presenters

are kindly requested to adhere to the maximum time allocated for their talk. Timing will be rigorously monitored, and no extensions will be permitted.

- A **computer, projector, and laser pointer** will be available. If you have any other special requests, please indicate them in your registration form.
- **Posters** may be displayed throughout the duration of the conference. They will be presented primarily on Thursday, **November 19, 2026, in the afternoon**, during the poster session. The exact time will be announced once the final conference program has been finalized. The maximum **size of posters** must not exceed **90×120 cm** (width x height).

Publication of Abstracts

A printed proceedings volume containing abstracts of the submitted presentations and posters will be published by the date of the conference. The abstracts will be listed alphabetically in the proceedings by the first author's last name. After the conference, an electronic version of the proceedings in PDF format will also be made publicly available on the SZS website.

Student Contest

Once again, the Scientific Committee is announcing a competition for the best student contribution presented as a lecture or poster. Students may submit to the competition a paper of which they are the sole or first author. Papers will be evaluated separately in three categories:

- Bc. – undergraduate students
- Mgr. / Ing. – graduate students
- PhD. – doctoral students

If you are interested in entering the student competition, please indicate this on the registration form along with the category that corresponds to your level of study. The winners will be selected by the conference's scientific committee. The results of the competition will be announced and prizes awarded on Friday, November 20, at the conclusion of the conference. More detailed information about the student competition will be provided in the second announcement.

Banquet

Just as at previous conferences, participants will once again have the opportunity to meet and chat in the informal atmosphere of a social evening - a banquet. The banquet will be organized as a reception, with hot and cold dishes served buffet-style. The banquet will take place on November 19, 2026, in the

UPJŠ dining hall in Košice, in the Sokrates Pavilion at 9 Moyzesova Street. **For members of the SZS, the banquet admission fee will be covered by the Slovak Zoological Society.** The banquet admission fee for other congress participants is included in the conference registration fee.

Internet connection



Wi-Fi internet access will be available to conference participants throughout the venue.

Meals

Conference participants can use the option of purchasing lunches in the **university cafeteria on Moyzesova Street**, which is close to the conference venue. The price of lunch is **7.0 – 9.0 EUR per portion**. Each participant will pay for lunch individually in the cafeteria. **Payment is only possible in cash.** When eating lunch, you should expect a certain waiting time for the food to be served. The conference will take place during the semester, when students and employees usually eat, and due to the limited capacity of the cafeteria, we will not be able to use the time specifically reserved for conference participants. If you are interested in purchasing food in the cafeteria, please indicate this in the form when registering for the congress so that we can inform the cafeteria about the need to increase the order of ingredients.

In addition to eating in a nearby cafeteria, there is the option of using **restaurants in the city center**, which is about a 5-minute walk from the conference venue.

Accommodation

Congress participants are responsible for arranging their own accommodations. There is a wide range of accommodation options in Košice, at various price points. Below are a few suggestions that may help participants find suitable accommodations:

Campus+ by TUKE
(campusplus.tuke.sk/ubytovanie?lang=sk)

Spojený školský internát
(internatkosice.sk/turisticka-ubytovna/werferova)

TeleDom – Hotel* & Conference center**
(www.hotelteledom.sk)

Penzión Sport
(www.penzionsport.sk/home)

Fees and Their Payment

The basic conference fee covers the costs of:

- publication of the abstract book
- social evening – banquet
- conference T-shirt (please indicate your size on the registration form)
- organizational costs and refreshments during breaks
- information and promotional materials

This year's conference fee for SZS members is reduced by the cost of admission to the social evening—the banquet—which will be covered by the Society.

The congress fee is as follows:

- Members of the Slovak Zoological Society: **30 EUR** (any SZS member who has paid the 2026 membership fee and has no outstanding membership fees from previous years is eligible for this rate)
- Retired SZS members: **20 EUR** (this rate is available to any retired SZS member who has paid the 2026 membership fee and has no outstanding membership fees from previous years)
- Honorary members of the SZS: **0 EUR**
- Students: **50 EUR**
- Other participants: **100 EUR**

Please pay the fees to the Slovak Zoological Society's account at FioBanka by **September 14, 2026!**

Account number: **2201376337/8330**
IBAN: **SK73 8330 0000 0022 0137 6337**
BIC: **FIOZSKBAXXX**

Bank address: **Fio banka, a.s., pobočka zahraničnej banky, Nám. SNP 21, 811 01 Bratislava**

When paying fees, always include your **first and last name** and **ZOO2026** in the payment description!

Once fees have been paid, they may be canceled until **September 14, 2026**. Any costs associated with the cancellation are the responsibility of the person canceling. After this date, fees paid will not be refunded if you do not attend the conference!

Registration

Registration for the Zoology 2026 Congress will be possible via an **electronic form on the website of the Slovak Zoological Society** (the address is given at the end of the circular). Work is currently underway to prepare the form, reconstruct and update the website. We will inform you immediately about the renewal or launch of a new version of the website and the electronic registration form. **Registration is scheduled to start on July 15, 2026.**

Important Dates!

Submission of registration: by **September 14, 2026**
Submission of abstract: by **September 14, 2026**
Payment of all fees: by **September 14, 2026**
Publication of the 2nd announcement with the final conference program: by **November 1, 2026**
Zoológia 2026 Congress dates: November 18–20, 2026, Faculty of Natural Sciences, UPJŠ in Košice, Šrobárova 2

Joining the SZS

Throughout the conference, those interested will have the opportunity to become members of the Slovak Zoological Society at the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

On behalf of the organizing committee, they will be happy to provide further information

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Optoteam has many years of experience in the fields of human and industrial microscopy, histology, cytology, and forensic science. The company offers free consultation on selecting specific types of equipment, their configuration, methodologies, and their use. It guarantees warranty and post-warranty service for the supplied instruments, as well as regular inspections with the issuance of validation reports.



Centre of Administration and Operations
Academia Publishing House
Vodičkova 40, 110 00 Prague, Czech Republic
www.academia.cz

Academia Publishing is a prestigious academic publisher whose catalog features books on a wide variety of topics in zoology by renowned Czech and international authors. The publisher is donating books to a student competition for the best presentation or poster.



Vesmír, s. r. o.
Na Florenci 3, 110 00 Prague 1, Czech Republic
www.vesmir.cz, redakce@vesmir.cz

Vesmír is a journal for the academic community that, since 1871, has been popularizing and communicating the latest findings from a wide variety of fields (not limited to) the natural sciences (anthropology, archaeology, bibliometrics, biology, chemistry, ecology, economics, philosophy, physics, geography, geology, history, history of science, immunology, computer science, cognitive science, astronautics, criminology, culture, mathematics, medicine, paleontology, agriculture, psychology and psychiatry, sociology, engineering, and fine arts). The editorial board of the journal “Vesmír” will award three one-year subscriptions to the journal for 2027 as prizes in the student competition for the best presentation and poster.



The oldest Czech popular science magazine dedicated to popularizing biology. The first issue was published in January 1853 under the title “Živa, časopis přírodnický.” The editors were J. E. Purkyně and J. Krejčí. Today, it is published bimonthly by Academia Publishing with the support of the Czech Academy of Sciences. The editorial board of “Živa” will award three one-year subscriptions to the magazine for 2027 as prizes in a student competition for the best presentation and poster.



OTONYCTERIS s.r.o. was established in 2014 as a logical evolution of the business operated by its managing director, RNDr. Peter Bačkor, PhD. The company operates in the field of practical nature and landscape conservation, and its main activity is providing ecological and environmental construction and technical supervision during the implementation of investment projects. The company also offers comprehensive ecological engineering services for planned projects and activities as part of the EIA process, zoning and building permit procedures, and the design of activities such as inventory surveys and research on biota (flora, biotopes, fauna— invertebrates/vertebrates), and environmental monitoring in the context of nature and landscape conservation. The company receives an annual AA credit rating—indicating high credibility—from Dun & Bradstreet and holds multiple certifications and professional qualifications. The company rewards the best student work with a financial bonus.



The largest retailer of hiking, outdoor, and camping gear in the Czech Republic. The company was founded in 2012 with the goal and mission of providing customers with the best possible service and convenience when selecting and purchasing outdoor gear. In addition to its online store, the company operates 19 brick-and-mortar stores in major cities across the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary. In Slovakia, it is the second-best sports e-shop. The company rewards the best student projects with a cash prize.

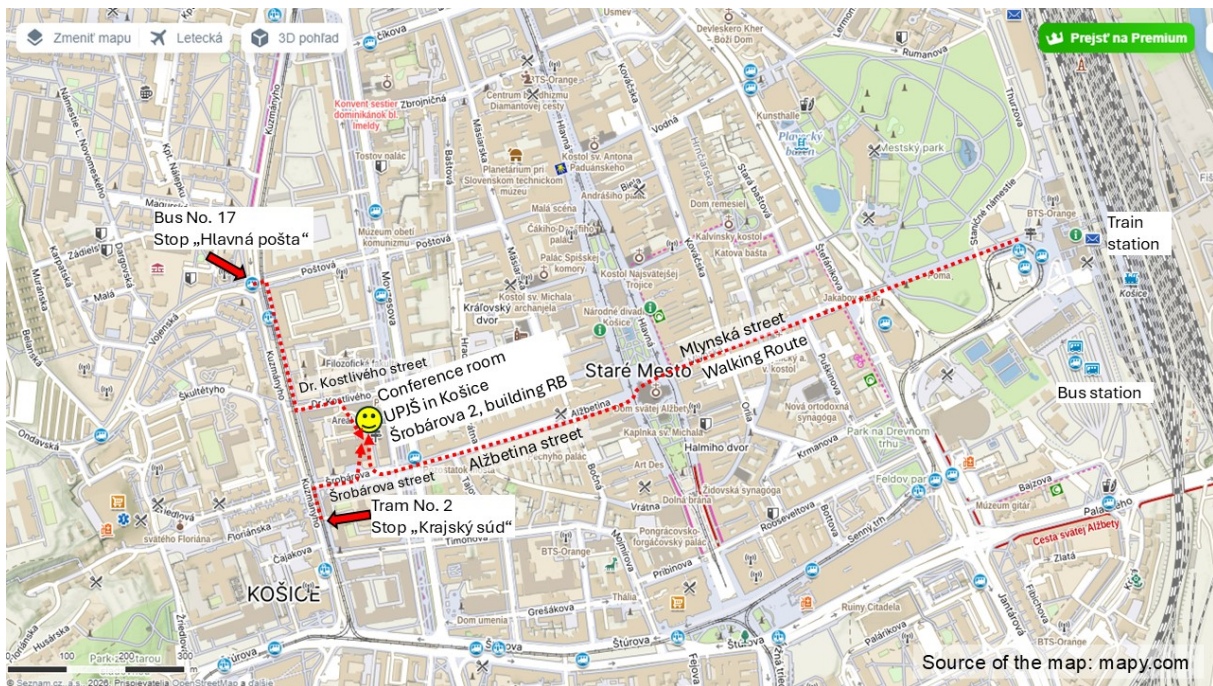


The conference received financial support from the Slovak Academy of Sciences through the SAS Commission for Cooperation with Scientific Societies.

We look forward to seeing you in Košice!

<https://szs.sav.sk>

<https://www.upjs.sk/prirodovedecka-fakulta/>



A map of downtown Košice showing public transportation stops and the location of the conference room.