

Mendel University in Brno



7th Moravian Conference on Rural Research
EURORURAL '20

SMART COUNTRYSIDE FOR 21ST CENTURY

August 31 – September 4, 2020

1st Circular
Winter 2019/2020



**Brno, Czech Republic
Mendel University in Brno**

Dear colleagues,

Rural areas were traditionally connected with agriculture. To compare with urban, rural areas were considered to be backward, retarded, not worthy of an intensive research. But the situation has changed during the last decennials. Although cities are still centres of development within the globalization process, many people in Europe abandon them as a result of the trends of suburbanization and counter-urbanization. We intend to pay our attention on transformation processes of the European countryside where focusing on more processes occurring there as: transformation from productive to non-productive function, from central planned to the market oriented countryside, from the mono-functional to the multifunctional one, from the national to European and globalized place. The urbanization process shows more faces in European countryside. Such a transformation generates many impacts on natural, economic and social processes occurring in present European countryside.

Cities make their efforts to be smart. Has the European countryside also any potential to be smart? Does smart countryside mean the same as a smart city? The Bled conference between European Commission and European Parliament from August 2018, which was dedicated to smart villages, has opened a set of questions and challenges in this sense.

We have the honour of inviting you to the EURORURAL '20 conference on SMART COUNTRYSIDE FOR 21ST CENTURY. It is the 7th of Moravian rural conferences organised by the Department of Applied and Landscape Ecology, Faculty of AgriSciences, Mendel University in Brno. The aims of the conference are as follows: to map European rural research and particular interests of investigators, to gain a space for presentation of contemporary knowledge about rural research, to continue in the tradition of international conferences dedicated to rural problems, to support intra-personal contacts among experts of different disciplines dealing with rural problems, to present South Moravian rural landscape. The conference is aimed at relatively complex view of rural problems from different viewpoints (ecology, geography, demography, sociology, economy, territorial planning), less at a research of specific problems in detail.



Brno: Špilberk castle



Brno: St. Peter and Paul Cathedral

The conference is open for all scientists, including Ph.D. students, dealing with rural matters from universities, research institutions or other public or private bodies from European countries and around the World.

CONFERENCE TOPICS

The content of the Conference will be directed mainly (not exclusively) to following topics:

- Teleworking and a question whether it is possible to substitute face-to-face contacts by on-line activities and thus to operate a high qualified work from rural homes

- Coverage of the rural space with a speed internet, cell phone signal and other communication media and a utilization of these media in the rural life and entrepreneurship
- Intelligent systems of technical infrastructure (transport, energy supply, water management etc.)
- Using smart systems for the development of rural forms of tourism
- On-line purchase and on-line services in the rural space - an alternative way of the coverage of the population demands
- Any other smart system enabling to connect rural way of life with urban level of services and jobs

CALL FOR PAPERS

The presentations must be in English, preferably power-point based. The deadline for submitting of long abstracts of key performances, papers and posters is **June 15, 2020**. The length of the abstract should not exceed 2 pages (4,000 characters, including spaces). Text should be sent by electronic mail in MS Word. The authors are responsible for the content and language. The Collection of the Abstracts in printed form will be available at the registration.

Besides of oral presentations a poster session will be opened, too. Especially young participants e.g. PhD. students are kindly invited to present their findings by posters. The abstracts of posters will be included into the Collection of Abstracts as well.

PUBLICATION STRATEGY

In order to offer you the publication of your presentation in an international journal, your full papers will be submitted to European Countryside - if you wish it - for a limited price of EUR 95 (payable after the acceptance of the paper). It is also possible to pay for the publication within the conference fee (in such a case for EUR 75 per a paper). European Countryside is an international on-line journal [<http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/euco>] with completely free access for its readers. The journal is covered by many databases, including ESCI Clarivate Analytics and Elsevier SCOPUS. This fact creates a relatively high probability of quotations of the articles. Your papers can be delivered any time between payments of your conference fee and August 2022. The papers must follow the instructions for authors of European Countryside [<http://www.european-countryside.eu/submit.html>]. They will pass through standard double-blinded per-review procedure which is the pre-condition of their publication.



Brno, in front of the Main railway station



Brno, Tugendhat Villa – a part of UNESCO world heritage

VENUE

Brno - the metropolis of historical Moravia and the second largest city in Czechia has a population of about 400,000 inhabitants. Its history is more than 800 years old. The city has always been an important trade, administrative, transport and cultural centre. It was one of the first industrial points of the former Austrian-Hungarian Monarchy. At the present time, the educational function represented by almost 70,000 university students is the most important in the city. This is also supported by 13 institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences and by the Czech Technological Park. Social infrastructure includes 6 public and state universities, 15 colleges, 12 hospitals, 14 theatres, 38 galleries, 16 museums, 60 churches, 43 public libraries and a Zoo. The commercial tradition is represented by Brno Trade Fairs (23 different types of events per year). Brno is known as a venue of various scientific, cultural and sports events. One of the Motorcycle World Championship races takes place at the Brno Racing Track every August. Brno has an excellent road, train and bus connections and the international airport Tuřany with regular connections to London (Stansted), Berlin and Bergamo. City transport operates 12 tramway lines, 13 trolleybus lines, 33 bus lines and 1 ship line. The architecture from the first half of the last century represented by famous Tugendhat Villa (a part of the UNESCO World Heritage) is worthy of seeing. The physical structure of the city is considered to be very user friendly. There are also some places of interest in the surroundings of the city: the Austerlitz battlefield, the viniferous regions of the Southern Moravia, Moravian Karst etc. The city of Brno is able to ensure suitable accommodation, transport, cultural and other facilities on European level for participants of international events.



Brno, Liberty square



Brno, Trade Fair Grounds

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Monday, August 31: Registration (since 10:00); Opening Ceremony (15:00), following by the walking excursion in Brno (17:00)

Tuesday, September 1: session 1, a half-day excursion to the surroundings of the Brno water reservoir

Wednesday, September 2: sessions 2 and 3; closing ceremony (16:00); dinner event (18:00)

Thursday, September 3: whole-day regional excursion to rural areas of Bohemian-Moravian Highland (9:00-22:00)

Friday, September 4: individual negotiations,

SOCIAL EVENTS

Following social events are offered:

1. Visit of Arboretum of the Mendel University (within the University campus).
2. A walking tour in the city centre to St. Peter and Paul cathedral and to the Špilberk castle

3. A half-day excursion in Brno surroundings will offer the recreation area of the Brno water reservoir, boat ride to the Veveří castle, Brno Motor Racing Track
4. A dinner event with a live music.
5. The coach excursion offers rural landscapes of the Bohemian-Moravian Highland on the route Brno – Kuřim – Tišnov – Porta Coeli Convent – Pernštejn castle - Dolní Rožínka and uranium mining – Žďár nad Sázavou (the church of St. John of Nepomuk – a part of the UNESCO World Heritage) - western town Šiklův Zvole with a dinner.

REGISTRATION FEE, ACCOMMODATION, MEALS, TRANSPORT

Preliminary registration fee is CZK 5,450 (1 EUR = 25,27 CZK in July 2019). Reduced fee for those, who pay before May 31, 2020, for PhD students (one-day participation) and for accompanying persons will be offered. Additional costs for the publication of full papers in the European Countryside journal, excursions and social events will be invoiced. The Organizing Committee cannot make any exceptions of the conference fee. Individual expenses will be detailed on the registration form.

Participants are fully in charge of their hotel reservations. We suggest you following options with a special price for the EURORURAL participants: Holiday Inn***** for those who will come by car, GRAND hotel Brno***** (it is located near the city centre where all means of the public transport meet), hotel PASSAGE***** (in the vicinity of the University) and a student hostel (AKADEMIE) of our University.

We do not provide any transport for the participants of the conference. Possible connections by public transport can be found on <https://idos.idnes.cz/en/idsjmk/spojeni/?format=html> Closest international airports except of Brno Tuřany are Vienna-Schwechat or Prague, Václav Havel airport. Both of them have a direct bus connection with Brno.

The 2nd Circular with detailed information will be distributed during April 2020, when also the registration form will be enclosed. In case you are interested to obtain the second Circular and the information about opening the registration on web, you can send us your e-mail address to eurorural20@seznam.cz

Official language of the conference is English



The main building of the Mendel University in Brno



The dining room in the campus

MAILING ADDRESS:

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