

First Circular and Call for Abstracts

17th International Congress of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology

Organised by

the Hungarian Society for Microbiology,
the Faculty of Science, Eötvös Loránd University,
the Hungarian Society for Immunology,
and the Foundation of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology



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July 8-10, 2015

Eötvös Loránd University Convention Centre
Budapest, Hungary

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Presidium of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology and the Council of the Eötvös Loránd University Faculty of Science we invite you to attend the 17th International Congress of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology (July 8–10, 2015) organized by the Hungarian Society for Microbiology, the Faculty of Science, Eötvös Loránd University, the Hungarian Society for Immunology, and the Foundation of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology at the Eötvös Loránd University, Faculty of Science.

The Hungarian Society for Microbiology organizes its every second Annual Meetings as international scientific events. Two years ago the 4th Central European Forum for Microbiology (CEFORM; co-organized with the Croatian Microbiological Society) attracted participants from most of the Central-European countries. We hope that our 17th International Congress will appeal to even more Colleagues than the previous ones and will be a superb meeting in the beautiful city of Budapest.

The official language of the Congress is English. The program will cover all major branches of microbiology and will include invited plenary and semi plenary lectures (20+10 min), lectures (10+5 min), and poster sessions. We are looking forward to see you at the Congress (venue: Eötvös Loránd University Convention Centre, Budapest XI., Pázmány Péter sétány 1.) and we hope that you will find it a stimulating scientific event and happy personal experience.

Dr. Károly Márialigeti

President,

Hungarian Society for Microbiology

Local Organizing Committee

Andrea K. Borsodi, Katalin Burián, Judith Deák, Levente Karaffa, Levente Kiss, József Kónya, Gábor Kovács, Gábor M. Kovács, Anna Maráz, Miklós Rusvai, István Tóth, and Mária Takács Congress Secretary
(e-mail: fotitkar@mmt.org.hu)

Preliminary Scientific Program

This year is the centenary of the publication of Frederick William Tworts article *on the nature of Ultra-Microscopic Viruses*, the description of *acute infectious disease of micrococci*. Two years latter, this bacteriolytic agent was named by Felix D'Hérelle as bacteriophage. The centenary makes us an opportunity to weave the scientific content of the first plenary day of the conference around the extrachromosomal genetic elements in microorganisms.

Agricultural Microbiology

- | Soil – plant – animal – microbe interactions in crop production (including GMO-s)
- | Forestry microbiology
- | Bio-indication and bio-sensorics
- | Biotization, rhizosphere and phyllosphere technology
- | Simulation modelling

Bacteriology

- | Molecular biology and physiology of bacteria
- | Human and veterinary pathogens and pathogenesis
- | Traditional and molecular diagnostic methods, vaccination
- | Genetic background and mechanisms of antimicrobial resistance
- | Bacteriophages

Clinical Microbiology

- | Case reports
- | Possibilities and restrictions in gene therapy
- | Diagnostic methods
- | STD-STI (syphilis, HIV/AIDS, genital herpes, HPV, *Chlamydia* infections)
- | Microbial interactions
- | Beta-lactamase resistance in the clinical praxis

Environmental Microbiology

- ▮ Microbial taxonomy in the genomic era
- ▮ Ecology, function and interactions of microbial communities
- ▮ Biodiversity and adaptation of extremophiles
- ▮ Metagenomics in the environmental microbiology
- ▮ Biogeochemical cycles and climate change
- ▮ Microbial ecology of artificial and polluted environments

Food Microbiology

- ▮ Improvement of microbiological safety of foods,
- ▮ Food safety and agricultural raw materials, microbiological risk assessment
- ▮ Rapid microbiological methods
- ▮ Pro- and prebiotics, biopreservation
- ▮ Microbial interactions
- ▮ Stress adaptation of food microbes, *new* spore formers in foods

Immunology and Parasitology

- ▮ Infection and immunity
- ▮ Immunogenetics, immunodiagnostics
- ▮ Control of infectious diseases: vaccination
- ▮ Host-parasite interactions, new and emerging parasitic diseases
- ▮ Helminthology, and protozoal diseases, taxonomic questions of parasites

Industrial Microbiology

- ▮ Microbial fermentations and bioconversions
- ▮ Microbial processes for food, beverages, aroma and feed
- ▮ Directed evolution of enzymes for applied biocatalysis, biochemical engineering; molecular physiology of metabolite overproduction
- ▮ Bioreactor design, modelling, non-microbial fermentations
- ▮ Fermentation analytics, control and regulation

Mycology

- ▮ Evolution and systematics of fungi
- ▮ Physiology, genetics and molecular biology of fungi
- ▮ Fungi as pathogens, diagnostic methods in mycology, epidemiology
- ▮ The organization of the fungal genome, taxonomy of yeasts and fungi
- ▮ Applied mycology

Virology

- | All aspects of human, animal and plant viruses
- | Evolution of viruses, molecular virology, tumour-inducing viruses
- | Pathogenesis of virus diseases, virus-host interaction
- | Diagnostics of viral diseases
- | Novel endogenic and exogenic retroviruses in the pathogenesis of human diseases, aging and viruses
- | Vaccination and therapy, bioterrorism

Call for Papers and Abstract Submission

Language

The official language of the Congress is English.

Call for Papers

Papers related to any topic covered by the sessions of the congress will be considered. Please use the homepage of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology (www.mmt.org.hu) for registration and abstract submission. Authors should express their preference for oral or poster presentation. There are limited possibilities for oral presentations, therefore some abstracts submitted as an oral presentation may be converted to posters. However, some oral presentations will be selected for the semi plenary sessions. All authors concerned will be notified in due time. (If you are unwilling to make a poster presentation please indicate it on the registration page!) Speakers at lectures will have 15 minutes, which includes questions and discussion. The time limit will be strictly kept, whenever reasonable.

Standard audio-visual equipment will be provided. Please indicate your special needs (e.g. two video-projectors) in the registration page.

Posters will be displayed for three full days. Adhesive, etc. for poster affixation will be provided. During the Poster Session, authors of posters are requested to be present at their posters at the time specified in the program. This will give all congress delegates the opportunity for questions and discussion. Poster displays should be self-explanatory even in the absence of authors. Posters should not exceed a size of 85 cm (width) x 120 cm (height) (standing A0 format).

The Abstract Book of the 17th International Congress of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology will be published as a supplement issue of *Acta Microbiologica et Immunologica Hungarica*. The body of abstracts should not exceed 3500 characters. Please follow the instructions on the homepage (www.mmt.org.hu)!

Poster competition

Participants under 35 years with poster presentation will be eligible for prizes. To compete in the awards a letter confirming the age must be sent to the Congress Secretariat (e-mail: fotitkar@mmt.org.hu) after submitting the abstract in the online registration system!

Preliminary Schedule

July 7, 2015
(Tuesday)

July 8, 2015
(Wednesday)

July 9, 2015
(Thursday)

July 10, 2015
(Friday)

Afternoon, 4-7 p.m.	Arrival and registration
Morning, from 8 a.m. From 10.30 a.m.	Arrival and registration Opening ceremony, Manninger Memorial Session Inaugural Lectures of Honorary Members of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology
Afternoon	Plenary Session Extrachromosomal genetic elements in microorganisms
Morning	Semi plenary scientific sessions
Afternoon	Scientific sessions and poster presentations
Evening	Congress banquet
Morning	Semi plenary scientific sessions and poster presentations
Afternoon	Scientific sessions and poster presentations
Late afternoon	Closing ceremony, Best Poster Award, Farewell drink

Participation and Fees

Congress Participants

Early registration fee	before May 5, 2015	390.- EUR
Registration fee	after May 5, 2015	520.- EUR

The registration fee includes participation at the scientific program, commercial exhibition and banquet (9 July), a congress bag, a supplementary issue of *Acta Microbiologica et Immunologica Hungarica*, coffee/refreshment tickets, farewell drink.

Accompanying Persons

Each participant of the congress can register accompanying person(s) for the congress banquet and/or lunches in the online registration system under the *Programs* menu. We also offer various cultural and tourist programs in Budapest and half-day and full-day excursions for participants and accompanying persons during the conference.

The Country, the City, the Congress Venue and Accommodation

Hungary (<http://gotohungary.com/>)

The Republic of Hungary is situated in Central Europe. The country covers an area of less than 100,000 km² and it has roughly 10 million inhabitants, who speak a unique language that is not used anywhere else in the world. Hungary has become a full member of the European Union from 1st May 2004.

In the year of 2000, the nation celebrated the thousandth anniversary of the foundation of the Hungarian State. Since the time of the state founder King Saint Stephen, Hungary had to go through several repeated trials and tribulations besides its golden eras, but it could stay on its feet despite its stormy history. Today, Hungary is a popular destination of visitors who wish to encounter this beautiful country with its natural, historical, cultural and gastronomic attractions.

Budapest (<http://www.budapest-tourist.info/>)

The capital of Hungary, known by many as the *Pearl of the Danube*, is undoubtedly one of the most beautifully located cities in the world. The river Danube runs through the middle of the metropolis of two million, dividing hilly Buda with its narrow cobbled streets and mixture of medieval and neo-classical buildings from the Pest plain with its wide boulevards. Because of the picturesque panorama offered by the river and its bridges, the Parliament, the imposing Royal Castle, Fishermen's Bastion and the impressive Danube Embankment, UNESCO placed this site on the World Heritage list.

The guests will find side by side the remains of fortresses and buildings from Roman times, still operating Turkish baths, Gothic and Baroque buildings, and the incredible rich Art Nouveau architectural heritage. There

is no other capital city in the world with close on 100 thermal springs and 12 medicinal baths within its boundaries, where 90 million L of thermal water rise to the surface each day.

It is a city where the pleasing harmony of different architectural styles and superb structures, gastronomy and culture are combined with legendary hospitality blend into an unforgettable experience for visitors. During your visit, you will have a chance to get acquainted with the sights of Budapest, a city inhabited by descendants of the Magyar tribes 1100 years ago and many invaders, settlers and refugees who arrived later. The Roman period, the Turkish occupation and the *good old* Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, such as the remnants of the socialist times has left unique, still visible marks on the capital. We hope that you will enjoy the wonderful panorama and taste the delicious foods and excellent wines of the country while in Budapest. Welcome!

Congress Venue

The Congress and the connected Exhibition will be held at the Eötvös Loránd University Convention Centre (Budapest XI., Pázmány Péter sétány 1.). The venue is equipped with a complete range of conference facilities and there is ample comfortable accommodation nearby. The Congress site can be reached easily by public transport (e.g. trams No. 4 or 6 and/or buses No. 212, 153 or 154)) and it is fully accessible for disabled people. It is situated in a pleasant and scenic park on the Danube embankment, enriched by the pleasant atmosphere on the Buda side of the river.

The Eötvös Loránd University (<http://www.elte.hu/en>) is three and a half century old, and the biggest University of Hungary. The broad range and high quality of its education, along with its research capacity and intellectual resources, place it among the leading academic institutions of the country. The Faculty of Science is made up of departments and laboratories grouped into five institutes. These cover disciplines in biology, chemistry, earth sciences and geography, mathematics, and physics. There are over 6,000 full-time graduate and about 500 PhD students as well as 600 academic staff members.

Accommodation

Rooms have been reserved for the participants in neighbouring hotels (Hotel Novotel Budapest Centrum, Leonardo Hotel Budapest, Atlas City Hotel, Hotel Mercure Budapest Duna, and Hotel Thomas). You can read the hotel descriptions on the conference website and can indicate your preferences in the online registration system. The prices are to be understood per night per room, including breakfast and taxes. Cost of hotel is to be paid in advance! At the hotels you have to pay the extras only. Please tick the box if you do want to share your room, and please indicate the name of your roommate!

Meals

Lunch (two courses; 15.- EUR) can be ordered at registration. Coffee breaks and lunch will be served at the Reception Hall of the Eötvös Loránd University Convention Centre.

The banquet will take place on Thursday (9 July).

Deadlines and Payment Information

Deadline for abstract submission: 5th May 2015

Deadlines for registration and payment:

Early registration	before 5 th May 2015
Regular registration	after 5 th May 2015

Cancellation charge

80% refund	before 20 th May 2015
No refund	after 20 th May 2015

Please register at the homepage of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology (www.mmt.org.hu). Please follow the instructions on the homepage when submitting your registration/accommodation preferences.

Payments (registration fee, accommodation fee, optional meals, etc.) should be sent to the Organizing Agency (Weco Travel Ltd. Incoming & Congress Department, Rumbach S. u. 19, Budapest, H-1075 Hungary; phone: +36-1-266-7032; fax: +36-1-266-7033; mmt@wecotravel.hu) by means of:

- Bank transfer to Hungarian Foreign Trade Bank (Váci utca 38., Budapest, H-1056 Hungary) account No. 10300002-50320164-26304880 (IBAN code: HU 30-10300002-50320164-26304880; SWIFT code: MKKB-HU-HB) with reference: MMT 2015.

Please do not forget to indicate the participants name on the remittance.

- Credit card mail order (you can download the Credit Card mail order form in the online registration system).

Please kindly note that all bank charges (if any) should be covered by the payee.

Cancellation

Registration cancellations must be made in written form to the Congress Secretariat.

Letter of Invitation

If you require a letter of invitation, please notify the Organizing Agency. Invitation is only to assist participants to obtain travel grants, visa, etc. and does not imply any commitment of the Congress Administration to provide financial support.

Exhibitions/Sponsors

A commercial exhibition related to microbial diagnostics, research and biotechnology for laboratory suppliers, publishers, and consultants will be organized during the meeting. A sponsorship program ensures contributing organizations receive maximum exposure during the meeting. For further information, please register at the homepage of the Hungarian Society for Microbiology (www.mmt.org.hu).

General Information

Most European and North American international airlines serve Budapest by regular flights. Railway connections are excellent with all European countries. Those who come by car should notice that the Congress Venue is easily accessible from the M1 and M7 motorways.

Public transportation in Budapest is extensive, and reliable. Tickets must be purchased at vending machines (e.g. in stops, Metro stations), Hotels, Tobacco shops, etc. in advance and validated on board. Last buses and trams start from the final stops at 11 p. m., thereafter tram and bus night services operate only.

The climate in July is very pleasant, for some people may be even hot. The average daytime temperature is around 22 C degrees. Daily maximum values will reach 28–34 C. A light coat and some wet weather protection might be useful, especially for those who plan to take part at congress tours.

Currency: Hungarian Forint.

Credit cards: Visa, Eurocard, MasterCard, American Express, is accepted in Hotels and most restaurants and stores. Please ask before ordering! Shopping hours: usually 10.00 to 18.00. Most shops are closed on Sunday's.

Power supply: 230 V, 50 Hz.

Value Added Tax: VAT (in Hungarian ÁFA) is charged (except in duty-free shops), the rate is 27 %.

Tipping: Tips in restaurants and for taxis – depending on the service – are optional but expected. Maximum rate is 10 %. There are some restaurants where a service charge is billed, in this case do not tip.

Notes: