V International Conference on Cartography and GIS

Organized under the auspices of the Rector of UACEG Prod. Dr. Krasimir Petrov

Seminar with EU cooperation on Early Warning and Disaster / Crisis Management

Organized under the auspices of the Czech ambassador to Bulgaria H.Ex. Mr. Pavel Vacek

Organizers


Sponsors

The largest GIS companies ESRI, Intergraph and Bulgarian Technologica, Springer Verlag, Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Agency were our sponsors. The Conference was organized by the support of the Ministry of Education and Science and the Military Geographical Service, Ministry of Defence. Media partners were Geomedia, Geospatial World, Maney Publishing, Coordinates and GeoConnexion.

Participants

The Conference has a growing interest from the participants. This year 170 colleagues from 42 countries from all continents of the world were participated.
International Cartographic Association (ICA) has been widely presented. Prof. Laszlo Zentai from Hungary, ICA Secretary General; Prof. Paulo Menezes from Brazil, ICA Vice President; ICA Commission Chairs Prof. Milan Konecny from the Czech Republic, Prof. Miljenko Lapaine from Croatia, Prof. Jesús Núñez from Hungary, Professor Philippe de Maeyer from Belgium and Prof. Vladimir Tikunov from Russia attended.

Opening ceremony greetings
Greetings to the participants have been sent by the Prime Minister of Bulgaria Prof. Plamen Oresharski, the rector of the University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy, Prof. Krassimir Petrov, the Vice President of Bulgarian Academy of Science Prof. Nikolay Miloshev. Personal greetings addressed Ms. Barbara Ryan, Secretariat Director of the Intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations (GEO), Prof. Milan Konecny, former President of ICA, Prof. László Zentai, Secretary General of ICA, Mr. Valentin Yovev, Executive Director of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Agency, Prof. Ivan Ilchev, Rector of Sofia University and Professor Paulo Menezes, vice President of ICA. Prof. Menezes emphasis on the coming 27th International Cartographic Conference in Rio Di Janeiro, Brazil, 23-28 August 2015.

Children's Folklore group in opening ceremony
During the opening ceremony of the conference, children's folklore group "Dobrotica" from Dobrich city, with art leader Mr. Alexander Alexandrov greeted the participants. They brought in a mood, spirit and culture, and received great applause.

ICA Commission meetings
During the conference three ICA commission meetings were held: Commission on Cartography and Children, Commission on Cartography for Early Warning and Crises Management and Commission on Map Projections. Commissions work was discussed; important decisions for continuing the work of the members have been taken. More commissions’ work can be found in ICA News.
Keynote presentations
The greatest interest was shown in the keynote presentations delivered by:
1. Prof. László Zentai, ICA Secretary General from Hungary on the topic: *From the Early Digital Technologies to Web 2.0 Based Cartography in the Thematic Maps*;
2. Barbara Ryan, Director of GEO from USA on the topic: *Building a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS)*. Her visit was in time, just several days after the decision of the Bulgarian government of Bulgaria becomes a member of GEO (Group on Earth Observation);
3. Michael Gold, representative of ESRI, USA with a topic: *Cartography and Other Key Components of the GIS Platform for a Mobile First World*;
5. Sisi Zlatanova from the Netherlands with a Topic: *3D GIS: the Technology behind the Pretty 3D Picture*.

Publications
The remaining 107 reports were presented in 18 oral sessions and 27 reports in 5 poster sessions. The best 25 reports were published by Springer Verlag in the book "Thematic Cartography for the Society" with editors T. Bandrova, M. Konecny and C. Zlatanova. The book can be purchased here: springer.com/shop. Other reports have been published in a Conference Proceedings, which can be downloaded free here: http://cartography-gis.com/docsbcba/5ICCandGIS_Proceedings.pdf. The conference organizers have an intention to register these Proceedings again in world databases "Web of Science and Scopus."

Exhibitions
The conference was accompanied by exhibitions. All participants and other guests of the hotel complex were enjoyed them. There was a very beautiful exhibition "Discovering Black Sea (II - XIX centuries)", implemented by the Sofia University, Primorsko Municipality,"Primorsko Club"Ltd., International Trade and Cultural Center GEOPAN – Burgas and others and project author Dr. Stefan Peykov. There was great interest to children retrospective exhibition map of the world, part of the national competition "Map of the world Barbara Petchenik." Military geographic service showed the latest published topographic maps of the Bulgarian territories.
**Awards of Merit of the Bulgarian Cartographic Association (BCA)**

By the decision of the Executive Board of BCA Prof. Milan Konecny and Prof. Milenko Lapaine were awarded by special bronze statuettes for their contribution to the creation and development of BCA and cartography in Bulgaria. Sponsors and all the organizations that have been contributed to the organization of the conference were also rewarded with Bulgarian traditional souvenirs.

**Young Scientists Awards**

Young scientist awards won Kremena Boyanova, Bulgaria and Naiara Aginako from Spain. Competition was extremely high, since for the award 28 PhD students and young scientists from different countries of the world fought. Jury members Assoc Lyubka Pashova NIGGG, Bulgaria, Prof. Dariusz Dukaczewski, Poland and Prof. Rufino Perez, Spain had the difficult task to examine the reports of our younger colleagues, and to evaluate their presentations during the oral sessions. Each member of the jury gives 2 ratings for the report and presentation of each of the potential candidate. Only winners gathered maximum points.

**Declaration**

By the suggestion of Professor George Zhelezov from Bulgarian Academy of Science, the Conference adopted a Declaration on the integration of professional qualifications and experience to prepare the project for development of international cartographic standards to support initiatives INSPIRE, OGC and ISO management of spatial information.

**Social events**

Besides the traditional tours to Balchik, Nessebar and Kaliakra cape, two social evenings for participants were organized. During the Welcome reception all participants shared experiences and ideas on the background music of Mozart, Gershwin, jazz and film music performed by symphony Dobrich quartet. Gala dinner was held at National Restaurant, Chukurovo, near the village of Prilep. Extremely rich folklore program enrich the minds of all of Bulgarian traditions and culture.

**Crisis situation at the end of the conference**

At the end of the gala dinner an unexpected natural disaster happened, which forcing all involved in the gala dinner the overnight and almost all day in this place. 19. 06. 2014 was a black day for Varna and Bulgaria. Big floods after a big storm and heavy rains led to the elevation of the level of the Batovska river by 5 meters. The Big wave and unceasing rain didn’t allow us to go back to the hotel. The roads were destroyed. Nearly 100 people without life-saving medicines and necessary belongings for asthmatics, allergy and adult participants were isolated in this area. We had to save the insufficient food available to the restaurant. It was a crisis situation in practice in line with ongoing Seminar at the Conference. After repeated attempts to find a way to resolve the situation and to evacuate participants, Bulgarian army did this that nobody else could do. 2 military helicopters came to the rescue people in this bad situation. We express extreme gratitude for this assistance to participants in the conference: Colonels Gladkov, Danchev and Markov from the Military
Geographic Service and the Minister of Defense Mr. Angel Naydenov. The crews of both helicopters will be awarded by the Bulgarian Cartographic Association with certificates.

Prof. Dr. Temenoujka Bandrova
President, Bulgarian Cartographic Association