



Università di Catania



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Chair on Karst Education  
University of Nova Gorica in cooperation with  
ZRC SAZU Karst Research Institute



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UNIVERSITA' DI CATANIA



CIRS - Hyblean Center  
of Speleo-Hydrogeological  
Research



Città di Custonaci



**Man and Karst 2022**

**in Sicily**

International Scientific Conference  
September 12<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> Custonaci, Italy

### FIRST CIRCULAR

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[www.cirs-ragusa.org](http://www.cirs-ragusa.org)



## PRESENTATION AND AIMS

As part of the *International Year of the Caves and Karst*, organized by the International Union of Speleology (UIS) to celebrate caves and karst internationally and teach the world about their importance, the International Scientific Conference "**Man and Karst**" is organized in Sicily from 12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

The extreme north-western sector of Sicily, where this event will be held, which geographically belongs to the Monti di Capo San Vito in the Province of Trapani, represents an outstanding example for the comprehensive understanding of karst. Here we will explore pure karst landscapes, caves and spectacular and evocative Mountains and their profound relationship with Man.

In this context, the common relationship of Mediterranean *Elimi* peoples with its own peculiar karst environment has been represented for centuries, in the past with a wisely and naturally sustainable use of its resources, nowadays in an increasingly conflictual way, as dramatically devastating of its precious resources, first of all the karst waters and caves threatened by heavy degradation and contamination inclusive from waste waters or microplastic, for a senseless and inconsiderate use of the territory.

For all this, **Man and Karst 2022 in Sicily**, in the same way as the previous past edition, held in Ragusa in 2019, wants to give a contribution to the knowledge, enhancement and safeguard of the karst landscape and caves with its ecosystem and historical-anthropological resources as a whole, as an instrument and optimal function of scientific research, not as often for its own sake or for the sake of a few users, but rather, at the service and for the benefit of the whole community.

## VENUE AND TIME

The event will be held from 12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022 in the fascinating paesagistic location of the Monti di Capo San Vito, in the Custonaci Municipality (Province of Trapani).

## MAIN ORGANIZERS

- \* Municipality of Custonaci
- \* C.I.R.S. - Hyblean Center of Speleo-Hydrogeological Research, Ragusa, Italy
- \* Department of Biological, Geological and Environmental Sciences, University of Catania, Italy
- \* UNESCO Chair on Karst Education, Vipava, Slovenia
- \* ZRC SAZU Karst Research Institute, Postojna, Slovenia
- \* TETIDE APS, Italy

## TOPICS OF THE CONFERENCE

- Karst geomorphology
- Karst hydrogeology and water protection
- Caves and speleogenesis
- Biospeleology and paleontology
- Karst caves and archaeology
- Mines in karst areas
- Caves in volcanic areas
- Protection of karst areas
- Marine caves and protected karst coastal areas

Date	PROGRAMME OUTLINE
<b>Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Field trip in the Natural Reserve of Mt. Cofano (morning)</li><li>* Open Book showroom and stands (morning)</li><li>* Scientific sessions (afternoon)</li><li>* Poster session</li><li>* Welcome party.</li></ul>
<b>Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Scientific sessions (morning)</li><li>* Poster session</li><li>* Field trip to the <i>Karren and Stone forest</i> of Mt. Sparagio ridge.</li></ul>
<b>Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Scientific sessions (morning)</li><li>* Poster session</li><li>* Visit of the <i>Grotta della Clava</i> in the Karst and Speleological Park of Piano Zubbia.</li><li>* Gala reception</li></ul>
<b>Post conference excursions</b>	
<b>Thursday-Friday September 15-16<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Trekking in the Natural Reserve of “Zingaro” with overnight in the ancient rural village of Borgo Cusenza and visit of the <i>Grotta del Sughero</i>.</li></ul>
<b>Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Visit of the Realmonte mine (Province of Agrigento)</li></ul>

## REGISTRATION, FEE AND CONTRIBUTIONS

	Deadline	Student	Non Student
Early Bird	July 31 <sup>th</sup>	50 €	120 €
Late	No Deadline	75 €	150 €
Accompany person	No Deadline		90 €

The fee includes conference materials, coffee breaks, participation at Welcome party and Gala reception, visits and excursions of the days 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of September.

Participants are invited to present their contributions in oral or poster form.

\* Abstract / extended abstract and poster must be communicated with the pre-registration and submitted in English by May 31<sup>th</sup> 2022.

\* Proceedings by July 31<sup>th</sup> 2022

\* The official languages of the event are English and Italian.

### AIRPORTS:

\* **Trapani Birgi** <https://www.airgest.it/?lang=en>

\* **Falcone e Borsellino (Palermo)** <https://www.aeroporto dipalermo.it/en/>

### CONTACTS IN CUSTONACI AND ACCOMODATION:

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Hotels / B&B: <https://custonaciinsicily.it/>

Special rates for Man and Karst 2022!

More detailed information will be provided with the second circular available in late May 2022.

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Location of the event.

