The 16th International Symposium on Legal Aspects of European Forest Sustainable Development will be held in Romania in May 20-22, 2015. For the first time, the symposium will be organized as a cross-border meeting hosted jointly by the Transylvanian University in Brasov (Romania) together with the Forest Research and Management Institute Chisinau (Moldova).

Background


IUFRO 9.06.00 (former 6.13.00), the forest law and environmental legislation working group, aims to promote exchange of information amongst researchers and practitioners active in forest law and environmental legislation all over the world and to permanently review the state of the subject, thereby setting priorities concerning research and practice.

Objectives of the Symposium

One of the group's foremost objectives and challenges is to stimulate and facilitate communications among researchers and practitioners responsible for forest law and environmental legislation in European countries, not only, but in particular those with economies in transition. In order to accomplish this target, this IUFRO International Symposium will be held:

- to create the opportunity for specialists from different countries, to get acquainted, involved and familiar with the new legal situation in European forests;
• to provide a forum to everyone from the European CIT involved in forest law and environmental legislation, intended to exchange experiences in formulation, implementation and administration of their new forest and forest related laws;
• to make possible a comparison between the new EU and CIT legislation in the field mentioned;
• to encourage and support an overall discussion on open questions and impending problems to be identified during this meeting.

Topics of papers

There is a quite traditional milieu of this Working Group interests:
1. Translation of political ideas referring to forest and environmental laws into action since 1990 – realisation, enforcement measures, incentives and others legal provisions.
2. Balance between forestry and nature conservation at public and/or private property level.
3. Collision between regulations in forest laws and environment related legislation.
4. Interventions in and statutory restrictions on property – preconditions, extent.

Under the umbrella of these four topics mentioned, we would like to discuss in 2015 particularly latest items related to forestry and nature protection legislation, which concerns:
1. Public-private partnerships in forestry and the forest sector as a whole
2. Different models of public forest administration and non-state forest administration
3. Trends in the development of the forest sector and forest policy in the present conditions in Europe
4. Forests as an important object of environmental law as a public law, taking into account the property rights in the case of forest resources
5. Legal issues of administration and management of forests in protected areas
6. Negotiating processes on legally binding agreement on forests in Europe

Participants
The symposium will be limited to 50 participants. In order to exchange updated information and enable fruitful discussions, one person representing policy makers (Forest Administration, State Civil Service) and one scientist or stakeholder per each country should be ideal. Representatives from South-Eastern European as well as Central Asian countries are particularly encouraged to participate.

MEETING ARRANGEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

Venue
The symposium will be held in the International Conference Centre of the Transilvania University of Brasov.

Travel schedule, transport (Arrival / Departure)
Participants are requested to arrive on Tuesday, 19 May 2015. The shuttle service to the venue from Otopeni-Bucharest International Airport and Brasov railway station will be offered.
The symposium working sessions will start on Wednesday, 20 May 2015 and will conclude on Friday, 22 May 2015 (field trip).

Accommodation
Accommodation will be reserved at Hotel ARO Palace (www.aro-palace.ro). More information will follow. If you need to get more information, please contact the organisers of the symposium.

Grants
The Organising Committee is seeking possibilities to provide travel grants, to cover (parts of) the travelling expenses and accommodation costs of participants from non-EU Countries with economies in transition (especially SEE Countries). Please contact the organisers for more information!

Language
English will be the working language.

Presentations of papers / posters
A laptop for Power Point presentations and beamer will be available. Abstracts should bear the title to be used in the final paper, and have to include name(s) of authors, address and e-mail contacts. Detailed instructions will be provided later.

**Registration and registration fees**
Participants intending to attend the symposium are invited to fill in the preliminary registration form by 28 February 2015. Definitive registration form and further information will be distributed to those registered via e-mail.

Registration fee is 250 EUR, which includes accommodation (4 nights), meals (Tuesday dinner – Saturday breakfast), symposium papers, provision of symposium facilities, excursion, welcome dinner and farewell party. The fee will be paid cash during the registration in Brasov.

As mentioned above, organisers currently are trying to find a way, how to financially support participants from CIT (especially SEE Countries).

**Deadlines**
Pre-registration form to be submitted by February 28, 2015;
One page abstract of the proposed paper to be submitted by March 15, 2015;
Submit data for those needing visas by February 28, 2015;
Final registration: April 15, 2015;
Full text of papers: April 15, 2015 (at the latest, in Word/Windows format + hard copy – of course, earlier submission via e-mail is appreciated).

**Visa**
Those who need invitations or other confirmation for obtaining a visa for entering into Romania, please submit the following information:

*First name - Last name - Citizenship - Date of birth - Place of birth - Address - Duration of stay – Passport number – Date of Passport issue – Date of Passport expire – The Country/Institution issued the Passport - Address for sending the invitation (if different from the mentioned above).*

For additional information, please contact:

Assoc. Prof. Rastislav Sulek, PhD.
Department of Forest Economics and Management
Faculty of Forestry, Technical University in Zvolen
T. G. Masaryka 24, SK-96053 Zvolen, Slovak Republic
e-mail: rastislav.sulek@tuzvo.sk
Phone: +421-45-5206325
Mobile: +421-905-219-614
Fax: +421-45-5206485

Prof. Dr. Ioan Vasile Abrudan
Transilvania University of Brasov
29, Eroilor Blvd., Brasov-Romania
Email: abrudan@unitbv.ro
Phone: + 40 268 475705
Mobile: +40 723533512
Fax: +40 268 410525