



ProKARSTerra
Shumen '2012 – Bulgaria

SECOND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION "CARST UNDER PROTECTION – GIFT FOR THE FUTURE GENERATIONS"

The contest is included in the program of the International scientific practical conference "**Protected karst areas - monitoring and management**" (16-20 September 2012, Shumen, Bulgaria), which is under the auspices of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. This competition is organized by the National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography – BAS, Foundation Center on Karstology "Vladimir Popov", the Department of Natural park "Shumen Plateau", courtesy of the Municipality of Shumen, and in media partnership with the journal "Geography `21".

The competition is under the motto of the conference
"**Protected karst areas – Bridges to the Future**"
and runs in 5 categories:

1. For pupils:

1.1. Up to 12 years old:

— Drawing or work with natural materials

1.2. Over 12 years old:

— Poster / Card or multimedia presentation / video

We live in a dynamic and sometimes troubled world. But it still has a divine beauty with marvelously sculptured rocks, clear spring waters and underground palaces, which emerge from the mysterious darkness of the caves. This kingdom, called karst, which for the first time you discovered during a trip, or in which you were born and live, excite your imagination. Send us your best picture. Or maybe you like to create things with materials from nature – send us your original work.

If you are older and you are already excited about how to keep these places of nature for your coevals from future generations, send us your original poster or postcard. Perhaps you prefer computers with their abilities - then create your own multimedia presentation, or video message.

2. For teachers:

— My unusual lesson

Karst areas are unique with their natural phenomena, the specificity and diversity of animals and plants, traditions and lifestyle of the people occupying them. This world of rare beauty, surprises and emotions, is your unusual classroom. And you do with your enthusiastic pupils an original lesson-study about karst. Send us this lesson - recorded in modern magnetic media (CD / DVD etc).

Perhaps your interest in karst has inspired you to develop a school project with your pupils - share your experience and achievements in multimedia presentation and send it to the competition.

3. For students:

— Scientific essay or multimedia presentation

— Art Installation

In scientific knowledge there are some little known, but exciting areas. You want to be a researcher right in such area and have discovered for yourself karst, Speleology and Karstology. They increasingly capture your mind, and examples of researchers, who explore the deep underground caves, disclosing their secrets, are contagious. You are already immersed in this world and have made your first studies about karst. Write your first scientific essay and send it to the competition. The essay can be illustrated with your original drawings, pictures or other graphics applications. Or maybe you prefer to use modern computer technologies - tell in a multimedia presentation about your research and the first exciting results that you achieved.

If you are an artist at heart and an artist by vocation, reproduce what you have seen, experienced and learned about karst and caves in an original art installation.





4. For nature lovers, photographers (no age limit):

— Composition (3 to 5 photos)

A ray of light on the water-sculpted cave shape; a piece of sky, caught between the upright rocks in a gorge; a tree, perched on inaccessible rock; a sleeping bat with hanging wings; dark entrance to an underground mystery; delicate color among sharp rock edges; children's eyes, burning of admiration, reflecting a particle from the surrounding unearthly beauty – share your feelings of the moments, sealed by your camera and send your composition – a message to your contemporaries and legacy to the future generations.

Requirements for the contest:

Each piece must be accompanied by the following information (on paper or magnetic media): title, name and location of the objects/places, a brief description of the realized idea, the author (name, place of training/teaching, address). Information to be presented in Bulgarian, Russian or English.

Only original author's works will be assessed, which have not participated in other competitions. By submitting the works, their authors agree these works to be used by the organizers for non-commercial purposes - for promotion of protected karst areas and Karstology, through exhibitions and development of other promotional materials.

Deadline for participation:

Entries must be sent by **15 June 2012**

E-mail:

forum2012@prokarstterra.bas.bg;

forum2012@abv.bg

or mail to:

Bulgaria

1113 - Sofia

NIGGG – BAS

"Akad G. Bonchev " Str. 3

The competition

Awards:

By July 15, 2012 an international jury will select the winners: first, second and third places in each category and one big prize for original creative achievement. The authors of the winning works will receive certificates and prizes and the winner of **the grand prize** – an invitation to participate as special guest (on behalf of the organizers) in the International scientific and practical conference in Shumen in September 2012, as well as in the tours in Bulgaria after the Conference.

Winning entries will be published in the journal "Geography `21" and the site of the international research project proKARSTerra (<http://www.prokarstterra.bas.bg>). With the best works selected by international jury an exhibition will be organized in Shumen during the time of the International conference. After its closure the exhibition will be exhibited in Sofia and other cities in Bulgaria and abroad.

The competition "**Karst under protection - gift for the future generations**" started in 2005 during the international conference in Shumen, Bulgaria "Protected karst areas - status, problems and perspectives" (<http://karst.iit.bas.bg>). It received a wide response (see <http://www.geography.iit.bas.bg> – 2006). With this second edition the organizers are engaged by the initiative to make this competition traditional, with rotating hosing and constant touring exhibition of winning works.

For the latest information: <http://www.prokarstterra.bas.bg/forum2012>

