



Photo by Hudini Silviu

1st Announcement

Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the OSA and SPIE Student Chapters, as well as the EPS Young Minds Section of the National Institute for Laser, Plasma and Radiation Physics (INFLPR), we are pleased to invite you to Balvanyos, Romania, to attend IONS Balvanyos 2017 conference, held between 25-28 July 2017.

Balvanyos, a geographically unique and vibrant resort in the heart of Transylvania's Carpathian Mountains, is waiting to enchant you with its breathtaking landscapes. The resort is also known for Lake Saint Ana, the only volcanic lake in Romania. Attendees will have the chance to experience the mystery of the lake's legend, from which its name derives.

IONS Balvanyos conference is granted by the International OSA Network of Students (IONS®) program, organized for the first time in Romania with the support of The Optical Society (OSA), The International Society for Optics and Photonics (SPIE), the Young Minds Project of the European Physical Society (EPS), and INFLPR. IONS Balvanyos 2017 is going to be co-hosted by the Institute of Radiophysics and Electronics (IRE) OSA Student Chapter, Kharkiv, Ukraine.

Our aim is to bring together MSc and PhD students, as well as postdoctoral fellows carrying out research in the field of optics and photonics in Romania, Ukraine and the world, thus providing the environment required for sharing and promoting their scientific results and exchanging ideas whilst facilitating networking with their peers, young and senior scientists. We scheduled student technical talks and poster presentations, lectures of distinguished invited speakers as well as social activities.

IONS Balvanyos 2017 includes a broad variety of topics, such as:

- Laser and Ultrafast Phenomena
- Optics, Photonics and Optoelectronics
- Micro- and Nanotechnologies
- Advanced Materials and Thin Films
- Lasers in Life Sciences
- Quantum Computing and Information
- Laser Cooling and Atom Trapping
- Plasma Physics and Applications

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More detailed information will be provided in a second circular later this year. In addition, updates will be regularly posted on the conference web site: <http://ionsbalvanyos.osahost.org>.

As Chair, Co-Chair and Advisors of IONS Balvanyos 2017, we promise a memorable conference with high quality scientific program, opportunities to meet and discuss, as well as a truly enjoyable woodland experience. Therefore, we warmly invite you to participate at IONS Balvanyos 2017 and we look forward to seeing you here (<http://balvanyosresort.ro/en/>)!

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