

4th INTERNATIONAL PEREGRINE CONFERENCE



27 September – 1 October 2017

Herman Ottó Conference Centre, Budapest

PROGRAMME

(25 minutes for each presentation including questions and answers)

27 September (Wednesday)

10:00 – 10:40 – Arrival, registration

10:40 – 11:00 – Welcome and opening speeches

11:00 – 12:40 – Presentations

- *Prommer, M., Bagyura, J., Molnár, I. L.: State and Dynamics of the Peregrine Population in Hungary after Twenty Years of the Comeback – New Challenges*
- *Beran, V., Vrána, J.: Population Trends and Diversification of Breeding Habitats of Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) in the Czech Republic since 1990*
- *Sielicki, J., Sielicki, S.: Falconry and Restoration of Peregrine Falcon Population in Poland 1990 – 2017*
- *Sorokin, A. G., Galushin, V. M.: Strategy for the Peregrine Conservation in Russia*

12:40 – 14:00 – Buffet lunch

14:00 – 15:40 – Presentations

- *Khlopotova, A., Shershnev, M.: Peregrine Falcon in the Middle Ural, Russia*
- *Pazhenkov, A., Karyakin, I., Afanasyev, D., Krivopalova, A., Pazhenkova, E.: To Restoration of the Tree-Nesting Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) Population in the Volga-Ural Region*
- *Karyakin, I., Nikolenko, E., Bekmansurov, R., Pazhenkov, A., Zinevich, L.: The Peregrine Falcon in the Volga-Ural and Altai-Sayan Regions of Russia*
- *Isaev, A. P., Solomonov, N. G., Gabyshev, V. Y., Sleptsov, S.M.: The Current State of Peregrine Falcon in Yakutia*

15:40 – 16:00 – Closing remarks

Side event I. (from about 18:00)

Reception and buffet dinner on Columbus Boat (city centre)

28 September (Thursday)

09:00 – 09:45 – Workshop I.

Arctic Falcons Specialist Group (Chairman: Knud Falk)

(See description of workshops below)

09:45 – 11:00 – Presentations

- *Hodson, K.: Half a Century of Monitoring of Peregrines along the Mackenzie River in Northern Canada*
- *Sielicki, J.: Peregrine – Population Modelling*
- *Kéry, M., Banderet, G., Monneret, R.-J., Schaub, M.: Integrated Modelling of the Dynamics of a Western European Peregrine Population Over Half a Century*

11:00 – 11:20 – Coffee break

11:20 – 12:35 – Presentations

- *Abuladze, A.: Present Status of Peregrine Falcon in Georgia*
- *Rau, F., Becht, J., Lühl, R.: Long-term Monitoring of a Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus) Population in Southwest Germany: Population Trends and Current Changes of Breeding Habitats*
- *Vangeluwe, D.: The Peregrine in Belgium – From Extinction to World Star*

12:35 – 14:00 – Buffet lunch

14:00 – 15:50 – Poster session

15:50 – 16:00 – Closing remarks

Guided city walk (free) from about 18:00 (city centre) – only on demand

29 September (Friday)

09:00 – 11:00 – Workshop II.

Workshop on Biology and Conservation of Hierofalcons (Chairmen: Maurizio Sarà, Giovanni Leonardi)

11:00 – 11:20 – Coffee break

11:20 – 12:35 – Presentations

- *Zuberogoitia, I., Astorkia, L., Castillo, I., Burgos, G., Larrea, M., Azkona, A., Zuberogoitia, J., Zabala, J.: Trends of Peregrine Falcon in Northern Spain – Results of a Long-term Monitoring Project*
- *Nygård, T., Reinsborg, T.: Increasing Peregrine Population in Central Norway Shifting from the Coast to the Inland – A 40-year Study*
- *McGrady, M. J., Hines, J. E., Rollie, C., Smith, G. D., Morton, E. R., Moore, J. F., Mearns, R. M., Newton, I., Murillo-García, O. E., Oli, M. K.: Territory Occupancy and Breeding Success of Peregrines at Various Stages of Population Recovery*

12:35 – 14:00 – Buffet lunch

14:00 – 15:40 – Presentations

- *Varland, D. E., Buchanan, J. B., Fleming, T. L., Kenney, M. K.: Scavenging as a Food Acquisition Strategy by Peregrine Falcons*
- *Kleinstäuber, G., Kirmse, W., Langgemach, T.: Nesting Habitat Selection of Peregrine Falcons in Eastern Germany – The State of Knowledge*
- *Lindner, M., Bäumer, B.: Influence of the Eagle Owl on the Peregrine Falcon Population in North-Rhine – Westphalia*
- *Dixon, N., Gibbs, A.: Extreme Territorial Aggression by Urban Peregrine Falcons Towards Common Buzzards in South-West England*

15:40 – 16:00 – Closing remarks

Free programme

30 September (Saturday)

09:00 – 11:00 – Workshop III. & IV.

Urban Peregrines: an update and perspectives (Chairman: Giacomo Dell'Omo)

Reconstructing the process of Peregrine's return to Europe (Chairman: Mátyás Prommer)

11:00 – 11:20 – Coffee break

11:20 – 12:35 – Presentations

- Bondi, S., Vitale, E., Antioco, N., Guzzo, E., Schifani, E., Mascara, R., Sarà, M.: *Comparative Analysis of Lanner and Peregrine Trophic Niche in the Mediterranean*
- Bondi, S., Guzzo, E., Mascara, R., Zanca, L., Sarà, M.: *Natal Dispersal of First-Winter Peregrine Falcons*
- Dell'Omo, G.: *Transition to Independence and Onset of Dispersal of Urban Peregrines*

12:35 – 14:00 – Buffet lunch

14:00 – 15:40 – Presentations

- Nowak, Z., Sielicki, S.: *Genetic Variability of the Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus peregrinus*) Intended for Reintroduction in Poland*
- Inderwildi, E., Müller, W., Ayé, R.: *Intentional Poisoning of Peregrine Falcons in Switzerland – An Important Threat Factor?*
- Williams, N.: *The Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (Raptors MoU) – An introduction*
- Prommer, M., Bagyura, J.: *Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) vs Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug*) in Hungary – Competitors or Not?*

15:40 – 16:00 – Closing the conference

Side event II. (from about 18:00)

Closing dinner (seated) in Mátyás Pince (city centre)

1 October (Sunday)

Excursion to Vértes Hills area by bus. Maximum 45 persons.

Departure from Budapest: 09:00

Arrival to Budapest: 17:00

More information on the side events can be found below

DESCRIPTION OF WORKSHOPS

Arctic Falcons Specialist Group (Chairman: Knud Falk)

Working meeting: collaboration on joint circumpolar publication, harmonisation and sharing basic monitoring parameters, and contributing to Arctic Councils' upcoming State of the Arctic Terrestrial Biodiversity Report (START). Meeting is mainly for AFSG members, but open to visitors.

Workshop on Biology and Conservation of Hierofalcons (Chairmen: Maurizio Sarà, Giovanni Leonardi)

*The Hierofalco group include Gyr (*Falco rusticolus*), Saker (*Falco cherrug*), Lanner (*Falco biarmicus*) and Laggar Falcons (*Falco jugger*) – closely related species that inhabit open habitats from deserts across temperate steppes to arctic tundra. Due to various reasons the level of knowledge on their biology, precise distribution and ecology is not equal for all species and regions. The workshop aims to have an overview on the state of the species' conservation status, threats, ongoing conservation actions highlight shortages and needs for research and conservation measures. It also provides good opportunity to share best conservation/research practices that can be used in case of other Hierofalco species. As an outcome, we expect to form a network of Hierofalco specialists and address common research topics on comparative ecology of species with strong conservation implications. The conference is a unique occasion for assembling Hierofalco specialists in a single workshop to share their experience. Contributions on the Laggar falcon are very welcomed due the very poor knowledge on this species.*

Urban Peregrines: an update and perspectives (Chairman: Giacomo Dell'Omo)

In the last 15 years Peregrines have progressively colonized our cities and nowadays breed in a variety of structures in many countries. As an example, the first Peregrines breeding in Rome were recorded in 2005 and there are now (2017) not less than 14 breeding pairs. In many other Italian and European cities peregrines have also increased their presence both as wintering and breeding birds. The workshop will be an opportunity to discuss among many of us the urbanisation of the peregrines in our countries and update on the current situation in various European cities. Urban peregrines represent a unique opportunity in that they are easier to observe and to access than those living on cliffs and therefore can be studied across cities using the same protocol. They are suitable for behavioural, genetic and ecotoxicology studies and for studying the population dynamics and regulation. They also can represent a bio-indicator that can allow comparisons across cities. Many of the nest sites are under camera surveillance and the behaviour of the birds can be observed in detail by thousands of people on the web. The workshop will also represent an opportunity to set up a network of those interested in sharing their data and participate to a common protocol of data collection for the coming years. This could help to harmonise the efforts and target with a coordinated approach specific issues across countries. The peregrines is already an important flag species, birds living in cities can even better fulfill this role as they live closer to us.

Reconstructing the process of Peregrine's return to Europe (Chairman: Mátyás Prommer)

Peregrines have been successfully re-populating Europe after the population collapse in the DDT era. The process has been closely followed in many European countries, yet no comprehensive analysis has been made on European-level including data from the various countries. The workshop aims to examine the potential for a common European project to map the return of the species, unveil hidden connections and understand the recolonization process as much as possible.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Venue

The conference and workshops will be held in Herman Ottó Conference Centre (HOCC), which is part of Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd., 1223 Budapest, Park u. 2. co-ordinates: N47.406940° E019.011794°; www.hermanottointezet.hu (in Hungarian only);



<https://www.facebook.com/hermanottointezet/>. All the programme, but the side events will be organised in the HOCC.

The building is located in the largest rose-garden in Hungary: <http://www.resinfru.hu/rosarium>, with more than 7000 roses of 1200 varieties. In the end of September, you may still find some late flowering sorts.

Travel

If you come by air, you can get to your accommodation from the airport by taxi (choose Főtaxi, the official taxi company working with the airport: http://www.bud.hu/english/passengers/access_and_parking/by_taxi), by shuttle (http://www.bud.hu/english/passengers/access_and_parking/by_airportshuttle) or by public transport (http://www.bud.hu/english/passengers/access_and_parking/by_public_transportation). Once you are in Budapest, the easiest way to get around is by using public transport, which is relatively cheap and reliable. You can plan your routes here: <http://futar.bkk.hu/?map=13/47.501/19.053&layers=GSVB> You can find more information about the tickets and prices here: <http://www.bkk.hu/en/tickets-and-passes/prices/>.

To get to the conference venue you can also use the trains from Déli pályaudvar /p.u. (Southern Railway Station) to “Campona” station. You can find the actual schedule here: <https://www.mavcsoport.hu/en> - enter from “Budapest-Déli” to “Campona (Budatétény)”. The duration of the ride is 18 mins.

Accommodation

HOCC is located further away from the city centre, with no decent commercial accommodation in the area. The best option is to find accommodation in the city centre and use public transport to get to the venue. Another option is Hotel Aquarius (<http://www.hoteltnet.hu/en/hotelaquarius/>), which is on the edge of Budapest. It is not far from the venue, but just the opposite direction from the city centre. Unfortunately, the deal we wanted to make some hotels did not work out for various reasons, thus we cannot recommend any hotels like we hoped earlier. However, we are more than happy to assist you in booking, should you need any help.

Weather

Early autumn is usually warm and sunny in Hungary. The average daily temperature is about 20°C (68°F), however it may go below 10°C (50°F) in the night. There is always chance for light rain, but heavy rainfalls are not expected this time of the year.

SIDE EVENTS

We offer three side events for the participants during the conference.

27 September (Wednesday)

We kindly invite you aboard to Columbus Boat (<http://www.columbuspub.hu/lang/english/>) for an ice breaking reception and dinner. The boat can be found in the Pest side of Budapest, anchored near Chain Bridge – the oldest bridge in Budapest – with a panoramic view on the royal castle of Buda.

Participation fee: 45 EUR (including reception and buffet dinner with a selection of dishes)



30 September (Saturday)



We close the conference with a dinner in “Mátyás Pince” (“Mátyás Cellar”) the oldest restaurant of Budapest (<http://eng.matyaspince.eu/>). It is an authentic Hungarian restaurant with traditional dishes and live Gypsy/folk music. It is something not to be missed, when you are in Budapest.

Participation fee: 45 EUR

1 October (Sunday)

Excursion to Vértes Hills and Csíkvarsa meadows (<http://www.dunaipoly.hu/en/places/protected-areas/protected-areas-1/protected-landscape-area-of-vertes>). The area is part of Danube-Ipoly National Park (<http://www.dinpi.hu/index.php?lang=en>) and hosts a great variety of habitats from steppe grasslands to ravines, cliffs and beech forests. Accordingly, you can find many species dwelling in those habitats. We visit steppe-like semi-natural grasslands maintained by grazing, meadows, forests and dry hills. We also visit the visitor centre of Pro Vértes Public Foundation, the major conservation organisation in the area that manages habitats for nature.



We have chance to see peregrine and saker falcon (the only area in Hungary and maybe in Central Europe, where you can find them nesting in the same area close to each other), white-tailed and imperial eagle, kestrel, sparrowhawk, goshawk, marsh harrier, common buzzard. If we are lucky, we may see some late red-footed falcon (although large communal roosts up to a few thousand individuals can be found in Southeast-Hungary), hobby, short-toed eagle or honey buzzard.

The field trip starts at 9:00 from Budapest (exact location is decided later). Lunch will be provided in the afternoon. We expect to return to Budapest at about 17:00.

Participation fee: 35 EUR (lunch included)

Registration for side events can be done on the conference website: <http://www.peregrinus.pl/en/peregrine-conference-budapest-2017>

Fees are to be paid at the venue (in cash).

