

Conference Programme | Bats – Challenges and Opportunities

Dates: October 28–29, 2025

Location: Parklands hotel, Bansko, Bulgaria

Day 1 – October 28

12:00 – 13:00 — Arrival of participants, check-in, and registration

13:00 – 13:30 — Welcome

Project Leader of LIFE UNDER ONE ROOF

Opening remarks

Brief project presentation, results and challenges

Conference goals, agenda, topics, and speakers

13:30 – 14:30 — KEYNOTE (40 min) + Q&A (20 min)

Speaker: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heliana Doundarova, Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (IBER-BAS)

Topic: Bats in Bulgaria – Challenges and Opportunities for Conservation

14:30 – 15:00 — Coffee Break

15:00 – 16:00 — KEYNOTE (40 min) + Q&A (20 min)

Speaker: Assoc. Prof. Jan Zukal, Institute of Vertebrate Biology CAS Brno

Topic: Bats and their pathogens – are they really dangerous?

16:00 – 17:20 — KEYNOTE (60 min) + Q&A (20 min)

Speaker: RNDr. Radek K. Lučan, Ph.D., Charles University in Prague

Topic: Monitoring and conservation of bats in the Czech Republic

17:20 – 17:30 — Closing of Day 1

Transition to open networking

19:30 — Dinner



Day 2 – October 29

08:30 – 09:30 — Breakfast

09:30 – 09:45 — Opening of Day 2

09:45 – 10:45 — KEYNOTE (40 min) + Q&A (20 min) – **ONLINE**

Speaker: Panagiotis Georgiakakis, PhD, Associate Scientist, University of Crete

Topic: Greek Caves and Bats: Management Actions and Change of Attitude,
LIFE17 NAT/GR/000522 – LIFE GRECABAT

10:45 – 11:00 — Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:00 — KEYNOTE (40 min) + Q&A (20 min)

Speaker: Prof. Dr. Georgi Popgeorgiev, National Museum of Natural History in Sofia,
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (NMNH – BAS)

Topic: Collecting current data on bats – application SmartBirds

12:00 – 13:00 — Lunch

13:00 – 14:00 — Discussion | Working Groups

Project Leader | Conference Facilitator

14:00 – 15:00 — Summary and Closing

