

10th Symposium on the Lacertids of the Mediterranean Basin
& 2nd Symposium on Mediterranean Lizards

Second Circular



<http://mediterraneanlizardconference2.weebly.com/>

We are delighted to announce that the 2nd Symposium on Mediterranean Lizards, (& 10th Symposium on the lacertids of the Mediterranean Basin), will be held on **18-21 June 2018**, at the **Steinhardt Museum of Natural History**, School of Zoology, Tel Aviv University, **Tel Aviv, Israel**.

Background

We aim to bring together herpetologists from all around the world who work actively in fields related to the evolution, ecology, behavior, biogeography, physiology and conservation of Mediterranean lizards. Following the success of previous symposia (most recently in Lemesos, Cyprus), the soon-to-be opened Steinhardt Museum is now hosting this exciting event. For details, see our website <http://mediterraneanlizardconference2.weebly.com/>

Scientific Program

The symposium will focus on different aspects of research carried out on Mediterranean lizards. However, eminent contributions on lizard biology from other zoogeographical regions will also be considered. The official language of the congress will be **English**. The symposium will include plenary lectures, regular sessions, and poster sessions. We will welcome suggestions for session and workshop topics until April 15th. These, together with all other related questions, suggestions and requests should be communicated directly by email to: meditliz17@gmail.com or to members of the organizing committee, the email addresses of whom can be found at: <http://mediterraneanlizardconference2.weebly.com/contact.html>

The final program of the symposium will be announced on May 15th, 2018.

Invited Plenary Speakers

Plenary speakers will include **Rick Shine** (University of Sydney; Australia), **Panayiotis Pafilis** (University of Athens; Greece), **Amos Bouskila** (Ben Gurion University of the Negev; Israel), **Raoul Van Damme** (Universiteit Antwerpen; Belgium), and **Aaron Bauer** (Villanova University; USA). For talk titles see:

<https://mediterraneanlizardconference2.weebly.com/plenary-talks.html>

Museum, Zoo and Field trips

We will hold short tours of the *Steinhardt Museum* displays and reptile collections (see <http://smnh.tau.ac.il/eng>), and to the School of Zoology's *Garden for Zoological Research* (<http://zoo.tau.ac.il/eng>).

We will hold two one-day trips during the conference: an afternoon and night trip to Be'er Milka sandy desert habitat (leaving Tel Aviv around noon and returning towards midnight)



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during the workshop, and a one day trip to experience the unique reptile fauna of Mount Hermon on the last day.

For those arriving early, we will be happy to offer an informal, self-driving tour to a site (Burgin) not far from Tel Aviv where much of the Mediterranean herpetofauna of Israel can be encountered. For more information on the field tours see:

<https://mediterraneanlizardconference2.weebly.com/tours.html>

Registration

Please register for the conference at

<https://mediterraneanlizardconference2.weebly.com/registration.html>

- Early registration fees are 50€ for students.
- Early registration fees are 120€ for other participants.
- Early registration ends on April 15th, 2018.

- Regular registration fees (after April 15th) are 75€ for students.
- Regular registration fees (after April 15th) are 180€ for other participants.
- Registration for a single day is 75€ (for everybody).

Please pay by credit card using the appropriate link at

<https://mediterraneanlizardconference2.weebly.com/registration.html>

Abstract submission Guidelines for abstract submission, for oral and posters presentations, can be found here <https://mediterraneanlizardconference2.weebly.com/abstract-submission.html>

Please either submit the abstract via the registration page, or send it as an attachment to meditliz17@gmail.com

Deadline

The deadline for abstract submission is April 15th, 2018. Early registration rates only apply until this date.



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Members of the Scientific Committee

Amos Bouskila;	Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Department Of Life Sciences
Boaz Shacham;	National Natural History Collections, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Claudia Corti;	Museo Di Storia Naturale Dell'Università Di Firenze
Miguel-Angel Carretero;	CIBIO, University of Porto
Nikos Poulakakis;	Natural History Museum of Crete
Panayiotis Pafilis;	National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, Zoology - Marine Biology
Petros Lymberakis;	Natural History Museum of Crete
Raoul Van Damme;	University of Antwerp, Department of Biology
Salvador Carranza;	Institute of Evolutionary Biology (Csic-Universitat Pompeu Fabra)
Shai Meiri;	Tel Aviv University, School of Zoology, Steinhardt Museum for Natural History

Members of the organizing committee

Shai Meiri	(School of Zoology & Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, Tel Aviv University)
Amos Bouskila	(Department of Life Sciences & Mitrani Department of Desert Ecology; Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheba, Israel)
Boaz Shacham	(The National Natural History Collections, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Erez Maza	(School of Zoology, & Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, Tel Aviv University)
Yuval Itescu	(School of Zoology & Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, Tel Aviv University)
Alex Slavenko	(School of Zoology, Tel Aviv University)

Contacts

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Transportation and accommodation

We tried to provide useful information on visas, transportation overland and by air, transportation from the airport and within Tel Aviv, accommodation information, activities in Tel Aviv, and general information you may find useful here:

<https://mediterraneanlizardconference2.weebly.com/travel-information.html>

Please do not hesitate to contact us

<http://mediterraneanlizardconference2.weebly.com/contact.html> with any questions. We will update the website with additional information if questions make it clear we have omitted something important.

Reptiles of Israel

In spite of its small size, Israel has more species of reptiles (just over 90, as always dependent on how you count) than any country in Europe. Generally the fauna is divided into desert (Sahara, Arabia and W. Asian deserts, many of them sand-specialists) and Mediterranean elements, with some endemics and near endemics. We will try to see as many of them as possible during the field trips. Some recent books on the Israeli reptile fauna will be available for purchase during the workshop, and we will be happy to provide any additional information. Note that all Israeli reptiles are protected by law, and handling them without permits is strictly forbidden.

If you wish to study reptiles in the wild during your visit please contact one of us, and we will help in explaining the system and, if needed, preparing the permit applications (allow at least 2 months from submission to permits being granted).

If you wish to study or sample reptiles in the national natural history collection, please contact either Boaz (the collection manager: boazshacham@mail.huji.ac.il) and Dror (dror.hawlana@mail.huji.ac.il; the curator) for the Jerusalem collections, or Shai (the curator; uncshai@post.tau.ac.il) and Erez (mazaerez@post.tau.ac.il) for the Tel Aviv collections.