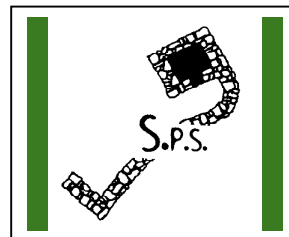




19<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Dry Stone  
Krems, Wachau, Austria, October 2025  
Particular theme:  
***Dry-stone: tool and challenge for the future***



**Call for the 19<sup>th</sup> international congress on Dry-stone construction – Save the dates**

**Venue: Wine school, A-3500 KREMS, Wienerstraße 101, Wachau and Langenlois regions, Austria.**

**Dates:** 20 to 27 October 2025 (20 to 24/10: construction workshop during the ‘Stein & Wein’ festival - 25, 26, 27/10: symposium and visits).

**Programme:** practical work, oral presentations, exhibitions, exchanges, field visits - the congress will be hosted on Monday 20 October for the construction workshop and on the evening of Friday 24 October for the symposium.

**The SPS meeting will take place on the morning of Sunday 26 October (8.30am - 10.00am).**

**Congress secretariat for registration, organisation, logistics:**

**Rainer Vogler, dry stone walling school Austria. A-3500 Krems, Wienerstraße 101**  
**[dsw-congress2025@wbs-krems.at](mailto:dsw-congress2025@wbs-krems.at) ; +43 676 59 57 626**

**S.P.S secretariat for submission of papers**

**Ada Acovitsióti-Hameau, General Secretary SPS, “Maison de l’Archéologie”, 21 rue République, 83143 Le Val, France - tel (0033)(0)494863924, e-mail : [contact@pierreseche-international.org](mailto:contact@pierreseche-international.org)**

**Information and registration form available**

**at: [www.lako.at/landimpulse/dsw-congress2025/](http://www.lako.at/landimpulse/dsw-congress2025/)**

**and at: [www.pierreseche-international.org](http://www.pierreseche-international.org)**

**Registration link: <https://forms.gle/utguWpDSBGK9vDiO9>**



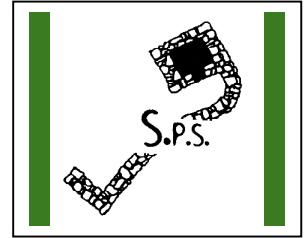
Wachau terraces – river Danube valley © ÖWM / Robert Herbst

**Partners :** Wine school Krems, Horticultural school Langenlois, BAU Akademie NÖ  
Dry Stone Walling School Austria

**Société scientifique internationale pour l’étude pluridisciplinaire de la Pierre Sèche**



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### Call for papers

The city of Krems and the regions of Wachau and Langenlois are delighted to be hosting the 19<sup>th</sup> International Dry Stone Congress. Held every two years in a new country, this event has been organised by various European and North African partners (in Greece, Italy, France, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Morocco and Croatia) and has always attracted a large audience, including people from the Middle East, the United States and Australia. The aims of the congresses are to disseminate knowledge of dry-stone construction as a traditional art, to develop and conduct research and practical work in this field, and to facilitate the exchange of experience concerning good practice in the construction, maintenance and development of dry-stone structures.

These objectives are of interest for specialists and actors of:

- the research in anthropology, history, geography, agronomy, earth and natural sciences, architecture and engineering,
- the application of the technique to all constructions and to town and country planning,
- the study and enhancement of built heritage, landscapes, natural and cultural environment,
- the development of green and/or cultural tourism,
- the training of craftsmen and advising of dry-stone users.

The scientific and technical field covered by these different approaches is very broad and offers several angles of attack.

This year, the committee is proposing to look to the future by focusing on education and training (how and when to raise awareness among young people and the public, train apprentices and qualify professionals) and on terrace crops and products, those 'edible' walls that also help to moderate the climate. These particular themes are well-suited to the Krems area, which has a past and is preparing a future in wine production, and which improves a renewed and dynamic tradition of teaching dry-stone construction.

For 2025 the presentation and papers are divided into four subject areas:

1. **Impacts** from UNESCO inscriptions, members' actions and innovations
2. **Didactics & training:** raising awareness, heritage enhancement, professionalization
3. **"Foodscapes" - edible terraces:** old and new crops, products and usage
4. **Preservation & restoration** of structures and landscapes: theories and realities

Please send us your registrations together with your proposals for papers by the 31 March 2025. Entries only (no paper proposal) are accepted until the 31st of July 2025.

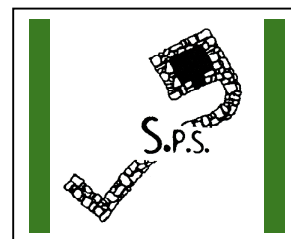
We look forward to hearing from you soon.

The organising committee

*Partners : Wine school Krems, Horticultural school Langenlois, BAUakademie NÖ  
Dry Stone Walling School Austria  
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## Practical information

**Proposals for papers:** These should be sent per email to the S.P.S secretariat **by the 31 March 2025** in English or French. We need the title of your paper or poster and an abstract of 400 to 800 words (approximately one page in 12-point font and double-spaced). If you are proposing posters, please allow 2 x A3, i.e. two 42 x 60cm panels. The organising committee will confirm acceptance of proposals before mid-June 2025.

[contact@pierreseche-international.org](mailto:contact@pierreseche-international.org)

**Congress languages:** English, French, German (simultaneous translation provided).

## Online registration:

<https://forms.gle/x8TC3Zt6EtyTpHwWA>

Registration is possible until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025 at the latest. Payment information is sent to you after registration.

Guarantee for the accommodation organised by the congress is granted for registrations until 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025.

Proposals for papers should be sent per email until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

The definitive congress programme will be sent to you in August 2025; confirmation of registrations and payments on receipt; information on accommodation in the appendix.

## Accommodation:

The congress organisers are offering five different types of accommodation. One is directly on the event site (Krems wine school), two are within walking distance (guest houses in wine estates), and for the other two, transport to and from the congress will be provided (Langenlois gardening school, Kittenberger chalets).

Reservations, payment and invoicing for these five venues will be handled by the conference team. Reservations can be made immediately when registering online; if a place is full and no longer available, we will inform you. Breakfast is included in all places.

The aim is to have as many participants as possible close by to avoid unnecessary travel: so check who among your friends, partners or work colleagues in your field is also taking part in the congress, and remember to book a double room. It is advisable to book as early as possible, and in any case before May 2025.

**Further information and detailed advice in the appendix.**

## Fees :

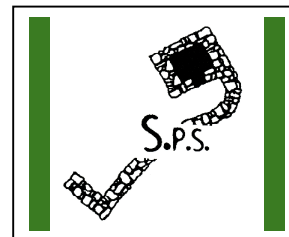
*(Packages that follow include access to conferences, Pre-Acts and translations, coffee breaks during the conference, transport costs for excursions. Travel and accommodation costs are the responsibility of the participants or their sponsoring organisation).*

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**WORKSHOP**

✓ 490 €

**CONFERENCE**

✓ Three days: € 180; one day (Sat or Sun) € 100, one day excursion (Mon) € 60

✓ SPS members (up to date with their 2023-2025 membership), communicators, students and young people in training (on presentation of up-to-date proof): three days: €150 (single congress day € 85, only excursion day € 50).

**WORKSHOP + CONFERENCE: 620 €**

**NOTE:** Breakfasts are included in the accommodation provided. Dinners on Friday, Saturday and Sunday and lunches on Saturday and Sunday are available for a total of €90 or € 18 per single meal. Meals on Monday are provided by sponsors and regions.

**GENERAL PROGRAMME - OCTOBER 2025**

**Monday 21 October - Friday 24 October**

**Stone and Wine Festival - Construction workshop**

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**Friday 24th October**

**14.00 - 18.00: arrival, check-in, accommodation for delegates - setting up posters**

**19.00: free meeting and social dinner**

.....

**Saturday 25th October**

**7.30 Breakfast**

**8.30-9.00 Opening session**

**9.00-12.50 Session 1 (each session includes a coffee break...)**

**13.00-14.00 Lunch**

**14.20-18.10 Session 2**

**19.00 dinner**

.....

**Sunday 26th October**

**7.30 Breakfast**

**8.30-10.00 S.P.S. General Meeting**

**10.00-10.30 Coffee break**

**10.30-12.10 Session 3a**

**12.20-13.20 Lunch**

**13.30-15.10 Session 3b**

**15.10-15.40 Coffee break**

**15.40-16.20 Flash presentations (5 minutes)**

**16.20-18.00 Session 4**

**19.00 dinner**

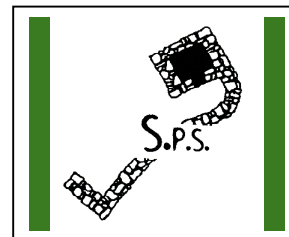
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.....  
**Monday 27th October**  
**7.30am breakfast**

**8.30**  
**to**  
**17.30 VISITS as planned ..... (see appendix)**

**18.00: Farewell dinner**

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### ***The Dry Stone Walling School Austria***

The local congress organiser 2025 is an associative organisation founded by:

- Wine school Krems (vocational training school for skilled workers and masters in viticulture and oenology; offering also adult education and a wine management college);
- Construction business Academy of Lower Austria (advanced training center of the construction guild and part of the apprentice educating).
- Horticultural school Langenlois (skilled workers and masters in gardening and landscaping);

In Austria, due to lack of time and structural changes at family wineries, the art of DSW has nearly been lost or performed in a technically disputable way for the last decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A project in 2003 aimed at both training young multipliers for safeguarding the art and at raising awareness for its advantages. For the first 20 years as a loose working group of trainers and enthusiasts and since 2023 as an official institution, the DSW school has been offering 3-days basic trainings, 14-days courses and special workshops – the Stein & Wein festival being the annual highlight. There are no research or study activities but children's workshops, exhibitions and lectures aiming at reaching as many people and institutions as possible. By the end of 2024 3,497 people have attended 277 training courses.

### ***International Scientific Society for the Multidisciplinary Study of Dry Stone***

The Society brings together scientists, amateurs and institutions working for the study, protection and conservation of dry-stone constructions. The first international congress on the subject was held in Bari (Italy) in 1988. These meetings, which were initially informal, gradually became the expression of a common desire, which culminated in the official creation of the SPS in 1998. The aim of the Society is to ensure the continuity of these conferences and to keep abreast of developments in dry-stone research, rehabilitation and innovation. It analyses the various issues and gives its opinion on the relevance of the methods used and the objectives pursued by the various players. Through its work, it maintains links between the various partners and ensures the continuity of meetings and exchanges. International conferences have been held regularly every two years since 1988.

*Partners : Wine school Krems, Horticultural school Langenlois, BAUakademie NÖ  
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