FISAE Newsletter

537 Special
27.01.2026

Liebe Exlibrisfreunde
Dieser FISAE Newsletter ist eine Sonderausgabe in Verbindung mit dem kommenden internationalen Exlibris Kongress in Varna, Bulgarien.

Dear Ex Libris Friends
This FISAE Newsletter is a special edition in conjunction with the upcoming international Ex Libris Congress in Varna, Bulgaria.

Chers amis d'Ex Libris,
Ce bulletin d'information de la FISAE est une édition spéciale publiée à l'occasion du prochain congrès international d'Ex Libris à Varna, en Bulgarie.

Cari amici dell'Ex Libris
Questa newsletter FISAE è un'edizione speciale in concomitanza con il prossimo Congresso Internazionale di Ex Libris a Varna, in Bulgaria.

Estimados amigos de Ex Libris
Este boletín de FISAE es una edición especial con motivo del próximo Congreso Internacional de Ex Libris en Varna, Bulgaria.

Drodzy Przyjaciele Ex Librisu
Niniejszy Biuletyn FISAE to wydanie specjalne z okazji zbliżającego się międzynarodowego Kongresu Ex Librisu w Warnie w Bułgarii.

Шановні друзі екслібрису!
Цей інформаційний бюлетень FISAE – це спеціальне видання, присвячене майбутньому міжнародному конгресу екслібрису у Варні, Болгарія.

Уважаемые друзья Ex Libris!
Этот информационный бюллетень FISAE — специальный выпуск, приуроченный к предстоящему международному конгрессу Ex Libris в Варне, Болгария.

親愛的藏書票愛好者們
本期FISAE通訊是為配合即將在保加利亞瓦爾納舉行的國際藏書票大會而推出的特刊。
Ex Librisの皆様

このFISAEニュースレターは、ブルガリアのヴァルナで開催される国際Ex Libris会議に合わせて発行される特別号です。

41 EXLIBRIS CONGRESS FISAE VARNA 2026

41 FISAE CONGRESS

JOIN US!

BE A PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL AND INSPIRING!

1-6 SEPT | VARNA, BULGARIA

ORGANIZER: JORDAN PETKOV ART FOUNDATION

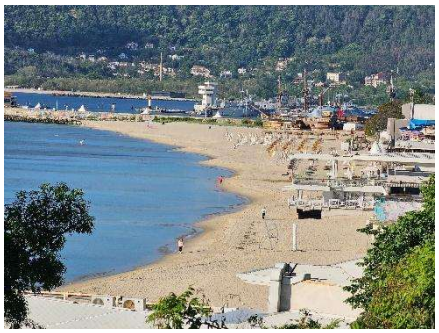
The Jordan Petkov Art Foundation, Organizer of the prestigious International ExLibris Competition Varna, was selected by the FISAE delegates to host the 41st FISAE forum in Varna, Bulgaria in 2026. **Here's what you can expect:**

WHAT WILL YOU EXPERIENCE IF YOU COME TO THE FISAE CONGRESS IN VARNA?

Varna is the pearl of the Bulgarian Black Sea and the summer sea capital. It's one of the country's most beautiful cities with golden beaches, rich cultural heritage, interesting history and beautiful architecture.

The city is extremely old - its ancient name is Odessos. The oldest processed gold in the whole world was discovered in the Varna Chalcolithic Necropolis (4400 - 4200 BC). The Roman baths in Varna, built at the end of the 2nd century, are the largest Roman bath in the Balkans. Varna is the festival capital of Bulgaria, with more than 40 different festivals taking place throughout the year - music, cinema, animation, contemporary art, folklore, choral, graphics biennials. Varna is also a modern city with a population of over 350,000 people, a port, six universities and the most famous resorts on the Bulgarian Black Sea coast - Albena, Golden Sands and St. St. Constantine and Elena.

In Varna there are numerous legendary markers of the city's image and vibe, such as the famous Sea Garden, the largest and most beautiful city park in the Balkans; the vibrant beach bars known for their parties, good music, and interesting people; the wonders of the city's ancient excavations and rich cultural heritage; and a beautiful city centre with large pedestrian areas, striking architecture, and many shops, galleries, cafés and cultural spaces.



WHERE WILL THE CONGRESS BE HELD?

The congress will be held at the Hotel Cherno More. The hotel boasts a unique location – right in the heart of Varna and just steps away from the beach and the sea. It is situated in close proximity to numerous landmarks and attractions – museums, galleries, restaurants, and the iconic Sea Garden. The hotel offers 199 elegantly and comfortably furnished rooms across 14 floors, each with a balcony and a stunning view of the city and the sea. Guests have access to high-speed internet and a secure indoor parking area. The exchange will be held in the hotel's spacious congress hall named "Bulgaria hall". **CLICK HERE TO LEARN HOW TO BOOK**

HOW TO TRAVEL TO VARNA?

Varna is easily accessible by air, land and water. During the summer and early autumn there are direct flights to Varna from many European cities. Our team will assist you with the transfer to and from Varna airport. It is possible to fly to Sofia and travel to Varna by car, bus or plane. Furthermore, the journey from even the most remote cities in Europe to Varna by car can be easily accomplished with a pleasant stopover in Vienna, Zagreb or Ljubljana.

ABOUT VARNA SUMMER INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

If you come to the 41 FISAE congress in Varna, you will be just on time for the The "Varna Summer" International Music Festival, which is one of the congress' partners and there will be a prize in the 41 FISAE International Competition for an exlibris dedicated to the festival. **[Read more in the competition's section below]**

The "Varna Summer" International Music Festival is the first music festival in Bulgaria, founded in 1926 in the city of Varna. Having received national and international recognition, today the Festival is a representative forum of Bulgarian and world music and music performing art. The slogan of the first organizers "to unite the best music celebrities of the country" finds its continuation and advance in the promotion of Bulgarian music culture in the policy of Festival's programming. A number of Bulgarian works have been performed for the first time within the "Varna Summer" Music Festival.

WHAT ARE THE CONGRESS FEES?

Right now the congress fees are still at lower prices. Take advantage of them while you still can!

Time period	Registration and payment deadline	Congress participant fee	Accompanying person fee	Exchange table fee
Wise Decision	01.01. – 30.04.2026	175 EUR	125 EUR	45 EUR
Regular Price	01.05. – 31.08.2026	190 EUR	150 EUR	50 EUR
Last Minute	Prices on site in Varna	220 EUR	160 EUR	60 EUR

Congress participant fee includes access to all festival events, congress materials with gift package, closing gala dinner, two free guided tours (Museum and Gallery Tour and Varna Sightseeing Tour)

Accompanying person fee includes access to all festival events, closing gala dinner, two free guided tours (Museums and Galleries Tour and Varna Sightseeing Tour)

BANK DETAILS

You can pay your participation fee via bank transfer. See all necessary information below:

Beneficiary name	Jordan Petkov Art Foundation
Beneficiary address	Han Krum Str.8, Varna 9000, Bulgaria
Bank name	First Investment Bank
Bank address	111 P Tsarigradsko Shoe Blvd., 1784 Sofia, Bulgaria
IBAN (bank account)	**BG80FINV91501217625524**
BIC / SWIFT	FINVBGSF

IMPORTANT: Please note the following text in the reason for payment on the bank statement: *FISAE CONGRESS FEE PAYMENT FOR [NAME OF PARTICIPANT].*

CANCELLATION POLICY

Every participant can cancel his participation **until 01 August 2026**. All the sums will be reduced with a 10% fee, due to the bank taxes and expenses already paid by the organizer and refunded after that. **After 01st of August no cancellation or refund of participation fee will be possible.**

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CONGRESS FEES

WHO WILL COME TO THE FISAE CONGRESS?

There is an attendance list which is being regularly updated on the Organizer's website. Many people from all around the world will join us in this inspiring adventure – exlibris artists, collectors, institutions and admirers. The attendance list will be updated regularly up to the start of the 41st FISAE Congress. See the list **HERE**!

These four pictures are from the DEG meeting in Memmingen, Germany in May, 2025.

41 FISAE INTERNATIONAL EXLIBRIS COMPETITION

It is a long-standing tradition of the FISAE Congress to include an International Exlibris Competition as part of its accompanying programme. This year, the Jordan Petkov Art Foundation, which has extensive experience in organising exlibris competitions, will be responsible for accepting and managing applications for participation in the FISAE Exlibris Competition. The submitted artworks will be exhibited in a large gallery hall at Gallery Graffit in Varna throughout the duration of the Congress. Participants in the competition will have the opportunity to receive various prizes provided by the organiser, sponsors, and partners.

CLICK HERE TO READ ABOUT HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMPETITION

Deadline for receiving artworks at the Organizer's address – 1 July 2026.
For countries outside of the European Union: entries must be sent before 1 May 2026 (according to the date of the post stamp of the sender)
For countries in the European Union: entries must be sent before 1 June 2026 (according to the date of the post stamp of the sender)

THE FISAE PROGRAMME IS NOW AVAILABLE

The programme with everything happening in the duration of the congress is now available. It's rich, it's exciting - don't miss on the chance to experience it!

All congress delegates will enjoy various events and cultural gatherings. There will be four graphic exhibitions, part of the FISAE program; dinners and drinks; tours of the city and of a few museums; trips to places outside of Varna; leisure time at the beach; gala dinner; etc. Most importantly, throughout the festival you will be able to meet and connect with exlibris artists and collectors from around the world, exchanging bookplates every day in the spacious and welcoming hall of Hotel Cherno More.

SEE FULL PROGRAMME BELOW

● FIRST DAY: 1 September, Tuesday

Welcome to Varna - arrival of participants	
10:00 – 18:00	Registration of participants and information desk in the foyer of congress hall „Bulgaria", hotel Cherno more
10:00 – 18:00	Exchange of exlibris in congress hall „Bulgaria", hotel Cherno more
18:00 – 19:00	Official opening of the congress and welcome drink. Presentation of the **exhibition "Selected works of the International Exlibris Competition Varna"** - congress hall "Bulgaria", hotel Cherno more.
19:30 – 21:00	Dinner at Godzila restaurant * **

● SECOND DAY: 2 September, Wednesday

Getting settled	
08:00 – 10:00	Happy hour breakfast for congress delegates in Patisserie-Café Endorfino *
09:00 – 18:00	Exchange of exlibris in congress hall „Bulgaria", hotel Cherno more
10:00 – 18:00	Registration of participants and information desk in the foyer of congress hall „Bulgaria", Cherno more Hotel
15:30 – 17:30	Free Varna sightseeing tour
18:30 – 19:30	Opening of the **exhibition of FISAE International Exlibris Competition at Graffit Gallery**

● THIRD DAY: 3 September, Thursday

Let's explore	
08:00 – 10:00	Happy hour breakfast for congress delegates in Patisserie-Café Endorfino *
09:00 – 18:00	Exchange of exlibris in congress hall „Bulgaria", hotel Cherno more
10:00 – 18:00	Registration of participants and information desk in the foyer of congress hall „Bulgaria", Cherno more Hotel
15:00 – 18:00	Free Museum guided tour (3 museums)
18:30 – 19:30	Opening of the **exhibition "Exlibris collection of the Ruse Library "Lyuben Karavelov" at LARGO Gallery**

● FOURTH DAY: 4 September, Friday

Visit our two best cultural institutions	
08:00 – 10:00	Happy hour breakfast for congress delegates in Patisserie-Café Endorfino *
09:00 – 18:00	Exchange of exlibris in congress hall „Bulgaria", hotel Cherno more
10:00 – 18:00	Registration of participants and information desk in the foyer of congress hall „Bulgaria", Cherno more Hotel

10:00 – 12:00	Visiting the Archaeological museum Varna *(ticket price 5 EUR)*
16:00 – 17:30	Demonstration of hand-made paper casting by the Bulgarian artist Rumen Nechev, congress hall „Bulgaria", Cherno more Hotel
18:00 – 19:00	Visiting the **exhibition with selected artworks from the International Print Biennial Varna at the City Art Gallery "Boris Georgiev"**
21:00 – 23:00	Friday drinks at beach bar Menthol ⁂

● FIFTH DAY: 5 September, Saturday

Last whole day in Varna	
08:00 – 10:00	Happy hour breakfast for congress delegates in Patisserie-Café Endorfino ⁎
09:00 – 18:00	Exchange of exlibris in congress hall „Bulgaria", hotel Cherno more
11:00 – 12:30	FISAE delegate meeting
19:00 – 21:00	**Closing Gala dinner**

● LAST DAY: 6 September, Sunday

Bye-bye, Varna	
08:00 – 10:00	Happy hour breakfast for congress delegates in Patisserie-Café Endorfino ⁎
9:00 – 17:00	Trip to city Balchik and Aladzha monastery *(paid)*
18:00	Congress closing

⁂ Please note that dinners and drinks marked with a "⁂" are not included in the price of the congress fee, therefore each person would have to pay for what they consume.
SEATING IS LIMITED, PLEASE RESERVE YOUR SEAT

⁎ Each FISAE delegate will receive a special discount from our partners, Godzila Restaurant and Patisserie-Café Endorfino, valid throughout the congress period

Planned accompanying exhibitions of the 41st FISAE congress in Varna

1. **1 Sept 2026 – 5 Sept 2026, congress hall „Bulgaria", hotel Cherno more**
   Exhibition "Selected works of the International ExLibris Competition Varna"
   The exhibition presents 12 years and 6 editions of history of the Varna exlibris competition, organized by Largo Gallery and Jordan Petkov Art Foundation. The delegates will enjoy the collection of more than 200 exlibrises from artists, participated in the six editions of the competition since 2014 till 2025.
   Working hours: 9:00 – 18:00
   Web: https://www.exlibris-competition-varna.org/home

2. **2 Sept – 14 Sept 2026, Graffit Gallery / 65 Knyaz Boris I Blvd. Varna**

Exhibition of the 41st FISAE International Exlibris Competition
The exhibition will present the selected works of the International Exlibris Competition of the 41st FISAE congress
Working hours: 10:00 – 18:00
Web: https://en.graffithotel.com

3. **26 Aug – 8 Sept 2026, Largo Gallery / 8 Han Krum Str. Varna**
   Exhibition of the selected works of the International Exlibris Competition of Ruse Library "Lyuben Karavelov"
   The exhibition will present the selected works of more than 20 years of history of the renowned international Exlibris Competition, organized in Ruse since 2005
   Working hours: 10:00 – 18:00
   Web: https://www.largogallery.com/en

4. **01 – 06 Sept 2026, City Art Gallery / 1 Lyuben Karavelov Str. Varna**
   Permanent exhibition of the collection of International Print Biennial Varna
   The exhibition will present the selected works of the International Print Biennial, organized in Varna since 1981.
   Working hours: 10:00 – 18:00
   Web: http://varnacityartgallery.com , https://www.printbiennial.com

Planned trips and tours

1. **Free tour of Varna city center**
   Let's take a walk along the beautiful Varna city centre
   Day: 2 September
   See walking route on Google maps: https://maps.app.goo.gl/UAkaBfoRWkDjKAiy8

2. **Free Museum tour**
   We will take you on a tour of three different museums in Varna
   Day: 3 September
   See walking route on Google maps: https://maps.app.goo.gl/z4DiJLYWeqFULd6m8

3. **Paid trip to Balchik and Aladzha Monastery**
   If you'd like to explore outside Varna – this trip is for you (the price for this trip will be determined later, stay tuned)
   Day: 6 September
   See the trip on Google maps: https://maps.app.goo.gl/eoHxoB9y77VvYAoHA

Please note, that the program may undergo changes. The organizers reserve the right to make changes to the program, including the order, times, nature and location of the events, in the event of unforeseen circumstances. Individual notification of participants for each change is not guaranteed.

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE NEWS ABOUT EVERYTHING HAPPENING WITH THE 41 FISAE CONGRESS IN REAL TIME?

Nowadays, there are many ways to stay tuned about whatever interests you. You can follow FISAE's **Facebook page HERE**, as well as the designated **Instagram page HERE** for exlibris events and initiatives in Varna.

But nothing beats getting notifications in real time. Join our **WhatsApp** and **Telegram** channels for instant updates and all the latest news about the Congress - right at your fingertips.

CLICK HERE TO JOIN WHATSAPP CHANNEL	CLICK HERE TO JOIN TELEGRAM CHANNEL

In any case, all and everything about the 41 FISAE congress is available on the Organizers website: http://www.jordanpetkov.foundation/en

From our team at the Jordan Petkov Art Fondation:

We look forward to meeting you this September at the 41 FISAE Congress in Varna, Bulgaria!

Contact us:
http://www.jordanpetkov.foundation/en
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fisae.info@gmail.com

Mariana Myroshnychenko

Ukraine for ever

Worldwide! – also Gaza

Fecit Stanislav Hlinovsky, CZ, 1972

FISAE Newsletter

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