



**Conclusions of the**  
**1<sup>st</sup> International Conference: The Holistic Approach to Environment**  
*13-14 September, 2018, Sisak, Croatia*

**The 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference: The Holistic Approach to Environment**, was held in Sisak, Croatia, in the period 13-14 September, 2018. It was organised by the Association for Promotion of Holistic Approach to Environment (Sisak), and co-organized by the Centre of Excellence for Integrative Bioethics (Zagreb), University of Applied Sciences in Velika Gorica and Balkan Environmental Association – B.EN.A. Patronage on the conference granted Ministry of Science and Education, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Croatian Environment and Nature Agency, Escola Superior de Tecnologia da Saúde de Coimbra (Portugal), Sisak-Moslavina County and City of Sisak. The conference hosted above 200 participants and 92 oral and poster presentations were included in the Conference programme.

The authors and co-authors of the scientific, professional and review papers were from the following seventeen countries: Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, India, Malaysia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, Sweden, Turkey and Uzbekistan. All submitted papers passed the reviewing procedure by 120 selected reviewers from twelve countries, and after acceptance were published in the Proceedings Book.

The opening ceremony was held on Thursday, 13 September, 2018. President of the Organizing Committee, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anita Štrkalj, welcomed distinguished guests, domestic and foreign participants, and presented an overview of the conference. Further speech was addressed on behalf of B.EN.A. by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Siniša Ozimec, who congratulated the Organizers for successfully organized conference and presented aims, structure and activities of B.EN.A. He gave a tribute to the late Prof. Dr. Fokion Vosniakos, the founder and former President of B.EN.A., for all of his efforts in gathering scientists and colleagues from many countries to work closely within B.EN.A. family. The final speaker was Ivo Žinić, the Prefect of Sisak-Moslavina County who declared conference opened.

The objective of the conference was public awareness raising about importance of caring for the environment through presentation of the current scientific and technological, theoretical and practical knowledge and achievements in the field of environmental protection, environmental engineering, sustainable development and integrative bioethics, as well as the more intensive networking of scientists and researchers from these areas. This conference was the first of its kind organized in the city of Sisak, which had a long reputation as industrial city with proper environmental protection. More than twenty companies supported the conference through the sponsorship or by business presentations. The opening ceremony and activities at conference were in the focus of interest of local and regional public media.

It can be concluded that this conference accomplished all of its objectives, and successfully promoted B.EN.A. activities.

*14th of September, 2018*

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