



## **Joint Meeting of the Austrian, German, Italian, and Swiss Paleontological Societies**

### **First circular**

Paleo4Alps corresponds to the **XXVI Paleodays of the Società Paleontologica Italiana**, the **96th Annual Meeting of the Paläontologische Gesellschaft (PalGes)**, the **30th Annual Meeting of the Österreichischen Paläontologischen Gesellschaft** and the **Meeting of the Swiss Palaeontological Society**. The first joint meeting is intended to create a shared forum at the heart of the Alpine region. The conference is explicitly open beyond the membership of these societies and welcomes participants from all areas of paleontological research worldwide.

PALEO4ALPS aims to unite paleontologists working across a wide range of disciplines, geological time periods, organism groups, and methodological approaches. By fostering exchange between different research traditions and perspectives, the meeting seeks to stimulate discussion, encourage interdisciplinary dialogue, and promote new scientific collaborations within the paleontological community.

The scientific program addresses both current and emerging topics in paleontology, ranging from Alpine case studies to global perspectives. A broad selection of multidisciplinary symposia provides a platform for integrative discussions, while field excursions to Bolca, the Dolomites, the Southern Alps, and the Carnic Alps will offer participants the opportunity to engage directly with the exceptional geological and paleontological heritage of the Alpine region.

**Venue: Free University of Bolzano-Bozen, Piazza Università 1, 39100 Bolzano/Bozen, South Tyrol, Italy**

The Free University of Bolzano-Bozen is a young, internationally oriented university located in South Tyrol, Northern Italy. Founded in 1997, it is characterized by its trilingual profile, with teaching and research conducted in English, German, and Italian, and by its strong focus on interdisciplinary collaboration.

The university has established a dynamic research environment with a particular emphasis on sustainability, environmental change, and the interaction between natural and human systems. Through close links with regional research institutions, museums, and international partners, the Free University of Bolzano-Bozen provides an ideal setting for scientific exchange at the interface of local Alpine research and global scientific questions.

Situated at the crossroads of the Alpine region, the university offers an inspiring location for PALEO4ALPS 2026, combining excellent research infrastructure with immediate access to classic geological and paleontological field areas. Hosting the conference at the Free University of Bolzano-Bozen underlines the meeting's commitment to international collaboration, interdisciplinarity, and engagement with the unique natural heritage of the Alps.

**Language:** English is the official language of the workshop. All presentations, including oral presentations, posters and abstracts should be in English.

**Homepage:** <https://www.unibz.it/en/events/paleo4alps-2026>

**Contact address:** paleo4alps@tiroler-landesmuseen.at

**Organizers:**

Evelyn Kustatscher (Tiroler Landesmuseen, Museum of Nature South Tyrol)  
Camilla Wellstein (Free University of Bolzano-Bozen)

**Steering and scientific Committee (in alphabetical order):**

Gerald Auer (President ÖPG)  
Massimo Delfino (Vice-President SPI)  
Jan-Peter Duda (Vice-President PalGes)  
Iris Feichtinger (Vice-President ÖPG)  
Annalisa Ferretti (President SPI)  
Marie Hörnig (Vice-President PalGes)  
Christian Klug (Vice-President SPS)  
Alexander Nützel (President PalGes)  
Torsten Scheyer (President SPS)  
Tina Schlüter (headquarters PalGes)

**Local organizing Committee (in alphabetical order)**

Evelyn Kustatscher, Iván R. Barreiro, Massimo Bernardi, Roberta Branz, Matias Delfosse-Allain, Elisabeth Frank, Joshua Gauweiler, Tina Schlüter, Franziska Wolfsegger

**Symposium and excursion organizers (in alphabetic order, to be integrated)**

Beatrice Azzarà, Bettina Bachmann, Andrea Baucon, Matteo Belvedere, Jordan Bestwick, Faysal Bibi, Christine Böhmer, Francesca Bosellini, Michael Buchwitz, Nicoletta Buratti, Alessandro P. Carniti, Giorgio Carnevale, Diego Castanera, Marco Cherin, Carlo Corradini, Silvia Danise, José Bienvenido Diez Ferrer, Annalisa Ferretti, Danijela Dimitrijevic, Claudia Dojen, Doris Döppes, Jan-Peter Duda, Orla Bath Enright, Iris Feichtinger, William J. Foster, Fabio Franceschi, Peter Frenzel, Elena Ghezze, Joachim Haug, Anneke H. van Heteren, Baran Karapunar, Wolfgang Kiessling, Christian Klug, Nicole Klein, Kristína Kocáková, Silvia Kolomaznik, Evelyn Kustatscher, Giuseppe Marramà, Gregor Mathes, Christian Meyer, Gianmarco Minniti, Johannes Müller, Doris Nagel, Thomas A. Neubauer, Alexander Nützel, Elpiniki Maria Parparousi, Luca Pellegrino, Catalina Pimiento, Anna Pint, Herwig Prinoth, Ella Quante, Gernot Rabeder, Mike Reich, Joachim Reitner, Riccardo Rocchi, Ingrid C. Romero, Valentina Rossi, Emanuele Ruiu, Haidra Saleh, Daniele Scarponi, Torsten Scheyer, Dustin Schmidt, Elke Schneebeil-Hermann,

Simon Schneider, Werner Schwarzhans, Lara Sciscio, Lukas Schweigl, Leonardo Sorbelli, Amalia Spina, Manuel Steinbauer, Andrea Villa, Camilla Wellstein, Martin Zuschin

### **Preliminary program**

July 16-18: pre-conference field trip to the Carnic Alps

July 18: pre-conference field trips to Bolca

July 18: pre-conference field trips to Lavini di Marco

July 19: Early career day, opening ceremony, ice breaker party

July 20: Scientific program, poster session

July 21: Scientific program, poster session, evening open talk for the public

July 22: Scientific program, social dinner

July 23: Scientific program, closing ceremony

July 24-26: post-conference field trip to the Dolomites

### **Pre-registration**

Non-binding pre-registration is out on

<https://eventregistration.unibz.it/Login.asp?IDcommessa=UN26005&Lang=IT>

### **Travel and accommodation in Bolzano/Bozen**

Bolzano/Bozen is located in the heart of the Alpine region and is easily accessible by public transport and by car from Italy, Austria, Germany, and Switzerland. The city is well connected to the European rail network, with regular train services from Verona and Innsbruck, providing convenient links to major international railway hubs.

International participants can reach Bolzano via several nearby airports, including Innsbruck, Verona, Venice, Milan, and Munich. From these airports, Bolzano/Bozen can be accessed by train or bus connections, with travel times ranging from approximately one to three hours, depending on the point of departure.

Bolzano/Bozen offers a wide range of accommodation options, including hotels, guesthouses, and budget-friendly lodging within walking distance or short public transport connections to the conference venue. As July is a peak travel season in the Alpine region, participants are strongly advised to book accommodation well in advance.

### **Deadlines**

Deadline pre-registration: February 10, 2026

Second circular with registration fees: February 28, 2026

Deadline fieldtrip registration: April 15, 2026

Abstract submission: April 15, 2026

Deadline registration: May 31, 2026

Third circular with final program: June 30, 2026