

Preface and Statement of Peer Review

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1. Conference Overview

This publication collates the proceedings of the 14th European Nutrition Conference, held from 14 to 17 November 2023 in Belgrade, Serbia. The conference was organized by the Federation of European Nutrition Societies (FENS) and local organizer the Serbian Nutrition Society.

The theme of the 14th European Nutrition Conference is “Food, Nutrition and Health: Translating Science into Practice”. Around this theme, the conference will deliver a high-quality programme, featuring international speakers across plenary sessions and scientific symposia. Other features of the programme will be workshops, training sessions, industry symposia, and oral and poster sessions oriented towards early career researchers. This conference will provide opportunities to hear experts and to catch up on the latest science, as well as to become better informed about areas of controversy. The topics of the planned conference symposia are broad and multidisciplinary and will appeal to all those interested in experimental, clinical, and public health nutrition.

2. Conference Committees

2.1. Organising Committee

- Vanja Todorovic, Chair
- Nikoleta Lugonja
- Bozidar Udovicki
- Ana Jovanovic
- Milica Zekovic
- Nevena Dabetic

2.2. Scientific Committee

- Philip Calder (President), University of Southampton, Southampton, UK
- Sladjana Sobajic (FENS2023 Chairperson), University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Jacques Delarue, University of Brest, Brest, France
- Frank Thies, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK
- Heiner Boeing, Germany
- Stefaan de Henauw, Gent University, Ghent, Belgium
- Jakob Linseisen, University of Augsburg, Augsburg, Germany
- Kirsi Laitinen, Turku University, Turku, Finland
- Ólöf Guðný Geirsdóttir, University of Iceland, Reykjavik, Iceland
- Ascension Marcos, Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), Madrid, Spain
- Emilie Combet, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK
- Francesco Sofi, University of Florence, Florence, Italy
- Jadwiga Hamułka, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Warsaw, Poland



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- Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir, University of Iceland, Reykjavik, Iceland
- David Val-Laillet, Inrae, Inserm, University Rennes, Rennes, France
- Eileen Gibney, University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland
- Angela Rivellesse, University of Naples, Naples, Italy
- Corné van Dooren, WWF-NL Zeist, Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Jelena Meinilä, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland
- Nicoletta Pellegrini, Udine University, Udine, Italy
- Ana Rodriguez-Mateos, Kings College London, London, UK
- Stefan Lorkowski, Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Jena, Germany
- Armando Perez Cueto, Umeå University, Umea, Sweden
- Daniela Martini, University of Milan, Milan, Italy
- Licia Iacoviello, University of Insubria, Insubria, Italy
- Karin Haas, Bern University of Applied Sciences, Bern, Switzerland
- Diana Banati, University of Szeged, Szeged, Hungary

2.3. Local Scientific Committee

- Ljiljana Trajkovic Pavlovic (President), University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia
- Bagi Ferenc, University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia
- Djordjevic Nikic Marina, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Korac Bato, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Jankovic Aleksandra, Institute for Biological Research Siniša Stanković
- Milicevic Dragan, University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia
- Niksic Miomir, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Popovic Milka, University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia
- Rajkovic Andreja, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Stankovic Ivan, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Torovic Ljilja, University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia
- Vrvic Miroslav, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Djordjevic Brizita, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Katic Vera, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Kostic Aleksandar, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Jovic Dragana, Institute of Public Health of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia
- Nedovic Viktor, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Novakovic Budimka, University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia
- Rajilic Mirjana, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Ristic Medic Danijela, Institute for Medical Research, Belgrade, Serbia
- Stojanovic Dusica, University of Nis, Nis, Serbia
- Vasiljevic Nadja, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Zilic Sladjana, Maize Research Institute, Zemun Polje, Serbia

3. Conference Topics and Number of Sessions for Each Topic

	Symposium Sessions	Oral Sessions	Poster Sessions
Nutrition across the life course	10	5	4
Nutrition, metabolism, and chronic disease	14	8	8
Dietary studies, guidelines, and recommendations	6	5	3
New technologies in nutrition research	4	1	1
Personalised nutrition	4	1	2
Nutrition and the environment, sustainability, and biodiversity	5	4	3
Food science	4	2	3
Dietary bioactives	4	2	2
Nutrition education, consumers, and practitioners	5	1	2
Cultural, societal, and behavioural aspects of diet and nutrition	4	2	3

4. Statement of Peer Review

In submitting conference proceedings to *Proceedings*, the volume editors of the proceedings certify to the publisher that all papers published in this volume have been subjected to peer review overseen by the volume editors. Reviews were conducted by expert referees to the professional and scientific standards expected of a proceedings journal.

- Type of peer review: single-blind
- Conference submission management system: infozonet.in.rs
- Number of submissions sent for review: 741
- Number of submissions accepted: 682
- Acceptance rate (number of submissions accepted/number of submissions received): 0.92
- Average number of reviews per paper: 1
- Total number of reviewers involved: 38
- Description of the process of peer review and/or editorial oversight of all accepted content (e.g., detailed criteria or policy of peer review, etc.): All participants received the result of the review. The types of decisions were as follows: Accept, Resubmit after revision, and Reject.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest. No significant competing financial, professional, or personal interests may influence the performance or the presentations of the works described in this conference. Peer reviewers have no relevant financial or other relationships to disclose.

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Abstract

Capacity Development and Harmonization of Food Consumption Data Collection in EFSA EU Menu National Dietary Surveys in Balkan Region-Building: The Evidence Base for Diet Monitoring and Food Systems Transformation [†]

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Abstract: Harmonized and standardized collection, processing, and analysis of individual dietary data is essential for nutrition assessment and informed policy decision making. To underpin the harmonization of food consumption data collection methodologies and the development of a common, comprehensive European food consumption database, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) supported 36 child and/or adult dietary surveys in 18 EU Member States and four Balkan pre-accession countries through the EU Menu Project. Given the lack of relevant and harmonized research and data on food and nutrition in the Balkan region, CENM-IMR and CAPNUTRA scientists focused their activities on capacity building in nutrition research, particularly on the creation of a contemporary, harmonized research infrastructure (RI) that meets European standards. The EFSA EU Menu methodology has been implemented in the Balkans through the adaptation and use of an innovative, comprehensive tool for the standardized collection of food consumption and dietary intake assessment data, the Diet Assess and Plan (DAP). DAP has the essential features of an RI needed to strengthen public health surveillance, monitoring, evaluation, and nutrition research; this is a unique example of a standardized and harmonized tool for assessing dietary intake, i.e., collecting data on food and nutrition in the Balkan region and beyond. It is a concurrent tool for large-scale nutritional epidemiological studies and represents one of the new technologies for dietary intake assessment. National dietary surveys were conducted from 2017 to 2023 among adults aged 10 to 74 years (in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Serbia) and children aged three months to nine years (in Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia). The collected data on food consumption are internationally comparable with other European countries under the EU Menu Program. The data collected will be used for dietary and exposure risk assessment, establishment of national nutrient reference values, as a basis for the development of food-based dietary guidelines, a tool to provide evidence and infrastructure for public health nutrition policy decisions, and for tailored pathways to transform the food system in the Balkans towards a more nutrition-sensitive and sustainable system.



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Keywords: capacity development; food consumption; EU Menu; harmonization

Author Contributions: Conceptualization, M.G.; methodology, A.K., J.M., M.G. and M.Z.; software, A.K. and M.G.; validation, J.M., I.Š., M.Z., M.T. and M.K.; formal analysis, M.G., J.M. and A.K.; investigation, J.M., M.Z., I.Š., M.T. and M.K.; data curation, A.K.; writing—original draft preparation, M.G. and J.M.; writing—review and editing, A.K., J.M. and M.G.; supervision, M.G.; project adminis-

tration, M.G.; funding acquisition, M.G. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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Institutional Review Board Statement: The study was conducted in accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Declaration of Helsinki and all procedures involving human subjects were approved by the Institute for Medical Research Ethics Committee in Serbia on 8 December 2017 (EO 123/2017).

Informed Consent Statement: Informed consent was obtained from all subjects involved in the study.

Data Availability Statement: Results attained in this study are included in the manuscript. Individual data are not available due to official legal, organizational and data security policies, and ethical restrictions.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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