COST is supported by the EU Framework Programme Horizon 2020

3rd EPI-CATCH Conference

Epigenetic Mechanisms of Crop Adaptation to Climate Change

30 May – 1 June 2023

Sofia, Bulgaria

Contact details

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Conference Venue:

Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
"Prof. Marin Drinov" Hall
15 Noemvri Str., No1
Sofia, 1040, BULGARIA

EPI-CATCH is a COST action with the aim of defining, developing generating and sharing new breaking knowledge and methodologies for the investigation of epigenetic mechanisms underlying plant adaptation to environmental stresses driven by climate change. Our goal is to create a pan-European framework for networking in this under-investigated research field of plant genetics. The 3rd EPI-CATCH Conference is an extraordinary occasion for researchers to disseminate, discuss, connect and update on the latest research in plant epigenetics. The conference will host sessions dealing with:

1) epigenetic responses to environmental stresses;
2) epigenetic mechanisms driving stress memory, transgenerational effects, adaptation responses;
3) methodological approaches for the study of epigenetic diversity and stress responses.

Management Committee meeting will take place at the end of the conference to coordinate the activities over the 3rd year of the Action and resume other events (training schools, workshops, STSMs) organised by EPI-CATCH.

The conference will be held in a hybrid format, combining physical presence and online/remote participation.

EPI-CATCH Working Groups:

WG1 Plant stress epigenetic responses

WG2 New frontiers and concepts

WG3 Methodologies and workflows

WG4 Dissemination and communication

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ORGANISING COMMITTEE

FEDERICO MARTINELLI - University of Florence, Italy
VALYA VASSILEVA - IPPG, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria
MICHAL LIEBERMAN-LAZAROVICH - Volcani Center, Israel
STEPHANE MAURY - University of Orléans, France
GLORIA PINTO - University of Aveiro, Portugal
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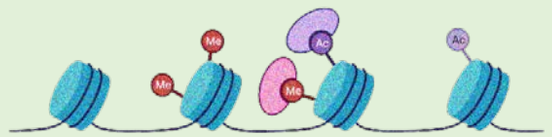
SOTIRIOS FRAGKOSTEFANAKIS - Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany
VELIMIR MLADENOV - University of Novi Sad, Serbia



PROGRAMME
3rd EPI-CATCH conference

Tuesday, 30 May 2023

13:00-14:00	**REGISTRATION**
	OPENING of the CONFERENCE
14:00-14:10	**Welcome of EPI-CATCH Chair**
14:10-14:50	**KEYNOTE CONFERENCE SPEAKER** **Heribert Hirt, KAUST, SAUDI ARABIA,** Microbiome-induced epigenetic mechanism of thermotolerance in plants
14:50-18:40	**WG1 SESSION. Plant epigenetic responses to environmental stresses**
14:50-15:20	**Keynote: Isabel Baurle, University of Postdam, Germany,** Chromatin-based mechanisms of environmental stress memory
15:20-15:40	**Jake Harris, University of Cambridge, UK,** Chromatin features of pathogen priming in *Arabidopsis thaliana*
15:40-16:00	**German Martinez, SLU, Sweeden**, Epigenetic dynamics in response to biotic stress
16:00-16:20	**Conchita Alonso, Estación Biológica de Doñana, CSIC, SPAIN,** Plant epigenetics: a contribution to phenotypic variation in changing environment
16:20-16:40	*To be selected among submitted abstracts*
16:40-17:10	*Coffee break and poster viewing*
17:10-17:40	**Keynote: Martin Crespi, Institute of Plant Sciences Paris Saclay, France,** Long non-coding RNAs in epigenetic regulation triggered by the environment
17:40-18:00	**Iris Sammarco, Institute of Botany, Czech Academy of Sciences,** Understanding the adaptive potential of natural epigenetic variation using wild strawberry plants
18:00-18:20	**Stéphane Maury, Université d'Orléans, France,** Epigenomics in plant populations
18:20-18:40	*Flash talks*
19:00-20:30	*WELCOME COCKTAIL*

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

09:00-17:30	**WG2 SESSION. New concepts and frontiers in epigenetics**
09:00-09:30	**Keynote: Michele Morgante, University of Udine, Italy,** Plant pan genomes, transposable elements and epigenetic variation
09:30-10:00	**Keynote: Daniel Schubert, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany,** Chromatin signatures of stress priming and memory in plants and algae
10:00-10:20	**Fererico Martinelli, University of Florence, Italy**, Investigating mechanisms of drought tolerance in chickpea
10:20-10:40	**Miroslav Baránek, Mendel University in Brno, Czech Republic**, The influence of different stress conditions on DNA methylation and mobilome of grapevine
10:40-11:10	*Coffee break and poster viewing*
11:10-11:30	**Melissa Mageroy, Institute for Bioeconomy Res, Norway**, Molecular underpinnings of methyl jasmonate induced resistance in Norway spruce
11:30-11:50	**Norbert Hidvégi, University of Debrecen, Hungary**, The *XTH* gene expression changes in tomato and potato under environmental mechanical forces (rainfall, wind and touch)
11:50-12:50	*To be selected among submitted abstracts*
12:50-14:00	*Lunch*
14:00-14:30	**Keynote: Alma Balestrazzi, University of Pavia, Italy,** Boosting the seed repair response: a reliable solution for climate-ready crops
14:30-14:50	**Eirini Kaiserli, University of Glasgow, UK,** Transcriptional regulation of Arabidopsis adaptive responses to light and temperature
14:50-15:10	**Filippos A. Aravanopoulos, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece**, How fast is perennial plant adaptation to environmental stress and what role can epigenetics play?
15:10-17:30	*Flash talks*
17:30-20:00	*Sightseeing trip/walk*
20:00-23:00	*SOCIAL DINNER*

Thursday, 1 June 2023

09:00-13:00	**WG3 SESSION. Advances and approaches in plant epigenetics for crop improvement**
09:00-09:30	**Keynote: Célia Baroux, University of Zurich, Switzerland,** Chromatin reprogramming at the somatic-to-reproductive transition - lessons from *in situ* quantitative imaging
09:30-9:50	**Carl Gunnar, NIBIO, Norway,** Epigenetic memory in response to temperature conditions during asexual and sexual propagation
09:50-10:10	**Sotirios Fragkostefanakis, Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, Germany**, Transcriptional regulation of heat stress response and thermotolerance in tomato
10:10-11:00	*To be selected among submitted abstracts*
11:00-11:30	*Coffee break and poster viewing*
11:30-12:00	**Keynote: Philippe Gallusci, University of Bordeaux, France**, DNA methylation remodelling in grapevine triggered by nutritional and environmental stresses
12:00-12:20	**Aleš Pečinka, UEB, Czech Academy of Sciences, Czechia,** Towards understanding chromosome organization and epigenetic regulation in barley
12:20-12:40	**Judit Dobránszki, University of Debrecen, Hungary**, DNA methylation and mRNA transcription background of enhanced seedling growth after seed ultrasonication
12:40-13:00	*To be selected among submitted abstracts*
13:00-13:30	**EPI-CATCH WG meetings (WG1-WG4)**
13:30-13:40	**OFFICIAL CLOSING of the CONFERENCE**
13:40-14:40	*Lunch*
14:40-16:30	**EPI-CATCH 3rd Management Committee Meeting**