

NEOBIOTA 2024 BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON
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INVASIONS**

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Neobiota 2024 Book of Abstracts

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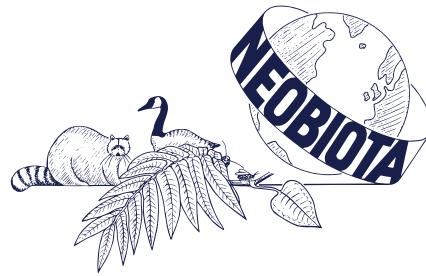


SPONSORS



EDIA HAS BEEN CONDUCTING PREVENTION AGAINST THE ZEBRA MUSSEL, A HIGHLY CONCERNING INVASIVE EXOTIC SPECIES FOR WATER BODIES AND HYDRO-AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS, SINCE 2012 IN ALQUEVA RESERVOIRS. PREVENTION, DISINFECTION, INFORMATION, AND AWARENESS ARE PART OF THE SOLUTION.





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THE NEOBIOTA ASSOCIATION

NEOBIOTA is an international scientific organization dedicated to the study of biological invasions. It promotes collaboration among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to understand and mitigate the impacts of invasive species on biodiversity, ecosystems, and human well-being

NEOBIOTA

President: Montserrat Vilà, elected President of NEOBIOTA in 2014, during the meeting in Antalya, and re-elected during the Dun Laoghaire meeting in 2018. She has been Vice President from 2012 to 2014.

Vice President: Franz Essl, elected Vice President of NEOBIOTA in 2014, during the meeting in Antalya, and re-elected during the Dun Laoghaire meeting in 2018.

Secretary: Ana Novoa, elected Secretary of NEOBIOTA in 2022, during the meeting in Tartu.

Honorary President: Ingo Kowarik, co-ordinating NEOBIOTA from 1999 to 2014 and elected President in 2012, during the meeting in Pontevedra, and Honorary President in 2014, during the meeting in Antalya.

NEOBIOTA BOARD

The NEOBIOTA Board includes 10 experts from Europe. The main tasks are:

- Represent NEOBIOTA and enhance communication and research at the European level
- Decide on the future development of NEOBIOTA and on the venue of the NEOBIOTA conferences
- Elect the President, Vice President and Secretary of NEOBIOTA

MEMBERS OF THE NEOBIOTA BOARD:

Sven Bacher, Giuseppe Brundu, Franz Essl, Piero Genovesi, Ingo Kowarik – Honorary President, Ingolf Kühn, Bruce Osborne, Petr Pyšek, Helen Roy, Montserrat Vilà.

Session I – Risk assessment and management of invasive species

FROM INVASIVES TO ECO-PRODUCTS: DANUBECARE'S STRATEGY AGAINST THE INVASIVE SPINY-CHEEK CRAYFISH

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The spiny-cheek crayfish, *Faxonius limosus*, is a native species of Eastern and North America that has been introduced to Europe. Nowadays, this species is found in more than 20 European countries and is listed as an Invasive Alien Species (IAS) of Union concern. The first record of *F. limosus* in Serbia was in the Danube River near Apatin in 2002. Given the available data and the high dispersal rate of this species, its invasive range in Serbia is more extensive than documented, with a tendency for a high degree of expansion in the future. Since this species is one of the most critical aquatic invaders in European inland waters, there is an urgent need to address the problem of its impact on biodiversity. The DANUBECare project (“Reducing the negative impact of invasive crayfish *F. limosus* in the Danube by smart exploitation of their meat and shells”), funded by the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia, aims to manage the spiny-cheek crayfish by transforming this invasive species into a variety of eco-products, aligning with the concept ZERO WASTE. These eco-products include food for human/pet consumption made from spiny-cheek crayfish meat, while crayfish shell will be used as an adsorbent for removing heavy metal ions from wastewater, rubber bio-filler, and chitosan-based biomaterials for packaging application. The DANUBECare project represents state-of-the-art research and innovation that may be applicable to other IAS. Moreover, the DANUBECare project includes several actions aiming to familiarize and promote citizen-scientists through their role as consumers for sensory evaluation of newly developed food products, surveys, and use of the “Invasive Alien Species in Europe” Web App, which allows citizens to report sightings of IAS of Union Concern. This research was supported by the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia, GRANT No.7417. “Reducing the negative impact of invasive crayfish *F. limosus* in the Danube by smart exploitation of their meat and shells”, DANUBECare