



**Union Internationale  
de Spéléologie**

[www.uis-speleo.org](http://www.uis-speleo.org)



# **Guide for Nominations**

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August 2020

## 1 – INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this guide is to provide an overview of the UIS prizes as well as information on how to make nominations for 2021.

The UIS prizes were introduced by the Organizing Committee of the 11<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology (ICS) in China (1993) and formally accepted by the UIS Bureau at the 12<sup>th</sup> ICS in Switzerland (1997).

According to the Internal Regulations of the UIS, “Prizes are given at the International Congress of Speleology for specific accomplishments at the congress or during the period since the previous congress. Prizes may be given for outstanding books, scientific posters presented at the congress, and other contributions to speleology as determined appropriate by a Prize Committee appointed by the UIS Bureau.

*The Prize Committee will also decide the number of prizes, who will receive them, the nature of the prize (e.g. certificate, medal, funds, etc.), and other conditions as necessary per the unique materials and accomplishments present at a congress or since the previous congress.*

*The prizes are not competitive and not related to the cartographic, photographic, athletic, and other competitions at the congresses. More than one prize may be given for a category, and prizes will not be given if the Prize Committee does not find accomplishments worthy of the recognition.”*

## 2 – PARTICIPATION

Participation in the UIS prizes for 2021 is open to any person and/or association, except for the UIS Bureau Members. Submission of a nomination implies acceptance of these regulations, the purpose of the UIS prizes, and the decisions made by the judges. Nominators grant the UIS the right to use, at no cost, all photos, graphics and images that were sent as part of the nomination to support the goals of the UIS.

## 3 – CATEGORIES

For the UIS Prizes 2021, five categories are considered:

### **CATEGORY 1:**

#### ***The Most Significant Cave Discovery/Exploration***

The UIS Bureau reserves the right to nominate additional discoveries for this prize. If more than one discovery or exploration deserves an award, an Honorable Mention may be given.

### **CATEGORY 2:**

#### ***The Most Significant Publication About Caves or Karst***

Scientific and/or technical publications will be considered for this prize. Two subcategories are considered for this prize, as follows:

#### ***2.a – Printed Publication***

#### ***2.b – Digital Publication***

### **CATEGORY 3:**

#### ***The Best Special Book***

Printed or digital books that are important speleological publications but not necessarily related to scientific/technical topics will be considered for this prize.

### **CATEGORY 4: Poster Prize**

Prize for the best poster displayed at the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS (<https://uis2021.speleos.fr/>).

Two subcategories are considered for this prize, as follows:

***4.a – The Best Scientific Poster*** – Selected by a committee of judges at the congress.

***4.b – The Best Cavers’ Prize Poster*** – Selected by a vote of the visitors to the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS poster exhibition.

Both posters can be on any cave or karst-related topic. Entries in the cave photographic and surveying competitions are ineligible for this prize.

No poster should exceed 2 m (height) x 1 m (width). A concise title is recommended, as well as the name, institutional affiliation and address of the author(s). Each poster should also include information about the materials and methods used, the results obtained (even if preliminary), and the conclusions reached. The posters may contain photos, figures, tables, and maps. Authors must present their posters in the location and as directed by the congress so they can be judged easily by the committee and the visitors to the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS poster exhibition.

### **CATEGORY 5:**

#### ***Greatest Scientific Achievement***

Prize for the most important or significant scientific achievement in any area of cave or karst research.

## 4 – NOMINATIONS

As the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS was postponed to July 24-31, 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the new deadline for nominations is **April 30, 2022**.

When nominating, please, specify the category. In the case of books, the same nomination will be accepted for both categories 2 and 3, if specified properly.

E-mail is the preferred method of submitting nominations, which should be in English.

Books in categories 2 and 3 will be accepted in the other official UIS languages too (*French, German, Italian, Spanish, and Russian*). However, the nomination and all basic information about the publication must be sent in English.

Below are the prize committee members and their addresses. Please email your nomination to all of them individually and also send a copy (CC) to [uis-prizes2021@uis-speleo.org](mailto:uis-prizes2021@uis-speleo.org).

- **Nivaldo Colzato (Brazil)** – *UIS Adjunct Secretary  
UIS Prize 2021 Committee Chair*  
[nivaldo@karinaetiquetas.com.br](mailto:nivaldo@karinaetiquetas.com.br)
- **José Ayrton Labegalini (Brazil)** – *UIS Past President*  
[ja.labegalini@uol.com.br](mailto:ja.labegalini@uol.com.br)
- **Jean-Pierre Bartholeyens (Belgium)** – *President of  
the UIS Commission on Karst and Cave Protection*  
[jp.bartholeyens@gmail.com](mailto:jp.bartholeyens@gmail.com)

All nominators will be informed once their nomination is officially registered.

**4.a - Nominations for Category 1** (the Most Significant Cave Discovery/Exploration) **and Category 5** (Greatest Scientific Achievement) should include the following information:

- **Person responsible for the nomination:** *full name and contact address.*
- **Brief description of the discovery/exploration or achievement and its significance:**
- **Location:**
- **Discovery/exploration or achievement team or team leader(s):**
- **Photos:** *maximum of five for future use by the UIS Prize Committee. They must be in JPEG format. In a separate file, send the name of each photo file, caption for the photo, and the name of the photographer.*
- **Publication(s) about the discovery/exploration or achievement:** *specify if any.*

**4.b – Nominations for Category 2 (The Most Significant Publication About Caves or Karst) and 3 (Special Book)** should include the following information:

- **Person responsible for the nomination:** *full name and contact address.*
- **Title of the publication:**
- **Author(s):**
- **Brief description of the publication and its significance:**
- **Publisher:**
- **Date of publication:**

- **Language(s):**
- **Cover photo(s):** *in high resolution—if possible—and JPEG format.*
- **Information about printing:** *Color, paper, size, number of pages, etc.*
- **Website for digital version, if available:**
- **Digital file:** *if the file is smaller than 12 Mb, send it by email. Otherwise, for larger files please send by Wettransfer ([www.wetransfer.com](http://www.wetransfer.com)) or other similar platform to transfer large files.*

**ATTENTION:** In addition to nominations via the Internet, we request that a hard copy of the book be sent to the following address:

**UIS PRIZES 18<sup>th</sup> ICS 2021 - BOOK NOMINATION**  
**Att. FFS-Fédération Française de Spéléologie**  
**28 rue Delandine - 69002 LYON**  
**FRANCE**

Please, do not forget to write **UIS PRIZES 18<sup>th</sup> ICS 2021-BOOK NOMINATION** on the package. Such information is important so that the officers of the French Federation of Speleology (FFS) can easily recognize and separate it from the other materials of the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS.

The nominators will be informed once their package is in hands of the FFS.

The books will be displayed during the congress for appreciation of the public as well as for the technical analysis of the judges. After the congress, the book will become a part of the UIS library. The Prize Committee reserves the right to cancel a nomination if the printed copy cannot be displayed at the congress.

**4.c – For Category 4 (Poster Prize)** there will be no nominations but only judgment by a scientific committee composed of international experts (**Best Scientific Poster**) and voting by the visitors of the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS (**Caver's Prize Poster**).

## 5 – JUDGING

- **Category 1** will be judged by a committee of international speleologists familiar with exploration throughout the world.
- **Categories 2, 3, and 4.a** will be judged at the congress by a scientific committee invited by the Prize Committee.
- **Category 4.b** will be selected by the votes of the visitors of the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS exhibition posters.
- **Category 5** will be judged before the congress by a scientific committee invited by the Prize Committee. The names of the judges will not be released to preserve the confidentiality of the process.

## 6 – AWARDS CEREMONY

The UIS Prizes 2021 Award Ceremony is planned for the closing of the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS. The ceremony will be illustrated by a Power Point presentation of the awards and will be led by the Prize Committee Chair. No results will be released before the Awards Ceremony.

## 7 – RECOGNITION

Prize winners will receive an award certificate. Different types or additional awards (e.g. medal, plate, funds, etc.) may be given by the UIS Prize Committee per the unique accomplishment of the awarded nomination and/or the materials and circumstances of the congress or since the previous congress.

Prize winners will also be recognized in a report

on the awards that will be published in the first issue of the UIS Bulletin after the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS. Photos taken during the Awards Ceremony will illustrate the report. Additionally, the UIS is developing a permanent page for “UIS Awards” on its website [www.uis-speleo.org](http://www.uis-speleo.org) where the winners will be listed.

## 8 – FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The UIS encourages the international speleological community to submit nominations. For any question or information concerning the UIS prizes, please, contact the UIS Prize Committee Chair at [uisprizes2021@uis-speleo.org](mailto:uisprizes2021@uis-speleo.org).

Comments and suggestions on the nomination process and operation of the UIS prizes are always welcome.

**Finally, do not forget, please: THE NEW DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS APRIL 30, 2022.**



General view of the Université Savoie Technolac/Le Bourget-Du-lac, France, place of the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS.



Sports Complex Emile Allais will hold the poster exhibition of the 18<sup>th</sup> ICS. <https://uis2021.speleos.fr/>