



# ASPIS Open Symposium 2023

---

14-15 September 2023  
Ljubljana, Slovenia

---

## Table of Contents

<b>ASPIS</b> .....	2
Annual report .....	2
<b>Location</b> .....	3
Ljubljana.....	3
<b>Venue</b> .....	4
<b>How to get there</b> .....	4
By plane .....	4
By train or coach .....	4
By bus.....	4
By car .....	4
Parking.....	5
<b>Accommodation</b> .....	5
Exe Lev .....	6
Eurostars uHotel .....	6

## ASPIS

### **Animal-free Safety assessment of chemicals: Project cluster for Implementation of novel Strategies**

The ASPIS cluster is a joint collaboration of the H2020 funded projects: [ONTOX](#), [PrecisionTox](#), and [RISK-HUNT3R](#), representing Europe's €60M effort towards the sustainable, animal-free and reliable chemical risk assessment of tomorrow. ASPIS includes more than 70 institutions across 16 European countries, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The third ASPIS Open Symposium in 2023 will be held on 14-15 September 2023 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The event is organised at the [GR – Ljubljana Exhibition and Convention Centre](#). All scientific sessions, keynote presentations, poster sessions and meetings will be held in the GR. The congress centre also provides ample space for networking.

The event will follow the 57th Congress of the European Societies of Toxicology, [EUROTOX](#). The symposium will present the latest work of the ASPIS cluster, provide an update on the progress and achievements within the cross-project Working Groups, and focus on the implementation of New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) for chemical risk assessment.

The first day of the Symposium will be open to external attendees and collaborators. We invite all those interested in learning more about the work within the cluster to join us at the event.

#### Annual report

The first year of the ASPIS cluster focused on establishing a formal organisational structure, WG formation, mission and goals development, and identifying areas for cross-consortia collaboration.

The most significant successes include the development of two case studies revolving around two toxicological endpoints: steatosis and developmental neurotoxicity (DNT), and the development of a joint Next Generation Risk Assessment (NGRA) framework – ASPIS Safety Profiling Algorithm (ASPA).

To learn more about the progress and achievements made by the cross-project ASPIS Working Groups, the first Annual Report of the cluster can be downloaded from the website: <https://aspis-cluster.eu/annual-reports/>

## Location



Coiled up by mountains, surrounded by Austria, Italy, Hungary and the Adriatic Sea on the one side, and Croatia on the other, Slovenia is a Central European country with 2 million inhabitants. The country joined the European Union in 2004 and the Schengen Zone in 2007, and hosted the EU presidency in 2008. The Slovenian currency is Euro.

Learn more about Slovenia: [www.slovenia.info/en](http://www.slovenia.info/en)

## Ljubljana

Many visitors say that Ljubljana is a city you fall in love with at the first sight. It is no coincidence that it already has the word love in its name. On the one hand, authentic and embedded in culture and long history, on the other hand, modern, alternative and full of sparkling urban pulse. A place where you experience the right balance of the friendliness of a small town and the comfort of big cities.



Crowned the European Green Capital 2016, Ljubljana is one of Europe's greenest, most liveable and architecturally appealing cities. With just over 280 thousand residents, Ljubljana is a very safe destination that recognises a strong scientific potential generated by the Ljubljana University, which is sided by a host of research and scientific institutes (Jožef Stefan Physics Institute, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, UNESCO Centre of Chemical Studies, etc.).

Learn more about Ljubljana: <https://www.visitljubljana.com/en/>

## Venue

---

### **GR – Ljubljana Exhibition and Convention Centre**

Dunajska cesta 18, 1000 Ljubljana

---



The largest event centre in Slovenia, the GR Exhibition and Convention Centre is located within walking distance to the medieval town centre and to the majority of the hotels. All halls are wheelchair accessible. High-speed wireless internet access can be accessed in all halls and conference rooms.

## How to get there

### By plane

Ljubljana Jože Pučnik Airport (LJU) offers a scheduled direct connection to approx. 30 destinations in Europe, including all major European hubs. The Ljubljana Airport is located about 25 km from the city (20 min drive).

### By train or coach

The main train station and coach station are located 5-minute walk from the GR. From either station, follow the signs towards Dunajska Street. Turn right into Dunajska Street, walk straight under the railway overpass for about 300m and you will arrive to the GR.

### By bus

When taking the bus to get to the GR, get off at the bus stop Razstavišče – directly at the venue entrance. The following lines will get you to the GR: 3G, 6, 7, 7L, 8, 11, 11B, 12, 12D, 13, 14, 19B, 19I, 20 and 20Z.

### By car

The GR address is Ljubljana, 18, Dunajska Street. No matter which direction you come from, take one of the city's main entrances to the city centre. At the crossroads at the Intercontinental Hotel, drive onto the Dunajska Street. Go under the railway overpass and after about 300 metres you will see the GR halls on the right. If you arrive into the city along Dunajska Street from the North, turn left at the last crossroads before your destination (GR) onto the Linhartova Street, at the first junction, turn right and you will get to the fairgrounds from the back, where the parking lots are.

## Parking

In the vicinity of the GR, there are parking lots available along following streets: **Vilharjeva, Železna, Linhartova, Valjahunova and Dunajska**. During large fairs and events, we also recommend the use of the **Bežigranski Dvor Parking House** and the parking lots in **Parmova street** and **at the Railway Museum**, only few minutes' walk away.



## Accommodation

ASPIS Open Symposium attendees are welcome to book their accommodation at one of the designated hotels. Please quote **ASPIS2023** at the time of booking.

Participants are requested to book their rooms individually and solely through the links provided below to claim one of the rooms blocked for the event. To take advantage of the special room rates, participants should book their accommodation until 13<sup>th</sup> August 2023 (one month prior to the event). After 13<sup>th</sup> August 2023, rooms will be released and further requests will be accepted according to availability.

### Exe Lev

**Address:** Vošnjakova ulica 1, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

**Distance from venue:** 950m

Sporting an impressive glass façade, **Exe Lev** opened in 1964 and rises high above a renowned former restaurant in the centre of Ljubljana. The quality of its services has made this establishment a reference in the city, and over the years it has hosted famous faces including Louis Armstrong, Bob Dylan and Luciano Pavarotti.



Recently renovated, the hotel offers a **contemporary design with retro touches**, creating a **warm ambience** of timeless elegance while always respecting the history of its facilities. Guests can enjoy **breath-taking views of the city** from its upper floors. Meanwhile, a vast selection of fine wines, cognacs and cocktails awaits guests in the cosy and inviting atmosphere of the bar.

#### **Book your room at Exe Lev:**

[https://www.eurostarshotels.co.uk/exe-lev/mice.html?s=ASPIS2023&promotion\\_code=ASPIS2023](https://www.eurostarshotels.co.uk/exe-lev/mice.html?s=ASPIS2023&promotion_code=ASPIS2023)

### Eurostars uHotel

**Address:** Miklošičeva cesta 3, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

**Distance from venue:** 1.2km

Located right next to the iconic Grand Hotel Union Eurostars in the centre of Ljubljana, **Eurostars uHotel** shares some of its facilities. This partnership dates back to 1979, when the former Grand Hotel Union bought an additional building, which is now Eurostars uHotel.



Together, they boast the largest **conference centre** in Ljubljana and offer **three dining options** for foodies who want to tickle their taste buds: the Union Restaurant, Grand Union Café and Atelje Bar-Restaurant. They also share a **wellness area** with swimming pool, massage treatments, saunas and a terrace with superb views of the city.

#### **Book your room at Uhotel:**

[https://www.eurostarshotels.co.uk/eurostars-uhotel/mice.html?s=ASPIS23&promotion\\_code=ASPIS23](https://www.eurostarshotels.co.uk/eurostars-uhotel/mice.html?s=ASPIS23&promotion_code=ASPIS23)