



## 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of International Hamster Workgroup

Dear Colleagues,

As agreed during the 26th Meeting of the IHWG, the Polish team is working on preparations for the 27th Meeting. The University of A. Mickiewicz in Poznań is cooperating in this task with the Polish Society for Nature Conservation "Salamandra" and the authorities of Jaworzno Municipality.

We have already booked the place and date of the meeting - Jaworzno, 23-25 October 2020. Both the meeting and the accommodation of the participants would take place in the Pańska Góra Hotel (<https://panskagora.pl>). On the last day, the field session (the last point of the Meeting's agenda) would end in Krakow, so those who would not want to go back to the hotel could stay there and visit this interesting city.

We ask all interested persons to make an initial booking in their calendars.

Currently, efforts are being made to obtain financial support for the organization of this Meeting in order to reduce the costs of participants' fees as much as possible.

**Unfortunately, as we all know, the situation of the conferences and other meetings this year is uncertain. We would very much like not to expose any of the participants to the risk of coronavirus infection, nor to the problems related to travel restrictions. Currently in Poland all scientific conferences organized by universities are suspended and cancelled. Consequently, it is also impossible to obtain grants for them. We do not know how long this situation will last. Therefore, we would like to inform that the Organizing Committee is also considering the possibility of postponing or cancelling this year's meeting. That is why we also try to avoid related expenses or final reservations. We strive to prepare for all possible options. We will also be grateful for sending us your opinions on this matter.**

We wish everyone health and many interesting scientific discoveries in the upcoming fieldwork season. We will keep you informed about the developments.

Yours sincerely,

Organizers of the 27th Meeting of the IHW

Poznań, March 12, 2020

The Meeting is supported by:

