

## **IAUS333: Peering towards Cosmic Dawn**

Oct 2-6, 2017, Dubrovnik, Croatia

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Ruđer Bošković Institute (Croatia) and University of Groningen (The Netherlands) organized the 333rd IAU Symposium: “Peering towards Cosmic Dawn” (<https://iaus333.irb.hr>) in Dubrovnik, Croatia, from 2 till 6 October 2017, bringing for the first time an IAU symposia to Croatia.

More than 80 participants attended the conference. The fraction of students and young researchers was around 60%. The fraction of female participants was around 25%, while the fraction of female invited speakers was 50%.

The scientific programme of the symposium was organized in 15 x 90min sessions, consisting of 8 invited reviews, 12 invited talks and 48 contributed talks. There were 3 posters and a 60min discussion.

During the symposium participants presented and discussed some of the major results from the current Epoch of Reionization (EoR) experiments (using e.g. LOFAR, MWA and PAPER), constraints on when and where the first sources formed in the early Universe and began (re)ionizing the predominantly neutral all-pervasive intergalactic medium, cutting-edge auxiliary foreground science (both Galactic and extragalactic), and future directions in this field of research (e.g. in connection to HERA and SKA).

The outreach programme of the symposium was directed to the general public and high school students. V. Jelic (RBI) gave a public lecture in Croatian entitled “Searching for the first stars in the universe” followed by stargazing. This event was organized at The Museum of Modern Art in Dubrovnik in collaboration with the Technical educational association of the city of Dubrovnik (<http://www.ztk-du.hr>) and the Astronomy Club Korčula (<http://www.korcula.net/astro/>). Several local and national media followed this event, reaching more than 50 000 viewers/readers.

IAUS333 has received generous funding from the International Astronomical Union (<https://www.iau.org>); RadioNet (<https://www.radionet-org.eu/radionet/>) - the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 730562; the University of Groningen (<http://www.rug.nl/research/kapteyn>); ASTRON - The Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy (<http://www.astron.nl>); the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia (<https://mzo.hr>); and the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Foundation (<http://info.hazu.hr/>). 24 researchers have received travel support from aforementioned funding sources.

The Dubrovnik Tourist Board (<http://www.tzdubrovnik.hr>), the Croatian National Tourist Board (<http://www.htz.hr>) and Badel 1862 (<http://www.badel1862.hr>) also provided support to the symposium through their products and services.

Proceedings of IAUS333 will be dedicated to Prof. dr. Ger de Bruyn (1948-2017), who has been a leading figure in radio astronomy in the last few decades and has been instrumental in the development of LOFAR, especially the LOFAR-EoR key science project. The proceedings will be published as International Astronomical Union Proceedings Series within six months of the symposium by Cambridge University Press.



Some photos from the IAUS333 in Dubrovnik, Croatia.