



## Bulgaria becomes the 20<sup>th</sup> European country represented in CETAF

### Two new state entities join forces with the Consortium of European Taxonomic Facilities

The National Museum of Natural History of Sofia and the Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research (which is part of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) share aims with the Consortium of European Taxonomic facilities to operate jointly within this unique network of collections-based Institutions. The membership was recently approved at the Natural History Museum of Vienna during the General Meeting of CETAF held in the capital of Austria.

#### Collections

The National Museum of Natural History of Sofia reports, among others, a collection of lichens unique for the region together with collections of fossil mammals and birds of South-East of Europe. The Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research accounts for the most characteristic natural history collections for the flora and mycota of South-East of Europe. The invertebrate collections of both institutions are highly representative of the region.

#### Some figures

The two joint collections amounts to more than 2 million individual specimens. It includes Zoology, Paleo botany, Palaeontology Palynology, Mycology and Herbarium.

#### The Consortium

CETAF welcomes both entities with their associated biological collections and research expertise. The Consortium of European taxonomic Facilities keeps on growing and summing resources accounting already for 58 Institutions from 20 different European countries in a common effort to promote training, research and understanding in Systematic Biology and Palaeobiology.

*For further information please contact:*

CETAF [General Secretariat](#)

[info@cetaf.org](mailto:info@cetaf.org)

[www.cetaf.org](http://www.cetaf.org)