

# Exchange of Knowledge and Expertise in European Mining History, Mining Archaeology and the Study and Preservation of Ancient Mining Landscapes

## INSTITUTE EUROPA SUBTERRANEA

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### Our Goals

In 2007 the Institute Europa Subterranea was founded after two international symposia were held on the subject of archaeological mining history. The institute has its seat in Maastricht, but is merely the scientific umbrella for mining historians and mining archaeologists in the entire European Union. The institute connects individual researchers and creates the necessary scientific framework, which normally is lacking due to the very specialist character of the disciplines involved. The institute also tries to raise European funding for research projects of individual researchers and scholars who like to execute their projects under the flag of the institute. The institute intends to advise local authorities on the subject of valuation and managing industrial archaeological and social-historical mining heritage, both underground and at the surface.

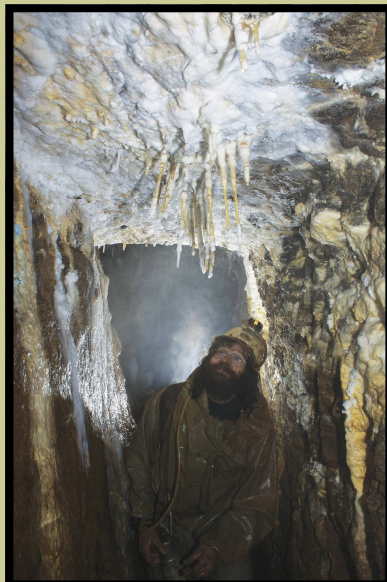
### Social awareness

As Europe slowly shapes itself, our national borders fade. For the current situation this means that the protection of our industrial archaeological heritage is still under negative influence of existing borders. As wildlife protection and preservation of natural habitats become more and more protected under European law it is more recognised within the international community as being part of common shared interests. However, the existence of our regional cultural heritage is in danger of being neglected, despite European laws and regulations, in particular objects of ancient mining. The main part of this heritage is situated underground and might also still lay hidden to be discovered one day! In most European regions the protection of industrial archaeological mining heritage is a difficult matter, because so many aspects must be taken into consideration.

### Social-historical importance

Historical architecture is appreciated all around as important enough to preserve and protect as examples of human achievement. Often, one forgets that the great architects were not able to do what they did without the existence of mining. Beneath the surface of the European continent lies a hidden world which forms the negative of everything that is cherished today as social-historical heritage. The underground halls and labyrinths are at least as impressive as Gothic cathedrals and equally important are the traces of what our forefathers thought and dreamed. Not only as graffiti or names on walls, but also in the form of a complicated figurative culture. The concealed underground spaces gave people the opportunity to express themselves any which way they desired to, while at the same time it could cost them their lives when done so in everyday society at the surface. In the underground we can read what people really thought of things, because underground there was no one watching them. Thus, we can recognize even today the transition from the darkness of the Middle Ages to more liberal and enlightened times.

**Participate in the IES network and become a designated associate now !**



# Association Application

YES, I would like to become a designated member of the IES network !

What does the IES expect from you ?

The IES is a group of people, who are actively involved in the field of

RESEARCH, PRESERVATION & CONSULTANCY  
concerning mining archaeology and mining history

Our strenght lies in the exchange of knowledge and expertise with respect of the individual research subjects of our participating members. With our individual state of expertise we help others to establish the same in their field of work. For the IES national borders do not exist anymore. Mining has always been influenced by the transfer of international knowledge and in the spirit of the past miners we would like to hold on to this thought.

1. Since 2008, the IES has been publishing the research of its associates. As of 2009, the IES intends to start with its own magazine, which will be published in the English language max. twice every year and which is being established to be able to inform the members of research, which is currently being executed across the member states. - (EUR 9,95)
2. The IES publishes a yearbook at every International Symposium on archaeological Mining History it organises. In English. - (EUR 39,95)
3. The IES started publishing its scientific reports for individual research results of its members, mostly in their own language. - (EUR 29,95)
4. The IES can be your international relation when dealing with local matters on ancient mining.

**To become a participating associate you have to be actively involved in one of the fields above. In return for your association we expect one written contribution per year for either the magazine, yearbook or scientific report series.**

## Associate fees (incl. subscription to the magazine):

Participating associate	EUR 30,- p.a.
Friend of the IES (no written contribution acquired)	EUR 50,- p.a.

Bank account ABN AMRO, Av. Ceramique Maastricht, the Netherlands :

IBAN: NL 73 ABNA 0586274715

BIC code: ABNANL2A

**To register yourself please send us an e-mail or letter stating your full details and field of research.**