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# Workshops and MC meeting

Ahead of the International Society for Chemical Ecology meeting, E-NICHE organized two workshops (for WG2 an WG4) and a management committee meeting at the ISCE venue in Prague. During the workshops WG4 laid the foundations for social media activities, including the launch of our <a href="LinkedIn page">LinkedIn page</a>, (now counting more than 150 followers) and recording and launching our YouTube channel, where we just released <a href="Our first video">Our first video</a>! The WG2 workshop featured an exciting series of contributions from across the diversity of European CE research, including former ISCE president Ted Turling's invited talk. During the second MC meeting, we looked back at an exciting and busy first year. For more information on and photos of these meetings, check out our website.

## E-NICHE @ ISCE

E-NICHE was well-represented at the ISCE meeting in Prague. During the special E-NICHE young researcher award symposium, Kaia Kask and Radenka Kolarov presented their work. Their participation in and travel to the meeting was sponsored by the E-NICHE young research award. In addition, the representative of the young researchers, Júlia Katalin Jósvai, presented a poster on our COST action and many E-NICHE members presented their work during the meeting.

## **Evora, Portugal 2025**

Next year, we will have our E-NICHE workshops and the third MC meeting in Evora, Portugal from 25 to 27 June. Eduardo Nuno Barrata, one of our MC members, will be our host. Mark your calendars, more information will follow!

## **Training School in Evora**

A training School on "Plant Synthetic Biology" will be organized by Henrik Toft Simonsen beginning of July 2025 in Evora after our E-NICHE meeting. More information will follow.

#### The Grants in E-NICHE

Five grants for Short Term Scientific Mission (STMS) and two grants for Young Research and Innovators (YRIs) were provided by E-NICHE during 1st Grant Period. The countries of the grantees for STSM are Belgium, Portugal, Greece, Germany and France. The countries of the YRI grantees are Estonia and Serbia. Total 21000 Euro was allocated



for all grants during 1st grant period. We will dedicate more budget for STSMs the next financial year beginning in November 2024.

# New E-NICHE (co)-leaders

After an exciting but also busy year, Maryse Vanderplanck will depart as WG4 co-lead and is replaced by Christelle Robert. Maryse, thank you for your hard work and contribution to the exciting first year of E-NICHE. You will be missed. Welcome Christelle, we are looking forward to working with you on the WG4 activities and beyond. Earlier, we already welcomed Pavel Stopka as new WG1 co-lead and François Verheggen as the new Science Communication Coordinator.

# Perspective in *Entomologia Generalis*

We are pleased to announce that the core group wrote a perspective, led by François, that is now published in *Entomologia Generalis*.

# **Inspiring young chemical ecologists**

Our YRI representative is pleased to announce the upcoming E-NICHE mentorship program aimed at connecting young chemical ecologists with mid- and late-career scientists. At this point, we would like to first recruit enthusiastic mentors. We are looking for mid- and late-career researchers and professionals in Chemical Ecology research or industry that are members of E-NICHE and motivated to inspire and support young scientists. To overcome financial and geographic constraints, the program would be primarily focused on remote mentorship, with contact online. There will be an in-person get together during the Evora meeting to which all mentors and mentees are invited. Interested in contributing to this mentorship program and inspiring a new generation of chemical ecologists? Contact our YRI representative.

And we know many of you are great inspirators already, because some of you ran into Kaia Kask this July at ISCE and shared some great views on what young chemical ecologists (and researchers in general) should keep in mind going forward in their career. You will see each of the great responses Kaia received in a series of posts on LinkedIn. Here's the first one!

### **Job opportunities**

Do you have any open positions or application calls? Please contact us so that we can add these to the newsletter and share on our LinkedIn page.

Don't forget to have a regular look at our <u>webpage</u> to stay tuned on our activities and find contact information of the E-NICHE leadership! We hope you have a lovely start of the academic year