



WELCOME TO THE XXIII ISPRS CONGRESS

**Welcome from Congress Director
Lena Halounová**

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It is my pleasure to write these words one month before the first day of the Prague XXIII ISPRS Congress. Authors from all over the world submitted nearly two thousand contributions. Submissions for the reviewing were twofold – abstracts and full papers.

Abstracts were peer-reviewed and after acceptance, authors were asked to submit a final paper to be



published in the ISPRS Archives. Full papers were double-blind reviewed and the authors of accepted papers submitted their final papers to be published in the ISPRS Annals.

771 experts worked as reviewers and processed 3550

reviews in the period between 13 December and 1 February 2016.

Their reviews were constructive and encouraging. A considerable number of reviewers dealt with substantially more than 10 reviews. I would like to express my admiration for the work they did in their leisure time during quite a difficult period – from the end of 2015 to the beginning of 2016 – without any

reward. Since the review process was blind, authors cannot thank their reviewers for recommendations, new ideas and useful advice.

It is not possible to count the hours that all researchers, authors, Working Group Chairs, Technical Commission Presidents and members of the Local and International Program Committees spent in the preparation of the Congress, but I am sure that together all their effort and energy is equivalent to that spent in the construction of the Charles Bridge in Prague. We do not know the names of the people who worked on its construction; however, we still use the bridge today. Nevertheless, we do know the names of all authors of submissions, those which were and were not accepted to the Congress. We will be able to find them from 1 July 2016 in the XXIII ISPRS Congress publications at the ISPRS webpage.

I believe your “stones” to the development of photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial sciences will forward our knowledge, to allow us and everyone who might need it, to continue our work – work which helps people, and benefits the Earth when it is used in the right way. It is far from trifle.

So, please, do not give up when you feel discouraged. Try to find a solution. We will appreciate it – maybe already during this Congress, maybe in the future.



Prague Castle and Charles Bridge