• Wednesday, 04th November 2026

17:00 – 19:00 **WORKSHOP: New generations in the laboratory – how ready are we for them?**

• **Leader: Olga Štajdohar-Pađen /CROLAB/ CRO**

20:00 **WELCOME**

• Thursday, 05th November 2026

10:00 - 11:30 **Opening Session**

Chairs: V. Živković, V. Popijač, T. Jakovljević

Greeting / opening of the conference
• **V. Živković /CROLAB/ CRO**

Standards as the Infrastructure of Trust
• **A. M. Boljanović, D. Novota Krajnović /HZN/ CRO**
Ensuring the Validity of Results in a Microbiological Laboratory
• **I. Ljevaković Musladin /ZZJZDNZ/ CRO**

11:30 - 12:00 **/Coffee break/Photo/Poster placement /**

12:00 - 13:30 **Lectures and Round Table**
Club of analytical laboratories
Chairs: I. V. Petric, V. Popijač, N. Mikulec

European soil interlaboratory comparison within UN ECE ICP Forests programme
• **T. Jakovljević /HŠI/ CRO**
Evaluation of analytical performance in Proficiency Testing with a limited number of participants
• **Š. Zamberlin, N. Mikulec, I. Horvat Kesić, B. Radeljević, J. Špoljarić, D. Plavljanić, M. Kalčićek, S. Kalit /AF/ CRO**
How to Accredit an "Unusual" Method? Challenges and Solutions from a Parasitology Laboratory
• **R. Beck /HVI/ CRO**
The role of surface charge of PET microplastic particles in interactions with dyes
• **P. Mihovilović, B. Vojnović /TTF/ CRO**
From Idea to Product: Laboratory Analytics, Knowledge and Technology Transfer
• **A. Šporec, M. Lovrić /BICRO BIOCENTAR/ CRO**

DISCUSSION

13:30 - 14:30 **Lunch break**

14:30 - 16:00 **Lectures and Round Table**
Club of calibration laboratories
Chairs: M. Katić, L. Grgec Bermanec

EQB-Pascal: Bringing Quantum-Based Pressure Standards to Calibration Laboratories – The Role of FSB-LPM
• L. Grgec Bermanec on behalf of the EQB-Pascal consortia **/FSB/ CRO**
CryoMet project: Advancing Metrology for Liquefied Energy Gases
• **I. Matas , L. Grgec Bermanec /FSB/ CRO; J. Kutin, G. Bobovnik /Fakultet za strojništvo/ SLO**
Development and Characterisation of a 10 m Reference Length Measurement Bench
• **Marko Katić , M. Milanović Litre, P. Črgar /FSB/ CRO**
Metrological evaluation of hardness reference blocks produced by Selewctive Laser Melting
• **D. Pustički, Ž. Alar /FSB/ CRO**

DISCUSSION

17:00 - 22:00 **Guided tour of the cultural sights of the city of Dubrovnik**

• Friday, 06th November 2026

09:30 - 11:00 **Lectures and Round Table**
Club of testing laboratories
Chairs: D. Štuhec, V. Živković

Testing the Effectiveness and Application of Different VpCI Methods for Corrosion Protection of Metals
• **A. Balković, S. Mikolić /EcoCortec d.o.o./ CRO**
Testing Methodology for Novel Photocatalytic Materials in Water Treatment: g-C_3N_4 vs. TiO_2
• **D. Biševac, H. Juretić, D. Ljubas /FSB/ CRO**
Dimensional Stability and Bond Quality of Wood Flooring with Integrated Heating – Contact Deformation Measurement and 3D Optical Surface Scanning
• **T. Sedlar, V. Živković, A. Novosel, J. Miklečić, T. Gržan, G. Mihulja /FŠDT/ CRO; I. Kunović /Robokacija d.o.o./ CRO**
Development of Wood Coverings with Integrated Electric Heating (GRIpod): From Laboratory Research to a Functional Product
• **A. Novosel, T. Sedlar, V. Živković /FŠDT/ CRO; I. Kunović /Robokacija d.o.o./ CRO**

DISCUSSION

PRESENTATION
80 Years of Weighing Excellence: Innovations for Laboratories and Industry
• **G. Hećimović /METTLER TOLEDO/ CRO**

11:00 - 11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30 - 12:30 **ROUND TABLE**
Moderator: T. Kelemen, I. Sabljak

AI in the Laboratory: Who Will Write Tomorrow's Test Reports?
• **T. Kelemen /HIBOURG d.o.o./ CRO**

12:30 - 13:30 **Poster Section / Poster presentation**

Chairs: T. Jakovljević, B. Vojnović, I. V. Petric

13:30 - 14:30 **Lunch break**

14:30 - 16:15 **FORUM**
Development / Challenges in the field of accreditation

Moderator: M. Zečević

Updates from HAA and the challenges in assessing laboratories in regards of use of Artificial Intelligence
• **I. Stamenković /HAA/ CRO**

DISCUSSION

16:15 - 16:30 **Conclusions and Closing of the Conference**

CROLAB President V. Živković

WELCOME

Dear colleagues, we are inviting you to the 21st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE "LABORATORY COMPETENCE – Dubrovnik 2026", from 04th to 06th November 2026. The Conference is dedicated to the role of laboratories in economy. Our desire is to establish cooperation and contacts between CROLAB laboratories and with administration bodies, governmental bodies of neighbouring and other countries - members and future members of the EU. We are looking forward to seeing you!

CROLAB

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Dr. Andreas Kinzel (EUROLAB) D
Prof. Eugenia Eftimie Totu (EURACHEM) RO

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Prof. dr. sc. Ž. Zgorelec (AF) CRO

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

- Plenary speakers and oral presentations
- Round tables
- Poster presentations with short oral presentations
- Exhibition of laboratory equipment and literature

Official Conference languages are Croatian and English

TOPICS

- Activities and news in testing, calibration and analytical laboratories and inspection and certification bodies.
- Role and position of laboratories in Croatia, region and EU
- Cooperation with ministries, governmental agencies (accreditation, metrology, standards), universities and institutes

REGISTRATION FEE

380€ + VAT
330€ + VAT for CROLAB members
280€ + VAT for students, research assistants, retired people
230€ + VAT Accompanying persons fee
230€ + VAT 1day fee
Lecturer's (first author) admission fee is lowered by 20 %
(304€ + VAT, CROLAB member 264€ + VAT)
VAT is 25%.
The fee includes: Book of summaries, Book of proceedings and other organizational costs.
The fee has to be paid to the following account number:
IBAN: HR8623600001101693588, Zagrebačkabanka d.d., Trg bana Josipa Jelačića 10, 10000 Zagreb,Croatia, with the participant's name and surname and the purpose of payment: "For the CROLAB Conference 2026".
CROLAB's OIB number: **94462158597**

REGISTRATION, CONTACTS AND DEADLINES

Online registration for the conference is available on the website www.crolab.hr. Please register as soon as you can in order for us to better organize the conference. Please send Abstract of your work in English for the Book of Abstracts and full papers for publication in Conference proceedings by 10 October 2026 at the latest.
Abstracts of all lectures and posters will be included in the Book of Abstracts. The Papers will be peer-reviewed and published in Conference Proceedings. Abstracts are required, and papers are optional. Poster dimensions are 90x100cm.
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ACCOMMODATION

Conference attendees and accompanying persons will benefit from very favourable accommodation rates that we secured in Hotel Dubrovnik Palace. Participants are kindly requested to book their accommodation until 20 October 2025, with the note "CROLAB2026".
Hotel Dubrovnik Palace, Masarykov Put 20, 20000 Dubrovnik
phone: +385 20 430 000
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CROLAB
HRVATSKI LABORATORIJI
CROATIAN LABORATORIES
LABORATORIA CROATICA

21st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

LABORATORY COMPETENCE 2026

04th – 06th of NOVEMBER 2026

HOTEL DUBROVNIK PALACE
DUBROVNIK – CROATIA

AUSPICES
MZOM, MP, HGK, HAA, HZN, DZM, HIS