

Second Announcement and Call for Posters

IGD-TP Exchange Forum

RD&D challenges from siting to industrialisation

25-27 November 2025, Prague, Czech Republic

We are delighted to announce that the IGD-TP will hold its 10th international Exchange Forum on research, development and demonstration (RD&D) challenges in geological disposal programmes for radioactive waste. Hosted by SÚRAO in November 2025, the event is open to all IGD-TP members and stakeholders interested in geological disposal of radioactive waste.

Geological disposal projects are first-of-a-kind projects, span several decades, and are multi-billion endeavours. National waste management organisations (WMOs) are at different stages on the path to implementing geological disposal and each stage (site identification and investigation, licensing, construction and operation) has particular challenges. The national WMOs will share RD&D challenges that each is facing in their current activities and how these are being approached. The Exchange Forum is an opportunity to share lessons learnt and to discuss future research plans.

Our 10th Exchange Forum provides an excellent opportunity to:

- Discuss new issues and the status of WMO programmes.
- Learn about WMO emerging and ongoing RD&D priorities.
- Explore the potential for collaborative research with IGD-TP members and the broader radioactive waste community.
- Present a poster on your work in the field of geological disposal and take advantage of great networking opportunities.
- Visit research and disposal facilities in the Czech Republic.
- Experience the wonderful city of Prague.

Poster sessions will be held to showcase radioactive waste management RD&D that aligns to the IGD-TP's [Strategic Research Agenda](#). Exchange Forum participants are strongly encouraged to submit poster applications that are consistent with this goal.

Talks and posters presented at the Exchange Forum will be made available online where possible.

The third day provides an opportunity for attendees to tour the Bukov Underground Research Facility, the Richard Repository, or the laboratories at Research Centre Řež. Tour numbers are limited.

The EURAD Bureau will also host a separate meeting on the afternoon of 26 November. The aim of this meeting is to further develop the long-listed proposals for the second wave of EURAD-2 funding. Registration for this meeting is through the same registration system as for the Exchange Forum.

Call for Posters

Throughout the Exchange Forum the IGD-TP will host a series of poster sessions that aim to showcase the cutting-edge radioactive waste management RD&D of our community. We strongly encourage you to submit poster applications that align to the IGD-TP [Strategic Research Agenda](#). Poster abstract submission is now open.

Poster submission: Please submit your poster application via the IGD-TP website (www.igdtb.eu). The submission must include the poster title, authors and their affiliations, and an abstract of no more than 300 words. We strongly encourage you to submit poster applications that align to the IGD-TP [Strategic Research Agenda](#); the Key Topic area that your poster is most closely linked to must be identified. There will be a prize for the best poster.

Deadline: Poster abstracts must be submitted by 29 August 2025.

Accepted poster authors will be notified by 30 September 2025 and a release consent form supplied at that time. The poster presenter must physically attend the Exchange Forum.

Guidance: Poster sessions will be grouped according to Key Topics in the IGD-TP [Strategic Research Agenda](#). The posters will be set up in the refreshment area within the venue to increase visibility and attendee interaction. One of the significant advantages of a poster presentation is that it allows one-on-one time with the audience for exchange of information and to answer questions. Poster presenters are encouraged to verbally and visually convey the importance of their subject, including its implications and significance.

Presenters are to bring the hardcopy poster with them. The posters are to be A0 in size and will be in portrait (vertical) orientation.

To increase the visibility of your work, we would also like to publish the selected posters on the IGD-TP website after the event. If you would like us to include your poster on the website, then a PDF file copy of your poster must be provided by 15 November 2025 to secretariat@igdtb.eu.

Outline Programme

Time (CET)	Item
Day 1 – Tuesday 25 November 2025	
0830 – 0930	<i>Individual arrival, registration and refreshments</i>
0930 – 1000	Welcome
1000 – 1040	Emerging and ongoing RD&D priorities for those WMOs currently identifying a GDF site – Part 1
1040 – 1110	Refreshment break and poster session
1110 – 1230	Emerging and ongoing RD&D priorities for those WMOs currently identifying a GDF site – Part 2
1230 – 1400	Lunch and poster session
1400 – 1440	Emerging and ongoing RD&D priorities for those WMOs currently identifying a GDF site – Part 3
1440 – 1520	Panel session on Learning from WMOs that have Selected a Site
1520 – 1550	Refreshment break and poster session
1550 – 1710	Special session on Emerging RD&D Needs Due to SMR Proposals
	Conference Dinner
Day 2 - Wednesday 26 November 2025	
0830 – 0900	<i>Arrival and refreshments</i>
0900 – 1020	Emerging and ongoing RD&D priorities of those WMOs implementing a GDF at a selected site
1020 – 1030	Group photo
1030 – 1100	Refreshment break and poster session
1100 – 1220	Panel session on the ongoing and changing RD&D needs as disposal facilities are constructed and operated
1220 – 1240	Summary, award of best poster and event close
1240 – 1400	Lunch
	EURAD-2 Wave 2 proposal meeting (organised by the EURAD Bureau)
Day 3 - Thursday 27 November 2025	
	An optional visit to the Bukov Underground Research Facility, the Richard Repository or the Research Centre Řež laboratories.

Day 3 Tour Options

Bukov Underground Research Laboratory (pvpbukov.cz)

The Bukov underground research facility (URF) is located 550 metres below the surface in the former Rožná uranium mine, which was the last uranium mine in operation in Central and Western Europe before its closure in 2017. Experiments are conducted at the Bukov URF aimed at obtaining data on the behaviour of the rock environment at the expected depth of the future deep geological repository. It is also used for in-situ testing of the materials being considered for the construction of the engineered barriers. The first section of the Bukov URF was put into operation in 2017 and the second section of the underground complex, which includes 13 test chambers, opened earlier this year. *This will be a full-day tour including lunch. There are 25 places available.*



Access gallery BZ-XIIJ of Bukov URF I

Richard Repository (sura.gov.cz)

The Richard Repository has been in operation for over 60 years. Formerly a limestone mine, a secret Nazi factory and currently the oldest waste disposal facility in the Czech Republic, the Richard facility has been used for the disposal of intermediate and low-level radioactive waste since 1964. The facility is located near to the historic town of Litoměřice and is used for the disposal of so-called institutional waste (i.e. materials from the industry, healthcare and research sectors). Some of the waste is accepted for storage (rather than disposal) pending its final disposal in the planned Czech deep geological repository. The Richard disposal facility also includes a certified testing facility for waste packages and special form radioactive substances. *This will be a half-day tour and will include lunch. There are 24 places available.*



Richard Repository

Research Centre Řež (cvrez.cz)

Building on the experience of its parent company ÚJV Řež, the Research Centre Řež (CVŘ) was established in 2002 to undertake research and development in the energy sector, with a relatively broad scope, especially in the nuclear field. A modern research base with expert teams, CVŘ also has a unique experimental infrastructure including the LVR-15 and LR-0 research reactors, process loops, hot cells and a full range of state-of-the-art laboratories. *This will be a half-day tour (finishing mid-afternoon) and will include lunch. There are 32 places available.*



Research Centre Řež Hot Cell

Practical Details

Registration: Registration for the Exchange Forum is now open via the IGD-TP website (www.igdtp.eu). The total number of participants is limited. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis with a final decision by the Organising Committee.

Registration fee: The costs of the Forum are subsidised by the IGD-TP. However, a small fee is required to support the event:

- The Exchange Forum registration fee (€150). Includes participation, refreshments and lunch on both days, and the conference dinner on 25 November. A reduced fee of €50 is available for students.
- The optional technical tour on 27 November is €50. This includes return transport from Prague, refreshments and lunch.

For those attending only the EURAD Wave 2 meeting there is no registration fee. This meeting starts after lunch on 26 November.

Exchange Forum venue: The Forum will be held at the OREA Hotel Pyramida Praha, Bělohorská 24, 169 00 Praha 6, Česká Republika (<https://www.orea.cz/en/hotel-pyramida>). Travel directions and advice are provided on the IGD-TP website.

Accessibility: We would like to make this event as accessible as possible. We strongly encourage you to contact us if you need further information or have any queries.

Please note that for the optional tours on day 3, participants should be in good physical condition as there are some steps to take and a certain distance to walk. There are also some participant exclusions for tours involving radiation-controlled areas; please see <https://igdtp.eu/event/igd-tp-exchange-forum-10/> for further details.

Accommodation: The cost of accommodation is not included in the registration fee and must be booked and paid directly by the participant. However, a discount on the room rate at the event hotel is available to registered participants (the code will be provided during registration).

You will find more accommodation and travel options, as well as Prague attractions and events information, at the official tourism website: <https://prague.eu/en/>

Key Dates

14 March 2025	First announcement
1 June 2025	Registration opens
2 June 2025	Second announcement and call for posters
29 August 2025	Poster abstract submission deadline
30 September 2025	Selected poster presenters informed
1 October 2025	Registration closes
31 October 2025	Final programme published
15 November 2025	Deadline to supply presentation files
25-27 November 2025	IGD-TP Exchange Forum
23 December 2025	Event summary, presentations and posters published on www.igdtb.eu

Further information will be added to the IGD-TP website as it becomes available (<https://igdtb.eu/event/igd-tp-exchange-forum-10/>). For any other questions please contact secretariat@igdtb.eu