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**Meetings and Congresses – Treffen und Kongresse****8th International Congress of Dipterology  
First announcement**

[8. Internationaler Kongress für Dipterologie. Erste Ankündigung]

The 8th International Congress of Dipterology will be held at Potsdam near Berlin, Germany, on 10–15 August 2014. The organizing committee consists of Netta DORCHIN, Marion KOTRBA and Frank MENZEL.

Only about 30 minutes from the bustling German capital with its museums, shops, theatres and pubs, the small town of Potsdam harbours famous tourist attractions such as Frederick the Great's famous Sanssouci Palace with its beautiful park area, Filmpark Babelsberg, the Biosphere, and the cosy streets of the "Dutch Quarter".

The congress will take place at the Kongresshotel Potsdam, once the construction site of Count Zeppelin's famous airships and today a modern and spacious building beautifully situated on the banks of Lake Templiner. The hotel offers accommodation for all participants as well as all scientific sessions under one roof, with ample space for relaxation, socializing, and discussions



during coffee breaks. There is also the restaurant / beer garden “Seekrug” immediately next to it. Check out these locations at  $52^{\circ}22'22''\text{N}$   $13^{\circ}00'54''\text{E}$ .

The scientific programme will include broad-scope sessions covering large taxonomic groups (e. g., Nematocera, Orthorrhapha, Eremoneura, Calypttrata, acalypttrate families) as well as general topics (e. g., higher level Phylogeny, Morphology/Anatomy/Ultrastructure, Physiology, Biodiversity, Conservation, Evolutionary Biology, Behaviour, Diptera of Economic Importance, Diptera in Forensic Entomology, Diptera in Medical Entomology, and Fossil Diptera).



We plan to combine the congress with special public outreach activities, the most important of which is the award-winning exhibition “Flies” (“Fliegen – Mouches”) originally created by Christophe DUFOUR and Jean-Paul HAENNI (Neuchâtel). The exhibition will be presented at the Museum of Natural History in Berlin during the congress. Our congress logo is largely based on the design of this exhibition. We also plan other activities, such as a fly-related art exhibition, promoting a fly for “insect of the year”, a celebration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of the founder of European dipterology Johann Wilhelm MEIGEN (1764–1845), a Diptera postage stamp, public talks, press conferences, etc.

We have already secured substantial financial support from the Senckenberg Foundation (as can be seen from the logo) and will apply for additional funds from other scientific foundations and sponsors.

With ample input from the dipterological community worldwide this will become yet another wonderful congress. Keep up-to-date as our new website ([www.icd8.info](http://www.icd8.info)) takes shape and do not hesitate to contact us with ideas, wishes and suggestions.

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