



18th International Congress of the Mediterranean Phytopathological Union (MPU)



**Plant Health and Cooperation for Mediterranean Food
Security and Safety**

Cairo, Egypt | 15–18 November 2027

1st Announcement

Dear Plant Health Community,

We are pleased to invite you to the **18th International Congress of the Mediterranean Phytopathological Union (MPU)**, to be held in **Cairo, Egypt**, from **15 to 18 November 2027**.

The Mediterranean region is facing rapidly evolving challenges to **plant health, agricultural sustainability, food security, and food safety**, driven by climate change, emerging pests and diseases, water scarcity, soil degradation, and increasing pressure on agricultural resources. Addressing these interconnected challenges requires stronger scientific cooperation, technological innovation, knowledge exchange, and coordinated regional action. The Congress will also provide a **multidisciplinary scientific forum** bringing together researchers, universities, research institutions, policymakers, agricultural stakeholders, industry representatives, and young scientists from Mediterranean countries and beyond. It will promote the exchange of knowledge and experience, foster new scientific partnerships, and facilitate the development of innovative and practical solutions for **healthy, resilient, sustainable, and safe agri-food systems**.

Congress Objectives:

- Addressing **emerging threats to plant health**, including diseases, invasive species and climate-related stresses.
- Strengthening the role of **plant health as a cornerstone of food security and food safety**.
- Promoting **scientific, technological, and digital innovation** in plant health and crop protection.
- Fostering **regional and international research cooperation**, knowledge sharing, technology transfer, and capacity building.
- Promoting **evidence-based policies and coordinated regional responses** to transboundary plant health and food safety challenges.
- Developing practical and scalable solutions supporting **sustainable and resilient Mediterranean agri-food systems**.
- Mediterranean Cooperation, Research and Capacity Building.



Main Scientific Topics

1. Emerging and Invasive Plant Disease Threats
2. Climate Change Challenges and Plant Health
3. Soil Health and Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry
4. Plant Diseases and Food Security
5. Disease Forecasting and Detection
6. Alternatives to Pesticides and Biocontrol
7. Integrated Disease Management
8. Artificial Intelligence and Precision Plant Protection
9. Post-Harvest Diseases and Food Safety

Young Scientists and Early-Career Researchers

The active participation of MSc and PhD students and early-career researchers (ECRs) is strongly encouraged. To facilitate their participation, reduced registration fees will be offered, **along with** awards for outstanding oral and poster presentations.

Scientific Contributions and Publication

- The official language of the Congress is **English**.
- Accepted abstracts of oral and poster presentations will be published in the MPU international, open-access journal *Phytopathologia Mediterranea*. The journal will also feature selected review and research papers arising from contributions presented at the Congress.
- Further information on the **scientific programme, registration, abstract submission, important dates, and Congress activities** will be provided in forthcoming announcements.
- While the dedicated Congress website is under development, preliminary information is available on the MPU website:

[Mediterranean Phytopathological Union \(MPU\)](#)

Join Us in Cairo

We invite the **Mediterranean and international plant health community** to join us in Cairo for this important scientific event. The Congress will provide an opportunity to exchange scientific expertise, establish new collaborations, strengthen Mediterranean cooperation, and contribute to solutions for the future of **plant health, food security, and food safety**. Beyond the scientific programme, participants will have the opportunity to experience the **rich history, culture, and heritage of Egypt**.

We look forward to welcoming you in Cairo

Congress Coordinator

Prof. Dr Salah M. Abdel-Momen

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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