

MOUNTAIN SPORTS SYMPOSIUM

Meet the speakers →



MOUNTAIN SPORTS SYMPOSIUM

Peja, Kosovo | 25-26 October 2025

Speakers:



LIONEL KIENER

UIAA Safety Commission
President, Mechanical Engineer



URS HEFTI

MD, UIAA Medical Commission
President, Orthopedic Surgeon,
Swiss Sportclinic



MRIKA NIKÇI

Mountaineer, first Albanian and
the youngest female in the
world to climb the Seven
Summits



UTA IBRAHIMI

Mountaineer and Environmental
Advocate, Mountain Guide and
Founder of Butterfly Outdoor
Adventures



GIACOMO STRAPAZZON

EURAC Mountain Clinic Director,
Institute of Mountain Emergency
Medicine



GEBHARD BARBISCH

President Commission for
Terrestrial Rescue of ICAR



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Speakers:



PER FORSBERG

UIAA Safety Commission,
Health and Safety Specialist
and Rope Access Technician



MATTHIAS HILTY

MD, UIAA Medical Commission,
Senior Physician, Institute of
Intensive Care Medicine
University Hospital Zurich



LINDA KEYES

MD, UIAA Medical
Commission, University of
Colorado, Adjunct Associate
Professor



DENI HAMEL

Kosovo Mountain Search and
Rescue Service



ALEXIS MALLON

UIAA Safety Commission Vice
President, IFMGA Mountain
Guide Teacher



DAVID HILLEBRANDT

MD, UIAA Medical
Commission, General
Practitioner



UAA



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Speakers:



KYRIAKOS ROSSIDIS

IFMGA Mountain Guide, BSc
Outdoor Studies and Sport Science,
East European Mountain Guide
Association Technical Director



ARIANI NIKÇI

FBNSK President



FREDERICO CAMPOS

UIAA Safety Commission,
petroleum engineer



GÉZA TÓTH

UIAA Training and Safety
Commissions



MENTOR VOKSHI

UIMLA Guide, "Peaks of the
Balkans" Guide



UIAA



PER FORSBERG (SWE)

UIAA Safety Commission,
Health and Safety Specialist and
Rope Access Technician



Per Forsberg is a Health and Safety Engineer from Sweden, specializing in fall-risk environments and confined spaces. A certified rope access technician and instructor, he has extensive experience working on suspension bridges and in the petrochemical industry. Within the UIAA, Per serves as the leader of the Safety Commission Working Group on Rock Anchors and is also active in many other working groups, contributing to the development and revision of international safety standards.

FREDERICO CAMPOS

UIAA Safety Commission,
petroleum engineer



Fred Campos is an avid climber and a mechanical and petroleum engineer with more than 20 years of professional experience. Representing the Brazilian Mountaineering and Climbing Confederation (CBME), he is a member of the UIAA Safety Commission and an active contributor to several of its Working Groups. Based near Rio de Janeiro, Fred is also engaged in the development and equipping of climbing routes in the region, combining his technical expertise and passion for climbing to improve local infrastructure. Through his dual role as engineer and route developer, he plays a key part in advancing both international safety standards and the sustainable growth of climbing at the grassroots level.

URS HEFTI (SUI)

MD, UIAA Medical Commission
President, Orthopedic Surgeon,
Swiss Sportclinic



Urs is a specialist in orthopedics/traumatology, surgery and sports medicine. He is head physician at the Swiss Sportclinic Bern and the orthopedic center Münsingen as well as partner of the sports medicine Cham. He has been a volunteer on various SAC and SGGM committees for many years and is President of the Medical Commission of the World Climbing Association UIAA. He also established the sport climbing and medicine courses as well as the high-altitude medicine course in Zermatt, which was the first specialty course in the world to be certified by the UIAA/ICAR/ISMM as "Expedition and Wilderness Medicine". In 1998 he worked for the Himalayan Rescue Association (HRA) in Pheriche, Nepal. He has led three major scientific research expeditions (Shisha Pangma, Muztagh Ata, Pik Lenin) and climbed various high mountains on several continents, including the 8046 m high Shisha Pangma.

LIONEL KIENER (SUI)

UIAA Safety Commission

President, Mechanical Engineer



Lionel Kiener is the President of the UIAA Safety Commission (SafeCom) and delegate of the Swiss Alpine Club. A dedicated mountaineer, he has been volunteering within the UIAA for more than a decade, contributing to the development of international safety standards for climbing and mountaineering equipment. His work includes research ranging from rope waterproofing and energy-absorbing systems for via ferrata to anchor corrosion. Professionally, Lionel is Principal Engineer for high-precision mechanisms for space at CSEM, a Swiss research and technology center, where he applies his expertise in micro-mechanics to aerospace applications. His unique combination of engineering excellence, alpine experience, and volunteer commitment makes him a leading figure in advancing mountain safety worldwide.

ALEXIS MALLON (FRA)

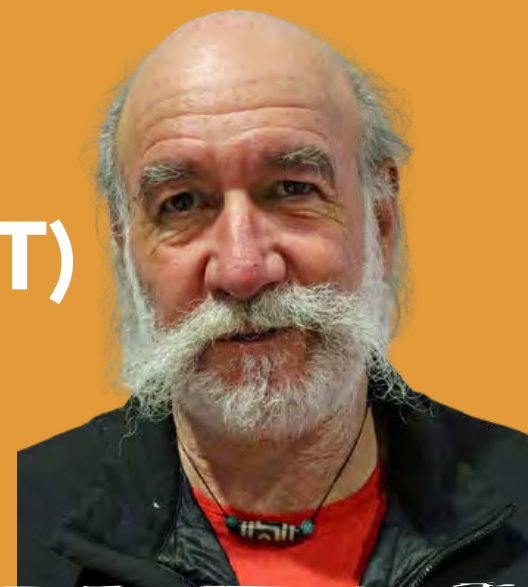
UIAA Safety Commission Vice
President, IFMGA Mountain
Guide Teacher



Alexis Mallon is Vice-President of the UIAA and a delegate on the UIAA Safety Commission, where he works on developing and refreshing standards. A mountain guide, engineer, and PhD in Physics, he has headed the "Matériels de montagne" test laboratory at ENSA (École Nationale de Ski et d'Alpinisme) in Chamonix since 2018. There he combines material testing with the training of future guides. He collaborates since many years in international federations (IFMGA, ICAR, UIAA, CEN) where he tries to promote and develop standards and processes for the common good.

GEBHARD BARBISCH (AUT)

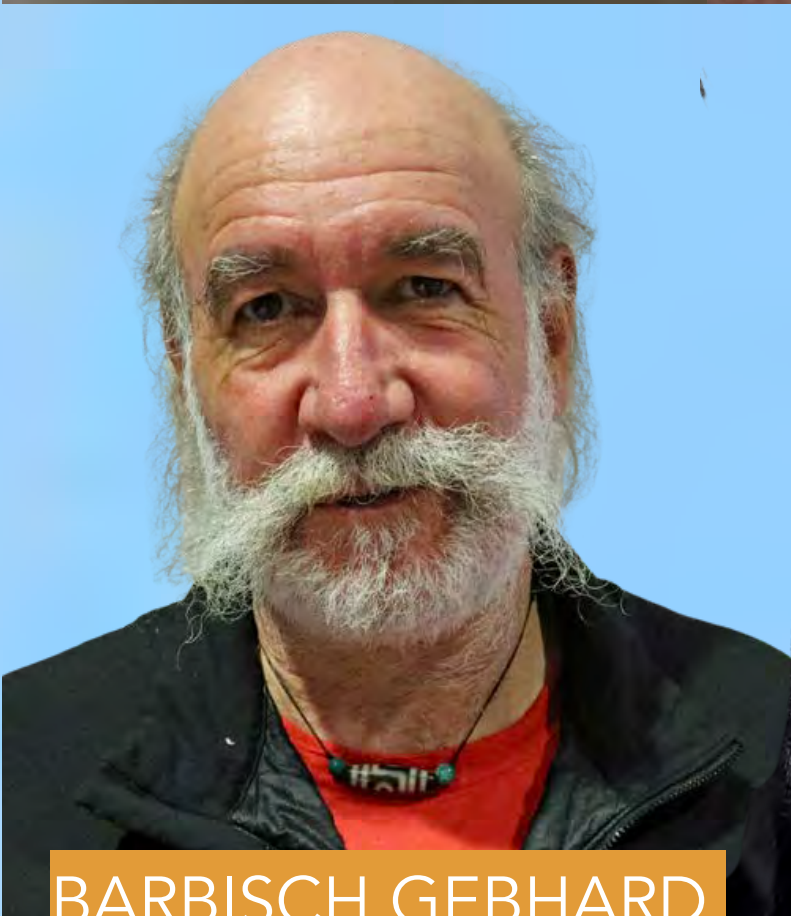
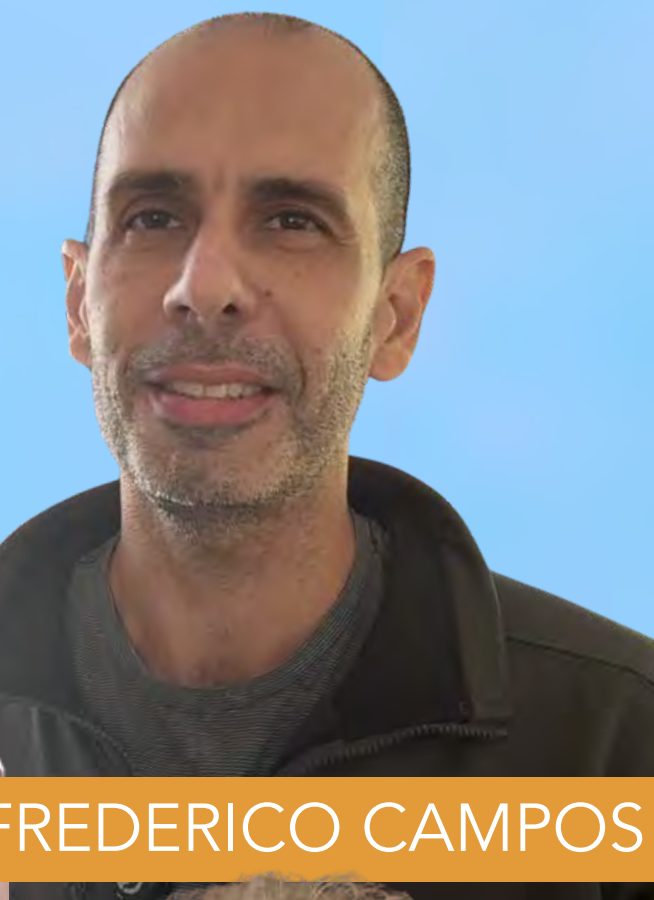
President Commission for Terrestrial
Rescue of ICAR



Gebhard Barbisch has been a member of the Austrian Mountain Rescue Service since 1977, beginning with the Rescue Unit in Rankweil, which he still considers his "home base." Over the decades, he has served as Deputy Head (1983–1985) and later Head (1985–1993) of the unit, and remains active today as a rescuer on missions, instructor, ski patroller, drone pilot, and incident commander. Since 1986, he has also been a Mountain Rescue Instructor and Incident Commander, shaping generations of rescuers in Austria. On the international stage, Gebhard has been an ICAR Delegate and Board Member, and he has served as President of ICAR's Terrestrial Rescue Commission for many years. He also represents ICAR within the UIAA as a delegate to the Safety Commission (SafeCom) since 2018, helping to build bridges between mountain rescue practice and the development of international safety standards.

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Peja, Kosovo | 25-26 October 2025



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PEJA, KOSOVO

25-26 OCTOBER 2025



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"The UIAA Mountain Sports Symposium is an excellent opportunity for climbers to tap into international safety, training and medical expertise across both theory and practical workshop sessions. As demonstrated by the inaugural event in South America it also presents a chance for climbers to develop a regional network of collaboration and develop projects of mutual interest."

Urs Hefti, President, UIAA MedCom

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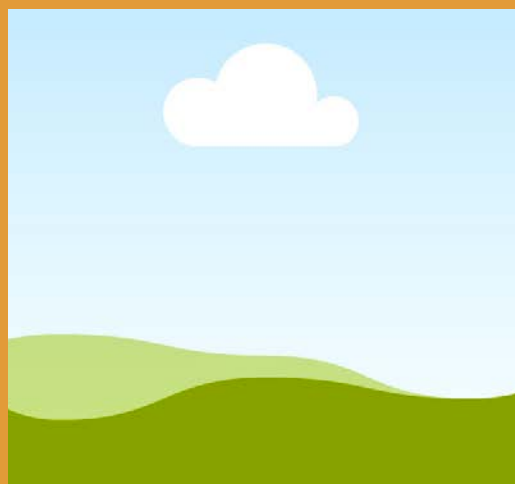


UIAA SAFECOM SPEAKERS



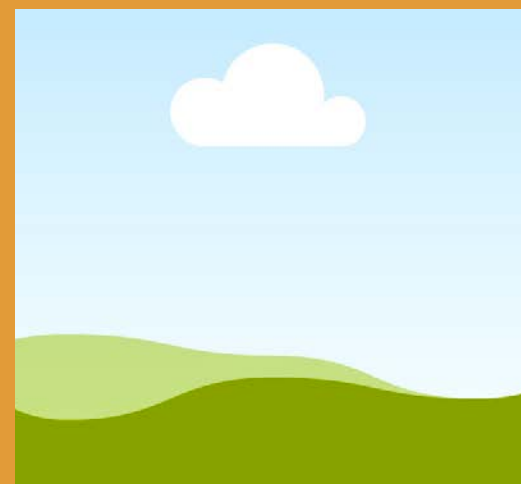
FORSBERG PER (SWE)

UIAA Safety Commission,
Health and Safety Specialist
and Rope Access Technician



FREDERICO CAMPOS

UIAA Safety Commission,
petroleum engineer



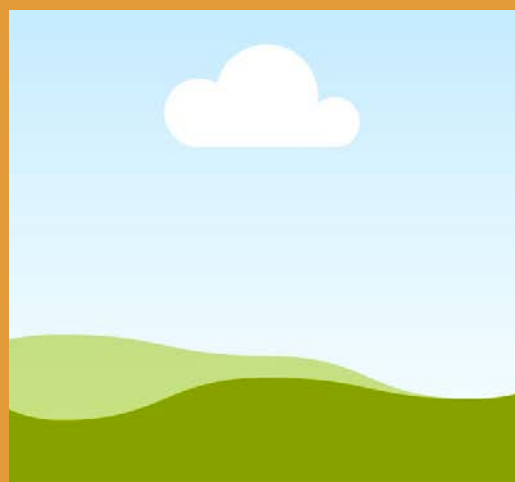
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Safecom Speakers



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petroleum engineer



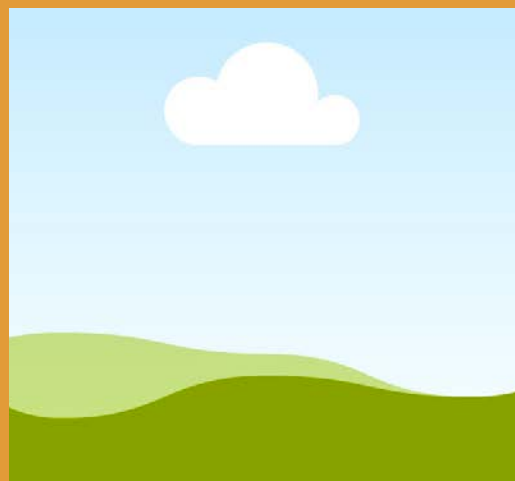
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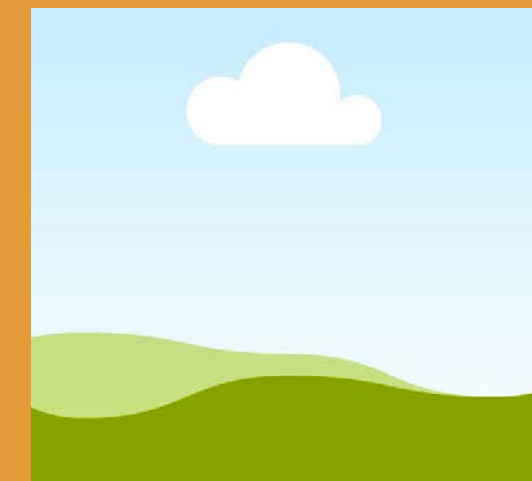
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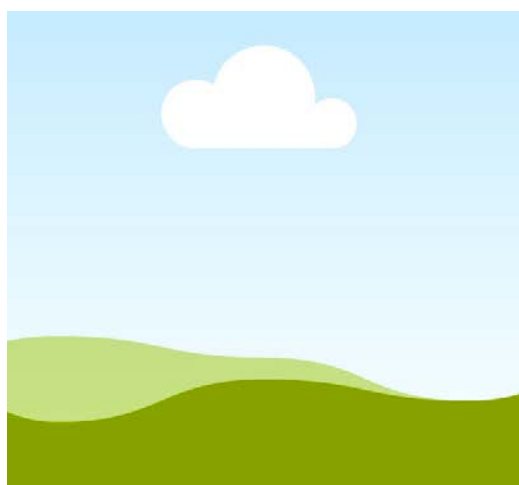
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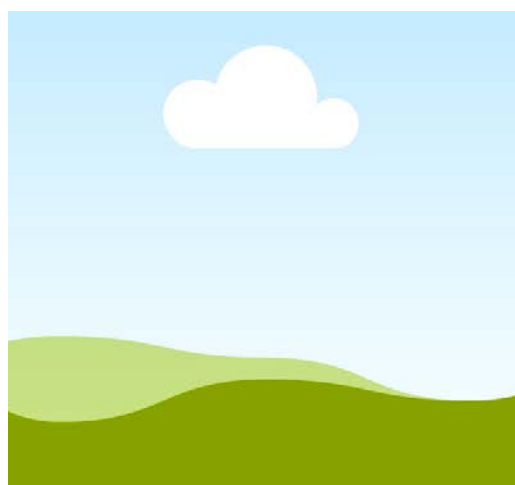


UIAA SAFECOM SPEAKERS



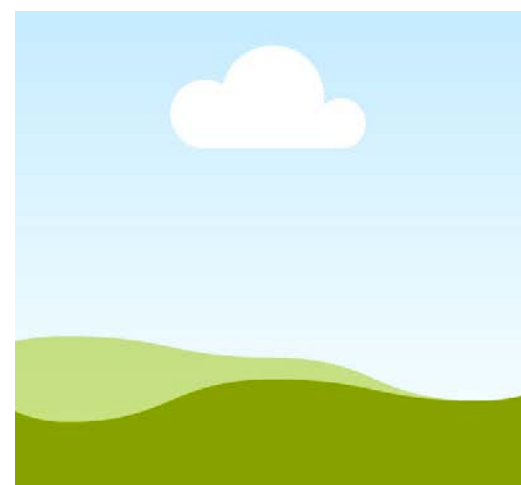
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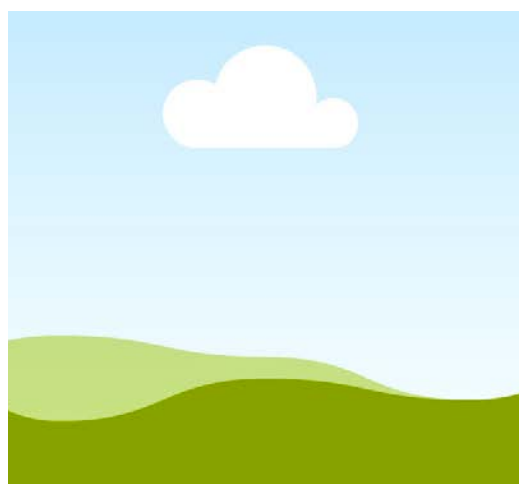
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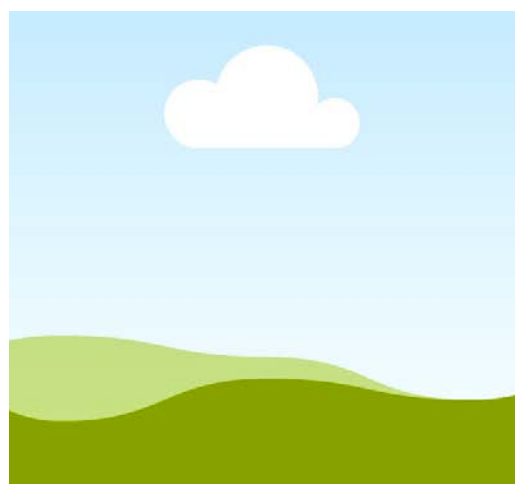
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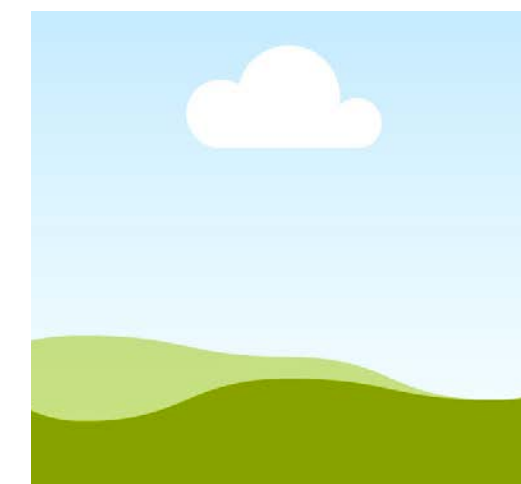
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TOTH GÉZA (BEL)

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