
In memoriam



Nikolay Tzankov
(7 April 1977-22 June 2016)



Dobrin Dobrev
(17 June 1958-22 June 2016)



Andrey Stoyanov
(12 January 1958-22 June 2016)

Our colleagues **Nikolay Tsankov**, **Dobrin Dobrev** and **Andrey Stoyanov** died in a road accident on 22 June 2016, during execution of herpetological studies in northern Greece.

Dr Nikolay Tsankov graduated at the Faculty of Biology, University of Sofia “St. Kliment Ohridski” (2001) and obtained PhD degree in zoology at the same university (2007). He worked as a research herpetologist (associate professor) at the National Museum of Natural History – Sofia (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences). His main research interests were in phylogeography, phylogeny, evolution, conservation management and ecology of amphibians and reptiles. During his short research career,

he published 95 papers. Nikolay was brilliant lecturer and mentor, teaching a course of herpetology at the University of Sofia and supervising 9 MSc and 3 PhD students. He was a member of the Advisory Board of *Acta Zoologica Bulgarica* and contributed very much to our journal as author and reviewer.

Dr Dobrin Dobrev graduated in 1986 at the Faculty of Biology, University of Sofia “St. Kliment Ohridski”, with a MSc thesis in herpetology. Later on, he completed his PhD thesis in acarology at the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest. He worked as a researcher at the Institute of Zoology (now incorporated in the Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) for many years. Dobrin participated in many projects, carrying out studies in acarology, ichthyology and herpetology. During 1999-2012, Dobrin Dobrev was a managing co-editor of *Acta Zoologica Bulgarica* and contributed to the improvement of our journal.

Andrey Stoyanov also graduated as a biologist at the University of Sofia “St. Kliment Ohridski” in 1986. He worked as a herpetologist at the National Museum of Natural History – Sofia and contributed to the maintenance and enrichment of its collections. His research interests were in ecology, ethology, zoogeography and somatometry of the amphibians and reptiles of Bulgaria and Balkan Peninsula. Andrey was the leading author and the engine of the project for preparation of the monograph *Die Amphibien und Reptilien Bulgariens* (592 pp.) published in Germany in 2011.

We express our sincere condolence to the families and the friends of our colleagues!

The tragic death of Nikolay Tsankov, Dobrin Dobrev and Andrey Stoyanov is an awful loss for the Bulgarian zoological community!

Editorial Board