

Belgrade Age Estimation Project Training School Successfully Held at the University of Belgrade

The Belgrade Age Estimation Project Training School, organized within the framework of the COST Action CA24147 and funded by the European Union, was successfully held on May 11–12, 2026, at the School of Dental Medicine, University of Belgrade.

This Training School represented the **first face-to-face** networking events organized within this COST Action, bringing together researchers, clinicians, students, and experts in the fields of forensic odontology, anthropology, and age estimation research. The event gathered 44 registered participants from nine different countries, including both trainees and trainers, while the total number of attendees and guests **exceeded 80 participants** over the two-day program.

The first day was dedicated to lectures and introductory sessions aimed at both participants who were less familiar with forensic odontology and those who are already focused on this discipline. Experts presented contemporary age estimation methods currently applied in everyday forensic practice as well as in anthropological research. Participants had the opportunity to gain insight into both classical and modern radiographic approaches used for age assessment in children and adults.

The second day focused on practical workshops and hands-on training. Participants applied several age estimation methods on real cases involving both children and adults, including the assessment of legal adulthood. Special attention was given to innovative digital tools and platforms based on artificial intelligence, which significantly facilitate and accelerate forensic analyses.

The final segment of the workshop included the analysis of skeletal material originating from the Early Medieval population in Serbia. During this session, participants combined traditional anthropological approaches with radiographic methods introduced during the previous days, applying them directly to archaeological and bioanthropological material.

The local organizing team from Belgrade ensured that the entire event was conducted flawlessly and at the highest professional level, leaving a strong impression on both the international participants and the local community.

Beyond the scientific and educational value, the Training School provided an exceptional opportunity for networking, exchange of ideas, and development of future collaborations among participants from different countries and disciplines. Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with many highlighting both the high scientific quality of the program and the welcoming atmosphere created throughout the event.

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