



ISAH 2026

# BROCHURE



**ISAH** 2026

From 25 to 28 October  
Leuven, Belgium  
Livestock and Wildlife:  
Partners in  
Health and Welfare

XXII Congress of the International Society for Animal Hygiene

**KU LEUVEN**





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## Introduction

Dear colleagues, friends, and participants,

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, the Scientific Committee, and the Executive Board of the International Society for Animal Hygiene (ISAH), it is my great pleasure to invite you to the **22<sup>nd</sup> ISAH Conference**, in **Leuven, Belgium**, hosted at **KU Leuven** from **October 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026**.

This edition's theme: "**Livestock and Wildlife: Partners in Animal Health and Welfare**", invites us to expand our scientific horizons and venture into new terrain. In 2026, **ISAH goes into the wild**. We explore the frontiers where domesticated animals and wildlife intersect, interact, and influence each other's health, welfare, and ecosystems.

Our shared interests bring together a truly diverse set of disciplines:

- **Wild and domestic animal health research**
- **Welfare and behaviour**
- **Preventive medicine, vaccines, novel strategies and chemoprophylaxis**
- **Hygiene and biosecurity at the wildlife domestic interface**
- **Game and meat safety, handling and processing hygiene**
- **One Health, One Welfare**
- **Environmental impacts of changing wildlife–livestock dynamics**
- **Embraces the rapidly evolving fields of microbiome science, precision genetics, phages and innovative feed additives**

This breadth reflects the evolution of ISAH since its foundation in 1970: a global platform where veterinarians, biologists, engineers, public health experts, and industry professionals gather to share knowledge and address emerging challenges. Over more than five decades, ISAH has remained a meeting place where scientific innovation leads to practical impact, improving animal health, safeguarding welfare, and strengthening food systems worldwide.

The **ISAH 2026 programme** continues this tradition with:

- Engaging **plenary sessions** featuring leading voices from wildlife health, livestock medicine, and One Health science
- A broad selection of **oral and poster sessions**
- Interactive **technical workshops** and **panel discussions**
- Opportunities for **international collaboration**, networking, and the exchange of new research and bold ideas



Leuven, home to one of Europe's oldest and most innovative universities, is the ideal setting for this dialogue. With a rich history, vibrant scientific community, and warm hospitality, we hope the city will inspire you as much as the scientific sessions themselves.

I sincerely hope that this congress will give each of you an opportunity to share your latest research findings, build new collaborations, and—perhaps most importantly—enjoy the shared curiosity and camaraderie that define the ISAH family. Beyond the official programme, I encourage you to discover Leuven, reconnect with colleagues, and allow room for the “**wild ideas**” that move our field forward.

**Hope to see you In Leuven and welcome you at ISAH 2026.**

**Let's explore the wild together.**

**Jan Paeshuyse**

Chair, ISAH 2026 Organizing Committee

KU Leuven, Belgium



## Scientific Program

### Day 1: Sunday October 25, 2026

| Sunday October 25th 2026 |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 12:00 - 14:00            | <i>Registration &amp; welcome refreshments</i>  |
| 14:00 - 14:30            | Opening Session   |
| 14:30 - 15:15            | Keynote: At the Interface: Reimagining Animal Health Across Wildlife and Livestock Boundaries |
| 15:15 - 16:00            | 3 selected oral presentation  |
| 16:00 - 18:00            | Welcome reception   |

### Day 2: Monday October 26, 2026

| Monday October 26th 2026 |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 8:30 - 9:00              | <i>Registration</i>   |
| 9:00 - 09:45             | Keynote: From Farm to Wild: Integrating One Health and One Welfare in a   |
| 09:45 - 10:30            | 3 selected oral presentation  |
| 10:30 - 11:00            | Coffee break  |
| 11:00 - 12:15            | 5 selected oral presentation  |
| 12:15 - 12:30            | 3 selected poster pitches   |
| 12:30 - 14:00            | Lunch break, exhibition & posters   |
| 14:00 - 14:45            | Keynote: From Farm to Wild: Beyond Biosecurity: Innovation, Ecology, and Coexistence at the Wildlife–Livestock Frontier |
| 14:45 - 15:30            | 3 selected oral presentation  |
| 15:30 - 16:00            | Coffee break  |
| 16:00 - 16:45            | 3 selected oral presentation  |
| 16:45 - 17:00            | 3 selected poster pitches   |
| 17:00 - 18:00            | ISAH Country Representative Meeting and General Assambly  |



## Day 3: Tuesday October 27, 2026

| Tuesday October 27th 2026 |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 8:30 - 9:00               | <i>Registration</i>  |
| 9:00 - 09:45              | <b>Keynote: Living Together: Behaviour, Welfare, and Health in Interconnected Animal</b>   |
| 09:45 - 10:30             | 3 selected oral presentation   |
| 10:30 - 11:00             | Coffee break   |
| 11:00 - 12:15             | 5 selected oral presentation   |
| 12:15 - 12:30             | 3 selected poster pitches  |
| 12:30 - 14:00             | Lunch break, exhibition & posters  |
| 14:00 - 14:45             | <b>Keynote: From Farm to Wild: Future Frontiers: Microbiomes, Genetics, and Novel Strategies for Animal Health in the Wild Age</b> |
| 14:45 - 15:30             | 3 selected oral presentation   |
| 15:30 - 16:00             | Coffee break   |
| 16:00 - 16:45             | 3 selected oral presentation   |
| 16:45 - 17:00             | 3 selected poster pitches  |
| 17:00 - 18:00             | <i>Poster &amp; network session</i>  |
| 19:00                     | Conference dinner and closing remarks at the faculty club  |

## Day 4: Wednesday October 28, 2026

| Wednesday October 28th 2026 |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 8:30 - 9:00                 | Registration  |
| Field visits                |   |
| 09:00 - 12:00               | Field Trip into the Wild      Guided Tour Leuven City |
| 12:00 - 13:00               | <i>End of Conference</i>                              |



## Venue: Thermotechnisch Instituut, KU Leuven

Kasteelpark Arenberg 41, 3001 Leuven, Belgium

The core of **ISAH 2026** will take place at the historic **Thermotechnisch Instituut** of KU Leuven. Built between **1926 and 1931** as part of the Special Engineering School, the institute originally served as a hands-on training environment where engineering students learned through demonstrations of engines, turbines, and large-scale industrial equipment.



Today, the building is recognized as a **protected monument** and stands as one of KU Leuven's most remarkable examples of **industrial academic heritage**, featuring a monumental machine hall with a striking black-and-white checkerboard floor. The hall houses an exceptional collection of steam engines, jet engines (including the historically significant **Whittle 700** and **Rolls Royce Derwent 8**), and other mechanical and electrical machines that once formed the core of engineering education.

### ISAH 2026 Activities at the Thermotechnisch Instituut

All major conference components will be organized within this unique venue:

- **Plenary sessions** will be held in the impressive **machine hall**, offering a visually stunning industrial backdrop that reflects the institute's rich engineering history.
- **Coffee breaks, lunches, and networking moments** will be arranged in the same hall, surrounded by historic machinery that remains preserved and operational.
- The **poster and networking reception** will take place among the museum-style collection, providing an inspiring atmosphere for scientific exchange.
- The building's restored spaces—frequently used by KU Leuven for academic ceremonies, lectures, and special events—ensure a professional yet distinctive experience for all participants.



As one of KU Leuven's premier heritage locations, the Thermotechnisch Instituut offers a memorable and intellectually fitting environment for ISAH 2026.



## Venue: Conference Dinner at Faculty Club Leuven

Set in the heart of Leuven, the Faculty Club offers an exceptional setting for the official conference dinner of the International Society of Animal Health Conference 2026. Located within the UNESCO-protected Grand Béguinage, this unique venue seamlessly blends centuries of heritage with contemporary comfort.

### A Unique Historic Atmosphere

Dating back to the 13th century, the beautifully restored buildings provide a truly inspiring backdrop for an unforgettable evening. Guests are welcomed into elegant halls and charming salons, where historic architecture meets refined modern design.

### An Outstanding Culinary Experience

At the Faculty Club, gastronomy is at the heart of every event. The in-house culinary team delivers a tailor-made dining experience, combining seasonal ingredients with creative flair. Whether served as a seated dinner or a refined banquet, each dish reflects a commitment to quality, freshness, and innovation.



### Versatile and Welcoming Spaces

From intimate salons to large historic halls accommodating up to 200 guests, the Faculty Club offers flexible layouts ideal for networking, celebration, and formal dining.

When weather permits, guests can also enjoy the idyllic inner garden, a tranquil green courtyard perfectly suited for aperitifs or post-dinner conversations.

### Excellence in Service

A dedicated team of experienced event professionals ensures that every detail is handled with precision—from ambiance and flow to culinary presentation—guaranteeing a seamless and memorable evening.

### Easy Accessibility

Situated just minutes from Leuven's city centre and easily accessible by public transport and car, the venue offers convenience alongside its exceptional charm.

Join fellow delegates for an evening of fine dining, networking, and celebration in one of Belgium's most remarkable historic venues.

### Coordinates

The Faculty Club  
<http://www.facultyclub.be>  
Groot Begijnhof 14, 3000 Louvain, Belgium



## Summary Table Important Dates

| Action                             | Date                      |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Call for abstracts opens           | 25 March 2026             |
| Deadline abstracts due             | 25 May 2026               |
| Author notification                | 15 June 2026              |
| Extended<br>Deadline abstracts due | 15 July 2026              |
| Author notification                | 21 July 2026              |
| Full papers due                    | 25 September 2026         |
| Early registration                 | 25 March – 15 July 2026   |
| Regular registration               | 15 July – 28 October 2026 |
| Conference begins                  | 25 October 2026, 14:00    |
| Conference ends                    | 28 October 2026, 14:00    |



## Instructions for Abstract Preparation

Authors submitting abstracts for the International Society for Animal Hygiene (ISAH) Meeting, taking place from 25 to 28 October 2026, are asked to follow the guidelines described below to ensure consistency across submissions. Abstracts must be written in English, and submitted through the following submission portal: <https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/81717/submitter>. The total length of the abstract text should not exceed 300 words, excluding the title, author names, affiliations, and references. Please use a clear font such as Calibri or Arial at 11-point size, with single line spacing and standard margins.

Each abstract should begin with the title, followed by the full names of all authors and their institutional affiliations, including city and country. The corresponding author's email address must be included, and the presenting author should be indicated. Abstracts must be submitted electronically before May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Submissions received after the deadline will be considered as late breakers. Authors whose abstracts are accepted may be invited to submit a full paper by September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Instructions for full papers will be communicated when authors are notified if their abstract is accepted.



## Registration is Open!

To register for ISAH2026, simply access our ONEButton application via the following <https://icts.kuleuven.be/apps/onebutton/profile/1479105/edit> . Once inside the platform, you can complete your registration and choose your preferred payment method: online payment, bank transfer, or payment by invoice. For all bank transfers, please make sure to include the required Belgian Structured Communication (OGM-VCS) exactly as follows: **+++400/0029/30247+++**. This structured code is essential to correctly match your payment with your registration.

## Early-Bird Registration until July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026

| Category                    | Fee  |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Student                     | €250 |
| Academia / NGO / Government | €350 |
| Industry / Private Sector   | €550 |

## Regular Registration from July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026, onward

| Category                    | Fee  |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Student                     | €300 |
| Academia / NGO / Government | €450 |
| Industry / Others           | €750 |

## Optional Items

| Item                             | Fee            |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Conference Dinner Ticket         | €65 per person |
| Field Trip or Leuven Guided Tour | €45 per person |



Want to be kept in the loop?

Tap into the latest information on ISAH2026 on:



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/22nd-isah-conference-in-leuven-belgium/about/?viewAsMember=true>



<https://www.biw.kuleuven.be/biosyst/a2h/hpi/do-not-miss-out>



<https://www.instagram.com/isah20262/>



<https://www.isah2026.be>



## ISAH 2026

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**Thank you!**  
**We hope to have**  
**sparked your**  
**interest!**

### Contact

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