



## Press release for the start-up ceremony for the first EuroHPC supercomputer

On Tuesday, **20 April 2021 at 15:30**, at the **Institute of Information Science (IZUM)**, a special ceremony will take place for the start-up of the Vega supercomputer, the largest supercomputer in Slovenia.

The following speakers will give a few words on this occasion:

1. Director of IZUM Dr Aleš Bošnjak
2. Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia Janez Janša
3. Executive Vice-President of the European Commission Margrethe Vestager
4. Minister of Education, Science and Sport Dr Simona Kustec
5. Rector of the University of Maribor Prof Dr Zdravko Kačič
6. Executive Director of EuroHPC Joint Undertaking Anders Dam Jensen

The event will be streamed live at the link <https://youtu.be/UtBKIBTPt2o>.



The **Vega supercomputer** installed at the **Institute of Information Science** in Maribor is **the largest supercomputer in Slovenia** and the first delivered EuroHPC petascale supercomputer with a capacity of 6.8 petaflops. Vega is based on the BullSequana XH2000 supercomputer delivered by Atos.

Vega is part of a 1-billion EUR EuroHPC project that places Slovenia on the map of the European supercomputing ecosystem. The Vega project is an investment of 17.2 million EUR and it is partially (65.8%) financed by the European Union from the European Regional Development Fund and the Slovenian Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, while the remaining 34.2% are financed by the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking. The HPC RIVR project, which made IZUM the main hosting location for the new Vega supercomputer, is the result of a successful cooperation between the [University of Maribor](#) as the project coordinator, the [Faculty of Information Studies in Novo mesto](#) and IZUM.

The supercomputer is named after the Slovenian mathematician Jurij Vega and is intended to promote open science and research as well as innovations in Europe. It will support the development of leading applications in the fields of science, civil service, and multiple industry sectors, especially in the fields of machine learning, artificial intelligence, and high-capacity data analysis. It will enable Slovenian and European scientists to cooperate in large international research projects and additionally accelerate the development of science and economy. It is an extremely important investment for Eastern Slovenia, the entire country of Slovenia, and Europe as well.

You can find more information on the Vega supercomputer and the HPC RIVR project on the [website](#) and in the [press release](#).

The [Institute of Information Science \(IZUM\)](#) is a public institution with a long-standing tradition and an important role in the field of librarianship and research activities in the wider region. This was also recognized by UNESCO as IZUM was appointed UNESCO Category 2 Regional Centre. Two of IZUM's most important services are the shared bibliographic system [COBISS](#) and the Slovenian current research information system [SICRIS](#). In recent years, IZUM also introduced the [Academic Digital Collection of Slovenia](#) with the help of Slovenian universities. This collection is a unified national data resource for researchers. IZUM is also an important part of the national strategy for open access towards scientific information adapted by the Government of Slovenia. Together with the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia, the Slovenian Research Agency, Arnes, and public research organisations, IZUM has prepared a unified national repository for open science under the name [dCOBISS](#), which will enable academic and research institutions in Slovenia to store open-source publications by researchers and other data on projects.