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Caver · Cave Rescuer · Technical & Data-Oriented Speleologist
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I am an active caver and cave rescuer from Slovenia, with over 25 years of experience in underground environments, combining **practical speleology, rescue operations, and technical/data-driven approaches** to cave documentation and analysis.

My background is not academic in the classical sense; instead, I contribute as a **field-oriented practitioner**, bringing experience from **natural and artificial underground environments**, operational planning, digital tools, data structuring, and visualization. I am particularly interested in **artificial cavities as complex human-underground interfaces**, where historical use, morphology, safety, and modern documentation intersect.

Speleology & Artificial Cavities – Relevant Experience

Caving & Underground Practice

- Active caver since **1992**
- Extensive experience in **natural caves, modified caves, and artificial underground spaces** (mines, tunnels, shelters, widened passages)
- Strong understanding of:
 - underground morphology
 - human modification of subterranean spaces
 - safety, access, and usability of artificial cavities
- Familiar with documentation, orientation, and interpretation of underground structures from a **non-academic but systematic perspective**

Cave Rescue & Operational Insight

- Member of the **Cave Rescue Service of Slovenia** since 1998
- Operative cave rescuer since 2010
- Former **Head of Operations** (2012–2022)
- Roles included:
 - underground risk assessment
 - planning and coordination of complex rescue operations
 - interpretation of cave geometry and access constraints
- Experience in **artificially modified underground passages**, including:
 - widened sections
 - stabilized passages
 - emergency adaptations of underground spaces

This operational background provides a **unique safety- and usability-focused viewpoint** on artificial cavities.

Technical & Digital Contribution

I contribute to speleology primarily through **technical and digital support**, not theoretical research.

- Data analysis and structuring of cave-related datasets
- Development of **custom tools** for:
 - documentation
 - data consistency
 - visualization
- Experience with:
 - GIS concepts
 - mapping logic
 - structured documentation workflows
- Strong interest in:
 - classification systems
 - typologies
 - practical usability of classifications in the field

This background aligns well with **Artificial Cavities Commission goals** such as:

- classification
- standardization
- documentation
- interdisciplinary collaboration

Education, Training & International Context

- Long-term involvement in **European and international civil protection exercises**
- Participation in EU-level trainings and simulations involving:
 - underground environments
 - infrastructure
 - complex, multi-stakeholder coordination
- Instructor experience (caving and cave rescue), focusing on:
 - practical understanding
 - safety
 - decision-making underground

Why Artificial Cavities?

I am particularly interested in artificial cavities because they:

- represent a **meeting point of human history and underground space**
- require **practical understanding**, not only academic description
- benefit from contributions by practitioners who work underground regularly

I see my role within the Artificial Cavities community as:

- a **bridge between field practice and structured documentation**
- a contributor of **technical, organizational, and operational insight**
- someone who complements academic research with **real-world underground experience**

Languages

- Slovenian (native)
- English (professional working proficiency)
- Croatian / Serbian (working understanding)

Final note

While I am not a university professor, I strongly believe that **artificial cavities benefit from diverse profiles**, including practitioners, rescuers, technicians, and “geeks” who bring tools, structure, and field experience to the table. This is the perspective I am happy to contribute.