

# ASTEROID DAY

## *UN-sanctioned global awareness campaign*

Nature Research invites you to join the International Asteroid Day Event introducing the consequences of potential impacts and current best strategies for protection.

### **PUBLIC LECTURES:**

#### ***The Meteorite Impact Hazard – Environmental Consequences and Mitigation Measure***

**Prof. Dr. Kai Wünnemann**

Museum für Naturkunde, Leibniz Institute  
for Evolution and Biodiversity Science Berlin

Institute for Geological Science – Freie Universität Berlin

The meteorite fall over the Russian city of Chelyabinsk in 2013 raised the public awareness that cosmic bodies pose a severe threat to life on Earth. Although such collision events appear to be very infrequent they have significantly affected the evolution of life on Earth. The most prominent example in this regard is the large impact event that wiped out the dinosaurs 65 Ma ago. The presentation will give some insights on estimates of the environmental consequences of impact events ranging from small bodies some 10s of meters to several kilometers in size based on experiments and numerical modelling. What strategies are available to deflect a body that could put an end to human civilization?

#### ***Planetary defense: What did we learn from space missions to asteroids?***

**Dr. Jean-Baptiste Vincent**

German Aerospace Center (DLR) Institute of Planetary  
Research Berlin

Many spacecrafts have visited asteroids in the last decade. We learned about their composition, structure, how they may have formed and evolved into their current shape. We also learned that the risk of an asteroid impact on Earth is real and such event has severe consequences. In this talk, I will review some of the recent discoveries in asteroid science, and how we are designing new missions to complete our knowledge and design the best protection strategy.



*Trace of an alien visitor*

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The lectures will be followed by a networking reception.

The language of the event will be English.

**DATE:** 01 July 2019

**DOORS OPEN:** 17:00

**START:** 17:30

**PLACE:** Springer Nature, Heidelberger Platz 3,  
14197 Berlin (S-Bahn/U-Bahn Heidelberger Platz)

**FREE ENTRY**

**#AsteroidDay**

**PLEASE REGISTER AT**

<https://go.nature.com/asteroiddaysnberlin>