**Venue**

Gent is a compact, authentic city where the past and present co-exist in perfect balance. Walking through the city is like travelling through time; you turn the corner and just like that, you go from the fourteenth century to the twenty-first.

In Gent pounds the young heart of a cultural city filled with music, theatre, film and visual arts.

The city is spectacular during the day, but at night it comes to life once again. The beautifully lit buildings and monuments in the city centre create a magical atmosphere. Gent received three Michelin stars for its lighting plan.

In 2008, Gent obtained the 3rd place as “most authentic city worldwide” and in 2015 the UK’s Guardian newspaper highlighted Gent as the “best European alternative city break”.

**Local organising committee**

Isabelle Vercruysse - Sarah De Saeger - Marthe De Boeve - Johanna Louwagie - Philippe Dewolfs - Philippe Maesen - Sophie Sarre - Cor Geurs - Rose Detaillle - Arlette Delville - Pascale Laevens

**Scientific committee**

Vicki Barwick (UK) - Steve Ellison (UK) - Elin Gjengedal (Norway) - Emanuela Gregori (Italy) - Bertil Magnusson (Sweden) - Thomas Müller (Turkey) - Perihan Ömeroglu (Turkey) - Marina Patriarca (Italy) - Piotr Robouch (EU) - Lorens Sibbesen (Denmark) - Isabelle Vercruysse (Belgium) - Aysun Yilmaz (Turkey)

**Registration**

Registration will be possible from 1st October 2015 at www.belab-eurachem2016.com
You are advised to register early, as places are limited.

**Hotel accommodation near Workshop venue**

- NH Gent Belfort
  Hoogpoort 63 - 9000 Gent
  Tel +32 9 268 36 06

- NOVOTEL Gent Centrum
  Goudenleeuwplein 5 - 9000 Gent
  Tel +32 9 224 22 30

- IBIS Gent Centrum Kathedraal
  Limburgstraat 2 - 9000 Gent
  Tel +32 9 233 00 00

- IBIS Gent Centrum Opera
  Nederkouter 24/26 - 9000 Gent
  Tel + 32 9 233 00 00
Goals

The workshop will address current practices, problems and future directions of method validation. The focus is on in-house method validation in analytical science applied in different fields such as environment, food, health, forensics, pharmaceuticals and microbiology. Lectures and working group discussions will cover the following topics:

1. CURRENT PRACTICES
   - International guidance
   - Setting method performance requirements
   - Extent of validation/verification studies
   - Planning effective validation studies
   - Analysis of validation data
   - Examples of best practices in different fields

2. FUTURE CHALLENGES
   - Future developments – Accreditation Body viewpoint
   - Validation of microbiological methods
   - Validation of multiparameter methods
   - Implementing principles of Quality by Design (QbD)

In addition to the presentations, participants will be given ample opportunity to discuss these subjects in detail and exchange experiences in a number of working group sessions.

The workshop will be of interest to anyone concerned with establishing the ‘fitness for purpose’ of results, especially laboratory staff and managers, technical assessors, quality managers, accreditation bodies and the customers of laboratories.

Invited contributions

The Scientific Committee invites participants to present posters on subjects related to the theme of this workshop.

- Poster abstracts presented according to the format available from the website should be submitted before 31st December 2015.
- Early career scientists submitting a poster abstract will be given the opportunity to have their abstract considered for an oral presentation.
- Proposed abstracts will be subject to approval by the Scientific Committee.
- Participants will be notified of acceptance by 15th March 2016.

Workshop Programme

Monday 9th May 2016
- Introductory lectures
- Poster session
- Working group discussions
- Presentation of conclusions of working groups
- Workshop dinner in a unique historical setting

Tuesday 10th May 2016
- Introductory lectures
- Poster session
- Working group discussions
- Presentation of conclusions of working groups
- Closing lectures
- Closing of the workshop

For more details on the workshop and to register visit www.belab-eurachem2016.com

Exhibition

Products and services related to the workshop topics can be presented in the exhibition area for the 2 days of the workshop. Requests should be sent to the workshop organisers (contact@belab-eurachem2016.com) by 1st October 2015.

Supporting organisations

Eurachem is a network of organisations in Europe having the objective of establishing a system for the international traceability of chemical measurements and the promotion of good quality practices.