

**THE ROZHEN NATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL  
OBSERVATORY:  
OBSERVATIONAL FACILITIES, RESEARCH  
ACTIVITIES AND POSSIBILITIES FOR  
COLLABORATION BETWEEN COUNTRIES FROM SEE**

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**Summary.**

The observing facilities of the National Astronomical Observatory are presented: 2-m Ritchey-Chretien-Coude telescope, equipped with a 1024x1024 CCD (Photometrics, USA), 60-cm Cassegrain telescope for photometric observations, equipped with a single channel, photon counting, UBV-filters, computer controlled photometer, and the 50/70 cm Schmidt telescope, equipped with a SBIG ST8 CCD.

The research departments (Sectors) of the Institute of Astronomy are presented which are: Sun, Solar System, Nonstationary Stars, Chemically Peculiar Stars, Stellar Atmospheres and Envelopes, Stellar Clusters and Galaxies.

Brief description is given of a number of research projects, including projects of international collaboration. The important role of the Rozhen NAO in the on-going international collaboration has been pointed out. During the past 23 years since the official inauguration of Rozhen NAO, research projects have been carried out with a number of European countries, including Germany, France, Italy, Norway, Finland, UK, Greece, Russia, and all of the East-European countries.

New projects have been recently started with Serbia and MN, Romania, Turkey and Macedonia. Results have been presented demonstrating the atmospheric and seeing conditions in the Rozhen NAO. In addition, results from several photometric programs were shown as a demonstration of the capabilities of the observing facilities.

Special attention is dedicated to the recent activities of UNESCO-ROSTE in the region of SEE. The decision of ROSTE to grant and to supply a new, high-performance CCD camera to Rozhen NAO is a strong boost of the regional collaboration in Astronomy, including Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia and MN, and Turkey. Perspectives of future joint research are outlined.