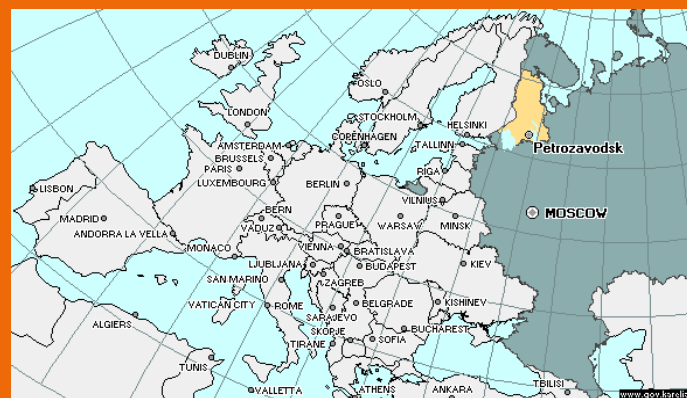




## CONCERNING SOME LEGAL ASPECTS OF USING MINES FOR EDUCATIVE PURPOSES

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BSUIN webinar, June 17, 2020

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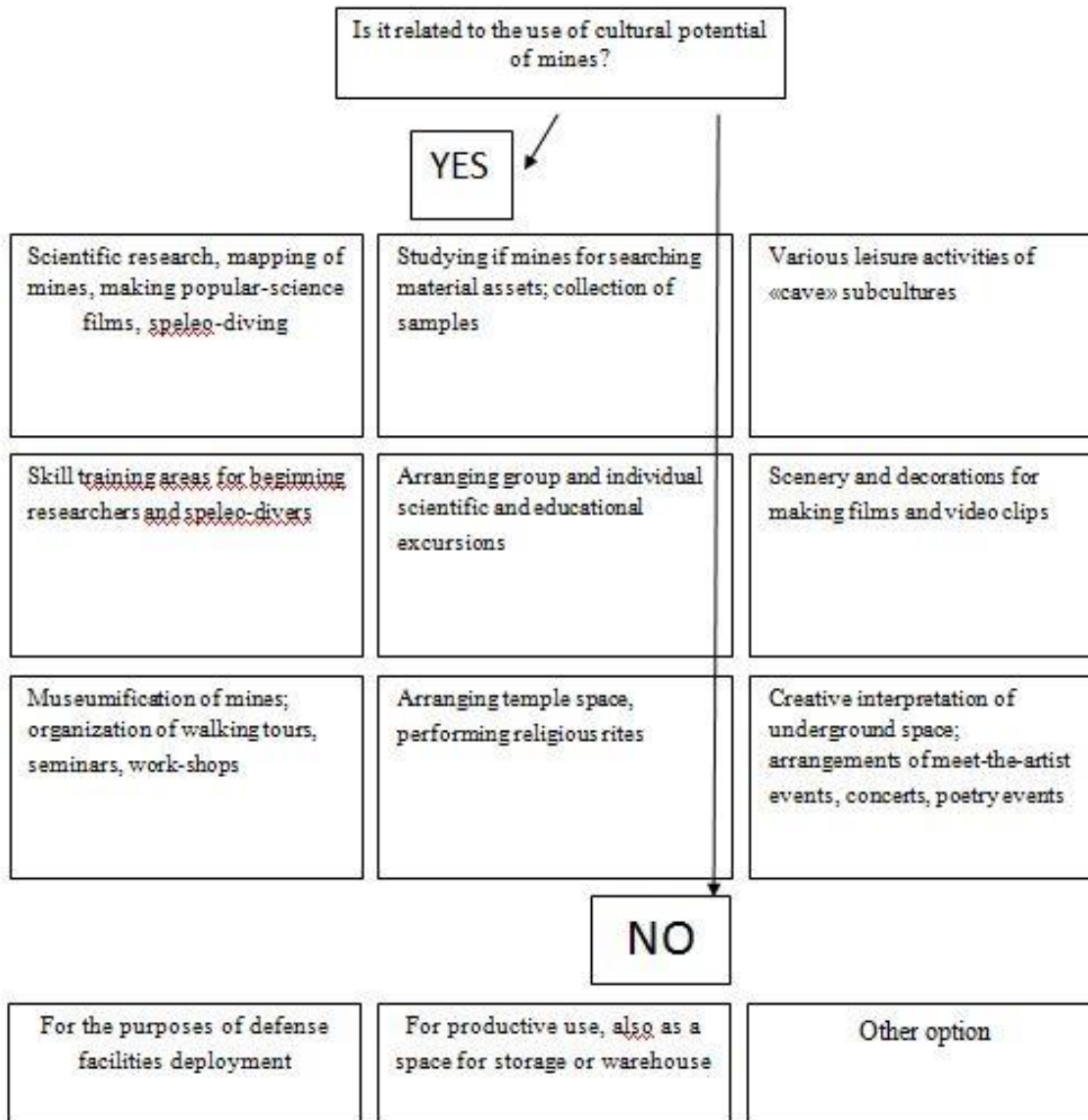
## Instead of introduction

More than 50 presenters of different countries took part in the International Conference in Wieliczka in Poland on November 2018. It was the first time when the most famous underground museum in Europe act as a host for so many international experts.



The boats used in Wieliczka salt mine are registered as sea boats because of Polish legal requirements and salty water.

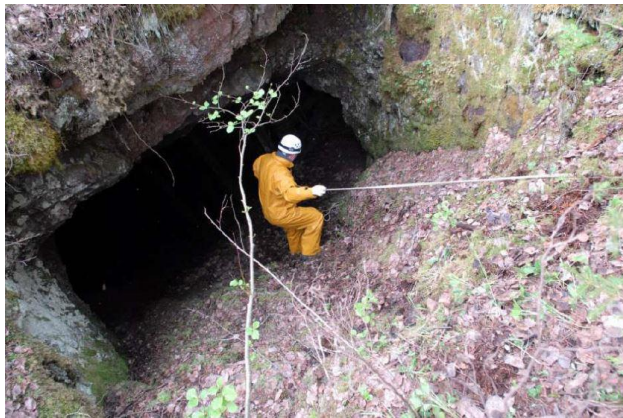
# Using underground mines for the purposes not related to mineral extraction



The term “underground space” is understood as a part of subsoil resources that are used for human being, for establishment of production and scientific facilities and for some processes providing that. However Russian law regulations do not cover all the activities that former mines could be used for.



## Scientific aspects of the former underground mines



At the old days when the mines were constructed for natural resources extraction the safety requirements were different. Minerals developers didn't plan to use a mine for any other purpose.

It is the argument why all the historical mines should be united in a special legal category.

Actually this kind of underground workings is not even mentioned in Russian legislation.

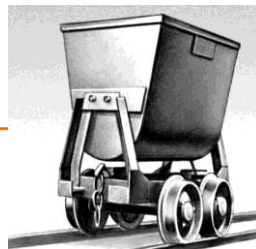
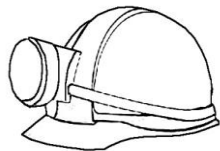
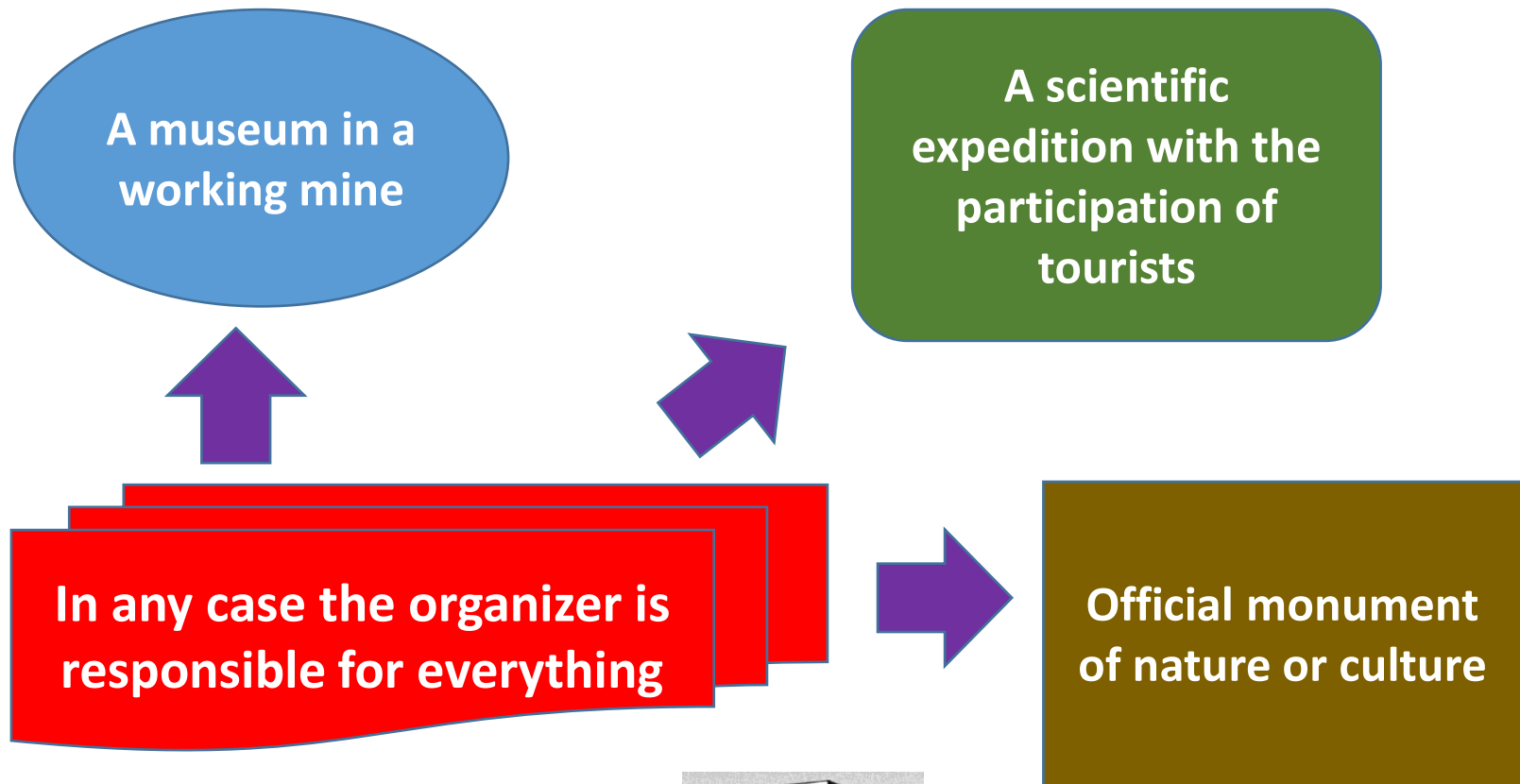
# Simulation as an alternative way of preserving industrial heritage



## The problems of the legal use of the former mines

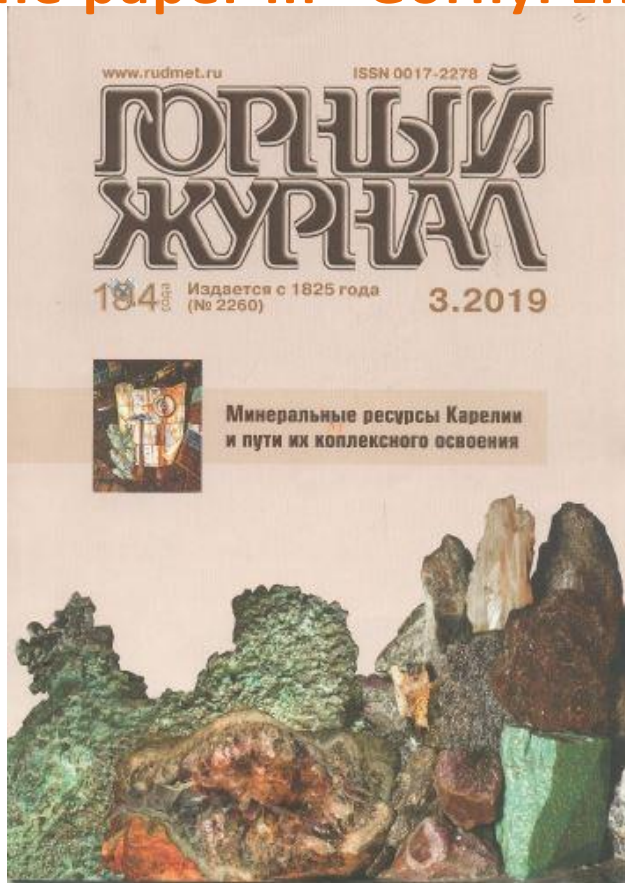
- The subsoil in Russia is a state property. According to the Russian legislation the procedure of licence provision of subsurface management is established. The site of subsurface resources can be given only after the competition or auction and this procedure does not depend on the direction of the site use.
- To separate out a site of surface resources which is not oriented on the mineral materials extraction the scientific or educative value should be estimated.
- Specific legal base, deficit of available information about underground workings contribute to criminalization of the underground space use
- Law regulations are to be aimed at supporting all the activities of adapting former mines for reusing, rising the safety and exploiting cultural potential of underground, but not only control and prohibition
- The security of information which is linked to underground space

## Legalization of former mines use





# Legislative control over use of old mine workings for... (the paper in "Gornyi zhurnal", 2019, # 3, pp. 11 -16)





## Some conclusions

- There are not many examples of legal reuse of former underground workings in Russia because it is expensive and of high risk as the legal and methodological base doesn't exist in Russia
- Informal practices of former underground workings use develop spontaneously irrespective of statutory bans.
- The protection status of the unique geological or mining and industrial site doesn't guarantee the provision of its protection, but commercialization enhances the need.
- The law "On subsoil" needs complement and detalisation because some of its regulations concerning educative tourism are declarative

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All the photos are from open sources.





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