

# Österreichischer Bergrettungsdienst Bundesverband

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Dear ICAR Board,  
dear Members of the ICAR,

the Austrian Mountain Rescue Organisation proposes to set an **International Day for Mountain Rescue Services and matters**.

We aim to use such yearly event to execute particular events or highlight Mountain Rescue topics in order to promote, through awareness and action, the objectives of Mountain Rescue Services international.

**We suggest to**

- **call the Day: "International Mountain Rescue Day"**
- **set the Date for the: 8th of March**

**Background to the suggested date:**

A tragic avalanche accident in the European Alps (Reiðthalersteig, Styria, Austria) led to the loss of the man's life on the 8.03.1896.

Following that the first organisation dealing with mountain rescue matters was established under the Name „Alpines Rettungscomité, in 1897. (Followed by a renaming into „Alpiner Rettungs-Ausschuß Wien“ (ARAW). This is the first known documented alpine rescue organisation world-wide.

**Way forward:**

Following a positive recognition and appreciation of the ICAR Members of such date, further organisations as UN General Assembly, or UNESCO,... should be approached by ICAR to further embed the "International Mountain Rescue Day" in various international lists and schedules.

**We kindly ask you to support that project as we see a huge potential to elevate the importance of the mountain rescue services to a wider society and strengthen our world-wide standing.**

Best Regards



Martin Gurdet

mit Unterstützung von:

