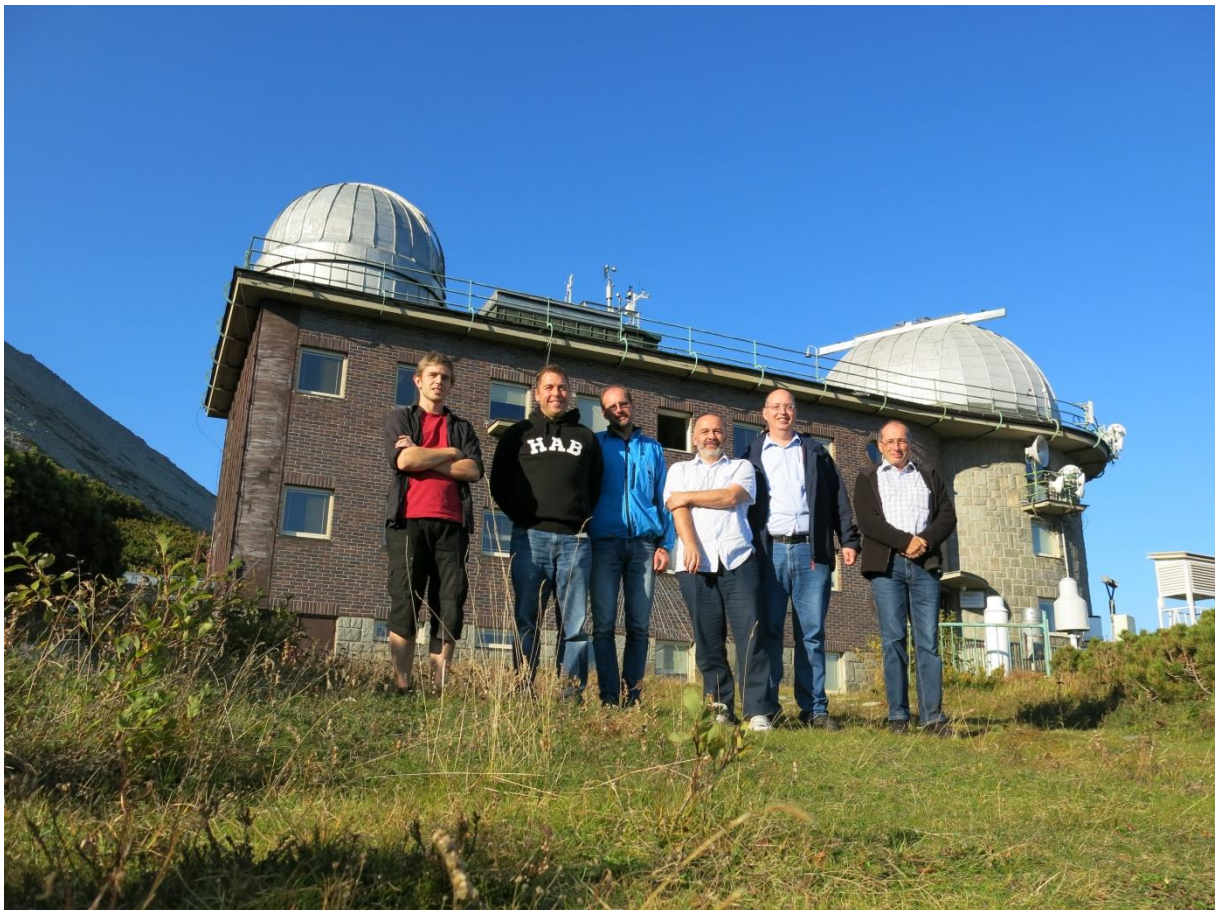


SUCCESSFUL START OF THE BINATIONAL SLOBATCO PROJECT

The cooperation project SLOBATCO of the astronomical institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and Aschaffenburg University in Germany started

In August 2018 the funding agency BAYHOST (Bavarian Academic Center for Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe) funded the project SLOBATCO (an abbreviation for „Slovak-Bavarian Telescope Collaboration“), which was proposed by the Skalnaté Pleso Observatory and Aschaffenburg University of Applied Sciences. In the context of this bilateral project, three professors of Aschaffenburg University, Dr. Thorsten Döhring, Dr. Manfred Stollenwerk and Dr.-Ing. Michael Mann visited the astronomical institute of the Slovak Academy of Science in September 2018. For October this year also a research stay of three Slovak scientists, Dr. Theodor Pribulla, Dr. Richard Komžík and Peter Sivanič, at Aschaffenburg University is planned. For future collaboration the joint development of filter wheel software and infrared filters for the two specialized cameras has been discussed. In addition the modernization of the existing vacuum chamber for mirror coatings with magnetron sputtering equipment is under consideration. The recent project meeting in Tatranská Lomnica was a successful start of this future-oriented international cooperation.



The binational SLOBATCO team in front of the Skalnaté Pleso Observatory (photo: Manfred Stollenwerk)