



### **IAPGeoethics Newsletter n. 3 (2019)**

This is the official newsletter of the IAPG. It contains news about events, initiatives, publications on Geoethics by the IAPG.

The IAPG is a multidisciplinary, scientific community and aims at creating awareness about application of ethical principles to theoretical and practical aspects of Geosciences. The IAPG is affiliated to the IUGS - International Union of Geological Sciences, AGI - American Geosciences Institute, GSA - Geological Society of America, GSL - Geological Society of London, CFES - Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences, ICPHS - International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences.

The IAPG is legally recognized as a not-for-profit association, has **2,259 members** in **127 countries** on 5 continents, and can count on a network of **30 national sections**.

Send any kind of information about Geoethics that could be published in the IAPG webpages to: [iapgeoethics@aol.com](mailto:iapgeoethics@aol.com)

International Website: <http://www.geoethics.org>

Blog: <http://iapgeoethics.blogspot.it>

IAPG newsletter collection: <http://www.geoethics.org/newsletter.html>

**Membership:** Becoming an IAPG member is easy! Fill in the form in the IAPG website at <http://www.geoethics.org/membership.html>. No fee is required at this time.

**Donations:** <http://www.geoethics.org/donations>



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## School on Geoethics and Natural Issues (Schola de Geoethica et Naturae Quaestionibus)

On 20 July 2019, Peter T. Bobrowsky, Giuseppe Di Capua, and Silvia Peppoloni have founded the School on Geoethics and Natural Issues (Schola de Geoethica et Naturae Quaestionibus), in short the "Schola". Silvia Peppoloni is the Director of the "Schola".

### Rationale

The "Schola" is a place for teaching and learning of the principles and values of geoethics in the light of the philosophy and history of Earth sciences. The intent is to provide background knowledge and the evaluation skills necessary to understand the complex relationship between human action on ecosystems and the decisions geoscientists make in the discipline that impact society, including improving the awareness of professionals, students, decision-makers, media operators, and the public on an accountable and ecologically sustainable development. The "Schola" provides the opportunity to deepen reflection on the sense and social utility of

geosciences, analyzing their rational categories, values, possible perspectives, uncertainties and cognitive limits, in order to understand how their modes of action can conform to a specific vision of reality and how that vision can in turn modify the interface of human action with natural reality. But the "Schola" is also a place to learn and develop more responsible strategies, operating procedures and practical actions, that are compatible with respect for socio-ecological systems, the vocation of the territories, including the health and safety of human communities.

### **Aim**

The "Schola" aims to provide excellent education in geoethics, thus promoting the development of a scientific and critical attitude to the knowledge of the Earth and its constituent systems, by fostering a growth of awareness and responsibility towards the planet, education in the values and actions underlying a respect for ecosystems, including responsible use of resources, management of natural risks, reduction of pollution and its repercussions on human health and climate, adaptation to environmental changes, in view of an accountable and ecologically sustainable development.

### **Description**

The "Schola" conforms to the Geoethical Promise and the Cape Town Statement on Geoethics adopted as programmatic and constitutive documents to promote a cultural renewal aimed at favoring ecological humanism.

The "Schola" is a scientific, international, multicultural and multidisciplinary meeting place for research and training on geoethics and the philosophy of Earth sciences.

The "Schola" guarantees quality training, in a continuous and constant process of scientific and professional improvement and updating.

In the pursuit of its objectives, the "Schola" relies on experts from different disciplinary fields, using all the traditional didactic tools to which are added innovative methods that favor the formation of geoethical thinking and stimulate an analytical and critical attitude to understanding of socio-ecological complexity.

### **To whom it is addressed**

The "Schola" is aimed at all those who want to improve their scientific knowledge on the Earth system and to understand the social role geosciences can play in identifying new ways of relating to the planet and the living forms that it hosts. The courses are addressed to different categories of users: they can be useful to both secondary school students and university undergraduate/graduate students in disciplines that deal with the environment from different perspectives (planning, naturalist, geo-biological, landscape, architectural, legislative, educational, cultural and relative to communication). Scholars of the phenomena and processes of the planet (researchers, academics, scientists), as well as those who physically operate in the territories (various types of professionals, geologists, engineers, landscape architects, risk experts, media operators, decision-makers) can find valid support to their scientific and professional preparation in the courses. Finally, the "Schola" is also aimed at the general public and others, including non-experts, who are interested in better understanding the bond that links human communities to ecosystems, within the perspective of responsible development.

Read more about the "Schola":

<http://www.geoethics.org/geoethics-school>

## New video: **Geoethical Issues and Geoethical Dilemmas**

**A video released by the European project GOAL**



Silvia Peppoloni, research geologist at the Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Secretary General of the IAPG - International Association for Promoting Geoethics, introduces the audience to the concepts of geoethical issues and dilemmas.

The video is part of the Intellectual Outputs (IO1) of the European Erasmus+ project GOAL "Geoethics Outcomes and Awareness Learning" (<https://goal-erasmus.eu/>).

IAPG is official partner of the project GOAL.

This video in the IAPG YouTube channel:  
<https://youtu.be/gZ8Y56-yrDM>



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## **Geoethics at the 36<sup>th</sup> IGC**

**International Geological Congress  
Delhi (India), 2-8 March 2020**

**Call for Abstracts  
(deadline: 15 October 2019)**



**Symposium 1.7 (Theme 1 "Geoscience for Society"):  
Geoethics: Ethical, Social, and Cultural Aspects in  
Geosciences**

Convenership: Silvia Peppoloni (Italy), Nic Bilham (UK), Peter T. Bobrowsky (Canada), Martin Bohle (Belgium), Vincent S. Cronin (USA), Giuseppe Di Capua (Italy)

Short description (full description: <http://www.geoethics.org/36thigc>):  
This symposium, organized by IAPG - International Association for Promoting Geoethics, aims to develop ethical and social discussion on following topics, including case-studies:

- a) Theoretical aspects of geoethics
- b) Research integrity and professional deontology in geosciences
- c) Ethical aspects of geoscience education (including the issue from theory to educational practice) and communication

- d) Geoethics in natural-anthropogenic risk management
- e) Geoethics for responsible use of geo-resources, including legislation, best practices, and social acceptance for mining activities
- f) Geoethics in addressing global societal challenges

Important dates:

- **No abstract submission fee till 15 September 2019**
- From abstract submitted between 16 September and 15 October 2019, 20 USD of abstract submission fee
- Super-early bird registration deadline: 31 August 2019
- Early bird registration: 1 September – 30 November 2019

Read more about the IAPG Symposium 1.7 on Geoethics:

<http://www.geoethics.org/36thigc>

Abstract submission:

<https://www.36igc.org/abstract-submission>

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## **Geoethics & Groundwater Management: Theory and Practice for a Sustainable Development**

**International Congress IAPG-IAH  
Porto (Portugal), 21-25 October 2019**

**Call for Abstracts  
(deadline: 15 November 2019)**



Groundwater is the most abundant and widespread source of liquid freshwater on the planet. It is also currently a threatened water resource in terms of quantity and quality due to climate and anthropogenic stresses. Meanwhile, there are aquifers that remain untapped in regions or periods of water scarcity.

The joint event IAPG - International Association for Promoting Geoethics and IAH - International Association of Hydrogeologists will be an excellent occasion for discussing and sharing values, best practices and strategies to manage water resources for a sustainable future.

This International Congress convenes groundwater specialists, scholars and professionals, as well as educators, students, and early career colleagues for discussing theory and practice, sharing values, knowledge, research, educational projects, best practices and strategies aiming at the responsible integrated management of groundwater resources for a resilient and sustainable future.

Website:

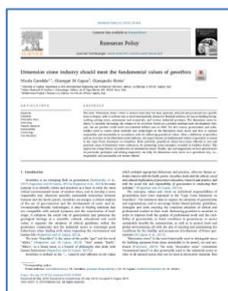
<https://geoeth-gwm2019.wixsite.com/porto>

Abstract submission:

<https://geoeth-gwm2019.wixsite.com/porto/publications>

New article:  
**Dimension stone industry should meet the  
fundamental values of geoethics**

(By Nicola Careddu, Giuseppe Di Capua, Giampaolo Siotto)



Careddu N., Di Capua G., Siotto G. (2019). Dimension stone industry should meet the fundamental values of geoethics. *Resources Policy*, 63, 101468; doi: 10.1016/j.resourpol.2019.101468

**Abstract:**

The term "Dimension Stone" refers to natural stone that has been quarried, selected and processed into specific sizes or shapes, with or without one or more mechanically dressed or finished surfaces, for use as building facing, curbing, paving stone, monuments and memorials, and various industrial products. The dimension stone industry is currently increasing the volume of its activities: based on a prudent medium-term development forecast, the net product could reach one hundred million tons in 2020. For this reason, geoscientists and stakeholders need to reason about methods and technologies in the dimension stone sector and how to operate responsibly and sustainably in accordance with the following geoethical values. After a definition of geoethics and an overview of the dimension stone industry, the paper focuses on fundamental values of geoethics as stated in the Cape Town Statement on Geoethics. More precisely, geoethical values have been referred to real and practical cases of dimension stone subsectors, by presenting some examples recorded in Sardinia (Italy). This region has a long history of production of ornamental stones. Finally, tips and suggestions on how geoscientists (in particular geologists and mining engineers) can help the dimension stone sector in a geoethical way, i.e., responsibly and sustainably are herein offered.

Download (pdf file):

[http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/5195a5\\_9f3e02978be64374bb5aedb36a8a1675.pdf](http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/5195a5_9f3e02978be64374bb5aedb36a8a1675.pdf)

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New article:  
**The 'Anthropocene Proposal':  
A Possible Quandary and A Work-Around**

(By Martin Bohle and Nic Bilham)



Bohle M. and Bilham N. (2019)  
The 'Anthropocene Proposal': A Possible Quandary and A Work-Around  
*Quaternary*, 2, 19; doi: 10.3390/quat2020019

**Abstract:**

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Other publications on geoethics:

<http://www.geoethics.org/publications>

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## Session sponsored by the IAPG at the 5th YES Network Congress

Freie Universität Berlin (Germany), 9-13 September, 2019



Session 3.6: **Geoparks and geotourism for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

Time: Thursday, 12 September 2019: 12:45pm - 1:45pm (Part 1); 2:15pm - 3:15pm (Part 2). Location: Hall D



Session Chairs: Jean-Robert Nshokano Mweze (IAPG-DR Congo coordinator) and Kambale Kavyavu Wisdom Wiseman

IAPG sponsors this session.

Programme of the session:

- Part 1

[https://www.conftool.com/yes2019/index.php?page=browseSessions&print=export&ismobile=false&form\\_session=43&presentations=hide](https://www.conftool.com/yes2019/index.php?page=browseSessions&print=export&ismobile=false&form_session=43&presentations=hide)

- Part 2

[https://www.conftool.com/yes2019/index.php?page=browseSessions&print=export&ismobile=false&form\\_session=44&presentations=hide](https://www.conftool.com/yes2019/index.php?page=browseSessions&print=export&ismobile=false&form_session=44&presentations=hide)

Other events in the IAPG calendar:

<http://www.geoethics.org/geoethics-day>

## International Geoethics Day

17 October 2019



IAPG officially launched the International Geoethics Day on 12 October 2017, during the Earth Science Week 2017.

The aim of the International Geoethics Day is to raise the awareness of the geoscience community and society as a whole about the importance of ethical, social and cultural aspects of geoscience knowledge, research, practice, education and communication.

The International Geoethics Day is held every year during the Earth Science Week and this year will be celebrated on 17 October 2019.

IAPG welcomes proposals to organize initiatives aimed at promoting geoethics locally and globally to celebrate this day.

Hashtag: **#geoethicsday2019**

Read more:

<http://www.geoethics.org/geoethics-day>

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## Donations

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IAPG lives through donations and personal funds of its members. Please, **use the following bank coordinates** for your donations:

Bank: UniCredit  
Account name: IAPG ONLUS  
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BIC/SWIFT: UNCRITM1C25

**or make a donation by credit card through PayPal**

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