

## News at a Glance

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1. **IUGS Executive Committee member Hiroshi Kitazato and his team sets Guinness world record**

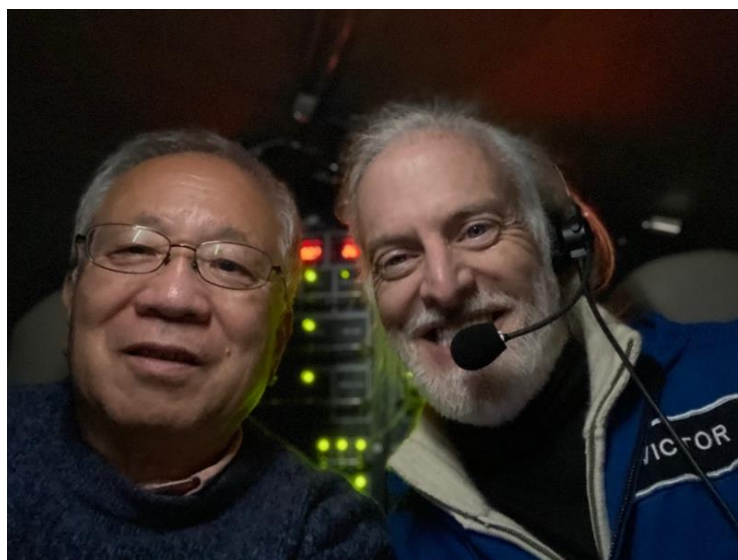
IUGS Executive Member and Treasurer Hiroshi Kitazato (Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology) goes where few have gone and sets Guinness world record for reporting the deepest snailfish from the Izu-Ogasawara Trench, Japan. During a two-month expedition carried out on the research vessel DSSV *Pressure Drop* with the support by Caladan Oceanic and Inkfish, a team of marine biologists from the University of Western Australia (UWA) and the Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology (TUMSAT) have discovered the snailfish at great depths ( <https://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/news/2023/4/snailfish-sink-to-new-lows-to-extend-their-record-as-the-worlds-deepest-fish-743278>) ; [https://apple.news/Aw3Bi0JMeS\\_eTNfpagdoR5g](https://apple.news/Aw3Bi0JMeS_eTNfpagdoR5g); <https://japannews.yomiuri.co.jp/science-nature/science/20230405-101775/>



**Figure 1.** The deepest snailfish at the Ogasawara Trench (Caladan Oceanic / Inkfish LLC). Sediment character is semi-consolidated mud.



**Figure 2.** Guinness World Records™ certificate ceremony at Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology on April 4, 2023 (photographed by TUMSAT office)



**Figure 3.** Hiroshi Kitazato and Mr. Victor Vescovo (owner of Caladan Oceanic LLC) snapped in the cockpit of the submersible together at 8000m depth of the Japan Trench on Aug 20, 2022. (Selfie by Hiroshi).

## 2. News from the International Commission on Cretaceous Stratigraphy

### RATIFICATION OF BARREMIAN STAGE GSSP

The proposal received from the International Subcommittee on Cretaceous Stratigraphy <https://cretaceous.stratigraphy.org/> to formalize the base of the Barremian Stage defined at the base of bed 171 of the Rio Argos section, near Caravaca (SE Spain) and correlated by the first appearance of the ammonite *Taveraidiscus hugii* was approved by the IUGS Executive on 26 March 2023, [https://cretaceous.stratigraphy.org/news/barremian\\_gssp](https://cretaceous.stratigraphy.org/news/barremian_gssp)



**Figure 4.** The Rio Argos section, near Caravaca (SE Spain): GSSP for the base of The Barremian Stage. Photograph courtesy of Miguel Company.

### GOLDEN SPIKE CEREMONY OF CAMPANIAN STAGE GSSP - July 26, 2023

The golden spike ceremony of the Campanian Stage GSSP in the Bottaccione Gorge at Gubbio (Italy) will be held on July 26, 2023.

Anyone interested in attending this very important event please contact Maria Rose Petrizzo, chair of the International Subcommittee on Cretaceous Stratigraphy at [mrose.petrizzo@unimi.it](mailto:mrose.petrizzo@unimi.it)

### GOLDEN SPIKE CEREMONY OF CONIACIAN STAGE GSSP - September 19, 2023

The golden spike ceremony of the Coniacian Stage GSSP in Salzgitter-Salder near Hannover (Germany) will be held on September 19, 2023.

Anyone interested in attending this very important event please contact Maria Rose Petrizzo, chair of the International Subcommittee on Cretaceous Stratigraphy at [mrose.petrizzo@unimi.it](mailto:mrose.petrizzo@unimi.it)





### 3. The new IUGS Commission on Geoethics

On 16 February 2023, the IUGS has officially established the Commission on Geoethics (CG). The proposal for creating the CG was presented at the 78<sup>th</sup> IUGS Executive Committee (EC) meeting in Belfast (UK) by Silvia Peppoloni (past IUGS Councilor and Secretary General of the International Association for Promoting Geoethics (IAPG) (fig. 1).

The CG will be the supporting branch of the IAPG to the IUGS and the IUGS body that officially deals with geoethics and social geosciences for the Union.

The CG has a light structure made up of a Governing Board, a Supportive Structure, and an Operative Structure consisting of Task Groups working on specific issues. Among them, there is the task group dealing with diversity, equity, and inclusion, which takes the baton from the existing IUGS task group dedicated to those issues.

The core business of the CG consists of the following activities, to be developed in cooperation with the IAPG:

- Drafting and updating ethical guidelines for the IUGS.
- Supporting the IUGS (officers and bodies) regarding questions such as unprofessional conduct, misconduct, harassment, retaliation, racism, sexism, conflicts of interest and others.
- Fostering the participation of women in activities, events, and other initiatives organized or supported by the IUGS with the aim of reducing the gender gap and increasing diversity.
- Cooperating with IUGS bodies to focus on geoethical issues or other themes of mutual interests.
- Contributing to IUGS events (congresses, including the International Geological Congress - ICG, conferences, videos, webinar, etc.) or any other scientific or public events.
- Supporting the IUGS in developing activities at the geoscience-policy interface and delicate issues related to geoscience-society interaction.
- Promoting the adoption of the Geoethical Promise within Universities and geoscience organizations.
- Organizing events that address ethical and social implications of geoscience knowledge, research, practice, education, and communication.

- Training on geoethics, professional ethics, data ethics, and publication ethics.
- Networking with geoscience (affiliated or not to the IUGS) and humanities organizations to create opportunities for bridging geosciences and human and social sciences.
- Fostering opportunities to increase the impact of IUGS in Latin American and African countries by promoting activities to foster the culture of geosciences among local geoscience communities.
- Supporting the IUGS in enlarging its network in countries in which the presence of the IUGS is missing or to be developed/increased.
- Preparing an annual report containing the outcomes of the reference year, a plan of activities for the new year, and a financial request to the IUGS. The annual report will contain results, activities, events, publications, or any kind of outcomes of the IAPG to be considered as outcomes of the CG.

GC dedicated web pages are hosted on the IAPG website

(<https://www.geoethics.org/iugs-cg>). In addition, the CG has its official social media pages (Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/iugs.geoethics/>; Twitter: @iugs\_geoethics; LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/9314437/>).



**Figure 5.** Silvia Peppoloni (past IUGS Councilor and Secretary General of the IAPG) presenting the proposal about the IUGS Commission on Geoethics at the 78<sup>th</sup> IUGS EC Meeting.

#### 4. March issue of IUGS Episodes

The March issue of Episodes (Vol. 46, No.1) has been published and uploaded at Homepage (<https://www.episodes.org/main.html>). This issue carries 7 articles, 1 Communication of IUGS Geological Standards, 1 Review, 1 History of Geology, 1 Book Review, and 1 Profile.

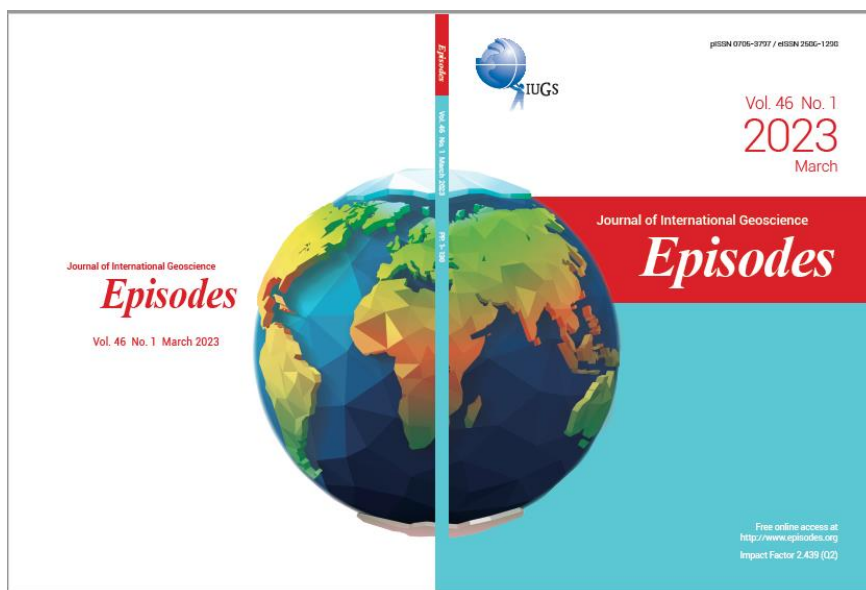


Figure 6. Cover page of Episodes

#### 5. News from the 37<sup>th</sup> International Geological congress

The first circular of 37<sup>th</sup> IGC is published online.



Figure 7. The 1<sup>st</sup> circular for IGC 2024



To know more open the links below:

[http://www.igc2024korea.org/2024/down/IGC2024\\_1st\\_Circular\\_Final\\_03141.pdf](http://www.igc2024korea.org/2024/down/IGC2024_1st_Circular_Final_03141.pdf)

[http://www.igc2024korea.org/2024/english/main/index\\_en.asp](http://www.igc2024korea.org/2024/english/main/index_en.asp)

## 6. News from the TecTask

The IUGS Commission on Tectonics and Structural Geology ([TecTask](#)) supported a two-day (12-13 January 2023) short course entitled "Microtectonics of fault rocks" in Turin (Italy). The workshop, held by Prof. Renée Heilbronner (Basel University), was mainly addressed to MSc students, PhD students and Early Career Researchers involved in Structural Geology and Tectonics, with the aim of providing them a general introduction of the study of fault rocks *s.l.* with the aid of image analysis tools.

The workshop was designed in the format of two-day lectures, with theoretical parts in the morning and practical exercises in the afternoon. Twenty-eight participants (**Picture 1**) from different European countries attended the short course, exchanging their experiences and ideas on the study of deformed rocks.

The short course was organized by Salvatore Iaccarino (UniTo), Matteo Simonetti (ISPRA), Chiara Montomoli (UniTo) and Rodolfo Carosi (UniTo) and supported by TecTask and the groups of Structural Geology & Tectonics and of Himalayan Geology of the Geological Society of Italy.



**Figure 8.** Group photo of the participants of the TecTask short course "Microtectonics of fault rocks" at Valentino Park (Turin), close to the Po river.

## 7. News from the IUGS Initiative on Forensic Geology (IFG)

### World Police Summit, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

On 7-9 March 2023, IUGS-IFG was represented at the 2nd World Police Summit, on *'Inspiring Next Generation Policing'*, held at the World Trade Centre, Dubai, attended by over 2,000 delegates, from over 200 nations. It provided a platform to explore challenges facing investigators and scientists, and the latest technological advancements, strategies and innovations across law enforcement, forensics and security. IUGS-IFG Treasurer (Prof Lorna Dawson, CBE) presented a keynote presentation on, *'Soil and geological trace material in search and as evidence'* and gave a presentation on, *'Interdisciplinary collaboration in forensic science'*.  
<https://www.worldpolicesummit.com/>



**Figure 9.** IUGS-IFG Treasurer, Prof Dawson, in her opening address presenting the keynote opening talk at the Forensics conference (left), being awarded a prize for innovation in forensics (centre) and with trace evidence experts from the Dubai Police (right).

### PhD in Forensic Geology, University of Sannio, Italy

On 6 March 2023, Marcelo Tortolero (IUGS-IFG Student Representative and Geoforensic International Network) started a PhD on mining crime, with logistical support from Dr Rosa Maria Di Maggio (IUGS-IFG Officer for Europe). The photograph shows Marcelo (centre), Rosy (right) and PhD supervisor Prof Mariano Mercurio (left).

### PhD in Forensic Geology, University of Chile, South America

On 13 March 2023, Kristian Agurto-Velásquez (member of IUGS-IFG, GIN) commenced a PhD at the University of Chile, the first postgraduate study in Chile on forensic geology guided by Dr Katja Deckart. IUGS-IFG aims to provide support and information for this research.





### **United Nations office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Illegal Mining and Trafficking Precious Metals**

Information on, '*Combating transnational organized crime and its links to illicit trafficking in precious metals and illegal mining, including by enhancing the security of supply chains of precious metals*', can be found on the link below:

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/environment-climate/illegal-mining.html>

### **Publication on Missing Persons in Colombia**

IUGS-IFG Co-Officer for Latin America, Prof Carlos Molina published the paper, '*Molina, C.M., Castellanos, D., Baena, A., Salgado, A. & Pringle, J.K. 2023. Forced disappearance and missing people in Colombia. Forensic Science International: Reports, 6. 100287.*'

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fsir.2022.100287>.

### **Interforensics 2023**

IUGS-IFG will be represented at Interforensics 2023, 28-31 August 2023, in Brasilia, the largest forensic science events in Latin America and one of the biggest in the world. There will be a focus on illegal mining and forensic jewellery.

<https://interforensics.com/>

### **Geological Society of America (GSA), Virginia, USA**

On 19 March 2023, IUGS-IFG attended the GSA congress. A presentation was given by Jodi Webb (FBI Adviser) on '*International Union of Geological Sciences Initiative on Forensic Geology (IUGS-IFG): 11 Years of Progress and Counting!*', with contributions from Dr Laurance Donnelly (IUGS-IFG Chair) Mr Ricardo Ricardo Cordeiro Vitoria de Moraes (IUGS-IFG Illegal Mining Adviser) and Dr Fabio Augusto da Silva Salvador (IUGS-IFG Co-officer for Latin America)

[https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/Events/Section\\_Meetings/GSA/Sections/se/2023mtg/home.aspx](https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/Events/Section_Meetings/GSA/Sections/se/2023mtg/home.aspx)

## **8. News from INHIGEO**

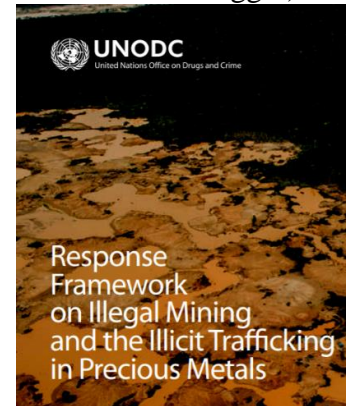
Occasion: Humboldt in Mexico 220 years ago

Author: Lucero Morelos-Rodríguez (Mexico)

Title: The 1803 expedition of Alexander von Humboldt in Mexico

On March 22, 1803, Alexander von Humboldt landed in Acapulco to start a journey through Mexico, then within New Spain, as part of his great American journey (1799–1804) to investigate the nature of the New World.

**Figure 10.** (Source: Rosa Maria Di Maggio)



**Figure 11.** Source: UNODC



**Figure 12.** Alexander von Humboldt portrait by Rafael Ximeno y Planes, 1804. Manuel Tolsá Museum. Courtesy of the General Directorate of University Heritage UNAM. Photography: Javier Otaola Montage.

## 9. News from ReSToRE

The Third in the series of **ReSToRE 3 International Summer Schools** will take place from 1 to 5 July 2024 at University College Dublin, Ireland.

Director of ReSToRE and Co-Principal Investigator in iCRAG, Dr Geertje Schuitema announced the launch of ReSToRE 3 during the UNESCO Earth Sciences 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event held in Paris on 16 March 2023. Speaking during a panel discussion on how geoscience expertise can tackle current and future threats to human and planetary wellbeing, Dr Schuitema said, *“The ReSToRE 3 International Summer School encourages interdisciplinary and global discussion on how to reconcile different views about Earth’s resources. We meld the ingenuity and skills from the social sciences, humanities, natural and physical sciences to craft solutions that are socially acceptable, economically affordable, and technically feasible.”*

Society’s reliance on Earth’s resources such as water, fertile land, renewable and fossil fuels, and minerals significantly affects the climate, economic prosperity, the environment, human

health and wellbeing. To sustainably supply present and future generations with these resources, requires careful consideration of their management, sourcing, distribution, and use. This balancing involves many stakeholders in research, politics, business, industry, NGOs, and civil society. Stakeholders typically prioritise different interests, values, and objectives, and have different interpretations of information and goals. This can lead to difficulties that hinder progress towards a sustainable society.

The ReSToRE 3 International Summer School will allow an international and interdisciplinary group of early career participants to meet and discuss these vital issues around sustainably resourcing present and future generations.

A flyer announcing the meeting and further information is at <https://www.icrag-centre.org/restore/>. Register to receive further announcements about the event by subscribing to the mailing list at [www.icrag-centre.org/restore/email,subscription/](http://www.icrag-centre.org/restore/email,subscription/) to be kept informed on how to join a highly diverse, global group of early-career researchers and professionals at ReSToRE to tackle crucial issues at the nexus of the natural, physical, social sciences and humanities. For more information on ReSToRE summer school, including blogs and videos from previous Summer Schools visit [www.icrag-centre.org/restore/](http://www.icrag-centre.org/restore/)



**Figure 13.** ReSToRE 2 group, field excursion to Howth beach, Co Dublin 6 July 2022 (image iCrag).

#### 10. News from IUGS Social media

Yamirka Rojas-Agramonte and Maria Daniela Munoz-Granados are now responsible for social media and outreach activities. Both are now administrators of the Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/iugspage>





A new e-mail address was created exclusively for social media of the IUGS:

[iugs.socialmedia@gmail.com](mailto:iugs.socialmedia@gmail.com). The previously private e-mail address was changed in the Facebook and Twitter accounts to the new one and a professional Instagram profile was created. The Google Drive linked to the new e-mail is intended to upload content for our social media. The February e-Bulletin was shared on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter as well as other news sent to us.

Videos in the document “[IUGS2022 Summary videocatalogue](#)” were uploaded to the newly established IUGS YouTube channel, except for the ones that are longer than 1h. All IUGS members are encouraged to subscribe to the YouTube channel and to follow the social media

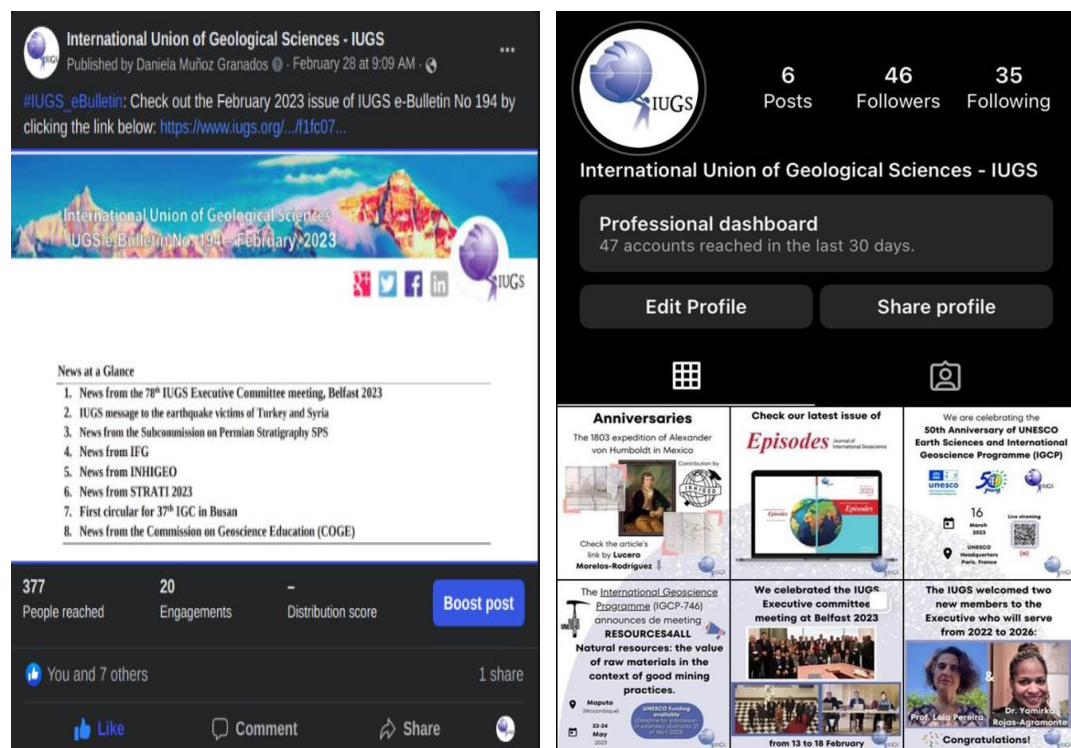


Figure 14. Some of the postings on social media.



**For the IUGS website:** A one-page concise text (up to about 500 words), if possible providing a web-link (e.g. to an IUGS activity website). **Each contribution to the IUGS e-Bulletin, website and/or social media should be marked as to which target medium or media it should be published in. Each contribution should be sent, at the same time, to the following addresses:**

[gurmeet28374@gmail.com](mailto:gurmeet28374@gmail.com) (e-Bulletin Editor-in-Chief)  
[giuseppe.dicapua@ingv.it](mailto:giuseppe.dicapua@ingv.it) (Webmaster)  
[gurmeet28374@gmail.com](mailto:gurmeet28374@gmail.com) (Social Media Manager)

**Time Frame for submissions to the e-Bulletin:**

1. IUGS sends a reminder to leaders of activities in the last week of each month;
2. Contributions should be provided by the 16<sup>th</sup> day of every month.
3. IUGS will evaluate all submitted items in terms of urgency and will allocate these to the next monthly issue or a later issue and will also check that these comply with IUGS policy for publications and ethics;
4. The IUGS Publications Committee Team will aim to compile monthly e-Bulletin by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month and send it to the IUGS Secretariat;
5. The IUGS Secretariat will dispatch the e-Bulletin to the IUGS Community on, or before, the last day of each month;

This time frame may vary due to public holidays that affect the e-Bulletin Team and IUGS Secretariat such as Christmas and Chinese New Year.

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**NOTES**

- Please check the IUGS [Calendar of Events](#) for upcoming scientific meetings. If you require information on international conferences, meetings, etc. to be considered for inclusion in this Calendar please mail to: [giuseppe.dicapua@ingv.it](mailto:giuseppe.dicapua@ingv.it)
- To be added to or removed from the IUGS e-Bulletin distribution list, please mail to: [iugs.beijing@gmail.com](mailto:iugs.beijing@gmail.com) or [secretariat@iugs.org](mailto:secretariat@iugs.org)
- Follow the IUGS on Social Media! We are on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).
- Check the IUGS website: <http://www.iugs.org/>

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