



IAPGeoethics Newsletter n. 1 (2021)

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, CIPSH - International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences and has 25 agreements for cooperation and 4 partnerships with national and international organizations all over the world.

The IAPG is legally recognized as a not-for-profit association, has 2,706 members in 130 countries on 5 continents, and can count on a network of **32 national sections**.

Send any kind of information about geoethics that could be published in the IAPG webpages to: iapgeoethics@aol.com

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

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

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

Membership

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

Donation: <https://www.geoethics.org/donations>



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Geoethics at the vEGU21 (26 and 29 April 2021)

This year we celebrate 10 years of sessions on geoethics organized by the IAPG at the EGU General Assembly!

26 April 2021 - 09:00-10:30 CEST

Session EOS4.2: Geoethics: Geosciences serving Society

Conveners: Silvia Peppoloni and Giuseppe Di Capua.

This session is organized by the IAPG.

26 April 2021 - 14:15-17:00 CEST

Session EOS3.2: Climate literacy: Learning, education, methods and roadmaps

Conveners: David Crookall, Giuseppe Di Capua, Lydie Lescarmontier, Robin Matthews, Frank Niepold.

This session is sponsored by the IAPG.

29 April 2021 - 10:00-11:00 CEST

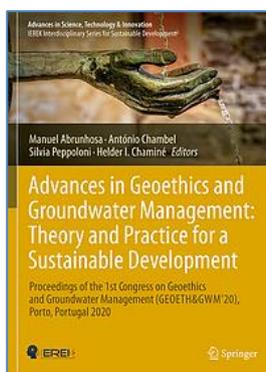
Short Course SC4.4: Foundations and Perspectives of Geoethics for Earth, Marine and Atmospheric Sciences - In memoriam of Jan Boon

Conveners: Eduardo Marone, Giuseppe Di Capua, Silvia Peppoloni.

This short course is organized by the IAPG and IOI-TC-LAC.

More about these sessions and the short course:

<https://www.geoethics.org/egu2021>



New book on geoethics and groundwater management

We are glad to inform that a new book has been published at the beginning of April 2021:

*Abrunhosa Manuel, Chambel Antonio, Peppoloni Silvia, Chaminé Helder I., eds. (2021). **Advances in Geoethics and Groundwater Management: theory and practice for a sustainable development - Proceedings of the 1st Congress on Geoethics and Groundwater Management (GEOETH&GWM'20), Porto - Portugal 2020.** XLV + 523 p., 24 b/w illustrations, 180 illustrations in colour, Springer, ISBN 978-3-030-59319-3. doi:10.1007/978-3-030-59320-9.*

This book gathers the peer-reviewed proceedings of the 1st congress on Geoethics & Groundwater Management (GEOETH&GWM'20), held in Porto, Portugal, in an online format on 18-22 May 2020. Hosted in the School of Engineering (ISEP), Polytechnic of Porto in Porto city (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), the international conference focused on what has now been dubbed "hydrogeoethics", a novel transdisciplinary, scientific field integrating all dimensions of geoethics in groundwater science and practice.

Download the book Flyer

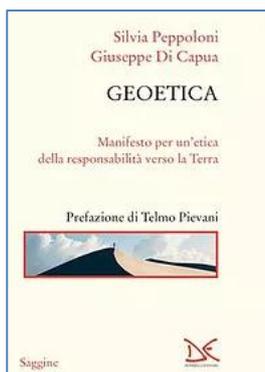
Download the book Front Matter, containing:

- Foreword by Giuseppe Di Capua (IAPG)
- Foreword by Nabil Khélifi (Springer Senior Publishing Editor)
- Preface by Manuel Abrunhosa (IAPG and IAH), Antonio Chambel (IAH), Silvia Peppoloni, Helder I. Chaminé (IAH)

- Acknowledgements
- Preamble by John Cherry (G360 Institute for Groundwater Research, University of Guelph, University of Waterloo)
- Contents (108 papers)
- About the Editors

[This book in the Springerlink website](#)

[Other books on geoethics](#)



New book on geoethics (in Italian)

Silvia Peppoloni, Giuseppe Di Capua
GEOETICA: manifesto per un'etica della responsabilità verso la Terra
Prefazione di Telmo Pievani
2021, Saggiene, n. 346, pp. 224, Donzelli Editore, ISBN 978-8855221696

Title in English (***GEOETHICS: manifesto for an ethics of responsibility towards the Earth***)

[Read more \(in Italian\)](#)

[Other books on geoethics](#)



Special Issue of the journal Sustainability (Call for papers): "New Advances on Geoethics and Sustainable Development"

Dear Colleagues,

The Earth, understood from a human perspective, is the physical place, but also the cultural and technological space, which humanity have the ethical duty to protect and transfer to future generations. There is a close connection between the social-ecological systems of the planet and their possible degradation if the thresholds of systemic sustainability are exceeded. The serious problems produced by Western development models, gradually accepted or imposed on a global level, cannot now find solutions through actions limited to local or national contexts—these need to be addressed through agreements on implementation methods and actions that are designed at a supranational level. For that reason, in this historical moment, it is essential to develop a global ethics towards the Earth that takes into account local contexts, but which is also able to provide a general vision of the common challenges to be addressed.

Geoethics has been defined as "the research and reflection on the values that underlie appropriate behaviours and practices, wherever human activities interact with the Earth system". It is proposed as a global ethics that identifies the values on which to base a more responsible and functional interaction between human beings and the planet understood as a system. Geoethics was born and developed to valorize geosciences from a social point of view and to make geoscientists aware of the role they can and have to play in society. At present, its conceptual and practical potentials are increasingly evident, as well as its ability to propose itself as an

ethics capable of redefining the relationship between human beings and the Earth system on a global level. Geoethics specifies and qualifies responsible human action through concepts such as sustainability, geo-conservation, adaptation to changes, risk prevention, and geo-environmental education, which give operational concreteness to the modern ecological feeling and which underlie the cultural, technological, energy, and economic changes of our societies.

Responsibility towards the Earth, its social-ecological systems, and future generations introduces the fundamental concept of sustainability, which in turn implies the human capability to manage production and consumption mechanisms in a long-term perspective and to respect natural environments and processes in order to contribute to their ecological sustainability. Sustainability is based on the awareness that the natural resources of the Earth system are limited, that ecosystem services can be extremely delicate, and that their management by human communities must take into account planetary limits, so as to develop a safe operating space. A more sustainable society is a more just, equitable, inclusive, prepared, participatory, and ecologically oriented society, in line with the values expressed by the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

This Special Issue aims to enrich and broaden the discussion on the concept of sustainability, analyzing it also in the light of the values of geoethics and considering its ethical, social, and cultural implications, so as to enrich the theoretical perspectives and practical applications of a global ethics towards the Earth. To this end, authors are invited to submit papers with scientific considerations, but also reflections relating to philosophical, historical, sociological, economic, and technological aspects, also with the help of practical examples and case studies. The Special Issue is promoted by the IAPG - International Association for Promoting Geoethics (<https://www.geoethics.org>).

Silvia Peppoloni (INGV Rome, Secretary General of the IAPG)
Giuseppe Di Capua (INGV Rome, Treasurer of the IAPG)
Guest Editors

More information about this special issue:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special_issue/s/geoethics

Keywords: geoethics, sustainability, human niche, social-ecological systems, planetary boundaries, safe operating space, ecosystem services, Sustainable Development Goals, Earth system governance, Earth stewardship

2 papers are already published in this special issue and can be freely downloaded:



*Bellaubi F., Mallarach J.M., Sardá R. (2021). **A Geoethical Approach to Unlock a Social-Ecological Governance Problem: The Case of the Tordera River (Catalonia, Spain)**. Sustainability 2021, 13(8), 4253, <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13084253>.*

Abstract: This paper introduces a geoethical dilemma in the coastal

zone of the Tordera Delta as a case study with the objective of showing the contribution of geoethics to the governance of coastal social-ecological systems. The Tordera Delta, located in Costa Brava, Catalonia, constitutes a social-ecological system that suffers from intense anthropization mainly due to tourist pressures causing a cascade of different environmental problems impacting the Delta functions. The massive sun and beach tourism brought human well-being and economic development to the region, but has caused an intense urbanization of the coastline that altered the coastal dynamics, eroded its beaches, and degraded many ecosystem services, a process that is being worsened today by the climate change events such as the rising sea level or the magnitude of the storms ("llevantades"), typical of the Western Mediterranean coast. Posing the problem of governance in terms of a geoethical dilemma enables discerning among the values connected to the intrinsic meaning of coastal landscapes and the instrumental values that see beaches as goods (commodities) for tourism uses. Finally, the paper reflects on options to overcome this dichotomy of values by considering meaning values as elements that forge cultural identities, contributing to highlighting this societal challenge in the Tordera Delta area, as a case study that can be useful for similar ecosystems.



Bohle M. and Marone E. (2021). **Geoethics, a Branding for Sustainable Practices**. *Sustainability*, 13(2), 895, <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13020895>.

Abstract: In struggles for cultural leadership, advocating a paradigm helps to disseminate, for example, a style of life, thinking, or common practices. Promoting a practice, that is, branding it, includes the use of a simple name or symbol (semiotic sign). Within geosciences, the label "geoethics" refers to a school of thought that uses established philosophical concepts to promote responsible professional practices. The outcomes that are available aggregate to a more general paradigm that calls for geocentric human practices. The label geoethics also sounds like a brand for those practices. As analysis shows, the notion of geoethics is not univocal. At first sight, that feature hinders using it as a brand for geocentric practices. However, the successful branding of the concept of sustainability, as a scientific and public paradigm, indicates the opposite. Although the notion of sustainability aggregates various concepts and is not univocal, it illustrates what cultural leadership can be achieved when a concept, paradigm, and brand use the same semiotic sign (name). Therefore, it is suggested that the school of thought, Geoethics, with its dedicated reference to the specific societal use of geosciences, should also be used as a brand: geoethics, the general application of geoethical thinking to promote geocentric human practices.



New discount for the eLearning Course "Practical Geocommunication"

As a member of the IAPG, you now have a **70% discount on the usual course price**.

Your unique access code is: **iapg-pggz**

Here's how to start your learning experience!

1) Head over to: <https://training.geologize.org/courses/geocomms>

2) Click on 'BUY'

- 3) Register (Free)
- 4) Click on the link 'Have a coupon?'
- 5) Enter the code above. This applies the 70% discount.
- 6) Pay the remaining value.
- 7) Start learning!



Workshop on Geodiversity

The workshop was held online on 16 April 2021. The event was hosted by the Oxford University Museum of Natural History, and funded by Research England's Strategic Priorities Fund allocation to the University of Oxford.

The IAPG - International Association for Promoting Geoethics was a supporting organization of this event.

[Recording of the two workshop sessions](#)



Video Lecture on "Geoethics: Integrity and Ethics in Science in Higher Education"

Recording of the Lecture by John Geissman (University of Texas at Dallas; IAPG Geoethics Medal 2020), held on 4 January 2021 at the University of Potsdam (Germany).

Video on the IAPG YouTube Channel:

<https://youtu.be/GANbLvJ6bms>



IAPG signed an agreement for cooperation with JMO, Turkey

On 12 January 2021, the IAPG signed an agreement for cooperation with the **JMO - Jeoloji Mühendisleri Odası (Turkish Chamber of Geological Engineers)**. The aim of this agreement is to develop a coordinated activity for promoting initiatives and events discussing the ethical, social and cultural implications of geosciences in Turkey. It helps to assure a continued IAPG – JMO cooperation and coordination on issues of common interests in Turkey, in particular, the following: Theoretical aspects of geoethics; Analyses of geoethical problems and dilemmas, also through case-studies; Co-organization of scientific events on geoethics; Production of relevant publications. JMO agrees to support the "**Cape Town Statement on Geoethics**" (that contains the **Geoethical Promise**) and to be included in the list of 27 supporting organizations of the statement.

[Read more about IAPG affiliations, agreements, and partnerships](#)



IAPG-Canada has a new coordinator

Paul Hubley has been appointed new coordinator of IAPG-Canada. He replaces Shona van Zijll de Jong. The IAPG wishes to thank Shona van Zijll de Jong for chairing this section and for her work in representing IAPG in Canada.

Paul is Principal and Senior Geoscientist at Hubley Geosciences Limited (HGL) and President-elect of Professional Geoscientists Ontario (PGO) (2021-2022 term). He has a M.Sc. in Earth Sciences

(Hydrogeology) and is a recognized Professional Geoscientist (P.Geo.), Qualified Person (QPESA) in the Province of Ontario, Canada (also recently Alberta and Saskatchewan), Environmental Professional (EP®) through ECO Canada, and is a Canadian Risk Manager (CRM®) certified by the Global Risk Management Institute (GRMI). Paul has 30 years of consulting experience on over 1,000 projects in most provinces of Canada

IAPG-Canada is one of the [thirty-second section of the IAPG](#).

[Read more about Paul Hubley](#)



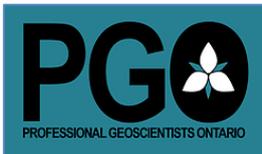
IAPG-Iran has a new co-coordinator

Parviz Armani has been appointed new co-coordinator of IAPG-Iran. He replaces Nima Nezafati. The IAPG wishes to thank Nima for chairing this section and for his work in representing IAPG in Iran. Parviz received his bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Tabriz. He received his master's degree in sedimentology and sediment rocks from Kharazmi University in Tehran. He joined the Imam Khomeini International University in 2008 and was the Head of the Geology Department for four years in this University.

IAPG-Iran is one of the [thirty-second section of the IAPG](#).

[Read more about Parviz Armani](#)

Past events on geoethics



22 April 2021

Giuseppe Di Capua (IAPG Treasurer) gave an invited speech entitled "Geoethics in Natural Hazard and Risk Management" at the 2021 Virtual Symposium of the PGO - Professional Geoscientists Ontario.



19 April 2021

Webinar on Geoeducation in Chile.

The webinar (in Spanish) was focused on the dissemination of geosciences in Chile. This event was co-organized by IAPG-Chile/Grupo Geoética Chile (Geoethics Group Chile) and Grupo de Educación (Education Group) of the Sociedad Geológica de Chile (Geological Society of Chile).



26 March 2021

Seminar on geoethics in Italy.

This event was organized by University of Chieti - Department of Engineering and Geology. Speakers: Silvia Peppoloni (IAPG Secretary General) and Giuseppe Di Capua (IAPG Treasurer). The seminar was entitled "Geoethics: theoretical foundations and its practical applications in the field of geo-risks and georesources".



11 March 2021

Webinar on geoethics in Turkey.

This event was organized by MJD - Maden Jeologları Derneği (Turkish Association of Economic Geologists). Speaker: Giuseppe Di Capua (IAPG Treasurer). His speech was entitled "Geoethics: strengthening geoscience professionalism and the social role of geoscientists".



11 March 2021

Eduardo Marone (IAPG-Brazil coordinator) gave a talk on geoethics in the webinar organized "in memoriam" of Prof. Carlos Soares and Laura Segura. This event was organized by the International Ocean Institute - América Latina and Caribe. The IAPG - International Association for Promoting Geoethics was partner of this webinar.

Video recording



3 March 2021

Webinar (in Italian): "Geoetica" (Geoethics).

This event was organized by MUST - Dipartimento Scienze della Terra della Sapienza Università di Roma. Speakers: Silvia Peppoloni (Coordinator of the Section of Geoethics and Geological Culture of the Italian Geological Society - IAPG-Italy and Secretary General of the IAPG) and Giuseppe Di Capua (IAPG Treasurer). Moderator: Prof. Raffaele Sardella (MUST Director).

Video recording



11 February 2021

Web seminar: "Geoethics and Georesources".

This event was organized by Society of Economic Geologists (SEG)-student chapter at RWTH Aachen (Germany), in cooperation with the IAPG. Speakers and titles: David Mogk (IAPG Board of Experts for Geo-education and Teaching Geoethics) on "Geoethics: from geoscience professional development to responsible citizenship"; and Nic Bilham (IAPG Continental Coordinator for Europe), on "Geoethics as a framework for responsible production and consumption of mineral resources: roles for geoscientists, stakeholders and citizens".



3 February 2021

Martin Bohle (IAPG Board of Experts) gave a talk at the at the University of Heidelberg (Geokolloquium), entitled "Geoethics - for Society, Geosciences and Geoscientists".



14 January 2021

The IAPG supported the [World Logic Day 2021](#), promoted by UNESCO and CIPSH - International Council of Philosophy and Human Sciences.

IAPG letter of support



From the IAPG Blog:
Process, Procedures, and Proposals: Establishing a UNESCO International Geodiversity Day
(by Jack Matthews, United Kingdom)

Read here:
<https://iapgeoeitics.blogspot.com/2021/04/process-procedures-and-proposals.html>



From the IAPG Blog:
Rediscovering the sense of the human in a chaos of "ceneisms"
(by Silvia Peppoloni, Italy)

Read here:
<https://iapgeoeitics.blogspot.com/2021/03/rediscovering-sense-of-human-in-chaos.html>



From the IAPG Blog:
Geology, Climate Change and New Policy for our Territories benefit
(by José Martín Cabello Lechuga, Chile)

Read here:
<https://iapgeoeitics.blogspot.com/2021/03/geology-climate-change-and-new-policy.html>



From the IAPG Blog:
eGeos: Bringing Our Talents to the Emerging Energy Economy
(by Rachelle Kernan, Australia & Edith Newton Wilson, USA)

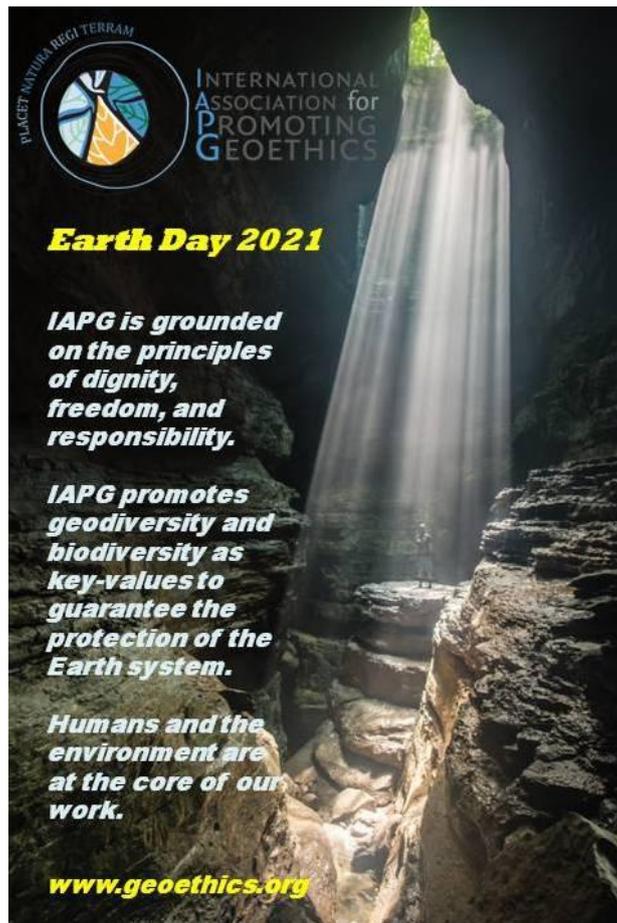
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<https://iapgeoeitics.blogspot.com/2021/02/egeos-bringing-our-talents-to-emerging.html>



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(by Silvia Peppoloni, Italy)

Read here:
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or make a donation by credit card through PayPal.

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