



IAPGeoethics Newsletter n. 1 (2016)

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

The International Association for Promoting Geoethics (IAPG) is a multidisciplinary, scientific community and aims at creating awareness about application of ethical principles to theoretical and practical aspects of Geosciences.

The International Association for Promoting Geoethics (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 and GSL - Geological Society of London, GIRAF - Geoscience Information in Africa Network.

The IAPG is legally recognized as a not-for-profit association, has members in 104 countries in 5 continents, and can count on a network of **20 national sections**.

Send any kind of information about Geoethics that could be published in the IAPG webpages to: 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.



Website



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MEMBERS



**1050 members
in
104 countries**

We have reached a NEW MILESTONE.

The IAPG community is continuously growing.

Thanks to all!

CONGRESSES/MEETINGS

35th IGC - International Geological Congress Deadline extended: 29 February 2016

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
(deadline extended: 29 February 2016)

Symposium
Geoethics: general aspects and case-studies

Geoethics develops ethical and social perspectives on challenges arising from human interaction with Earth systems, complements technical approaches and solutions, and defines ethical frameworks for geoscientists' activities. Abstracts are invited that illustrate this at the local and global scale: <http://www.geoethics.org/35thigc.html>

Convenership

G. Di Capua, P. Bibrowsky, M. Bohle, J. Geissman, S. Peppoloni

Welcome to the
35TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS
27 AUGUST - 4 SEPTEMBER 2016 | CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

Session description at:
<http://www.geoethics.org/35thigc.html>

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
(deadline extended: 29 February 2016)

A joint initiative:

- IAPG - International Association for Promoting Geoethics
- GSL - Geological Society of London
- EFG - European Federation of Geologists
- EGS - EuroGeoSurveys

Symposium
Geothical perspectives on meeting the resource needs of future generations

Meeting the resource needs of future generations is one of the greatest challenges facing global society – one in which geoscientists have a vital role to play. The conveners invite papers addressing how geothical perspectives can be brought to bear on the challenges of sustainably meeting future demand for georesources, including energy, groundwater and numerous mineral commodities.
How to submit an abstract and details on the symposium at: <http://www.geoethics.org/35thigc.html>

Convenership

Welcome to the
35TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS
27 AUGUST - 4 SEPTEMBER 2016 | CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

Silvia Peppoloni (IAPG), Nic Bisham (GSL), Vilor Correia (EFG), Luca Demicheli (EGS)

A joint symposium:
IAPG - International Association for Promoting Geoethics
GSL - Geological Society of London
EFG - European Federation of Geologists
EGS - EuroGeoSurveys

Session description at:
<http://www.geoethics.org/35thigc.html>



Poster Session: "ED44A: Ethical Principles and Practices in the Ocean Sciences"

New Orleans (USA), 25 February 2016

The poster session takes place on Thursday, February 25, 2016, from 04:00 PM to 06:00 PM, at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center - Poster Hall, in New Orleans, Louisiana (USA).

The session is convened by Elizabeth Gordon (Fitchburg State University, USA) and Cindy Palinkas (University of Maryland, Center for Environmental Science Appalachian Laboratory, USA; co-coordinator of IAPG-USA).

The session has been supported by the IAPG.

Program:

<https://agu.confex.com/agu/os16/meetingapp.cgi/Session/9330>



1st IARS International Conference: New Perspectives

Cairo (Egypt), 25-26 May 2016

The Conference is organized by the Institute of African Research and Studies (IARS), in collaboration with the Cairo University, Foreign Affairs Ministry of Egypt, Arabian Scientific Research Organization (ASRO), **International Association for Promoting Geoethics (IAPG)** and African Network for Geo-Education (ANGE).

IAPG organizes a round-table on geoethics for young geoscientists.

The main themes of the Conference are:

- Natural Resources in Africa - New Perspectives.
- Education in Africa - New Perspectives.
- Community, Culture and health in Africa.
- Future of Conflict and Peace building in Africa.

The Conference will be a platform for initiating a new vision in co-operation with African countries and improving relation through new perspectives by discussing the current situation and challenges, and will seek to share experience and best practices to promote the Egyptian role in Africa.

More information in the page "events" of the IAPG website:

<http://www.geoethics.org/events.html>

NEW NATIONAL SECTIONS



IAPG-Cameroon

The section will work under the responsibility of **Ndzishengong Kelvin Ngwang**
(Ministry of Mines, Industry & Technological Development of Cameroon).

[Read more](#)



IAPG-Cuba

The section will work under the responsibility of **Yurisley Valdes Mariño**
(Facultad de Geología y Minas - Faculty of Geology and Mining of the Instituto Superior Minero
Metalúrgico de Moa - Metallurgical Mining Institute, Moa, Holguín).
He is Head of the Geophysics sector in the Department of Geology.

[Read more](#)



IAPG-Iran

The section will work under the responsibility of **Vahid Ahadnejad** (Geology Department, Payame Noor University, Tehran; on the left) and **Sedigheh Seifilaleh** (University of Tehran, Institute of Geophysics; on the right).

[Read more](#)

List of national sections of the IAPG:

<http://www.geoethics.org/sections.html>

CONFERENCES



[IAPG Keynote at the "nANO meets water VII" meeting](#)

IAPG keynote speech by Martin Bohle (IAPG Corresponding Citizen Scientist), titled: Geoethik: Richtschnur für's Anthropozän (**Geoethics: Orientation in the Anthropocene**), at the Fraunhofer Institut für Umwelt-, Sicherheit- und Energietechnik, German Fraunhofer-Society for applied research in Oberhausen (Germany), on 18 February 2016.

[Leaflet](#)

AFFILIATIONS/AGREEMENTS



IAPG has been recognized as an Associated Organisation of GIRAF-Network

(11 January 2016)

The IAPG has been recognized as an Associated Organisation of the Geoscience Information in Africa - Network (GIRAF).

The mission of GIRAF - Network (<http://www.giraf-network.org/>) is to support that knowledge-based geoscience information contributes to improve the environmental & economic prosperity of the people in Africa.

The aims of GIRAF are:

- Build a pan-African geoscience information knowledge network of geological surveys, universities and companies.
- Exchange and share geoscience information and good practice.
- Bring together relevant African authorities, national experts and stakeholders in geoscience information.
- Make Africa a more active part of the international geoscience information community.
- Stimulate and support cross-border geoscience information projects in Africa.
- Gather and review up-to-date feedback on the actual situation of geoscience information status and progress in Africa.
- Review the progress of the GIRAF network as set up at the 1st workshop in Namibia 2009.
- In the long run improve the way geoscience information contributes to improve the health and prosperity of the people in Africa.

Read more about the affiliations and agreements of the IAPG:

<http://www.geoethics.org/affiliations.html>



[IAPG and GEVAS Argentina have signed an Agreement on Cooperation](#)

(4 January 2016)

The agreement expresses a mutual desire to promote coordinated activities and events discussing the ethical, social and cultural implications of geosciences and initiatives enhancing the application of geoethics to the study and management of geohazards and to their impact on society, environment and human health.

The agreement was signed by Silvia Peppoloni (IAPG Secretary General) and Elizabeth Rovere (President of GEVAS Argentina). Elizabeth is co-coordinator of the section IAPG-Argentina. GEVAS Argentina (<http://www.geovolcan.blogspot.com/>) is a civil, not-for-profit, Association that was legally recognized in 2013.

The objectives of GEVAS Argentina are related to promote actions aimed at developing the "Best Practices" for interaction between Geosciences and Society.

GEVAS Argentina is devoted at facing the social and environmental impact of volcanic hazard and other geohazards. Particular objectives are related to fostering transfer of scientific knowledge to society, to collaborate with public and private institutions involved in risk management, to perform basic scientific research, to develop international networks and communications on geohazards, to provide technical support to different levels of actors (scientific, politics, society in general, educational, public health), and to encourage local communities from affected areas to participate and create resilient social behaviors.

Read more about the affiliations and agreements of the IAPG:

<http://www.geoethics.org/affiliations.html>

OTHER EVENTS



Great news from IAPG-Peru!

IAPG-Peru held its 1st Coordination Meeting on 15 January 2016 at the Auditorium of the INGEMMET (Instituto Geológico Minero y Metalúrgico) in Lima. After a talk about the 2015 activities of the section, our Peruvian colleagues discussed about several plans for 2016:

- 1) MINERLIMA 2016 (Second Internacional Exhibition of Minerals in Peru).
- 2) Creation of the section on Geoethics, Geological Culture and Society within the Peruvian Geological Society.
- 3) 2nd Colloquium on Geoethics to be included in the Peruvian Geological Congress.

A detailed report of the meeting is available in the IAPG-Peru Blog (in Spanish):
<http://geoeticaperu.blogspot.pe/2016/01/1-reunion-de-coordinacion-de-la-iapg.html>



Paris Agreement Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

An agreement to face climate change and unleash actions and investment towards a low carbon, resilient and sustainable future was agreed by 195 nations in Paris on 12 December 2015.

Read more about the Paris Agreement:
<http://www.geoethics.org/cop21.html>



FROM THE IAPG BLOG



Geoethics and the Anthropocene

(by Martin Bohle, Belgium)

"The making of the Anthropocene is about altering how human activities and the bio-geosphere intersect. Geoethics provide an orientation how that anthropogenic global change process should happen....."

[Read the article here](#)

Picture Credit: Stephanie Flude (distributed via imagedo.egu.eu)



**Ethics of Geomechanics:
A Thriving Discipline and Its Growing Responsibility**

(by Mehrdad Soltanzadeh, Canada)

"During the last two decades, reservoir geomechanics has been showered with attention from petroleum industry, academia and regulatory institutions mainly because modern technologies, new perspectives and economic opportunities have led to exponential growth of aggressive underground operations such as massive hydraulic fracturing, waste disposal, underground storage of greenhouse gases and in-situ thermal projects, all calling for geomechanics not just to help them with increasing their efficiency but also to answer some crucial questions on their safety and potential risks such as excessive ground deformation, fluid leakage, air, soil and water contamination and induced seismicity. In fact, none of these concerns are quite new to the world but they have never been operated in a scale as large as today's plus that, in the current sensitive social platform, their economic, sociopolitical and environmental importance can hardly be overlooked. This popularity has come with a huge load of professional and ethical responsibility for geomechanics as a discipline that is primarily responsible for assessment of these risks....."

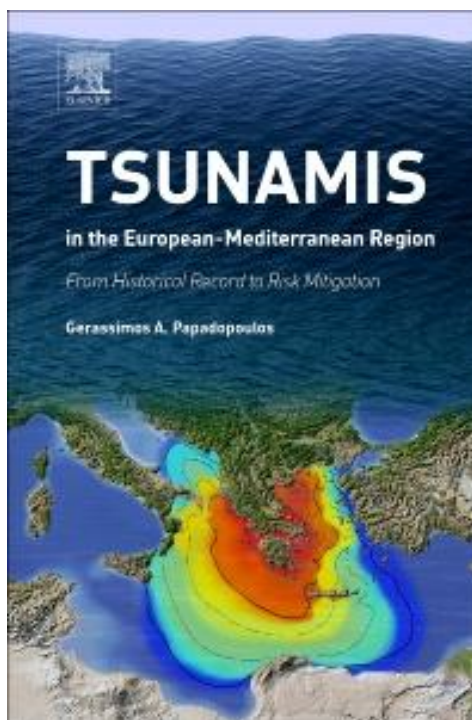
[Read the article here](#)

Picture Credit: Surficial bitumen spill close to a major thermal operation site in Alberta, Canada (source: o.canada.com)

List of articles published in the IAPG Blog:

[**http://www.geoethics.org/blog.html**](http://www.geoethics.org/blog.html)

NEW BOOK



Gerassimos A. Papadopoulos
Tsunamis in the European-Mediterranean Region,
From Historical Record to Risk Mitigation
2015, p. 290, Elsevier, ISBN 978-0-12-420224-5

This book "Provides a much-needed synopsis of tsunami history, generation causes, hazard assessment, early warning issues and risk mitigation in the European-Mediterranean region with global comparisons, making this a universally relevant reference." The topic of the book has important geoethical implications.

Gerassimos Papadopoulos is the coordinator of IAPG-Greece

[Read more](#)

Other publications in the IAPG website:

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



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