



Participation of the Russian Federation in the International Geological Congress (IGC)

The International Geological Congress (IGC) is the four yearly international meeting of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). The 37th IGC will be held in Busan in the Republic of Korea from the 25-31 August 2024.

This meeting is an opportunity to bring the world's geological scientists together to discuss the current state and the future of our science.

Following the illegal invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation the IUGS Executive Committee voted the following: "to freeze all activity with the Russian Federation until future notice." This decision is in line with sanctions imposed on the Russian Federation.

This was agreed in February 2022 by the IUGS Executive Committee, and the statement can be found here:

https://www.iugs.org/_files/ugd/flfc07_81667d65fb6f43febe8604b038f609fa.pdf

This decision means that presentations and abstracts submitted to the 37th IGC by Russian scientists in Russian institutions will be refused. While we regret the impact on the scientists concerned, the IUGS executive underlines that the geological sciences are critical to the economy of all countries, and that support to most institutions in the Russian Federation is derived from government sources and is thus subject to sanctions.

We hope this situation will change soon and that we can again openly exchange ideas with our colleagues in Russia.

Professor John Ludden CBE

On behalf of the IUGS Executive Committee