



News at a Glance

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1. [IUGS on Wikipedia](#)

The information on IUGS is available on Wikipedia.

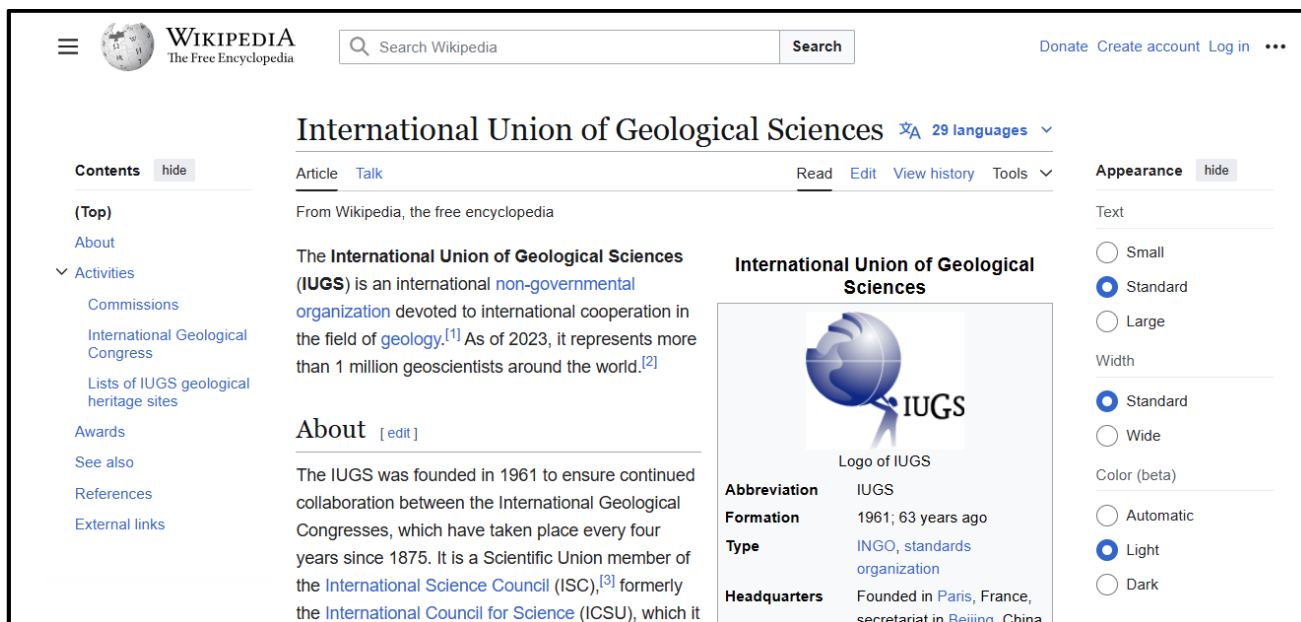


Figure: Screenshot of the IUGS on Wikipedia

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Union_of_Geological_Sciences)

2. [News from the IGCP 735](#)

[IGCP 735 Rocks and the Rise of Ordovician Life. Filling Knowledge gaps in the Early Paleozoic biodiversification.](#) The [4th Annual Meeting of the IGCP 735](#) was held in Córdoba (Argentina) on October 14-21, 2024 and was convened by Beatriz Waisfeld and María José Salas along with an organizing team from the host institutions: Centro de Investigaciones en Ciencias de la Tierra (CICERRA – CONICET – UNC) and Universidad Nacional de Córdoba. The meeting included 3 days of indoor sessions and a 4-day field trip to the Argentine Precordillera. Forty-eight delegates from 11 countries attended the meeting. Scientific sessions included 43 presentations, 4 keynote talks delivered by Claudia Rubinstein (Argentina), Jeong-Hyun Lee (Korea), Oliver Lehnert (Germany) and Alycia Stigall (USA), 3 workshops coordinated by Fernanda Serra and Diego Balseiro (Argentina), by Gabriela Mángano and Luis Buatois (Canada), and by Blanca Toro, Nexxys Herrera-Sánchez and Jörg Maletz (Argentina, Germany). These sessions encompassed a wide variety of aspects underlying the Early Paleozoic radiations of life in the oceans and associated changes in the Earth System.

The field excursion provided an overview of the Lower Paleozoic geology and paleontology of the Precordillera Basin. The field trip leaders Marcelo Carrera, Fernando Cañas, Susana Heredia and Juan José Rustán showcased the transition from Cambro-Ordovician tropical carbonates to the uppermost Ordovician glaciation through an east-to-west transect.



(a)



(b)

(a) Meeting participants; (b) Field trip participants at the west Argentine Precordillera, view of the Río Jáchal, San Juan.

3. News from the IUGS-Commission on Geoethics

- a) International Geoethics Day 2024: The International Geoethics Day 2024 was celebrated on 17 October, with initiatives in Bangladesh, India, Italy, New Zealand, Spain, Turkey (<https://www.geoethics.org/geoethics-day>). The theme of this year has been “**Valuing geosciences for the public good**”:



International Geoethics Day 2024
17 October

“Valuing Geosciences for the Public Good”

On this International Geoethics Day 2024, we celebrate the vital role of geosciences in promoting the public good. By deepening our understanding of the Earth, geosciences help us address critical challenges like climate change, natural disasters, resource management, and environmental conservation. But beyond knowledge, geoethics reminds us of our responsibility to use this science ethically, ensuring that its benefits reach all communities, safeguard the environment, and promote sustainability. Let us value geosciences not only for what they teach us about our planet but also for how they empower us to create a fairer, more resilient future for all.

Silvia Peppoloni
(President of the IAGG; Chair of the Commission on Geoethics of the International Union of Geological Sciences; Chair holder of the Chair on Geoethics of the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences; Researcher at the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology, Rome, Italy)

Figure– Message by Silvia Peppoloni (Chair of the IUGS Commission on Geoethics and President of the International Association for Promoting Geoethics, celebrating the 8th edition of the International Geoethics Day, 17 October 2024.

- b) Geoethics in Brazil: Silvia Peppoloni gave a Video Lecture titled “Geoethics: Resources, Risks, Responsibilities” on 17 October at the 51th Brazilian Congress of Geology that took place in Belo Horizonte (Brazil).
- c) Geoethics in Argentina: The Argentinian section of the International Association for Promoting Geoethics (IAPGeoethics-Argentina) is organizing the Symposium “Geological Risks and Geoethics” on 20 November at the XXII Argentinian Geological Congress. Giuseppe Di Capua will give a lecture, titled “The International Infrastructure for Geoethics”.
- d) Geoethics in New Zealand: The meeting of the Geoethics Special Interest Group of GSNZ/New Zealand Section of IAPG, chaired by Matthew Hughes, will take place on 26 November 2024, during the 2024 Annual Conference of the Geoscience Society of New Zealand (GSNZ) in Dunedin.
- e) Geoethics at the European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly 2025: The IAPG, the IUGS Commission on Geoethics, and the CIPSH Chair on Geoethics co-sponsor the following sessions and short course at the next EGU General Assembly (Vienna, Austria, 27 April - 2 May 2025).
- **Session EOS4.3 “Geoethics and Global Anthropogenic Changes: Geoscience Informing Policy-Making and Decision-Making”** (Convener: Silvia Peppoloni | Co-convener: Giuseppe Di Capua): <https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU25/session/52035>
 - **Session EOS2.3 “Climate and ocean communication and education: Experience, ethics, prospects”** (Convener: David Crookall | Co-convener: Giuseppe Di Capua, Svitlana Krakovska, Rachel Wellman, Pimnutcha Promduangsri): <https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU25/session/52049>
 - **Short Course SC 1.7 “Geoethical values, principles and behaviours: A participatory workshop”** (Convener: David Crookall | Co-conveners: Giuseppe Di Capua, Berill Blair, Pimnutcha Promduangsri): <https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU25/session/53313>
The call for abstracts is open (deadline: 15 January 2025, 13:00 CET).
More information at: <https://www.egu25.eu/>

Meeting of the Standing Committee on Gender Equality in Science (SCGES)

Silvia Peppoloni, as Chair of the IUGS Commission on Geoethics, represented the IUGS at the virtual SCGES meeting held on 19 October 2024. The IUGS Commission on Geoethics contributed to the SCGES Fourth Annual Report (2023-2024) by reporting on the activities and outcomes of its Task Group on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA): https://www.geoethics.org/files/ugd/5195a5_06c2c4dc545e4def92ff4374eee19cbf.pdf

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

IUGS-IFG Special Project on Illegal Mining, Minerals and Metals Crimes

The IUGS-IFG Special Project is making significant progress. We are working steadily to complete each chapter. This has to be submitted to the new IUGS President, Secretary General and Executive Committee during the next IUGS meeting in the early new year. The papers will then be submitted to ‘*Episodes*’



(Journal of the International Union of Geological Sciences) for the publication of a themed issue in 2025. The revised papers/chapters are as follows:

1. Illegal and criminal activity in the global minerals industry; an introduction
2. Organised Crime, Minerals, Mining and Law Enforcement: Underworld v Upperworld
3. Global gold; identifying the scale of illegal mining and gold trading
4. Critical Raw Materials; challenges for supply and demand (PGM, Cu and Ni are included as CRMs)
5. Conflict minerals: Responsible sourcing through the minerals supply chain
6. Illegal sand mining and its environmental impact
7. The Illegal Trade in Fossils

If you would like to contribute to any of the above, and you are not currently an active co-author, please contact the projects leads; laurance.donnelly@ahkgroup.com or geologist@hotmail.co.uk and dpirrie@helfordgeoscience.co.uk

IUGS-IFG Annual Report for 2024

The IUGS-IFG Annual Report for 2024 will be submitted to the IUGS President and Secretary General at the start of 2025. This will include a summary of IUGS-IFG's main events and achievements in 2024, a summary of our accounts and a budgetary request for 2025. If you would like to include any information in this report, or if you have a specific request for funding in 2025, this should be submitted to laurance.donnelly@ahkgroup.com or geologist@hotmail.co.uk before 20 December 2024. A draft will be circulated for review before submission to IUGS.

IUGS Social Media

Social media is a fundamental means to keep the global geoscientific community informed about the work of IUGS. All requests related to IUGS social media should be sent to iugs.socialmedia@gmail.com Please ensure any information submitted for social media is first brought to the attention of the appropriate IUGS-IFG Officer, including the IUGS-IFG Chair (Laurance Donnelly), Vicechair Dr Rob Fitzpatrick), Secretary (Prof Duncan Pirrie), Treasurer (Prof Lorna Dawson) and Communications Officer (Prof Jennifer McKinley).

Training UK Police in Search

In 2025, IUGS-IFG have been invited to participate in the training of the UK police in searches for burials, including the application of the Geoforensic Search Strategy (GSS).

laurance.donnelly@ahkgroup.com or geologist@hotmail.co.uk

Unprecedented crime levels threaten mining's sustainability

Increases in mining crime during 2024, by multi-billion-dollar transnational criminal groups combined with illegal mining, illicit trafficking of precious metals and corruption is reported to be having a serious impact on mining and minerals sustainability.

<https://www.miningweekly.com/article/unprecedented-crime-levels-threaten-minings-sustainability-2024-03-22-1>

GeoBlock Gold Traceability

IUGS-IFG has been supporting the Clean Gold Programme, established the Brazilian Federal Police. Recently, 'GeoBlock', gold traceability and fingerprinting system was launched, which aligns with Geoforensic Passport for gold traceability, based on the analysis of a questioned gold sample using XRF.



<https://geoscientist.online/sections/news/forensic-geology-and-the-clean-gold-program/>
<https://www.geoblock.ch/digitalizing>
<https://www.geoblock.ch/geoblock-fast-fingerprint-verification>

Illegal sand mining continues to threaten infrastructure and the environment

Billions of tonnes of sand is illegally mined every year around the world by organised crime groups and this threatens infrastructure, lives and the environment.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-10-25/sand-mining-impacts-vietnam-bridges/104511578>
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/environment-climate/illegal-mining.html>

5. News from International Commission on History of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO)

1. INHIGEO Anniversaries

Occasion: A new lithostratigraphic theory 250 years ago

Author: Ezio Vaccari (Italy)

Title: **Giovanni Arduino and his Saggio Fisico-Mineralogico (1774)**

Giovanni Arduino (1714–1795) was a leading figure in the Italian scientific community in the second half of the 18th century. His interest in the study of the Earth's strata and in the interpretation of different kinds of rocks grew together with his advanced experience in mining and as he carried out geological research and fieldwork mainly in the Venetian Prealps.

Please open the link to know more: <http://www.inhigeo.com/anniversaries.html>

2. Award to INHIGEO member

Geological Society of America – September 2024

Mary C. Rabbitt History and Philosophy of Geology Annual Award

INHIGEO member **Silvia Fernanda de Mendonça Figueirôa** (University of Campinas-UNICAMP, São Paulo, Brazil) was the recipient for her contribution to the History of Geology of the 2024 Mary C. Rabbitt History and Philosophy Award of the Geological Society of America, presented at the annual meeting held in Anaheim, California, 22-25 September 2024. The Award is presented annually by the Geological Society of America's History and Philosophy of Geology Division to an individual for exceptional scholarly contributions of fundamental importance to our understanding of the history of the geological sciences and candidates are from a worldwide pool. See: https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/About/awards/Division_Awards/GSA/Awards/Division.aspx

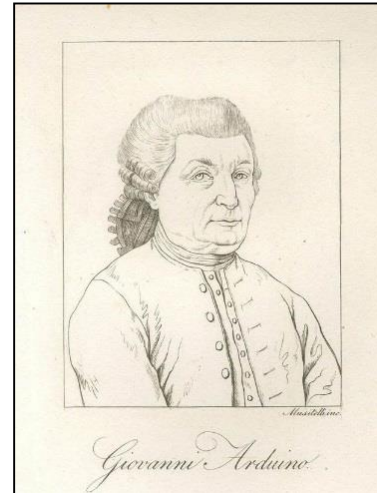


Figure on left: Silvia receiving the award from Division Chair Patricia Coorough Burke. Figure on right: Giovanni Arduino (1714–1795)

Please open the link to know more: <http://www.inhigeo.com/anniversaries.html>

6. News from the Commission on Global Geochemical Baselines (GGB)

Joint Annual Meeting in Prague, and participation in FAO's Global Symposium on Soil Information and Data

The Joint Annual Meeting of the IUGS-CGGB and the Geochemistry Expert Groups of EuroGeoSurveys ([EGS-GEG](#)) and Ibero-American Association of Geological and Mining Surveys ([ASGMI-GEG](#)) was hosted by the [Czech Geological Survey](#) at its premises in Prague from the 19th to the 21st of September 2024. The 23 participants were from Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Hellenic Republic, Norway, Germany, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and The Netherlands (Fig. 1a). The meeting was broadcast and colleagues from many parts of the world were able to participate virtually. The first day was focused on the activities carried out by the IUGS-CGGB, EGS-GEG & ASGMI-GEG for the last quarter of 2023 and the first nine months of 2024. The following topics were discussed: future joint collaborations, publications, workshop proposals, sessions in international conferences for 2025, *etc.* The IUGS-CGGB presented its activities during 2024, especially the successful session of the 4th [Arthur Darnley](#) Symposium, and the three-day workshop on the occasion of the 37th International Geological Congress in Busan (see article in [IUGS E-Bulletin No. 208-209](#)). The [EuroGeoSurveys](#) Secretary General, Julie Hollis, presented virtually the EuroGeoSurveys Strategic Directions. The second day was organised as a seminar during which participants presented various geochemical work and projects carried out by the geological surveys, and are available from a dedicated [pCloud folder](#). As the EGS-GEG was celebrating the 10th anniversary of the publication of the GEMAS project atlas, the special guest was Dr. Clemens Reimann (EGS-GEG chair 2006-2017; Fig. 1b), who led the GEMAS project and presented its

historical outline, and impact on the geochemistry of European agricultural and grazing land soil. On the third day, the meeting participants visited the Přebram Pb-Ag mining area, the separation line of the state enterprise [DIAMO](#) processing of tailings after the U-ore mining, and the [open-air mining museum](#) in the Březové Hory area, approximately 2 km west of Přebram city centre.



(a)



(b)

Figure (a) Group photograph of the joint IUGS-CGGB, EGS-GEG & ASGMI-GEG meeting in Prague (Photograph taken by John Hora); (b) Clemens Reimann blowing out candles of the 10th GEMAS anniversary cake held by Anna Ladenberger, EGS-GEG Deputy Chair (Photograph taken by Philippe Négrel).

CGGB members participated in FAO's hybrid [Global Symposium on Soil Information and Data](#), which was held in Nanjing (China) from the 25th to the 28th of September 2024. The following five presentations were delivered virtually: (1) *Application of high spatial density soil geochemical mapping: The Geochemical Atlas of Cyprus* (D. Cohen, *et al.*); (2) *National scale soil geochemical data and their multidisciplinary use: The case of Spain* (P. Adanez & I. Martin); (3) *Healthy Soil For Healthy Society: Major threats in soil management at the European level – Lessons from the GEMAS Project* (A. Ladenberger); (4) *Standardisation and harmonisation of soil geochemical methods* (A. Demetriades) and (5) *National-scale soil geochemical data for the conterminous United States* (D.B. Smith). The abstracts and Microsoft[®] PowerPoint presentations are available from a dedicated [pCloud folder](#). Since, their uploading on the 26th of September and informing CGGB members of their availability 255 colleagues have downloaded them until the 29th of October 2024.

7. News from Commission on Geoheritage (ICG)

1. THE BOOKS OF THE IUGS INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON GEOHERITAGE ARE AVAILABLE NOW WITH AN SPECIAL CRISTHMAS OFFER

The International Commission on Geoheritage had an intense agenda during the 37th IGC in Busan. The Second 100 IUGS Geological heritage Sites were announced, the book of the First 55 Heritage Stones was presented and the 11 Geo-collection were designated for the first time. The IUGS designation programs are becoming a global reference. More than 1.000 experts from all over the world have participated in this unique endeavor. Our website <https://iugs-geoheritage.org/> has been visited by more than 70.000 visitors from 195 nations.

The books of the First 100, Second 100 and 55 heritage Stones can be downloaded for free at <https://iugs-geoheritage.org/publications/> More than 1.500 books have been downloaded since the books were presented at the IGC.

The IUGS international Commission on Geoheritage wants to take a new step forward promoting the spectacular coffee table books with an special Christmas offer. Do not loose the opportunity to get this unique compilation of the most remarkable geological sites in the world. They are the world’s best demonstrations of geological features and processes. They are the sites of fabulous discoveries of the Earth and its history.

A unique compilation of the most remarkable geological sites in the World

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THE FIRST 100 IUGS GEOLOGICAL HERITAGE SITES First 100 60€	THE SECOND 100 IUGS GEOLOGICAL HERITAGE SITES Second 100 60€	THE FIRST 100 THE SECOND 100 IUGS GEOLOGICAL HERITAGE SITES PACK First 100 + Second 100 100€
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First 100 and Second 100 books available now, Third 100 to follow in 2026. **Start your collection now.**
iugs-geoheritage.org/shop

Figure: Order your books at : <https://iugs-geoheritage.org/shop/>

2. A special volume in Geoheritage entitled ‘Heritage stones as the foundations for UNESCO-listed cultural sites’ is open for submissions until June 30, 2024. To know more open the link: <https://link.springer.com/collections/eijjjiaef>

SPRINGER NATURE Link

Log in

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cart

Home > Collection

Heritage stones as the foundations for UNESCO-listed cultural sites

Participating journal: Geoheritage

Figure: Open the link to access the details@ <https://link.springer.com/collections/eijjjiaef>

3. 4th International Stone Workshop in Dublin



4th International Heritage Stone Workshop Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland 14 – 17 July 2025



Convenors: Louise Caulfield & Patrick Wyse Jackson (wysjcknp@tcd.ie)
STONEBUILT Ireland, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Figure: 4th International Heritage Stone Workshop

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 (Editor, e-Bulletin)
giuseppe.dicapua@ingv.it (Webmaster)
yamirka.rojas@ifg.uni-kiel.de (Editor, Social Media)
mdaniela.munozg@gmail.com (Social Media)



Time Frame for submissions to the e-Bulletin:

1. IUGS sends a reminder to leaders of activities in the middle of each month.
2. Contributions should be provided by the end 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 end 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 in the first week of every 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.

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
- To be added to or removed from the IUGS e-Bulletin distribution list, please mail to: iugs.beijing@gmail.com or secretariat@iugs.org
- Follow the IUGS on Social Media! We are on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).
- Check the IUGS website: <http://www.iugs.org/>

Edited by: Dr. Gurmeet Kaur, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India

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