

## Candidate for IUGS Executive Committee

### Position: Secretary General

**Name:** Ludwig Stroink

**Affiliation:** Helmholtz Centre  
Potsdam GFZ German Research  
Centre for Geosciences  
Unit-Head “Projects & International  
Affairs” (<https://www.gfz-potsdam.de/en/centre/international/projects-and-international-affairs>)

**Nominating Organization:**  
German National Committee to IUGS



### Biography:

I obtained my Diploma (MSc) in Geology from the RWTH Aachen Technical University in Germany. It involved a detailed analysis of the paragenesis of gold-bearing quartz-veins in relation to coarse placer gold deposits in the Livingstone Creek Area, Yukon Territory Canada. Detailed mapping as well as geochemical and mineralogical investigations suggested for the first time, that the placer nuggets were sourced by quartz-sulphide veins in the local metamorphic bedrock instead of being a mixed glacial deposit. An important observation for the local and international mining industry.

My PhD-thesis dealt with detailed mineralogical and geochemical investigations on siliciclastic successions in the Variscan Externides in order to reconstruct the diagenetic evolution and porosity history of the sandstones to estimate their qualities as gas producing reservoirs. Field investigations were carried out in different segments of the Variscan mountain belt, ranging from Spain, France and Germany to the eastern Bashkirian mega-anticlinorium in the SW Urals, Russia. Several scientific papers resulted from these research activities.

Building on my significant geoscientific work I established myself as a recognized science manager. I held positions in the German Research Foundation (DFG), which included the positions of the scientific secretary of the German ILP- and IGCP-National Committees and as a Managing Director of the R&D-Programme GEOTECHNOLOGIEN, a showcase program for coordinated and interdisciplinary research in the German geosciences.

After taking over the position of the unit-head “International Relations” at German Research Centre for Geosciences, I served as a scientific advisor to the EIT Climate-KIC, Europe's biggest network for climate-friendly innovations and to the Research Council of the Sultanate of Oman. Since September 2020, I am heading the “Projects & International Affairs-Office” at GFZ.

**Statement:**

I know from personal experience how exceptionally important the international perspective is for successful science. Therefore, it was a great pleasure and honour for me of being elected to the IUGS Executive Committee as "Councillor" in 2020.

The IUGS is a success story spanning more than 60 years. However, as geoscientists we know too well: *Panta Rhei* — everything flows and the world is constantly changing. We have to face up to these changes to maintain and build on the manifold past achievements of the IUGS.

These are just some of the questions that I would like to address as Secretary General:

- How can we make IUGS even more attractive to young scientists?
- How can we put our expertise even more at the service of politics and society?
- How can we promote young female scientists?
- How to integrate the countries of the Global South even more closely into our future work?

If we do not succeed in tackling these issues openly and honestly, there is a risk that we will lose our scientific and public impact and credibility.

Some of these challenges are already being actively addressed by the current IUGS Executive Committee. Thus, IUGS is well on its way! This is where I would like to build on and continue the successful work of the current Executive Committee stimulating it with new accents and deep commitment.