

Candidate for IUGS Executive Committee

Position: IUGS Vice-President

Name: Marko Komac

Affiliation:

Self-employed consultant and Board Member of the International Raw Materials Observatory

Nominating Organization:

Slovenian National Committee to IUGS



Biography:

I was born in Ljubljana, Slovenia on 9 Oct 1971, where I still live, when not travelling for business. I studied geology, did my MSc in Interdisciplinary studies with Geology as a major, and earned a PhD in Geology, with emphasis on geohazards and GIS. I have over 20 years of experience in managing companies (self-employed consultant; OneGeology; Quantectum), teams and project management, research (20+ projects, 13 of them international), networking and international cooperation (Board positions in IUGS, EFG, INTRAW, and EGS), and academia (continuous lecturer at various universities from 2012). I had the opportunity to exercise my excellent organisational, leadership and negotiation skills in international and multicultural environments. I also have experience in external affairs dealing with governments, international NGOs, and industry.

For eight years I have been the Director General of the Geological Survey of Slovenia. From 2014 onwards I acted as an independent consultant in the field of GIS and spatial data systems and have taken on several managerial roles – CEO in a start-up company Quantectum and Managing Director in OneGeology global initiative, which brought together the digital geological maps from around the globe. In addition, I was and still am engaged in several EU-funded projects as an in-house consultant of the European Federation of Geologists (EFG) and the International Raw Materials Observatory (INTRAW), working from project inception to project development and implementation. Over the past years I have been involved in evaluating scale-up mining related projects for EU EIT RawMaterials and been involved in several mining/geology projects for the World Bank in Nigeria and DRC. I am Treasurer of INTRAW, Past- President of the European Federation of Geologists (EFG), Past-President of EuroGeoSurveys (EGS), and have served as Vice-President of IUGS between 2012 and 2016 where I was also deeply involved in Global Geopark Network. As an associate professor,

I lecture two GIS courses - at the introductory and advanced levels, and a Remote sensing and GIS course at the University of Nova Gorica, Slovenia.

My key personal attributes are integrity, conscientiousness, focus, persistence, positive and active approach to life, adaptability to the needs of projects (analytical or synthetic), and excellent outreach and communication skills.

Statement:

Over the course of my 27-year career as a researcher, manager, and an active member of various international organisations, I have acquired a wealth of knowledge spanning multiple geological disciplines. This breadth of experience, coupled with my managerial expertise and exposure to diverse multicultural environments, has equipped me with invaluable insights and a deep understanding of the geological sciences.

Throughout my involvement with international bodies, I have consistently embraced a spirit of volunteerism, driven by the belief that each individual has the responsibility and the opportunity to contribute to the advancement of science and its foundational professions. It is this conviction that has fuelled my commitment and dedication to actively contribute to the geological community.

With my multifaceted background and the knowledge gained through these diverse engagements, I am confident in my ability to make a meaningful and constructive contribution to the goals of IUGS. I am passionate about fostering growth, promoting equality, disseminating knowledge, and enhancing the recognition of geological sciences among both professionals and the general public.

I thank you in advance for your trust and support in selecting me as the IUGS Vice-President for the period 2024 – 2028.