

News at a Glance

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1. Message from the IUGS President Hassina Mouri (University of Johannesburg, South Africa, UNESCO Chair-Medical Geology in Africa)

To the IUGS council members, partners, and supporters, and the global geoscience community:

As the newly elected President of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) for the 2024-2028 term, I am truly honoured to be the first female elected to this important position in the history of geosciences. I am grateful to the Council Members for the trust they had in me to lead this prestigious Union. The IUGS, as one of the largest unions and a key player of the International Science Council (ISC), shares the same vision of “science as a global public good”. The Union offers a unique platform for geoscientists worldwide to establish partnerships and networks, fostering international cooperation and participation in Earth science research. This global collaboration is pivotal in enhancing the quality of life on our planet by addressing the most pressing challenges of our times.



IUGS President Prof. H. Mouri

By pooling our collective geoscience knowledge and resources, we can deepen our understanding of Earth's systems and natural resources and develop innovative solutions to promote a sustainable future for society and our home planet Earth. The IUGS is crucial in cultivating a global community among geoscientists, uniting us in a larger mission.

As I embark on this journey, I am fully aware of the responsibilities and challenges ahead. However, I draw inspiration and encouragement from the collective strength and expertise of our members, who relentlessly strive to unravel the complexities of Earth's systems and champion sustainable development across the globe. Together, I am confident that we will continue to make significant progress in tackling the most pressing geoscience issues of our time. As President, I vow to dedicate my tenure to promoting innovation, inclusivity, and ethical practices within the Union. These values will form the cornerstone of my tenure, fostering a collaborative environment that encourages cutting-edge research initiatives and supports the professional growth of our members and the Union. I pledge to strengthen our partnership with stakeholders globally and engage in dialogue which will help us better understand the diverse challenges facing our planet. I aim to draw on the Union's past successes to build a "**Rejuvenated Union**" which, operates based on **I**nclusivity, **S**ustainability, and **E**thical professional practices. A Union that will **R.I.S.E.**

I want to express my appreciation to our outgoing President, Professor John Ludden, and all the Executive Committee Members for leading the union with dedication and commitment, and my warm congratulations and welcome to all the newly elected Executive Committee Members, with whom I look forward to working to shape the Union's future and advance our collective mission to promote geosciences on a global scale. I also want to express my utmost gratitude to my colleagues from the secretariat office in China for their unwavering and continuous support of the union's activities; I look forward to another successful term of office with you.

Finally, I am deeply grateful for the support and belief of the IUGS community globally, which has been instrumental in my journey to this esteemed position. Let us continue to work together, embracing our

diverse perspectives and talents, as we forge a path towards a more sustainable future for all. Together, and in the spirit of “Ubuntu”, we will foster international cooperation, strengthen our geoscience community, and drive the innovation and discoveries needed to tackle global challenges. To know more about Hassina Mouri click on the links: <https://www.nrf.ac.za/the-nrf-congratulates-prof-hassina-mouri-for-her-appointment-as-the-iugs-president-2024-2028/>

2. [The new Executive Committee members \(2024-2028\)](#)

Congratulations and a warm welcome to the newly elected Executive Committee members who were elected by the council during the General Assembly held in Busan. on the 29th of August 2024.

To know about each member please click the link below:

<https://www.iugs.org/executive>



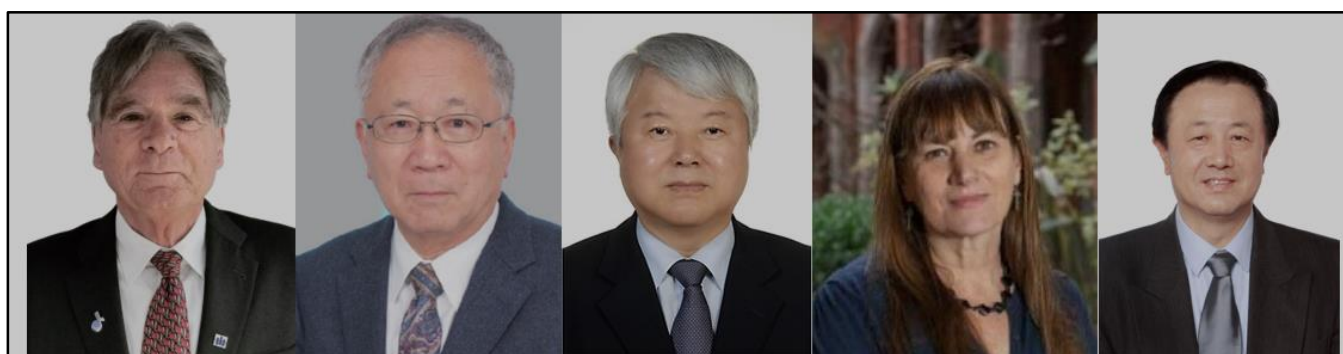
Top row from left to right Prof. Hassina Mouri (President); Prof. Ludwig Stroink (Secretary General); Emeritus Prof. David Cohen (Treasurer); Prof. John Ludden (Past-President), CBE; Prof. Marko Komac (Vice-President); Bottom row from left to right: Prof. Maria Rose Petrizzo (Vice-President); Prof. Lola Pereira (Councillor); Dr. Yamirka Rojas-Agramonte (councillor); Dr. Farnoosh Farjandi (councillor); Dr. Weijun Zhao (Councillor)

3. **A thank-you note for the outgoing EC members**

The past President, Professor John Ludden, has shown exemplary leadership and unwavering dedication to the propel the visibility of IUGS. His vision and commitment have significantly advanced our initiatives and nurtured collaboration within the global geological community. We also express our sincere gratitude to Secretary General Stanley Finney, whose organizational skills and strategic insights have been instrumental in ensuring the smooth operation of the union. Vice-President Hassina Mouri and Daekyo

Cheong, Treasurer Hiroshi Kitazato have equally contributed their expertise to promote the prestige of IUGS. Furthermore, we would like to recognize the invaluable contributions of our Past-President Q. Cheng, councillors Jennifer Mckinley and Ludwig Stroink, C. Cónsole-Gonella (deceased) for their committed support to enhancing the activities of IUGS. Together, these individuals have exemplified the spirit of collaboration and dedication that defines IUGS. We are truly grateful for their service and commitment to advancing the geosciences on a global scale.

To know more, open the link: <https://www.iugs.org/past-ec>



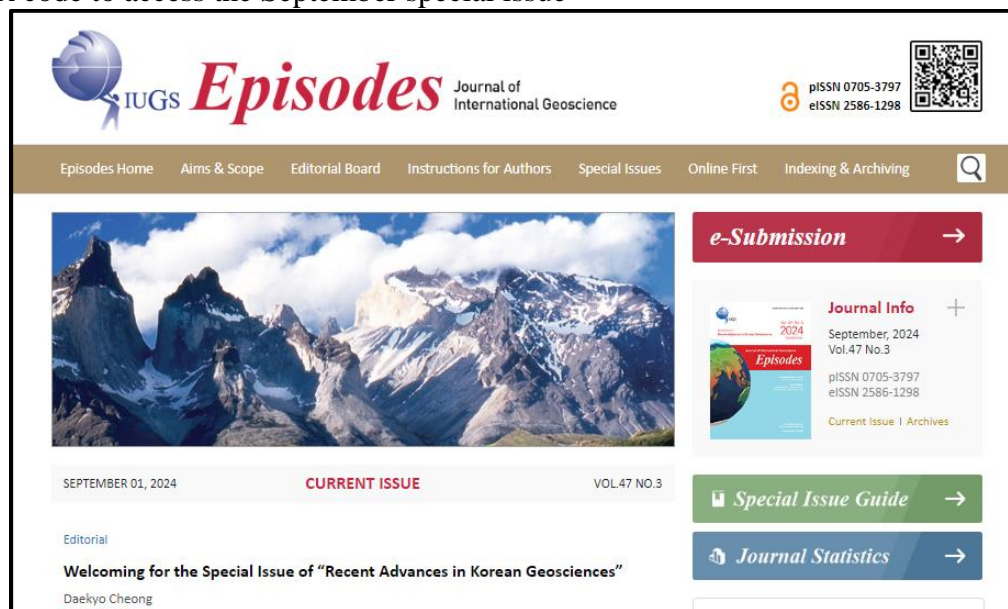
From left to right: Prof. Stanley Finney; Dr. Daekyo Cheong; Prof. Hiroshi Kitazato; Prof. Jennifer Mckinley; Prof. Q. Cheng

4. [News from Episodes](#)

Episodes Special issue of September 2024: **“Recent Advances in Korean Geosciences”**.

To know more download the journal online @ <https://www.episodes.org/main.html>

Or scan the QR code to access the September special issue



The screenshot displays the website for the journal *Episodes*, Journal of International Geoscience. The header includes the IUGS logo, the journal title, and ISSN information (pISSN 0705-3797, eISSN 2586-1298). A QR code is provided for mobile access. The navigation menu includes links for Episodes Home, Aims & Scope, Editorial Board, Instructions for Authors, Special Issues, Online First, and Indexing & Archiving. The main content area features a large image of a mountain range. Below the image, it indicates the current issue is for September 01, 2024, Volume 47, No. 3. A red button labeled "e-Submission" is visible. A "Journal Info" box provides details for the September 2024 issue (Vol. 47 No. 3). A green button labeled "Special Issue Guide" and a blue button labeled "Journal Statistics" are also present. The text "Welcoming for the Special Issue of 'Recent Advances in Korean Geosciences'" is displayed, along with the name of the special issue editor, Daekyo Cheong.



5. 38th IGC in Calgary, Canada

Following the bid presentation at the 37th IGC in Busan, Calgary (Canada) will host the IGC-38 in 2028 with the theme: ‘Geosciences for Society’

Soon all the details shall be uploaded on the IUGS website.

Some information about the early stage of preparation of the event can be found from the link below:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/news/calgary-host-2028-international-geological-congress>

<https://calgary.ctvnews.ca/calgary-to-host-olympics-of-geology-event-in-2028-expected-to-draw-up-to-10-000-geoscientists-1.7061204>



38th IGC in 2028 Calgary, Canada.

6. [News from the IUGS Initiative on Forensic Geology \(IFG\)](#)

Cambridge International Symposium on Economic Crime (CIDOEC), Jesus College, University of Cambridge, 1-8 September 2024

IUGS-IFG held a Plenary Workshop at the 41st International Symposium on Economic Crime on, ‘*Due Diligence of Gold; Challenges and Solution is the Global Supply Chain*’. This was co-organised by Dr Laurance Donnelly (IUGS-IFG Chair) and Dr Shima Keene (former Head of OIC/IMS Threat Leadership Command, National Crime Agency, Director, Conflict Studies Research Centre and Special Advisor, Ministry of Defence, UK). IUGS-IFG was also supported by Prof Duncan Pirrie (IUGS-IFG Secretary), Mr Ricardo Cordeiro Vitoria de Moraes (IUGS-IFG Illegal Mining Adviser) and Dr Fábio Augusto Da



Silva Salvador (IUGS-IFG Co-officer for Latin America). The workshop was also in collaboration with the Vice President and Federal Reserve Bank, New York and other consultants and collaborators from anti-money laundering, financial crime, bribery and sanctions compliance. The aim of the event was to draw attention to gold traceability, the Clean Gold Programme and opportunities for collaboration with the financial sector to mitigate illegal gold trading crimes.

<https://www.crimesymposium.org/>

IUGS-IFG, Rome, Italy, 21-23 May, 2025

The web site for the IUGS-IFG 15 years celebratory, event is now active here <https://www.iugs-ifg2025.com> The event will be held from 21-23 May, 2025, in Rome and it will comprise two days of traditional meeting and one day on-site with field training. If you are interested to submit a 250 words abstract, please send it to submission@iugs-ifg2025.com before April 14 April 2025. Registration is open until 11 May 2015

Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/iugs-initiative-on-forensic-geology-ifg-2025-conference-registration-965904565557>

Venue: https://italy.representation.ec.europa.eu/chi-siamo/spazio-europa_en

Practical session, National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV): <https://www.ingv.it/>

Contacts: dimaggio@geologiaforense.com, p.barone@aur.edu

Front page of the IUGS-IFG website for the 15 years celebratory, event in Rome, Italy, 21-23 May 2025.

IUGS-IFG Website

The IUGS-IFG web site address is given below. Other former addresses are no longer operational.

<https://forensicgeologyinternational.com/>

Mining Weekly: Illegal Gold from Brazil reported in Italy and Germany

According to the Mining Weekly website below, imports of gold into Italy and Germany are from illegal mining areas in the Brazilian Amazon.

<https://www.miningweekly.com/article/germany-italy-import-legally-dubious-brazilian-gold-study-shows-2024-08-14>

Forensic Geoscience, Texas, 27 August 2024

The International Meeting for Applied Geoscience & Energy held a meeting on forensic geology, on 27 August 2024, at the George R. Brown Convention Centre, in Houston, Texas, USA.

<https://www.imageevent.org/special-sessions/panel-session/forensic-geosciences>

Illegal Sand Mining Mitigation: Sand Mining Watch

New research and open-source tools are being developed to address the growing global problem of illegal sand mining, including high-resolution, real-time maps of sand mining activity in river basins across the world.

<https://vcresearch.berkeley.edu/news/new-research-aims-curb-illegal-sand-mining-data-driven-mapping-tools>

<https://www.globalpolicy.science/sand-mining-watch>

INTERPOL Mining Crime

In September 2024, Dr Laurance Donnelly (IUGS-IFG Chair) made a further visit to INTERPOL's headquarters in France to provide forensic geology support for illegal mining crime.

[7. News from International Commission on History of Geological Sciences \(INHIGEO\)](#)

INHIGEO Anniversaries – a new contribution

Occasion: Established 150 years ago

Author: Beatriz Aguirre-Urreta (ARGENTINA)

Title: National Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences of Argentina

The National Academy of Exact, Physical, and Natural Sciences has celebrated 150 years of supporting Argentine science. From its early years, geology played an active role in its leadership. In 1874 Juan María Gutiérrez (1809–1878), the rector of the University of Buenos Aires, obtained funding for its establishment. Although he was not a trained geologist, Gutiérrez had done some research and published several articles in palaeontology.

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

2. INHIGEO Awards 2024

During the 49th INHIGEO ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM 2024 held together with the 37th IGC in Busan (South Korea) two awards were conferred at the INHIGEO Business Meeting on 28th August 2024. The **INHIGEO Early Career Award**, for the best presentation during the annual symposium by a young scholar, was presented during the INHIGEO Business Meeting on 28th August 2024 by Ezio Vaccari (INHIGEO President) and Martina Kölbl-Ebert (INHIGEO Secretary-General) to Lucero Morelos-Rodriguez (INHIGEO member for Mexico) for her presentation *Mexican Women in Paleontology and the Oil Industries* within the History of the Geological Sciences thematic session T40 S1 *History of women in geology: trailblazers, leaders and those in the shadows*.

Vladimir V. Tikhomirov History of Geology Award 2024

Kenneth L. Taylor (INHIGEO honorary member for the USA) was announced at the INHIGEO business meeting in Busan as the recipient of the INHIGEO Vladimir V. Tikhomirov History of Geology Award for 2024 in recognition of his outstanding original contributions and achievements that mark a major advance and contribution to the History of the Earth Sciences. The award was presented by Ezio Vaccari (INHIGEO President) to Ken at an event hosted by his university to celebrate his achievement on 18th September 2024 at the History of Science Collections and Department of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine, (University of Oklahoma, Norman, USA). As part of the event Kerry Magruder (INHIGEO Editor and Curator of the History of Science Collections at the University of Oklahoma) moderated the "Tikhomirov Award Roundtable: A Fascination for Geology's Past — Three Historians Reflect on their Work" between awardee Ken Taylor (INHIGEO President 2012-2016), Silvia Figueirôa (INHIGEO President 2008-2012; Unicamp University, São Paulo, Brazil) and current president Ezio Vaccari (INHIGEO President 2020-2024; University of Insubria, Varese, Italy). A selection of rare books and maps from the collections related to Ken Taylor's scholarship on the history of geology were on display during the reception held in his honour on the occasion of the award presentation.



Left to right: Juan María Gutiérrez (1809–1878); Lucero Morelos-Rodriguez (right) being congratulated for her award by Ezio (centre) and Martina (left) at the 37th IGC in Busan; Kenneth L. Taylor (left) being presented with V.V. Tikhomirov History of Geology Award 2024 by Ezio Vaccari (INHIGEO President)

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

Alecos Demetriades (Chair of CGGB's Sampling Committee) presented a plenary talk '[Standardisation of Applied Geochemical Methods](#)' at the [International Symposium on Environment and Health](#) in Galway (Ireland) on the 13th of August 2024, which was followed by a session on Geochemical Mapping that was chaired by CGGB members Timo Tarvainen and Jaana Jarva from the Geological Survey of Finland; six presentations were delivered. The conference was chaired by Professor Chaosheng Zhang (CGGB member).

The CGGB on the occasion of the 37 IGC in Busan (South Korea) organised (1) a session on Tuesday, 24 August 2024, with the name '[Challenges and Opportunities of Global-Scale Geochemical Mapping \(4th Arthur Darnley Symposium\)](#)' with conveners Anna Ladenberger (CGGB Chair 2020-2024) and Maria João Batista, and (2) a three-day workshop (30-31 August & 1 September 2024) with the title "[Global to Regional Scale Geochemical Mapping based on the methods described in the 'International Union of Geological Sciences Manual of Standard Methods for Establishing the Global Geochemical Reference Network'](#)". The workshop tutors were Alecos Demetriades, Maria João Batista, Ariadne Argyraki, Anna Ladenberger, Paula Adánez-Sanjuan and Iván Martín-Méndez with interventions in the form of short, interesting tutorial presentations by David Cohen (current IUGS Treasurer).

In the 4th Arthur Darnley Symposium, ten presentations were delivered with different themes. Over 40 people attended the symposium.

In total, the workshop was attended by 36 participants on the first day, 21 on the second day, and 23 in the field training course (Figure 1). Hassina Mouri (current IUGS President) participated in the field course.

It is here appropriate to thank our South Korean colleagues Professors Youngsook Huh and Jong-Sik Ryu, and their Ph.D. students Hojin Park, Jeonghun Kim and Minhxeok Park for their assistance in the organisation of the one-day field course. Special thanks go to Professor Youngsook Huh for her valuable assistance during the two-day workshop.

The workshop was co-sponsored by the [International Union of Geological Sciences](#) and the [Association of Applied Geochemists](#).



(a)



(b)



(c)

(a) Workshop participants; (b) Rock sampling site N24E76R2, and (c) Field course participants recording field observations.

9. News from Commission on Geoheritage (ICG)

The main activity of the International Commission on Geoheritage (ICG) is the selection and recognition of Geological Heritage Sites, Heritage Stones and Geo-collections that have exceptional scientific value or made an important contribution to the geological sciences and related development of human culture. All designated Sites, Stones and Geocollections are being compiled in high quality coffee table books, which can be downloaded for free. This is the IUGS-ICG main legacy. If you want to have this special collection you can order your nice coffee table book through the IUGS-ICG online shop. The books will be shipped to you within a few days.

To know more open the link below:

<https://iugs-geoheritage.org/publications/>

10. News from Geoscience Education, Training & Technology Transfer (COGE)

COGE at IESO 2024

COGE Vice President Susanna Occhipinti (Italy), International Relations Subcommittee Leader Miguel Cerna Cano (Philippines), and Regular Member Young-Shin Park (South Korea) participated in the [2024 International Earth Science Olympiad](#) (IESO) in Beijing from August 7-17. Susanna, Miguel, and Young-Shin acted as mentors for teams of students for their respective countries as they competed in Written and Practical Tests, [International Team Field Investigations](#) (ITFIs), and [Earth Systems Projects](#) (ESPs) along with 140 other students from over 30 countries. Thank you Susanna, Miguel, and Young-Shin for your enduring work to promote global geoscience education!



COGE at IGC 2024

COGE members, including Chair Sandra Villacorta (Peru) headed to Busan to attend the [2024 International Geological Congress](#)! At the conference, COGE will host a technical session on international geoscience education and will present an update of COGE activities to the IUGS Executive Committee. If you're attending IGC 2024, please say hello to our COGE representatives!

COGE Webinars for 2024

COGE's Public Outreach and Communication Subcommission and Social Media Committee have teamed up to bring you global geoscience education webinars! They will be presented live and will also be archived on our [YouTube channel](#). Please email scottrimiller@gmail.com to be added to the email list for the webinars. There are three webinars planned for the remainder of 2024, including:

- Webinar 1: *Perspectives on Geoscience Education in Africa*, with Professor Gbenga Okunlola (President of the Geological Society of Africa). **3 pm GMT +1 (Lagos), Wednesday September 11.**
- Webinar 2: Geoscience Education as a Tool to Help Us Understand Geohazards and Natural Disasters (Speaker TBD).
- Webinar 3: Topic and Speaker TBD

For the most up to date information on the upcoming webinars, please visit our social media pages: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [X](#)!

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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