

The roots of a geological union for the future of the Earth



INHIGEO: Promoting studies in the history of geological disciplines

IUGS 60th Celebrations - online INHIGEO special event

Date: 8 th October 2022

Time: 1.30 - 4.00 PM (CET)

Moderators

Ezio Vaccari

Martina Kölbl-Ebert

INHIGEO President

INHIGEO Secretary-General



Opening address

John Ludden

IUGS President

How the histories of the International Geological Congress reveal the pivotal debates for the birth and the future role of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS)



IUGS 60th Celebrations - online INHIGEO special event

A virtual roundtable, organized by the International Commission on the History of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO), for the 60th IUGS celebrations to discuss the history of the International Geological Congress (IGC) within the development of the geological sciences from the late 19th century to the end of the 20th century. Within this historical context also the need for a scientific union was debated by the participants and led to the proposal of the International Union of Geological Sciences.



This application was also supported by UNESCO. The pivotal role of the IGCs was considered by the International Council of Scientific Unions (ISCU) as an endorsement for the immediate acceptance of the IUGS membership in 1961.

Histories of the International Geological Congress

Presentations:

Kathleen Histon

Beris Cox

Marianne Klemun

Philippe Le Vigouroux

Zdeňka Petáková

David Orenstein

Toshihiro Yamada

Jingfei Zhang

The role of the IGC's as the roots of the IUGS

4th IGC (1888) in London, UK

9th IGC (1903) in Vienna, Austria

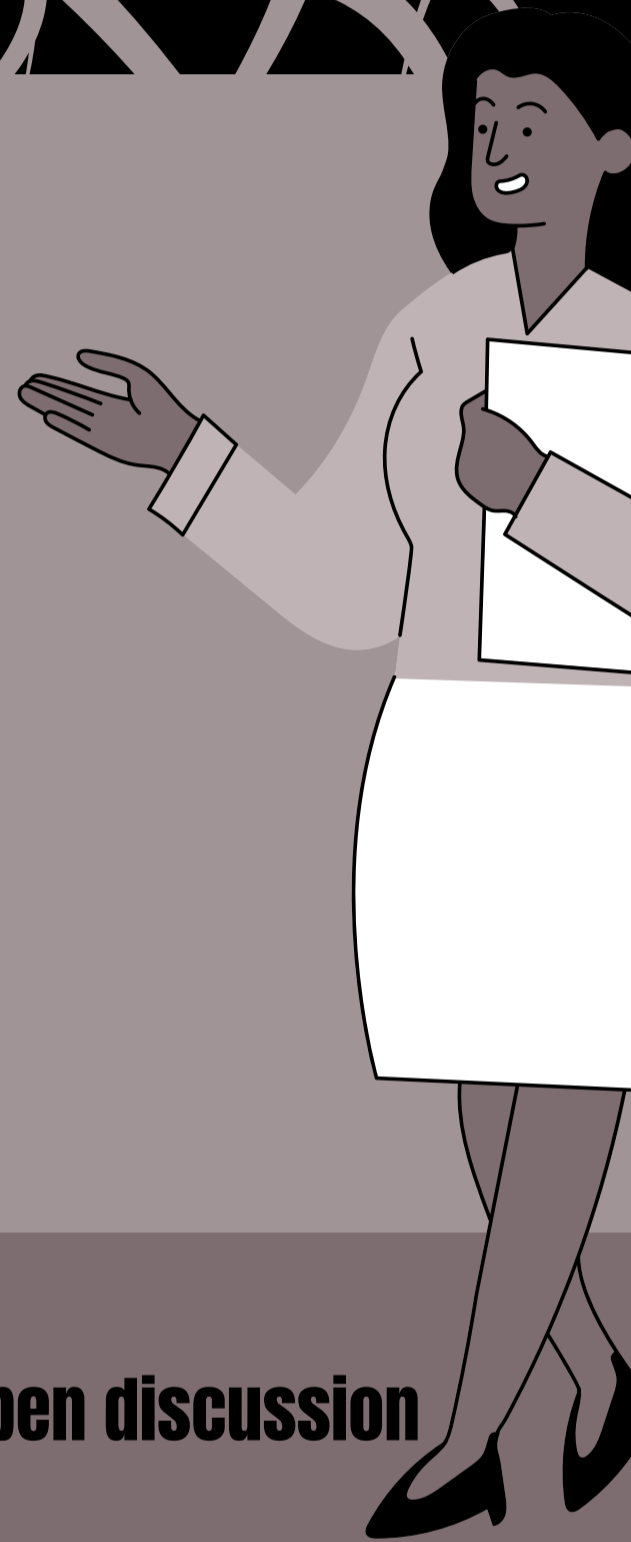
13th IGC (1922) in Brussels, Belgium

23rd IGC (1968) in Prague, Czechoslovakia

24th IGC (1972) in Montreal, Canada

29th IGC (1992) in Kyoto, Japan

30th IGC (1996) in Beijing, China



Open discussion

Closing commentary



<https://www.inhigeo.com/>

<https://iugs60.org/history-of-geological-sciences/>



IGCC

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Ezio Vaccari (Italy) is a Full Professor of the History of Science and Technology at the University of Insubria (Varese), where he is also the Director of the Research Center for the History of Mountains, Material Culture and Earth Sciences. He has been the President of the Italian Society for the History of Science from 2018 to 2020. He was the recipient of the 2020 Mary C. Rabbitt History of Geology Award from the Geological Society of America. His research concerns the history of stratigraphy, the relationships between geology and mining techniques, and the history of geology in mountain areas. He is currently President of INHIGEO (2020-2024).



Martina Kölbl-Ebert (Germany) obtained her doctorate degree in geology from the University of Tübingen. After working at the Museum of Natural History in Karlsruhe, the GEOMAR-research centre in Kiel and as a curator at the Bavarian State Natural History Collections (SNSB) in Munich, she became head of the Jura-Museum Eichstätt and curator of the natural history collections of the Bishop's Seminary in Eichstätt, Germany in 2003. In 2017, she obtained her Habilitation degree in history of science from the University of Hamburg. Since 2020, she is an academic director at the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Munich. Her principal research interests are in the history of the geosciences. She is currently Secretary General of INHIGEO (2020-2024).



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Kathleen Histon (Ireland) is an invertebrate palaeontologist and stratigrapher, specializing in cephalopod faunas from the Silurian to Carboniferous in age. She graduated in geology from NUI Galway and obtained her PhD from Trinity College Dublin. She has a strong interest in the history of paleontology, is a member of INHIGEO for Ireland and currently INHIGEO Publications and Outreach Coordinator (2020-2024).



John Ludden (France), CBE FRSE FGS RAS MAE,
President of the International Union of Geological Sciences IUGS
Bicentennial Research Professor, Environmental Governance and Diplomacy,
The Lyell Centre, Heriot-Watt University

He was Past President (April 2005 - April 2007) and Vice-President (April 2007 - April 2008) of the European Geosciences Union. His fields of research include crustal evolution, mafic magmatism through time, and early Earth processes. He has been the lead participant in the Ocean Drilling Programme projects and was the leader of the Precambrian geology part of the Canadian Lithoprobe project which associated the National Environment Research Council, the Geological Survey of Canada and industry. He is author of about 150 published articles in fields ranging from geochemical models of Earth's evolution to high-resolution geophysics applied to mining regions.



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Beris Cox (UK) worked for 30 years at the British Geological Survey as a macropalaeontologist / biostratigrapher specializing in the Jurassic. She has been an editor for both the Palaeontological Association and the Palaeontographical Society, and is a long-standing member of The Geological Society's History of Geology Group (HOGG).



Marianne Klemun (Austria), obtained a Ph.D in Modern History, at the University of Vienna. Since 2002 she is Professor at the Department of History of the University of Vienna with more than 200 publications in History of Science. From 2016 to 2020, she was Secretary-General of the INHIGEO. Her research fields include Cultures, Practices and Political Contexts of the History of Natural History, Spaces of Knowledge, Instruments, Communication and Circulation, (Geology, Botany and Gardens, Travelling and Collecting).



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Philippe Le Vigouroux (France) received a Ph.D. in Epistemology and History of Sciences and Technologies at the University of Nantes in 2018 with a dissertation on the reception of the Wegener's theory on continental drift in France until the 1950s. Working as teacher of natural sciences, he is an associated researcher in the "Centre François Viète d'épistémologie et d'histoire des sciences et des techniques" (Nantes University) and assistant secretary of the Comité Français d'Histoire de la Géologie (Cofrhigeo), the French affiliated group of INHIGEO. His research interests include the diffusion of the continental drift theory, global theories, popularization of science and science education.



Zdeňka Petáková (Czech Republic) is an economic geologist. She graduated at the Charles University, Prague with RNDr title in 1987. She has worked in the Czech Geological Survey since 1987. She was focused on minerals: graphite, limestones, gravels. She was responsible for the whole territory of the Czech Republic large project Reconnaissance mineral resources - updating of database. The Head of the Minerals Deposits Geology Dept. (2005-2012) and the Head of the Dept. of Geological Surveys (2017-today). She voluntary serves as the foreign affairs secretary of the Czech Associations of Economic Geologists. Author of the essay About meaning of science, printed in the Czech Geological Survey publishing house.



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David Orenstein (Canada). From his Riverdale neighbourhood, David walks to the school where he taught, A. P. Coleman's classic Pleistocene Don Valley Brickworks, and the University of Toronto libraries. There, he researches (pre-pandemic) the history of Canadian science, especially the international scientific congresses held in Canada, including the 1913 Toronto IGC, the 1957 International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics General Assembly (also at Toronto), and the 1972 Montréal IGC.



Hirokazu Kato (Japan) was the Deputy Director of the Geological Survey of Japan, AIST (National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology) and is the Emeritus Researcher of AIST. He is also the CCOP (Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia) Honorary Advisor. His special interests are structural geology, neotectonics, cultural geology, geological disasters, and history of geosciences in Japan during the 19-20 centuries. He edited a lot of geological and tectonic maps of Japan in many scales, many papers and books on the issues mentioned above. He is now the president of the JAHIGEO (Japanese Association for the History of Geosciences).



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Michiko Yajima (Japan) was Vice-President (Asia) of INHIGEO from 2016 to 2020. Her major was palaeontology. She is the author of books on the history of palaeontology and geology in Japan. She recently published a book on the life and work of the German geologist Edmund Naumann. She is the secretary for the JAHIGEO (Japanese Association for the History of Geosciences) and a secretary member of the Editorial Committee of History of Geosciences in Japan, Tokyo Geographical Society.



Toshihiro Yamada (Japan) is Vice-President (Asia) of INHIGEO from 2020 to 2024. His major is the history of science (Ph.D.). He published papers and a book on the theories of the Earth in the seventeenth century, especially about the Danish geologist Nicolaus Steno. He also wrote about the history of geosciences in Japan, being a member of the Editorial Committee of History of Geosciences in Japan, Tokyo Geographical Society. He is a council member of the History of Science Society of Japan as well as of the Japanese Society for the History of Chemistry.



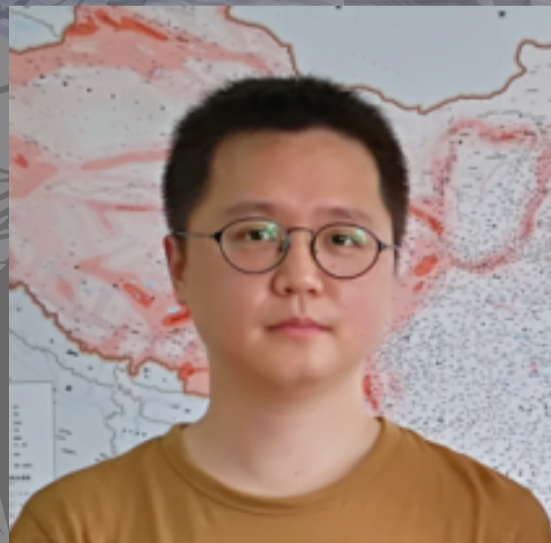
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Jiuchen Zhang (P.R. China), Ph.D., is Professor in the history of science at the Institute for the History of Natural Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing. She is Member for China of INHIGEO and she was INHIGEO Vice President for Asia from 2008 to 2016. She is particularly interested in the history of Chinese geosciences in the 20th century and the history of international scientific cooperation.



Jingfei Zhang (P.R. China) is Ph.D. candidate at the Institute for the History of Natural Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, majors in the History of Science. He is interested in the history of international scientific cooperation on earth science, currently focusing on the US-China scientific and technological exchanges and cooperation on earthquake research.



**We hope you will join us for this special event
Tickets are free and will be available from the 20.09.22**

FREE REGISTRATION

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-roots-of-a-geological-union-for-the-future-of-the-earth-tickets-423448003377?aff=odcleoeventsincollection&keep_tld=1



**IUGS 60th Celebrations - online INHIGEO special event
IUGS60.org**

The past is the key to the future. What does our understanding of the history of geosciences through the lens of the IGC and IUGS tell us about how we can help shape a sustainable future for people and planet... join us to discuss this and more.

