



# IAPG - INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING GEOETHICS: AN UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES

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EOS5 "Geoethics: theoretical and practical aspects from research integrity to relationships between geosciences and society"



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## Abstract

The International Association for Promoting Geoethics (IAPG: <http://www.geoethics.org>) was founded on August 2012 to unite global geoscientists to raise the awareness of the scientific community regarding the importance of the ethical, social and cultural implications of geoscience research, education, and practice. IAPG is an international, multidisciplinary and scientific platform for discussion on ethical problems and dilemmas in Earth Sciences, promoting geoethical themes through scientific publications and conferences, strengthening the research base on geoethics, and focusing on case-studies as models for the development of effective and operative strategies. IAPG is legally recognized as a not-for-profit organization. It is a non-governmental, non-political, non-party institution, at all times free from racial, gender, religious or national prejudices. Its network continues to grow with more than 1100 members in 104 countries, including 21 national sections. IAPG operates exclusively through donations and personal funds of its members. The results achieved since inception have been recognized by numerous international organizations. In particular, IAPG has obtained the status of affiliated organization by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), American Geosciences Institute (AGI), Geological Society of America (GSA), and the Geological Society of London (GSL). IAPG has enlarged its official relationships also through agreements on collaboration with other organizations, such as the American Geophysical Union (AGU), EuroGeoSurveys (EGS), European Federation of Geologists (EFG), Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists (AEG), International Geoscience Education Organisation (IGEO), African Association of Women in Geosciences (AAWG), and others. IAPG considers publications as an indispensable activity to strengthen geoethics from a scientific point of view, so members are active in the publication of articles and editing of books on Geoethics with a peer-review process. Moreover, IAPG organizes sessions/symposia on geoethics in national and international congresses, thus encouraging a wide participation of the scientific community in the discussion on geoethical topics. This presentation provides an update on new results and numerous ongoing activities carried out by the IAPG with a brief look to future initiatives.

## What is Geoethics

**Geoethics is the research and reflection on those values which underpin appropriate behaviours and practices, wherever human activities interact with the geosphere. Geoethics deals with the ethical, social and cultural implications of Earth Sciences education, research and practice, and with the social role and responsibility of geoscientists in conducting their activities.**



## Geoethics themes

- Geoethics deals with problems related to the **georisks management** and the use of **geo-resources**.
- Geoethics provides **references and guidelines** to find socio-economic solutions compatible with the respect for the environment and the protection of Nature and land.
- Geoethics promotes the **social role** played by Geoscientists and highlights their **responsibilities** in making choices that have repercussions on society.
- Geoethics fosters the **proper and correct dissemination** of the scientific results.
- Geoethics aims to organize effective **teaching tools** to develop awareness, values and responsibility, especially amongst the young people.
- Geoethics promotes the development of geoparks and geo-tourism, in order to create social awareness about the **value of the geological heritage and geodiversity**.
- Geoethics highlights the **usefulness of the geological knowledge in daily life** by promoting disciplines like medical geology and forensic geosciences.

## The 4 levels of Geoethics



Mogk et al. (2015). *Teaching Geoethics Across the Geoscience Curriculum*. Geophysical Research Abstracts, Vol. 17, EGU2015-7464.

## What is the IAPG

**The IAPG is a multidisciplinary, scientific platform for widening for widening the discussion and creating consciousness about problems of Ethics as applied to the Geosciences. The IAPG is a non-governmental, non-political, non-party institution, free from racial, gender, religious or national prejudices**



**The IAPG is legally recognized as a not-for-profit association, has more than 1,100 members in 104 countries in 5 continents, and can count on a network of 21 national sections**



## The IAPG vision

**Geoscientists more aware of the ethical and social implications of their activities, solutions, and decisions will be better able to transfer not only best practices but also best values to society and to contribute to create a knowledgeable society and a sustainable development for future generations.**

## The IAPG mission

**Promote Geoethics values and principles through international cooperation; foster the dissemination of Geoethics; increase the research base on Geoethics; identify methods for its more effective application; reflect on the role that geoscientists can have in society; raise awareness about geoscientist's responsibility.**

## The IAPG goals

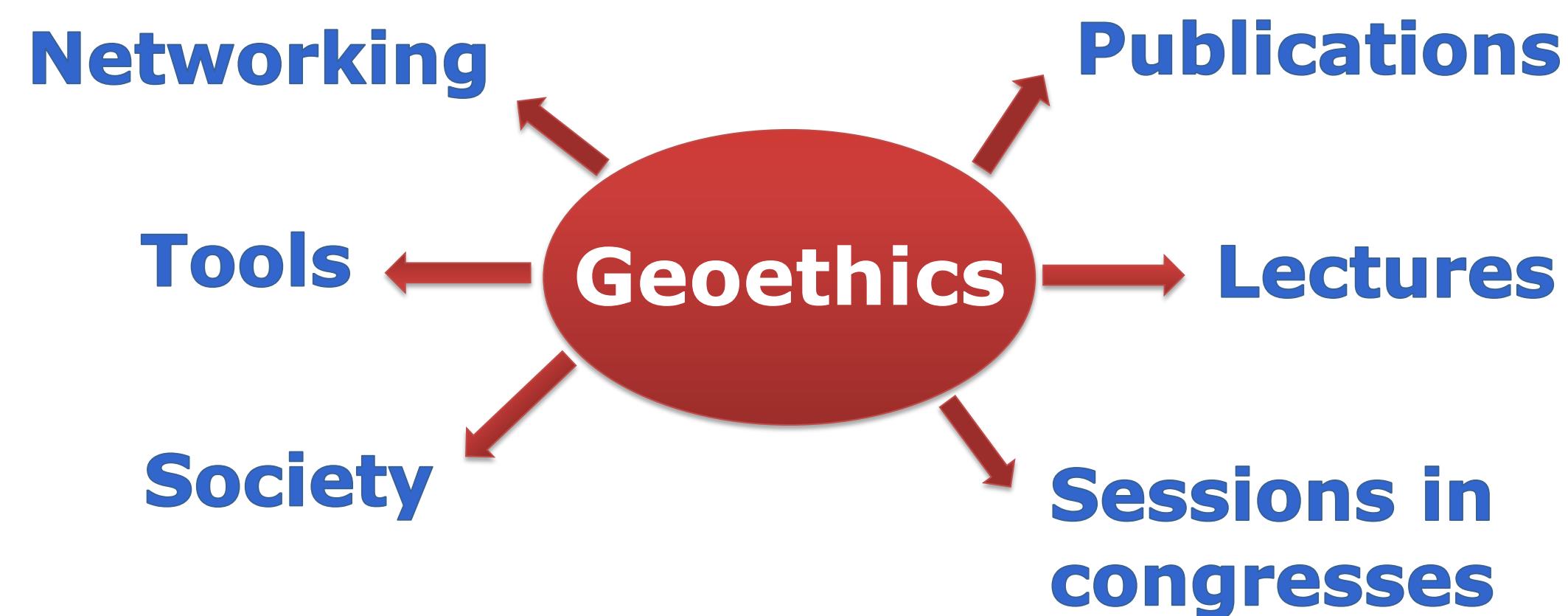
- **increase of a research base and the strengthening of the Geoethics from the scientific point of view;**
- **identification of methods for its more effective application;**
- **reflection on the role that geoscientists can have in society and the identification of suitable forms, positions, means and actions to be adopted by them;**
- **growth of awareness about our responsibility, both as Geoscientists and as members of the human community**
- **promotion of the idea of a common and shared "geo-heritage", to be considered as a cultural, educational and scientific value, as well as an economic resource;**
- **cultural renewal in the way we perceive and relate to our Planet;**
- **sensitization towards the defense of life and the richness of the Earth, in all its forms.**



**IAPG headquarter**  
c/o Italian Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology, Rome, Italy



# The IAPG strategy



## Networking

### National sections



### Corresponding Citizen Scientists

- Interdisciplinary explorations for main-streaming interest in Earth sciences topics  
Martin Bohle
- Research integrity  
Tony Mayer



- Geoethical aspects in low income countries  
Madhumita Das
- Geoscience communication  
Nic Bilham
- Geoethics and young geoscientists  
Ciro Manzo
- Geo-education and Teaching Geoethics  
David Mogk
- Geoethics in Engineering Geology  
Luis González de Vallejo

### Affiliations and Agreements



**AFFILIATIONS**  
**IUGS** - International Union of Geological Sciences  
**AGI** - American Geosciences Institute  
**GSA** - Geological Society of America  
**GSL** - Geological Society of London  
**GIRAF** - Geoscience Information in Africa Network

**AGREEMENTS**  
**AGU** - American Geophysical Union  
**EFG** - European Federation of Geologists  
**EGS** - EuroGeoSurveys  
**IAEG** - International Association of Engineering Geology and the Environment  
**IGEO** - International Geoscience Education Organisation  
**AAWG** - African Association of Women in Geosciences  
**AEG** - Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists  
**ANGE** - African Network for Geo-Education  
**GEVAS** - Geologia, Volcanes, Ambiente, Salud - Argentina

### Young Scientists Club (YSC)



# Publications



## Lectures

- South Texas Geological Society meeting  
**How and what should we teach novice geoscientists about geoethics?**  
San Antonio, Texas (USA), 25 February 2016
- Meeting: nANO meets water VII  
**Geoethics: Guidance in the Anthropocene**  
Oberhausen (Germany), 18 February 2016
- International Forum on Geological Risk Management  
**Geoethics: a framework for the management of the geosphere and georisks**  
Arequipa (Peru), 14-16 October 2015
- First Colloquium on Geoethics in Peru  
**Geoethics applied to engineering geology**  
**Introduction on Geoethics and the IAPG network**  
Lima (Peru), 12 October 2015
- Annual Ethics Luncheon of the West Texas Geological Society  
**How and what should we teach novice geoscientists about geoethics?**  
Midland, Texas (USA), 8 October 2015
- First Conference of the African Association of Women in Geosciences - Nigeria  
**Geoethics and the IAPG network**  
Abuja (Nigeria), 15-16 June 2015
- Workshop "Teaching GeoEthics Across the Geoscience Curriculum"  
**The foundations of Geoethics**  
Montana (USA), 10-13 June 2014
- European Federation of Geologists workshop  
**Geoethics: themes, goals and ongoing initiatives**  
Palermo (Italy), 29 May 2014
- Ethics breakfast at the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC)  
**Geoethics: A Way of Thinking and Practicing Geosciences**  
Houston, Texas (USA), 5 May 2014
- Logan Club of the Geological Survey of Canada  
**The L'Aquila earthquake-case and the importance of geoethics**  
Ottawa (Canada), 10 May 2013

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 35<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS**  
Cape Town, South Africa (27 August - 4 September 2016)  
Symposium: **Geoethics: general aspects and case-studies**
- 35<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN SEISMOLOGICAL COMMISSION GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
Trieste, Italy (4-10 September 2016)  
Session: **From school and citizen seismology to geoethics**
- 88<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS OF THE ITALIAN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
Naples, Italy (7-9 September 2016)  
Session: **"Geoethics: a new way of thinking and practicing geosciences"**
- IX GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS OF SPAIN**  
Huelva, Spain (12-14 September 2016)  
Symposium: **Geoética**
- 8<sup>th</sup> THE AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN GEOSCIENCES CONFERENCE**  
Sibiu, Romania (1-7 October 2016)  
Lecture: **Geoethics: a new perspectives for geosciences**

Statistics  
update  
March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016

IN 104  
COUNTRIES

IAPG  
members

1107

Website  
visitors

22000

Website  
visits

29000

Facebook  
"I like"

3444

Twitter  
followers

1065

Linkedin  
members

890

The IAPG is legally recognized as a not-for-profit association and exists with donations and personal funds of its members.

Become an IAPG member. No fee is due.  
Fill in the form: <http://www.geoethics.org/membership-html>

# Sessions in congresses



### EGU GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 2013: Geoethics and natural hazard: the role and responsibility of the geoscientists
- 2014: Geoethics: Ethical Challenges in Communication, Geoeducation and Management of Natural Hazards
- 2015: Geoethics for society: General aspects and case studies in geosciences
- 2016: Geoethics: theoretical and practical aspects from research integrity to relationships between geosciences and society



### GSA ANNUAL MEETING

- 2015: Ethics of Geoscience in Practice and Application



### AGU-GAC-MAC-CGU JOINT ASSEMBLY

- 2015: How Do We Build a Healthy Geoscience Community That Better Serves Society?"



### GEOITALIA CONFERENCE

- 2013: Geoethics and Society: Geosciences serving the public



### IAEG INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

- 2014: Geoethics and natural hazards: communication, education and the science-policy-practice interface



### AGU FALL MEETING

- 2015: Geoethics and Critical Thinking in Undergraduate Geoscience Classes
- 2014: a) Teaching GeoEthics Across the Geoscience Curriculum
- 2014: b) Solution and Strategies for fostering GeoEthics and Enhancing the Geosciences Section

## Tools



The Geoethical Promise



Research Integrity Statements



Teaching Geoethics

Codes of Ethics/Conduct

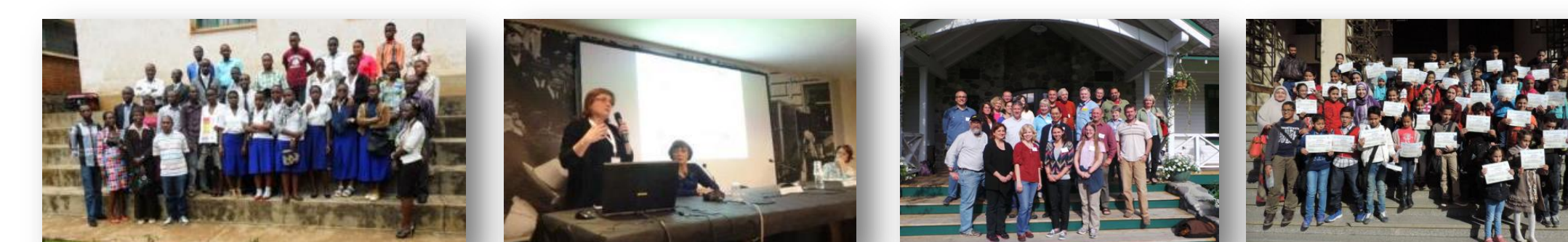


AGI Disability Consensus Statement

EurGeol Title



## Dissemination of Geoethics into Society



- MINERLIMA 2015 in Lima: first minerals exhibition in Peru.
- Activities with students in Egypt.
- Interviews at the Austrian (ORF1) and German (SWR2) Radio.
- Italian Science Festival 2013 and 2014 (Genoa, Italy): two conferences.
- EduScienza YouTube Channel: Nautilus - RAI Cultura (Italy): video-interviews.
- Conference on Geoparks network 2014 (Amman, Jordan).
- Day for Earth Sciences in Africa and Middle East (DESAME): 2014, 2015, 2016.
- Courses on geoethics for professional geologists in Texas and Italy.

