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This monthly newsletter is intended to keep IUGG Members and individual scientists informed about the activities of the Union, its Associations and interdisciplinary bodies, and the actions of the IUGG Secretariat, Bureau, and Executive Committee. Past issues are posted [here](#). E-Journals may be forwarded to those who will benefit from the information. Your comments are welcome.

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1. IUGG – The People at the Forefront (XXVII)

Stefania Sparnocchia, Secretary General of the International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO), 2019-2023

I was born on the island of Elba, one of the islands of Italy's Tuscan archipelago, and grew up in the small coastal town of Piombino on the mainland facing it. My grandfather, on my father's side, was a mariner, a captain in the merchant navy, and his (and my) surname is the same as the name by which the crustacean *Squilla mantis* (Linnaeus, 1758) is known in the local dialect. These are my earliest connections with the sea, with which I have lived intimately all my life ever since. With such a singular background, it should come as no surprise that I turned to Oceanography while choosing my profession!

I have a degree in Physics from the University of Rome "La Sapienza", Italy, with a specialisation in Earth Physics. My interest in Physical Oceanography began when I attended a course on the subject as a student and started participating in my first oceanographic cruise. Those were truly exciting moments for me. Firstly, because there I was, gathering the data I was going to work with and use to test my scientific hypotheses myself, and secondly because of the camaraderie that daily life aboard the research vessels during these expeditions fostered which led to many lasting relationships, both personal and professional.



Stefania Sparnocchia, IAPSO Secretary General (2019-2023) doing water sampling on board the CNR R/V Urania

My thesis work mainly concerned methods employed for the analysis of generic geophysical time series such as those relating to volcanic activity and sea level - nothing specific to Oceanography as such. I can honestly say that my real training in Physical Oceanography began after graduation, when I started to work in various marine research institutions around Italy on fellowships before finally obtaining a permanent position with the National Research Council of Italy (CNR) as a researcher.

My scientific interests focus on marine circulation, water property distributions and budgets, long-term variability and air-sea interaction processes, with an emphasis obviously on the Mediterranean Sea, seeing where I come from. From this perspective, I tend to consider the years I spent at the CNR Oceanographic Station in La Spezia from 1991 to 1997 as one of the most important periods of my career. There, I joined colleagues such as Mario Astraldi, Gian Pietro Gasparini and Giuseppe Manzella who were then

participating in the first studies coordinated at the European level aimed at understanding the circulation of the Mediterranean Sea. As part of this effort, we were starting to collect oceanographic time series in two key geographical areas vital to the circulation of the Western Mediterranean basin, specifically the Strait of Sicily and the Channel of Corsica. This activity is still being maintained by the CNR and has produced decades-long series of hydrological and current measurements that are contributing to the study of the effects of climate change in the Mediterranean region and globally.

From my early years to today, I have seen global challenges such as climate change and the sustainable management of our oceans and coasts for future generations increasingly taking centre stage, necessitating the implementation of innovative observing strategies, extended research infrastructure and international networks. This naturally implies greater collaboration with industry for the development of better and more affordable instrumentation, and close cooperation between research groups scattered in different countries in gathering and sharing data. So, since 2009, while continuing my scientific activity, I have also started working on marine research infrastructure and related technological development, participating in various relevant projects funded by the European Commission and in some pertinent expert groups such as the Marine Observation and Data Expert Group of the European Commission, the Belmont Forum Collaborative Research Action on E-Infrastructure and Data Management, and the Technology Plan Working Group of EuroGOOS (the European component of the Global Ocean Observing System).

I was introduced to IAPSO by Mario Astraldi, who was its Italian National Correspondent for a long time, and Paola Malanotte Rizzoli, an enduring figure within the Association (a veteran member, then President from 1999 to 2003, and Past President during the succeeding four years). The first IUGG General Assembly I attended was the one held in Perugia, Italy, in 2007. This was also the first international conference that I was able to attend in person, and my first opportunity to meet colleagues I had only known through their publications. Among them, someone I remember with particular affection and esteem is Walter Munk, who left us 3 years ago at the ripe old age of 101, who I had the good fortune to listen to live that first time in Perugia, and then later again in Prague during IUGG 2015.

In Perugia I was elected to the Executive Committee of IAPSO as a Member at Large, where I have continued to work ever since. In 2015, I was appointed Secretary General of the Association. In this

role, I oversaw the preparation of the IAPSO scientific programme for the IUGG Scientific Assembly in 2017 and 2019, and am presently working to organise the IUGG General Assembly 2023 in Berlin, Germany, with the Secretary Generals of IUGG and its other Associations. Unfortunately, the Joint Assembly with IACS and IAMAS, which was planned to be held in Busan, Rep. of Korea in 2021, was cancelled due to the COVID pandemic and replaced by the Virtual Atmosphere-Cryosphere-Ocean seminar series (VACO-21, 19-23 July 2021). This was our first experiment with an online event, a format we were forced to adopt out of necessity to achieve our mission goals as best we could under the circumstances in the last 2 years. As part of my duties as the Secretary General, I have also worked to help establish the IAPSO Early Career Medal and the IAPSO Best Practice Study Group initiatives, both inaugurated in 2019.



At the IAPSO General Business Meeting in Cape Town, 31 August 2017

Being a part of IAPSO has contributed to my growth both as a person and as a researcher over the years, and serving the Association continues to offer me the opportunity to give something back to the community to which I belong, to go beyond my selfish interests and do something for others in our shared dream of open and collaborative science. To my younger colleagues just starting out on this grand adventure, I can only say that we can build the science we want ONLY by working together and for each other!

I am looking forward to meeting the readers of this E-Journal at the IUGG General Assembly 2023 in Berlin. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact [me](#) if you need any information concerning IAPSO.

2. IUGG – Proposals for Changes of Statutes and By-Laws



Adhering Bodies of IUGG Member Countries and IUGG Bureau Members are now invited to [submit](#) proposals for changes to the [Statutes and By-Laws](#). You are encouraged to review the Statutes and By-Laws and to determine whether they require revision to improve the Union's operations. The deadline for submissions is **11 January 2023**.

Any changes to the Statutes and By-Laws should be adopted by the IUGG Council at its next meeting during the [IUGG General Assembly 2023](#) from 11 to 20 July 2023 in Berlin, Germany.

For more information, please contact the [IUGG Executive Secretary](#).

3. IUGG – Exhibition Booth at the EGU General Assembly 2022

Learn more about the [IUGG General Assembly 2023](#) (11-20 July 2023, Berlin, Germany) and about the Union in general and meet us at the IUGG exhibition booth (No. 8) at the [2022 General Assembly of the European Geosciences Union](#) (EGU). The General Assembly will be held at the Austria Center Vienna and online from 23 to 27 May 2022.



Vienna, Austria & Online | 23–27 May 2022

4. IUGG and Partners – Joint Earth Day Statement

IUGG celebrates Earth Day on 22 April 2022 together with its partners and published the following statement.

As international geoscience organizations, on today's Earth Day we celebrate Earth's abundant natural resources; its diverse but threatened natural environments; and all the beautiful but fragile life with which we share this planet.

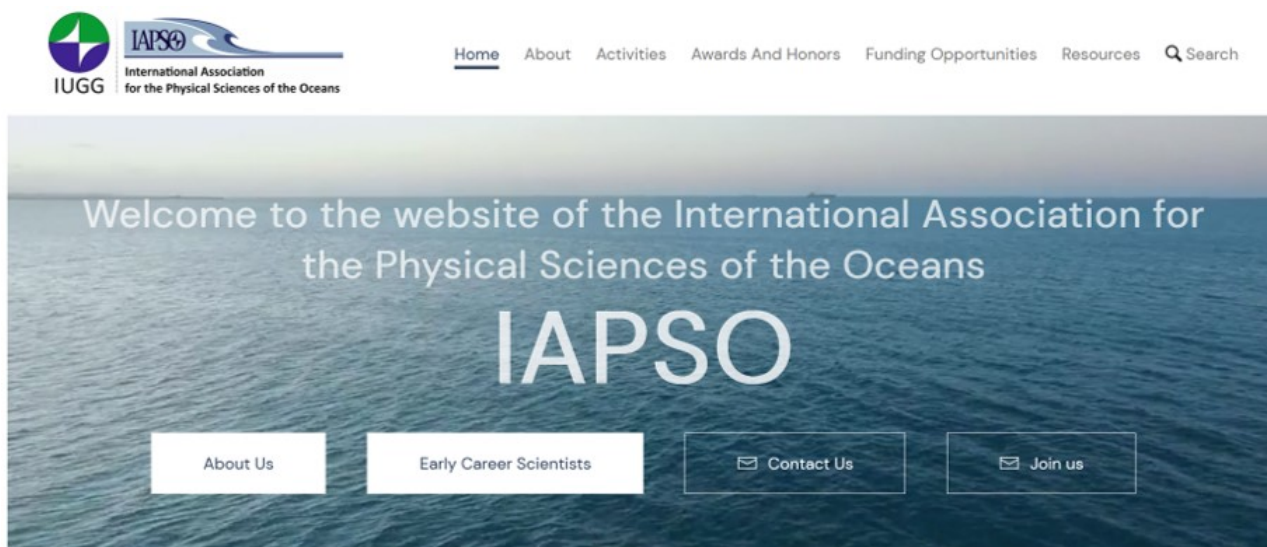
We recognize that we have an important role to play in conserving, managing, and caring for our shared home, and that science can guide us on our path to a healthy, safe, and sustainable future for this Earth. Please join us in calling attention to and acting on this urgent task.



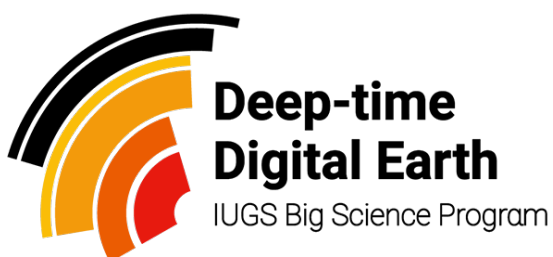
IUGG invites you to its 28th General Assembly in July 2023 in Berlin. The programme of our quadrennial assembly will reflect many aspects of the above statement. Please find more information [here](#).

5. IAPSO – New Website

The International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO) is pleased to introduce you to its new website at <https://iapso-ocean.org/>.



6. IUGS – Deep-time Digital Earth Program: Seed Funding



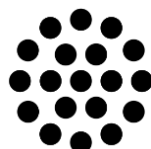
The Deep-time Digital Earth ([DDE](#)) Program is the first “big science program” initiated by the International Union of Geological Sciences ([IUGS](#)). This program will provide many new opportunities and directions for the development of the Earth sciences. The DDE mission is to harmonise deep-time Earth data, share global geoscience knowledge and facilitate data-driven discovery in the understanding of Earth’s evolution. The [call for](#)

[proposals](#) seeks to provide seed funding (USD 40,000-50,000 per year) to 3-5 projects in support of data-driven scientific discoveries and interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of earth sciences.

The deadline to submit applications is **31 May 2022**.

7. ISC – Science as a Global Public Good

The [paper](#) published by the International Science Council (ISC) explores the importance of science as a global public good: a source of beneficial and applicable knowledge that is freely available and accessible worldwide, and which can be used by anyone, anywhere, without preventing or impeding its use by others. The position paper was published as an updated edition in November 2021 and is now available in the English, French, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, Japanese, and Russian languages.



**International
Science Council**

8. Obituaries

Iohan Neuner (1951-2021)



Iohan Neuner

Professor Iohan Neuner last year passed away unexpectedly. He dedicated over 42 years of activity to the Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest - TUCEB and to geodetic university education: 1979 - assistant professor, 1990 - lecturer, 1994 - associate professor, 2001 - university professor, 2020 - continuation of the activity at the Doctoral School. He was head of the Department of Topography and Cadastre (1996-2000), dean of the Faculty of Geodesy (2000-2008), rector of TUCEB (2008-2016), president of the Senate of TUCEB (2016-2020).

From 1998 to 2003 he was secretary of the IAG (International Association of Geodesy) - Romanian National Committee and from 2003 to 2021 National Correspondent of the Committee.

Since 2007 he has been a corresponding member of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences - Deutsche Geodätische Kommission (DGK) - Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften and since 1991 member of D.V.W. - Deutscher Verein für Vermessungswesen (Society for Geodesy, Geoinformation and Land Management). He was a member of the "Satellite Navigation" committee of the Romanian Space Agency (ROSA) and a delegate member of ROSA in the "Board on Satellite Navigation" of the European Space Agency (ESA).

We will always keep his memory in our souls!

Tiberiu Rus, IAG National Correspondent of Romania

Dorel Zugrăvescu (1930-2019)

Dorel Zugrăvescu (25 November 1930 - 20 November 2019), President of the Romanian National Committee for IUGG (1998 - 2019), was elected a corresponding member of the Romanian Academy in 1991. He also was a honorary member of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova. He was born in Râmnicu Vâlcea, and died in Bucharest, aged 88.



Dorel Zugrăvescu

He started by being a scientific researcher with the Institute of Physics of the Romanian Academy (1955-1965), then principal scientific researcher with the Geophysical Research Center (1965-1968), head of the Geodynamics Laboratory (1968-1970). The latter has been transferred to the Astronomical Observatory in Bucharest (1970-1977) and later to the Earth's Physics Center of the Central Institute of Physics (1977-1990). From 1990 until his death, Dorel Zugrăvescu served as director of the "Sabba S. Ștefănescu" Institute of Geodynamics of the Romanian Academy. He introduced Instrumental Geodynamics to Romania and dedicated his life to organising a network of Geodynamical Observatories and so-called Geodynamics Polygons.

Since 1977 he had been working as an associate professor in the Department of Geophysics at the University of Bucharest, and since 1990 he had been a PhD supervisor in Physics, the Physics of the Globe branch.

Crisan Demetrescu, Vice President of the Romanian National Committee for IUGG

With great sadness IUGG reports the death of

Chris King (1949-2022), chair of the EGU Education Committee who was also strongly involved in organising the GIFT workshop 2022 to educate teachers from India and surrounding countries on IAGA and IASPEI topics. The workshop was held on occasion of the IAGA-IASPEI Joint Scientific Assembly 2021. An obituary can be found [here](#).

9. Important Deadlines

- 20 June 2022:** [Submit nominations for the 2023 Early Career Scientist Awards.](#)
- 20 September 2022:** [Submit nominations for the 2023 Fellowship Awards.](#)
- 11 October 2022:** [Submit nominations for IUGG Bureau and Finance Committee Members \(2023-2027\).](#)
- 20 October 2022:** [Submit nominations for the 2023 Gold Medal.](#)
- 11 January 2023:** [Submit proposals to host the 29th IUGG General Assembly in 2027.](#)
- 11 January 2023:** [Submit proposals for changes to the Statutes and By-Laws.](#)
- 31 January 2023:** [Submit Draft Resolutions for the 28th IUGG General Assembly in 2023.](#)
-

10. Meeting Calendar

This calendar includes meetings which are planned to be organised in 2022 under the umbrella of IUGG, and major conferences of IUGG's partner organisations. Meetings are subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The calendar is updated regularly and is also available [online](#). If you would like to include the mention of a meeting, or report changes, please contact the [IUGG Secretariat](#).

May

- 15-20, AGU, Atlanta GA, USA, [AbSciCon22 - Origins and Exploration: From Stars to Cells](#)
- 18-20, IAPSO, IUGG, Menorca, Spain, [2nd World Conference on Meteotsunamis](#)
- 22-27, JPGU, Chiba, Japan, [Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2022](#)
- 23-27, EGU, Vienna, Austria, [EGU General Assembly 2022](#)
- 29-3 June, IAHS, Montpellier, France, [IAHS Scientific Assembly](#)
- 30-3 June, IAGA, IAMAS, Helsinki, Finland, [11th International Workshop on Long-Term Changes and Trends in the Atmosphere](#)

June

- 1-3, IAG, Zagreb, Croatia, [EUREF 2022 Symposium](#)
- 6-11, ISPRS, Nice, France, [International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing Congress 2022](#)
- 7-17, IACS, McCarthy AK, USA, [International Summer School in Glaciology](#)
- 12-17, IAVCEI, Heraklion, Greece, [Cities on Volcanoes \(COV11\)](#)
- 13-15, IAG, IUGG, Potsdam, Germany, [1st Workshop on Data Science for GNSS Remote Sensing](#)

- 13-15, IAGA, Bergen, Norway, [8th HEPPA-SOLARIS Meeting](#)
- 13-17, IAG, Milan, Italy, [10th Hotine-Marussi Symposium](#)
- 19-24, IACS, Juneau AK, USA, [International Symposium on Maritime Glaciers \(IGS2022\)](#)
- 19-24, AGU, San Juan PR, USA, [2022 Frontiers in Hydrology](#)
- 20-22, IUGG, IASPEI, ILP, GFZ, Potsdam, Germany, [Cermak7 – VII International Meeting on Terrestrial Heat Flow and the Thermal Structure of the Lithosphere](#)
- 20-23, CODATA, WDS, Seoul, Rep. of Korea, [International Data Week 2022. Data to Improve our World](#)
- 20-24, CMG, Seoul, Rep. of Korea, [33rd IUGG Conference on Mathematical Geophysics \(CMG2022\)](#)
- 27-1 July, IAG, Online, [IGS 2022: Science from Earth to Space](#)

July

- 4-8, IAMAS, IUGG, Thessaloniki, Greece, [International Radiation Symposium \(IRS2022\)](#)
- 4-8, IUGS, UNESCO, Dublin, Ireland, [ReSToRE 2 - Researching Social Theories, Resources, and Environment International Summer School](#)
- 11-15, SEDI, Zurich, Switzerland, [17th Symposium of the Study of the Earth's Deep Interior](#)
- 11-15, IAGA, ICMA, IUGG, SCOSTEP, Sopron, Hungary, [8th Workshop on Vertical Coupling in the Atmosphere-Ionosphere System \(VCAIS\)](#)
- 16-24, COSPAR, IUGG, Athens, Greece, [COSPAR 2022. 44th Scientific Assembly](#)
- 18-22, IGU, Paris, France, [International Geographic Union Centennial Congress](#)
- 20-23, UCPS, Changchun, China, 2nd IUGG Symposium on Planetary Science (IUGG-PS 2022): New Observations and Advances in Solar System
- 31-5 August, Glasgow, UK, [22nd World Congress of Soil Science](#)

IAVCEI Scientific Assembly 2023

- 30 January-3 February 2023, IAVCEI, Rotorua, New Zealand, [IAVCEI Scientific Assembly](#)

IUGG General Assembly 2023

- 11-20 July 2023, IUGG, Berlin, Germany, [IUGG General Assembly 2023](#)

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