



FÉDÉRATION EUROPÉENNE DES GÉOLOGUES
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS
FEDERACIÓN EUROPEA DE GEÓLOGOS

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The EFG Office would like to invite you again to support our new category of news "News from EFG members". In order to maintain this category of news alive we kindly ask you to send us relevant information from your own national association until **15 July**.

It would be very helpful for the EFG office if you could support us regularly with news from your association's activities what could also create bridges between the different national associations.

1. EFG News and News from EFG members

EFG:



4th International Professional Geology Conference, Vancouver, Canada, 22-24 January 2012.

The website for the 4th IPGC www.4ipgc.ca is now activated and the [Call for Abstracts/Call for Papers](#) for the conference is open. The theme of this conference for which EFG is co-convenor is "Earth Science - Global Practice".

The deadline for submission of abstracts is **15 August 2011**.

France:

GeoReg, Forum de la Fédération Française des Géosciences, Villeneuve d'Ascq, 23-27 October 2011.

The GeoReg Forum is devoted to all geosciences and addressed to academic scientists, associations, museums, cultural centres, teachers, etc. The event aims at studying and presenting geosciences from a regional point of view, mostly from the French and neighbouring regions (UK, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Spain).

The new deadline for registration is **30 June 2011**.

More information: <http://geosystemes.univ-lille1.fr>

Greece:**News in brief:**

- In the light of the economical crisis, the Institute for Geology and Mineral Exploration is threatened, beside other state subsidized entities, with restructuring or abolishment. The Greek association invites European Geoscientists to react to this news.
- Under the auspices of the Ministry for Environment, Energy and Climate Change a committee concluded in May its work on raw materials and a conference is scheduled in the near future on the implementation of the raw material initiative in Greece.
- An international call for tenders for exploration and production of geothermal energy in four areas in the north of Greece promising high enthalpy is close to be finished.
- The draft of the new law on exploration and production of hydrocarbons as well as the setup of a new licensing agency will soon be presented for approval at the Greek parliament.
- The Ministry for Environment, Energy and Climate Change schedules an international invitation for seismic surveys.

Portugal:**Study on the professional field of Geology in Portugal.**

A team of sociologists at the Research and Studies in Sociology Center ISCTE-IUL, coordinated by Luisa Veloso, is developing since March 2011 a study commissioned by the Portuguese Association of Geologists (APG). The research focuses on the professional field of Geology in Portugal and investigates in three areas: academic areas; the career paths and current professional activities in the areas of Geology and Geological Engineering and Mines; professional associations.

Currently the study is launching an investigation to the professionals in question. The conclusion of this investigation is scheduled for December of this year. APG calls on the collaboration of all Portuguese professionals via an anonymous questionnaire (in Portuguese). You can fill out the questionnaire [here](#).

APG 31st Teachers Continuous Training Course on Geosciences, Coimbra, Portugal, 14-16 July 2011.

The APG invites basic school and secondary level teachers to apply to this training course that aims to cover several important Geology themes. Cost of registration, program and registration form are available [here](#). Please note that the number of participants is limited.

United Kingdom:



GSL's involvement in policy consultations

Since the beginning of 2011, the Geological Society has responded to eight government consultations and parliamentary inquiries and is so constantly increasing its activities in this field. In the case of the House of Commons recently published Science and Technology Committee's report on Strategic Metals and the Energy and the Climate Change Committee's report on Shale Gas, the Geological Society made written submissions supported by witnesses of individual fellows and GSL specialists were invited to give oral evidence for both inquiries. These examples show the opportunities given to Earth scientist by policy consultations.

This and past submissions can be consulted here:

<http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/consultations>

Dynamic Topography, A key surface record of deep Earth processes, Geological Society of London, 1-2 September 2011.

This conference will bring together geologists, geomorphologists and geophysicists seeking to understand how processes operating within the mantle interact with those on the surface to shape the Earth's topography and control sediment and geochemical flux.

More information: <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/dynamictop>

2. General News

Events:



34th International Geological Congress (IGC), Brisbane, Australia, 5-10 August 2012.

The [Second circular](#) for this event is now available.

LIFE+ 2011 Call for proposals.

Project proposals shall be submitted to the national competent authorities by 18 July 2011. The proposals shall be forwarded to the national authority of the Member State in which the beneficiary is registered. The topics relevant to the geological profession are climate change, water and soil.

More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/lifeplus2011/call/index.htm>

According to magazine NATURE career opportunities for Geoscientists are rising.

Statistics of the American association AGI show that the demand for geoscientists is expected to grow worldwide and at all career stages. To read the full article please click [here](#).

EC Green Paper for Directive on Recognition of Professional Qualifications published now.

The [Green Paper](#) is based in the public consultation closed in January 2011 in which EFG contributed with a [response paper](#).

A [new consultation](#) will be taken into account by the Commission in the preparation of the legislative proposal on the modernisation of the Professional Qualifications Directive by the end of this year.

The Commission wishes to consult stakeholders on:

- new approaches to mobility

- ways to build on achievements
- and on the modernisation of the automatic recognition.

Everybody is welcome to contribute to this consultation until **20 September 2011**. Contributions are particularly sought from citizens, professional organisations, national governments and national competent authorities.

3. Renewable Energy

Events:



Low Carbon Earth Summit, Dalian, China, 19-26 October 2011.

The purpose of LCES-2011 is to provide a world-class meeting place for information exchanges and trade fair for promoting Low Carbon Economy.

Track 7-6-7 of the event will be dedicated to Geology and Geothermal Energy.

The deadline for abstract submission is **15 August**.

More information: <http://www.lcesummit.com>



RHC-Platform launches call for Expression of Interest to select the new Steering Committee of the Cross-cutting Technology Panel.

The European Technology Platform on Renewable Heating and Cooling (RHC-Platform) is launching this call with the aim to identify and select experts interested in covering different roles in the Cross-Cutting Technology Panel.

More information: <http://www.rhc-platform.org>

4. Minerals

Events:

Sustainable Aggregates Resource Management, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 20-22 September 2011.

The SARM Conference welcomes extended abstract contributions (2-6 pages) with oral or poster presentations from stakeholders connected to the mineral resources: researchers, public and private sector societies, non-governmental and environmental associations and all interested in the topic.

Deadline for abstract submission: **1 August**.

More information: www.sarmaproject.eu

Call for Papers: Fermor 2011 - Ore Deposits in an Evolving Earth, GSL, London, 7-9 September 2011.

This international conference will bring together researchers to discuss topical subjects in mineral deposit studies viewed in the context of Earth evolution.

Participants are invited to submit abstracts related to the following subjects until **15 July**:

- Evolution of the Earth and Ore Deposits - Super-Giant Mineral Deposits
- Fluids from the Core to the Ore

- Microbe - Mineral Interactions in Ore Processes
- The Future: Limits to Availability of Mineral Commodities

More information: <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/fermor2011>

5. Oil and Gas

ENVI committee supports environment legislation extension related to oil/gas exploration, 15 June 2011.

Environment Committee MEPs have renewed calls to review EU legislation on offshore oil and gas activities, including pipelines. The scope of the [Environmental Liability Directive](#) and the [Environmental Impact Assessment Directive](#) should be extended, they say. Minimum safety rules should be consistently high across the European Union.

The Environment Committee opinion on "Facing the challenge of the safety of offshore oil and gas activities" was adopted with 46 votes in favour, 5 against and 1 abstention. Under the "[associated committee](#)" procedure, the parts under exclusive ENVI competence will feed directly into the Industry Committee resolution (rapporteur: Vicky Ford) to be adopted next month.

According to Corrinne Lepage who presented this opinion, "the committee supported several major points: the creation of a European system to 'control the controllers', which should be based on common criteria; a moratorium on offshore activities in the Arctic; and the application of risk prevention rules on offshore platforms."

6. Soil and groundwater

More research needed into contaminated soil and water treatment.

A new review from Romanian researchers has summarised current and emerging methods for cleaning up contaminated land and water. It highlights the need for more consistent testing, reporting and evaluation of different remediation techniques.

Source: [Science for Environment Policy](#), European Commission DG Environment News Alert Service, edited by SCU, The University of England, Bristol.

7. Natural Hazards

New VALID project and call for participation

VALID (The Value of Geo-Information for Disaster and Risk Management) is a sub-project of the "United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response - [UN-SPIDER](#)".

VALID activities are mainly directed to the end users of geoinformation products for disaster management (practitioners, planners and decision-makers, affiliated to public disaster management bodies, international organizations and NGOs).

In July 2010, the Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies (JBGIS) and UNOOSA/UN-SPIDER published 'Geoinformation for Disaster and Risk Management – Examples and Best Practices', a compilation of case studies that provides information on what can be done with geoinformation in support of disaster and risk management – methods, systems, applications, experiences. As a next step it is planned to provide information on what is the value of geoinformation. In early June VALID published its new [project description](#) and wishes already to arouse interest for its call for papers and participations in the Expert Stakeholder Assessment that will be issued soon.

8. Education in Geology

Events:



IESO 2011 Pre-conference, Modena, Italy, 6-10 July 2011.

The aim of this conference is to analyse the preparation of the IESO Olympiad to be held in September of this year and to share organising experience.

The registration deadline for the Olympiad itself has been postponed until **26 June**.

More information: <http://www.ieso2011.unimore.it/>

9. Job Opportunities

Professorship in the field of soil mechanics and geotechnics

Place: University of Gent, Belgium

Deadline for application: 12 July 2011

I hope you enjoyed reading our monthly newsletter.

We would be pleased to receive your comments or indications of events relevant to the geological profession in Europe.

Kind regards,
EFG Office

EFG, Rue Jenner 13, 1000 Brussels, Belgium, www.eurogeologist.eu