IASPEI Commission for Rapid Interdisciplinary Investigation of Significant Earthquakes

Newsletters

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Looking Forward the Feedback to Our Scope

The scope of our commission has been published on the webpage at http://www.iaspei.org/commissions/commission-on-the-rapid-interdisciplinary-investigation-of-significant-earthquakes#scope. We now warmly invite everyone to provide comments on it. Please send any feedback to qipj@ief.ac.cn.

The scope is as follows:

Recognizing the devastating impacts of significant earthquakes worldwide, such as the 2023 Türkiye-Syria earthquakes that resulted in nearly 60,000 fatalities, and other recent deadly events; and acknowledging the critical importance of rapid, coordinated, and interdisciplinary scientific response in the immediate aftermath of major earthquakes to capture perishable data and transient/essential phenomena; the Commission on the Rapid Interdisciplinary Investigation of Significant Earthquakes (RI²SE) provides a platform for coordinated international and interdisciplinary scientific responses. By leveraging expertise across seismology, geodesy, geophysics, geochemistry, geology, and allied fields, and fostering cooperation with other IASPEI commissions, RI²SE facilitates rapid investigation of possible earthquake precursors, rupture dynamics, fault zone properties, and secondary hazards when transient phenomena are most pronounced. The coordinated collection of multi-disciplinary datasets strengthens models of earthquake source physics, wave propagation, and crustal deformation, thereby advancing the integrated understanding of earthquake generation and its cascading societal impacts. The RI²SE commission helps institutionalize such timely investigations within the IASPEI framework, and focuses on but is not limited to the following aspects:

- Seismogenic faults and surface rupture of significant earthquakes
- Measurement and analysis of geophysical and geochemical anomalies before and after the mainshock
- New technique applications to earthquake investigations.
- Fault rupture complexity, fault interaction, and triggering mechanisms
- Physical mechanisms of earthquake foci and crustal deformation models
- Strong ground motion, earthquake nucleation, seismic generation, and structural geophysics

●Rupture dynamics, fault zone characteristics, and secondary hazards such as landslides, liquefaction, and induced floods

●Development of innovative techniques for earthquake investigations

In Symposia in IASPEI Assemblies, we will contribute to the Symposium 'Recent Significant Earthquakes' and organize topical issues in the internationally peer-review journals based on the Symposia results. Collaborating with already existing cooperating organizations for Scientific Investigation of Earthquakes in capacity building and networking of the technical teams. Working on the scientific guidelines/standards for the rapid interdisciplinary investigation of significant earthquakes, and the unified catalogue of significant earthquakes. Working on the development of remote sensing engineering seismology and seismology for emergency response. Participating in the meetings of the Association, the Union, and the Regional Commissions, as well as other related meetings, by presentations, exhibitions, advertising, and/or public lectures. Inter-Association and Inter-Union communication and cooperation in the rapid interdisciplinary investigation of significant earthquakes shall be facilitated. All possible collaboration with suitable organizations concerned shall be made.

RI^{2}SE's Establishment Honored with China Earthquake Administration Award

Recently, the initiative "Advancing Global Seismological Collaboration: The Establishment of RI^{2}SE" was awarded the 2025 China Earthquake Administration Innovation Award in recognition of its outstanding innovative value and practical effectiveness.

Institute of Earthquake Forecasting, China Earthquake Administration has established a special task force to support the work of RI^{2}SE.

Institute of Earthquake Forecasting, China Earthquake Administration recently established a group for the Commission on Rapid Interdisciplinary Investigation of Significant Earthquakes. This initiative aims to actively and effectively advance the commission's work and fully realize its designated functions and responsibilities.

Group Members

Group Leaders: Li Ying, Fang Lihua

Advisors: Wu Zhongliang, Gao Yuan, Zhang Yongxian, Meng Guojie, Zhang Xuemin

Secretaries: Tian Wenjun, Qi Pengju

Members: Liu Jing, Dou Aixia, Zhou Lianqing, Li Mei, Li Guohui, Yuan Xiaoxiang, Hu Le,Zhang Shengfeng, Li Chenyu, Hu Guiming, Hu Chaozhong

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Obituary

Ding Guoyu (1931-2026)

Prof. Ding Guoyu was born in September 1931 in Gaoyang, Hebei Province, China, and passed away 95-year-old during January 19, 2026.

He graduated from the Department of Geology at Peking University in 1952 and began his career at the Beijing College of Geology (now China University of Geosciences, Beijing) the same year. From 1955 to 1959, he pursued and earned a Candidate of Sciences degree at the Moscow Geological Prospecting Institute in the former Soviet Union. After returning to China in 1959, he joined the Institute of Geology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. In 1970, he started working in the Earthquake Analysis Group of the Central Earthquake Working Office. In 1972, he transferred to the State Seismological Bureau (now China Earthquake Administration), where he served as Deputy Director starting in 1981.

He has held numerous key positions, including Director of the Academic Committee of the State Seismological Bureau, Director of the Science and Technology Committee of the China Earthquake Administration, President of the Seismological Society of China, Vice President of the Geological Society of China, Deputy Director of the Chinese Society for Quaternary Research, and member of discipline appraisal panels under the Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council and the National Natural Science Foundation of China. In 1980, he was elected as an academician (member of the Faculty) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and in 1985, he was elected as a fellow of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS).

Prof. Ding Guoyu is a pioneering and foundational figure in the fields of neotectonics, seismic tectonics, earthquake monitoring, and analysis and prediction in China. He has led the establishment of theoretical and methodological frameworks for seismic tectonics in the Chinese mainland, promoted the application of GPS technology and the construction of China's Modern Crustal Movement Observation Network, and founded the Neotectonic Chronology Laboratory. He has made significant contributions to Quaternary geology, neotectonics, active tectonics, seismic tectonics and paleoseismology, earthquake prediction, and engineering seismology.

He directed field investigations following major earthquakes such as the Xingtai, Haicheng, and Longling events, led seismic zoning projects in areas like northern Hainan and southern Shandong, and promoted seismic safety evaluations for major infrastructure projects, including key nuclear and hydropower facilities. In the realm of international cooperation and aid, Academician Ding made groundbreaking contributions, serving as the head of the seismic working expert group for the Tanzania-Zambia Railway project, leading the

International Geological Correlation Programme Project 206, and participating in working groups for the Global Active Fault Map and Holocene Paleoseismology under the International Lithosphere Program.

Forthcoming Meeting

SSA Annual Meeting 2026
April 14-17, 2026, Pasadena, California, USA
URL: https://meetings.seismosoc.org/

16th ASC General Assembly
April 25-30, 2026, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
URL: https://asc2026.uz/

International Contest on Aftershock Forecasting
April 2026
Hosted by Institute of Earthquake Forecasting, China Earthquake Administration and IASPEI Commission on the Rapid Interdisciplinary Investigation of Significant Earthquakes

6th International Workshop "Seismic Anisotropy, Heterogeneity and Dynamics of the Lithosphere-Asthenosphere System (ADLAS)"
May 25-29, 2026, Liblice, Czech Rep.
URL:
https://www.ig.cas.cz/en/international-workshop-seismic-anisotropy-heterogeneity-and-dynamics-of-the-lithosphere-asthenosphere-system/

SEDI 2026
June 29-July 3, 2026, Townsville, QLD, Australia
URL: https://sites.google.com/view/sedi2026/home

VI LACSC General Assembly
August 3-7, 2026, Mexico City, Mexico
URL: https://lacsc2026.enesmorelia.unam.mx

40th ESC General Assembly
September 6-11, 2026, Istanbul, Türkiye
URL: https://esc2026.org/

ICGG-17 International Conference on Gas Geochemistry 2026
11-17 September 2026, Xi'an, China
URL: https://energy.pku.edu.cn/tzgg/ggxx/7d3c347b6e6e452488748eee0fca4b17.htm

TIGER Symposium in Geodesy 2026-Linking Geodesy and Seismology
September 28-October 1, 2026, Gävle, Sweden
URL: https://geodesy.science/com3/meetings/tiger-symposium-2026/

7th IASPEI / IAEE International Symposium on the Effect of Surface Geology on Seismic Motion (ESG)
October 19-21, 2026, Grenoble, France
URL: https://esg2026.inviteo.fr/inscriptions/

5th AfSC General Assembly
November 30-December 3, 2026, Ile-Ife, Nigeria
Contact: afscnig2026@gmail.com

IASPEI 44th General Assembly IUGG 29th General Assembly
July 16-22, 2027, Incheon, Rep. of Korea

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25 years ago today

25 years ago, on January 26, 2001, a catastrophic magnitude 7.8 earthquake shook Gujarat, India. It remains one of the most severe intraplate seismic disasters in recent history.

We have invited an expert to share his view on this event. The full contribution will be published in our next newsletter.

Contact addresses:

Qi Pengju: qipj@ief.ac.cn | Li Ying: liying@ief.ac.cn