

IASPEI Newsletter

June 2025

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Foreword

Dear Readers,

I hope this Newsletter finds you all well.

In this Newsletter, we have some information regarding our forthcoming Assembly in Lisbon, Portugal. Then, we have the presentation of the idea to implement an IASPEI Discovery Award. Further, we have the UN Resolution on International Day in Memory of the Victims of Earthquakes, an announcement from the IHFC and two meeting reports.

Then, I must inform you with great sadness that three of our colleagues passed away. We remember them with obituaries.

As usual, the Meetings Calendar follows before some general information about IASPEI at the end. Please do not forget to send me information or corrections about international conferences and workshops with IASPEI

related topics. This list can only be complete and correct if I receive information about such events and can update the Meetings Calendar of future Newsletters.

Best regards,

Johannes Schweitzer
Secretary General

Joint IAGA – IASPEI Scientific Assembly 2025



**The IAGA / IASPEI Joint Scientific Meeting
will be held 31 August – 5 September 2025
in Lisbon, Portugal.**

The date of the Scientific Assembly is coming closer and the Local Organizing Committee together with the IAGA and IASPEI Secretary Generals and the professional conference organizer C-IN are now concentrating on final adjustments. The detailed Assembly program will be published soon on the Assembly webpage <https://iaga-iaspei-lisboa-2025.isel.pt>.

Besides the traditional mixture of scientific program (oral and poster sessions) and business meetings, this Assembly will have two new types of events.

On **Monday** evening a special meeting is organized for Early Career Scientists. More information can be found at <https://iaga-iaspei-2025.org/social-programme/#ecs>.

Each day during the lunch breaks from Monday to Thursday there will be panel discussions. The following topics are planned on the different days:

Monday:

The Lisbon Earthquake 1755

Tuesday:

The International Macroseismic Scale (IMS)

Wednesday:

A Commission on International Interdisciplinary field Investigation of significant Earthquakes (I³E): feasibility and readiness (see the corresponding contribution in the March 2025 Newsletter)

Thursday:

IASPEI Discovery Award in Seismology (see the next contribution in this Newsletter)

On **Wednesday** evening, we will also have the traditional IASPEI Dinner. We plan to have dinner together with our IAGA colleagues. The plan is to have ticket prices of EUR 50 per person. Further details will be soon mailed to all registered participants.

IASPEI Discovery Award in Seismology

The IASPEI's CoSOI and CoESM commissions aim to promote further basic research in seismology and raise awareness of unsolved issues in the field. One measure the commissions propose is introducing a Discovery Award in Seismology to recognize

contributions or solutions to long-standing fundamental problems in seismology.

The award will recognize research providing observational or theoretical insights. The Discovery Award is intended to encourage scientists at all career stages to participate in our community by proposing and describing significant questions in fundamental seismology. A retrospective analysis can provide examples of unresolved problem categories, such as:

- Experimental and theoretical understanding of the Prompt Gravity Effect after earthquakes,
- Measurement of the differential motion of the inner core,
- Discovery of slow slip, tectonic tremors, and related phenomena
- Verification of dynamic triggering of earthquakes.

We invite you to our panel discussion on Thursday at lunchtime during the IASPEI Assembly in Lisbon.

After a brief introduction, the open discussion will focus on the following topics:

1. A proposal was made to create a dynamic list of key issues in seismology (e.g., an open call) for the award. Alternatively, the award may be based solely on *ad hoc* proposals submitted to a steering committee.
2. Suggestions on longstanding open problems
3. Define the role of the steering committee and discuss how to select the awardees.

T. Dahm, GFZ; S. Cesca, GFZ; S. Ide, University of Tokyo; K. Pankow, University of Utah

UN Resolution on International Day in Memory of the Victims of Earthquakes

On 29 April 2025, on the initiative of governments of Chile, Philippines and Uzbekistan, the General Assembly of the United Nations (UN) adopted a Resolution on an **International Day in Memory of the Victims of Earthquakes** (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/79/285>).

Because of its importance for the whole seismology community, I document here the complete resolution text:

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/70/1>) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, and its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration (Resolution 69/283 (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/69/283>), annex I), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 (Resolution 69/283 (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/69/283>), annex II) and the political declaration of the high-level meeting on the midterm review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030 (Resolution 77/289 (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/77/289>), annex), and recognizing that one of the priorities for action of the Sendai Framework is an understanding of disaster risk for prevention and mitigation and for the development and implementation of appropriate preparedness for and effective response to disasters, which continue to undermine efforts to achieve sustainable development,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/46/182>) of 19

December 1991 on strengthening the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations and subsequent related resolutions on humanitarian assistance, including resolutions 57/150 (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/57/150>) of 16 December 2002 and 79/139 (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/79/139>) and 79/140 (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/79/140>) of 9 December 2024,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/61/185>) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 (<https://docs.un.org/en/E/RES/1980/67>) of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in particular paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14 in which it is stated that an international year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Acknowledging the importance of the work of the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in disaster risk reduction, including assessing seismic hazards and building resilience to earthquakes,

Emphasizing that earthquakes have claimed millions of lives and caused extensive destruction, as well as exacerbated existing socioeconomic challenges, and remain a significant challenge for many countries,

Recognizing resolution 1753 (XVII) ([https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/1753\(XVII\)](https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/1753(XVII))) of 5 October 1962 as the first-ever General Assembly resolution reflecting international solidarity in foreseeing practical steps in international assistance for the victims of earthquakes,

Acknowledging that earthquakes have resulted in significant loss of lives, damage to property, displacement of communities and the loss of

livelihoods, food security and nutrition, health and access to social infrastructure, calling for support to countries to better understand the exposure and vulnerability to earthquake risks, and further calling upon the international community to provide financial, technical and capacity-building support to countries prone to earthquake risk, prioritizing resources to developing countries,

Recognizing the long-term impact of earthquakes on survivors and affected communities and the need for psychosocial support, inclusive recovery planning and sustainable rebuilding efforts for the well-being of those most affected,

Recognizing also the importance of promoting risk-informed, inclusive policies, planning and investments that build resilience to earthquakes and reduce displacement risk arising from earthquakes, Reiterating its call for the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political, financial and institutional measures that reduce risks caused by earthquakes and vulnerability to them, and increase preparedness for response and recovery,

Recognizing that it is urgent and critical to anticipate, plan for and reduce risks, to protect the lives of people and prevent the damage caused by earthquakes, and noting the need for policies and focused action to understand and address disaster risk, strengthen disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience and enhance disaster preparedness for effective response and to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction through people-centred, resilient, sustainable and inclusive recovery approaches that leave no one behind,

Noting the importance of the prompt dissemination of information through early warning systems, and promoting the incorporation of earthquake risk knowledge, including preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation, in formal and non-formal

education, as well as in civic education at all levels and in professional education and training, and of raising awareness and creating a culture of disaster prevention, resilience and responsible citizenship to foster all-of-society engagement in disaster risk reduction,

Noting with appreciation the important contribution made by humanitarian organizations and international urban search and rescue teams in the aftermath of earthquakes and other events resulting in structural collapse, which has helped to reduce loss of life and human suffering,

Noting with appreciation also the important contribution of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group to improve the efficiency and the effectiveness of international urban search and rescue assistance, supported by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, in line with General Assembly resolution 57/150 (<https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/57/150>),

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Expressing solidarity with all countries and peoples affected by earthquakes,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 29 April as the International Day in Memory of the Victims of Earthquakes, to be observed annually;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations to collaborate on the commemoration of the International Day in Memory of the Victims of Earthquakes with other competent organizations and stakeholders, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as the private sector, local authorities, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as appropriate, including through activities aimed at education and awareness-raising of the

importance of strengthening resilience and increasing preparedness for response and recovery;

3. *Invites* the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to facilitate the observance of the International Day, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 (<https://docs.un.org/en/E/RES/1980/67>);

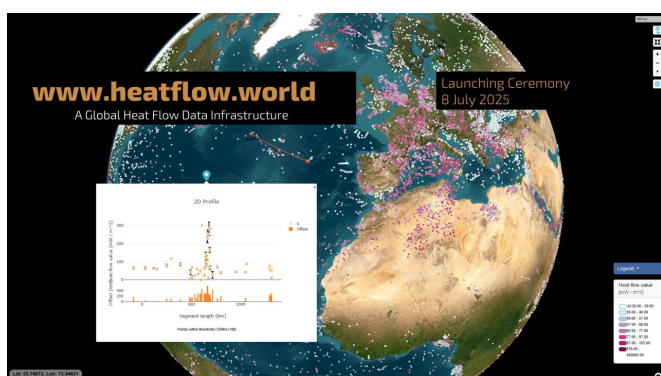
4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions and that such activities would be subject to the availability and provision of voluntary contributions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations for appropriate observance.

67th plenary meeting

29 April 2025

World Heat Flow Database Project: Portal Release Event



The International Heat Flow Commission (IHFC), in collaboration with the GFZ Helmholtz Centre for Geosciences, is pleased to announce the launch of **www.heatflow.world**, a new global research data infrastructure for

FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable), open, and quality-controlled terrestrial heat flow data.

This launch marks a major milestone in the Global Heat Flow Data Assessment Project, jointly coordinated by IHFC and the Task Force VIII of the International Lithosphere Program (ILP). Over the past years, a global network of scientists and institutions has worked collaboratively to modernize and evaluate the global heat flow dataset, addressing long-standing challenges in data consistency, quality, and accessibility.

The new portal, developed by GFZ Helmholtz Centre for Geosciences and launching on **8 July 2025** offers a fully FAIR-aligned platform featuring structured metadata, quality classifications and tools for data exploration, submission, and citation. It is designed to support researchers across disciplines, including geodynamics, geothermal energy, and paleoclimate science, to find and work with reliable and interoperable heat flow data.

At the heart of this achievement lies the global scientific community. More than 130 contributors have supported the reassessment of national and regional datasets, the development of quality classification schemes, and the integration of both new and legacy data. This community-driven approach is essential for the project's long-term success and scientific integrity.

heatflow.world, permanently hosted by GFZ, now serves as the official data backbone of the IHFC, providing sustained support for international geoscience collaboration under IASPEI, IAPSO, IAVCEI, and IUGG frameworks. Following the launch event, the project will enter its second phase, with the objective of completing the global data assessment and consolidating and further developing the research data infrastructure.

Over the past four years, the assessment of global heat flow data has been financially supported by: German Research Foundation (DFG), GFZ Helmholtz Centre for Geosciences, Project InnerSpace, EAVOR Germany,

International Heat Flow Commission (IHFC), International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), International Lithosphere Program (ILP), and many institutional in-kind contributions from IHFC heatflow-fellowship program collaborators and host institutions.

We invite you to explore the new portal and join us for the global launch event on **8 July 2025** by visiting: www.heatflow.world

Sven Fuchs, IHFC Vice Chair

Report from the 4th General Assembly of the African Seismological Commission (AfSC)

The 4th General Assembly of the African Seismological Commission (AfSC) took place from 24 to 28 February 2025 at the Avani Hotel in Windhoek, Namibia. The event was hosted by the Geological Survey under the Ministry of Mines. The Assembly had a total of 54 participants with 11 of them attending online from all around Africa. The event included presentations delivered by participants outside the African region. The Assembly saw a total number of 60 oral presentations with more than 50 being African presenters. The opening ceremony presided over by the President of the IASPEI, Michelle Groobbelaar, with opening remarks given by the Executive Director in the Ministry of Mines and Energy Mr. Penda Ithindi. The General Assembly lasted 5 days, including 3 days of scientific presentations and two days of technical training offered by the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO) and Kinematics. The plenary scientific session was initiated by three plenary keynotes given by Dr. Robert Floyd, CTBTO Secretary General, Prof. Dr. Atalay Ayele, University of Addis Ababa, and Dr. Cansun Guralp, from GaiaCode. The organizing and scientific committees were able to prepare from 24 to 26 February a rich scientific program with 34 oral presentations covering the following themes:

- Earthquake monitoring techniques
 - Anthropogenic seismicity (reservoir / mining / blasting)
 - Earthquake Risk Assessment and Management
 - Seismotectonics and Seismic Hazard Assessment
 - Active Tectonics and Paleoseismology
 - Catastrophic events
- Volcanology and Tsunami
 - Volcanology and volcanic hazard assessment
 - Tsunami Risk Assessment and Management
- Modern seismology
 - Geodynamics, GPS, InSAR and Remote Sensing
 - Meteorite Impact Detection and Risk Mitigation
 - Earth Structure and Tomography



The AfSC business meeting, organized by the Executive Committee, took place on 23rd of February as a late afternoon session. Reports on the past activities and from the five working groups (Observational Seismology, Earth Structure, Active Fault and Seismotectonics, Seismic Hazard and Risk, Earthquake Scientific Response) were presented. Among the discussion was the election of the new Executive Committee where the nominees were presented by Michelle Groobbelaar (AfSC Secretary General). Details on the AfSC can be found at www.afsc-web.org.za. The scientific sessions ended with a general discussion session and recommendations for the future of the AfSC and the conditions for the launch of an Earthquake Database for Africa. The IASPEI early career award was attributed to Ms. Sophy

Kipkwony from Kenya (a grant for the attendance to the forthcoming IUGG General Assembly in Lisbon in September 2025), for her outstanding presentation. The final session was the occasion to address warm thanks and congratulations to the LOC and to its chairperson, Bufelo Lushetile. The LOC and all participants were thankful to all the generous sponsors that contributed to the success of the 4th General Assembly of AfSC.

- On 27 February, basic training on seismic and infrasound waveform analysis using the software package 'NDC in a box' focusing on SeisComp, Geotool and PMCC was supervised by Remmy Phiri, Moctar Moumouni Kountche and Alexander Poplavskiy, three experts from CTBTO.

Two training courses organized on 27 and 28 of February were attended by over 20 participants and mainly students and young researchers. The courses consisted of:

- On 28 February, training on the installation, configuration and maintenance of Kinometrics equipment was supervised by Stepa Caciz from Kinometrics.

As a social happening, all delegates and participants were invited to a gala dinner held at Nico's Pub and Grill in Windhoek, sponsored by the Geological Survey of Namibia.

Brassnavy Manzunzu, AfSC Secretary General

QuakeHack 2025

QuakeHack 2025 – a statistical seismology hackathon for early-career scientists, was an innovative, community-driven workshop held from May 4th to 9th in the picturesque village of Castasegna in Switzerland. Supported by the Swiss Seismological Service, the Fondazione Garbald, the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), and the Seismological Society of America (SSA), QuakeHack brought together early-career researchers to collaboratively tackle unsolved

questions in statistical seismology through an open-ended format.



The participants of QuakeHack 2025

QuakeHack was designed with two main goals:

- 1) to enable participants to work on high-risk, high-reward problems, and
- 2) to create a long-lasting network of collaboration among them.

A key feature of the format was that the participants themselves identified the topics they wanted to work on during the week, without any restrictions imposed by the organizers. This stands in contrast to conventional conferences and workshops and encourages ownership and the exploration of genuinely novel ideas.

"The event gave me a great opportunity to step outside my usual work and see how it applies in a broader context. I also learned a lot about statistical seismology. It was a truly stimulating experience." – a QuakeHack Participant

Nineteen early-career scientists participated in QuakeHack 2025, three of whom received stipends for travel and/or lodging, ensuring that financial barriers did not prevent their participation. The participant group was intentionally balanced in terms of areas of expertise and interest, technical skills, geographical affiliation, gender, and career level, thereby ensuring a diverse range of perspectives and experiences. This mix contributed to a collaborative environment where learning from one another was a central part of the experience.

The only pre-work the participants were asked to do was to prepare a short presentation about

an idea they thought was worthwhile pursuing. Starting from these inputs, four projects were defined during the group-building session on Monday morning, including exciting topics such as forecasting ground shaking directly from waveforms or creating a Kaggle competition for earthquake forecasting.

Over the course of the week, participants followed a schedule that primarily consisted of time for group work, included group review sessions and external mentor feedback, and was punctuated by social events such as a mid-week Alpine excursion and time together at the nearby restaurant. The event was held at Villa Garbald, a beautifully restored villa in the Bregaglia valley, where participants were surrounded by mountains and served gardenfresh meals. We believe that this location had an important impact on participants' creativity and productivity.

After returning to Zurich on Friday morning, the groups presented their findings to a jury of senior scientists and an audience of members of the Swiss Seismological Service and the Institute of Geophysics at ETH Zurich. The winning team was awarded a prize, but the most important takeaway from the week was the sense of connection and shared curiosity that emerged among participants. Many made meaningful connections and learned new approaches from one another. Several groups have continued developing their projects beyond the workshop, demonstrating the lasting impact of the event. Approximately 20% of the total workshop costs were covered by the IUGG Meeting Support grant, which played a crucial role in enabling broad participation and making the event accessible.

Marta Han, Aron Mirwald, Vanille Ritz, Leila Mizrahi, QuakeHack organizing team

Obituaries

Anthony A. Hughes (1941 – 2025)



Anthony Ashby Hughes was born in April 1941, in the small village of Great Rollright, in the Cotswolds, in West Oxfordshire. At only the age of three, he met his future wife, Lucy, whilst attending nursery school. He later went to grammar school in Richmond, London. During his school years, he obtained a pilot's licence hoping it might be useful in case he went to serve in the British Royal Air Force. His intentions changed in 1960 when he started reading Physics at New College, University of Oxford.

Anthony would have known about the International Seismological Summary (ISS) – the predecessor of the International Seismological Centre (ISC) – from an early age, as his father, J.S. Hughes, was practically running the ISS in Kew. Anthony probably first helped the ISS (as a summer job) whilst still an undergraduate at Oxford. Following his graduation, he worked for the ISS and managed its closure in Kew. He then moved to Edinburgh to join the ISC which was at the time managed by Pat Willmore.

When Edouard Arnold became the ISC Director, Anthony was appointed a Deputy Director and took responsibility for the content

of the monthly ISC Bulletin. After Arnold was called back to the US in 1977, the ISC Governing Council (GC) appointed Anthony as the Director of the ISC.

Anthony wasn't a keen computer user himself, but he fully recognised the importance of computers in the operation of the ISC. In those days, the ISC used time slots on large computers belonging to other organizations. In July 1981, the GC meeting in London, Ontario (Canada) approved the acquisition of the ISC's first computer, a DEC VAX750, which was overseen by Anthony.

Originally, the ISC was operating from a building of the University of Edinburgh and then, after moving to Southern England in 1976, from commercially leased premises in Newbury, which placed a large burden on the ISC budget. In 1986, a considerable rise in the US dollar/pound sterling exchange rate enabled the ISC to invest in its own building in Thatcham, with a building loan provided by Lloyds Bank. Anthony was very proud of this event as it offered financial security for the ISC for years to come. Anthony put a lot of effort into keeping the ISC going for more than 20 years, navigating through financially turbulent years while gaining the support of new member-institutions with the help of his colleagues at the ISC.

During Anthony's time, the ISC Bulletin, the Regional Catalogue, the Felt and Damaging Earthquakes, and the Bibliography of Seismology were produced at a steady pace, month after month, using a printer in Bangkok, Thailand. It was common for Anthony to come out of his office joyfully announcing that "another month bites the dust". In later years, Anthony organised the production of CD-ROMs at the ISC which became the most popular way of distributing the ISC data before distribution over the Internet took over.

At the end of 1997 Anthony stepped down after more than 20 years as the ISC Director and a total of 33 years of service for the ISC. He left the ISC after a few weeks of assisting the new Director, Raymond Willemann, in taking over the role.

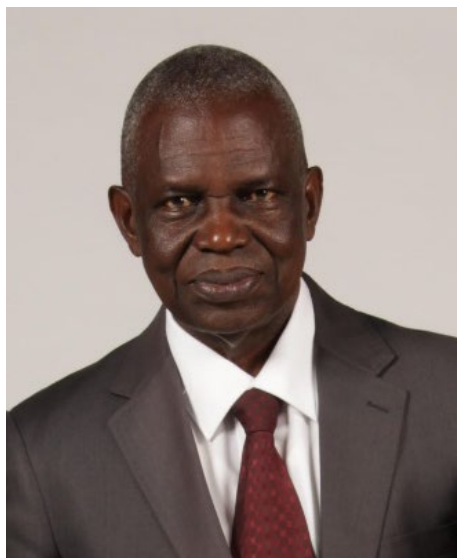
For his "services to global seismology", Anthony was honoured with the award of the Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE), following a submission by a former Chair of the ISC GC, David Denham from Australia. In 2000, Anthony was presented with this award by Her Late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace.

Anthony remained active in his retirement. He continued his bell ringing services at the St. Nicholas church in his home village of Old Marston, which he enjoyed for 40 years. He was also a Church Warden at the church of St. Thomas A'Beckett in the parish of Elsfeld in Oxfordshire where he greatly helped fundraising efforts for the church restoration projects.

Anthony leaves behind his wife Lucy and daughter Tamsin, who were ever so hospitable whilst welcoming the rotating international seismologists and their families into their lovely traditional house in Old Marston, Oxford.

Dmitry Storchak, ISC with thoughtful assistance from David McGregor, Robin Adams and Lucy Hughes

André Zana Ndontoni (1942 – 2025)



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Professor Emeritus André Zana Ndontoni, a renowned figure in Seismology and Volcanology who passed away on April 1, 2025. Born August 6, 1942, Professor Zana earned his high school diploma in Mathematics and Physics in 1963 from the Institut de la Salle de Tumba (DR Congo), a Bachelor's degree in Physics in 1969 from the University of Liège (Belgium), and between 1969 and 1970 he completed a postgraduate internship at the Centre de Physique du Globe in Dourbes (Belgium). From 1974 to 1975, he pursued a Master's degree in Seismology at the International Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering in Tokyo (Japan). In 1997, he obtained his PhD in Geophysics from Tohoku University (Japan) and later undertook a postdoctoral fellowship at the same university between 1981 and 1982.

Professor Zana began his professional career at the Institut Supérieur des Techniques Appliquées (ISTA), where he served as a Teaching Assistant from 1970 to 1973. He went on to become a researcher at several institutions in the DRC including the Centre de Recherches en Sciences Naturelles (CRSN) in Lwiro-Bukavu (1974 – 1993), the Centre de Recherches Géologiques et Minières (CRGM) in Kinshasa (1994 – 1995), and the Centre de Recherche en Géophysique (CRG) (1996 –

2025). He was also a university professor, notably in the Department of Physics at the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Kinshasa and at the University of Kimpese. Professor Zana held several leadership roles: Head of the Geophysics Department at CRSN/Lwiro, Director General of CRSN/Lwiro, Director General of CRG/Kinshasa, and Vice Dean in charge of education at the Faculty of Petroleum and Gas at the University of Kinshasa.

Starting in the 1970s, he initiated collaborations with Tohoku University (Sendai, Japan) and Hokkaido University (Sapporo, Japan), which led to the deployment of the first dense network of geophysical equipment (mainly seismographic) around the Nyiragongo and Nyamulagira active volcanoes, as well as the training of the Congolese researchers and technicians in Japan. In 1982, while serving as Director General of CRSN/Lwiro, he launched a project in Goma to create a geophysics branch for close monitoring of the Virunga volcanoes, leading to the construction in 1987 of what would become the current Goma Volcanological Observatory. In 1994, Professor Zana also established the Centre de Recherche en Géophysique (CRG) in Kinshasa and deployed the very first network of seismographic stations in that part of the DRC.

Professor Zana's research focused on the geodynamics of the East African Rift, particularly its western branch, where he specialized and carried out extensive work in seismology and volcanology in the Virunga volcanic province. He was a member of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), the American Geophysical Union, and the Smithsonian Institution of Washington for natural phenomena. He was also an honorary member of the Regional Commission of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie for Central Africa and the Great Lakes.

Professor Zana was known for his highly methodical and rigorous scientific approach. He was distinguished by unparalleled patience and discipline, skillfully combining intellectual rigor with compassionate mentorship. He leaves

behind a vast scientific legacy, including geophysics research centers and many researchers and technicians whom he trained and inspired through his passion for science –a pioneering role for which he will always be remembered with gratitude.

We extend our deepest condolences to Professor Zana's family, friends, colleagues, and students.

Dr Charles Balagizi, Scientific Director of Goma Volcano Observatory, Goma, DR Congo

Christos Papaioannou (1958 – 2025)



After a brief fight with multiple organ failures and just when we thought that he was recovering, our good friend and colleague, Dr. Christos Papaioannou, passed away on the 28th of April 2025 from heart failure at the age of 67, just a few months before his official retirement.

Christos was a true city child, born 11th of February 1958, in the city of Thessaloniki, which he never left. Despite his difficult childhood, as he lost his father at a young age, he finished his B.Sc. in Geology, in 1982. His undergraduate studies provided him with a challenge and an opportunity: The large M 6.5 1978 Thessaloniki (Mygdonia basin)

earthquake delayed his study progress but at the same time allowed him to work under Prof. B. Papazachos, his future supervisor and mentor, as a member of the post-mainshock fieldwork team. Christos worked on the collection of damage information and the compilation of macroseismic intensity maps. Fascinated by seismology and with the support of a Bodossaki Foundation fellowship, he proceeded to receive a PhD in probabilistic hazard assessment from the Aristotle Univ. of Thessaloniki, in 1985.

Christos continued his career as a research fellow and later as a permanent member of the recently founded Geophysical Laboratory of the Aristotle Univ. of Thessaloniki until 1995, working mainly for the operation of AUTH's Seismological Network. He then joined ITSAK (Institute of Engineering Seismology and Earthquake Engineering), also in Thessaloniki, where he gradually advanced up to the position of Research Director. While always based in Thessaloniki, he spent a lot of time as a visiting researcher in several institutes, universities and corporate business related to seismic hazard such as IZIIS, Univ. Joseph Fourier Grenoble, Institute of Geophysics Frankfurt, NEIC & CIRES US, Risk Engineering Inc, INGV Rome, etc. He also participated in a large number of post-mainshock monitoring network installations, working with both weak- and strong-motion data. His research interests orbited mainly around Engineering Seismology topics such as PSHA, macroseismic data, historical seismology, as well as seismic sequences, seismotectonics and log-term probabilistic earthquake prediction. He was coordinator and PI for 50+ projects with EU and/or national funding.

While Christos was an active researcher, publishing more than 50 papers in several journals, his research contribution was pivotal in two topics:

- He pioneered probabilistic seismic hazard assessment in Greece, generating in the process important “ingredients” for PSHA analysis with B. Papazachos and other colleagues, such as a large number of crustal and intermediate-depth zonation models,

GMPEs, seismotectonic models, etc. He was the first in Greece to attempt (as early as in the late 90s) to combine faults and area sources for PSHA analysis. Due to his experience, he was the longest present member in all national committees responsible for the updates of the Greek Hazard Seismic Code, having a critical contribution to its last 2 major updates. Considered as an expert in seismic hazard, he was appointed coordinator of the ESC working group on Seismic Hazard between 2000 and 2006.

- He meticulously collected, organized and published historical macroseismic information for the broader Aegean area. Due to his extended work and efforts, he participated in the publication of a large number of national macroseismic atlases and historical earthquake catalogues, including a dedicated book on the earthquakes of Cyprus, providing valuable information to future generations of seismologists and engineers.

Christos will always be remembered for his vivid and joyful personality. Supported by his loud voice, laughter and “intense” sense of humor, he would constantly tease those around him. Within a few minutes, he could make you laugh constantly or simply burn you up! Known within the European seismological community as “Christos” (“there is only one Christos” said a colleague for him), he was always a people’s person at all conferences and meetings he attended, before being prematurely aged by the disease that plagued him.

Costas Papazachos, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

Meetings Calendar

We report below forthcoming meetings relevant to the interests of IASPEI scientists. If you are aware of events not listed below or changes regarding these events, please inform the Secretary General. The meeting calendar is also available on the IASPEI website.

2025

International Symposium on Earthquake Forecasting to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the 1975 Haicheng M7.3 Earthquake

July 8 – 11, 2025, Shenyang, Liaoning, China
URL: <https://www.ief.ac.cn/hceq50>

7th Beijing Earth and Planetary Interior Symposium (BEPIS)

August 17 – 20, 2025, Beijing, China
URL: <https://bepis2025.casconf.cn/>

IASPEI 43rd Scientific Assembly as 4th Joint Assembly with IAGA

August 31 – September 6, 2025, Lisbon, Portugal
URL: <https://iaga-iaspei-2025.org>

SnT2025

September 8 – 12, 2025, Vienna, Austria
URL: <https://conferences.ctbto.org/event/30/>

International Training Course 2025

October 5 – 18, 2025, Antananarivo, Madagascar

URL: <https://www.gfz.de/en/about-us/education-and-training/seismology-and-hazard-assessment/training-course-2024>

9th Arab Conference on Astronomy and Geophysics (ACAG9)

October 13 – 16, 2025, Cairo, Egypt
URL: <http://www.acag-conf.org/>

**SSA Fall Topical Meeting 2025:
Environmental Seismology: Planning for
the Planet's Future**

October 14 – 17, 2025, Denver, Colorado,
USA

URL:

<https://www.seismosoc.org/environmental-seismology/>

2nd Eurasia Geoscience Congress (EGCE)

November 2 – 6, 2025, Belek, Antalya,
Türkiye

URL: <https://eurasiacongress.org>

**32nd International Tsunami Symposium
(ITS 2025)**

November 12 – 14, 2025, Hyderabad, India

URL: <https://its2025.incois.gov.in>

AGU25

December 15 – 19, 2025, New Orleans,
Louisiana, USA

URL: <https://www.agu.org/Fall-Meeting>

2026

**International Conference on “Intraplate
and Himalayan Seismology: Developments
in the Last 25 Years**

**9th Annual Convention on Advances in
Earthquake Science (AES-2026)**

January 23 – 26, 2026, Gandhinagar, Gujarat,
India

URL: <https://www.aes2026.com>

SSA Annual Meeting 2026

April 14 – 17, 2026, Pasadena, California,
USA

URL: <https://meetings.seismosoc.org/>

16th ASC General Assembly

April 25 – 29, 2026, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

EGU26

May 3 – 8, 2026, Vienna, Austria

URL:

<https://www.egu.eu/meetings/calendar/egu/>

SEDI 2026

June 29 – July 3, 2026, Townsville, QLD,
Australia

URL:

<https://sites.google.com/view/sedi2026/home>

VI LACSC General Assembly

August 3 – 9, 2026, Morelia, Mexico

12th SCAR Open Science Conference

August 8 – 18, 2026, Oslo, Norway

URL:

<https://npolar.no/en/arrangement/scar2026/>

40th ESC General Assembly

September 6 – 11, 2026, Istanbul, Türkiye

URL: <https://esc2026.org/ENG/home>

AGU26

December 7 – 11, 2026, San Francisco,
California, USA

2027

EGU General Assembly 2027

April 4 – 9, 2027, Vienna, Austria

URL:

<https://www.egu.eu/meetings/calendar/egu/>

IASPEI 44th General Assembly

IUGG 29th General Assembly

July 15 – 25, 2027, Incheon, Rep. of Korea

AGU27

December 13 – 17, 2027, Washington, D.C.,
USA

2028

EGU General Assembly 2028

April 23 – 28, 2028, Vienna, Austria

URL:

<https://www.egu.eu/meetings/calendar/egu/>

AGU28

December 11 – 15, 2028, San Francisco,
California, USA

URL: <https://www.agu.org/Fall-Meeting>

2029

EGU General Assembly 2029

April 8 – 13, 2029, Vienna, Austria

URL:

<https://www.egu.eu/meetings/calendar/egu/>

these internal IASPEI groups issue their own newsletters or circulars, and many maintain their own websites. At the IASPEI Assemblies, the groups organize specialist symposia, invite scholarly reviews and receive contributed papers that present up-to-the-minute results of current research. The IASPEI website gives, or provides links to, information on the range of IASPEI activities.

General Information about IASPEI

The International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior [IASPEI] is one of the eight Associations of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG, <http://www.iugg.org/>).

The other seven IUGG Associations are:

- International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (<http://www.cryosphericciences.org/>)
- International Association of Geodesy (<http://www.iag-aig.org/>)
- International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (<http://www.iaga-aiga.org/>)
- International Association of Hydrological Sciences (<https://iahs.info/>)
- International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences (<http://www.iamas.org/>)
- International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans (<http://www.iugg.org/iapso/>)
- International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior (<https://www.iavceivolcano.org/>)

Scientific Assemblies

IASPEI holds an Ordinary General Assembly every four years in conjunction with each Ordinary General Assembly of IUGG. In the middle between the General Assemblies, IASPEI holds a Scientific Assembly, sometimes as joint meeting with one of the other IUGG Associations.

Participation in IASPEI Activities

Since July 2015, all scientists participating in IASPEI activities are counted as members of IASPEI (see <http://www.iaspei.org/about/statutes-and-by-laws>). IASPEI welcomes all scientists throughout the world to join in seismological research.

IASPEI is subdivided into several Commissions, some of which have working groups for the study of particular subjects in their general areas of interest. On occasion,