

IASPEI Newsletter

July 2026

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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.

All the best,

Johannes Schweitzer
Secretary General

Foreword

Dear Readers,

I hope this Newsletter finds you all well.

In this short Newsletter, we repeat the call for bids to host the 45th Scientific Assembly of IASPEI in 2029.

Then follow some information from the IASPEI ECS Group and the 5th General Assembly of the African Seismological Commission (AfSC). Afterwards, follow two meeting reports, one from ASC and IHFC.

Then, I must inform you with great sadness that one of our colleagues passed away. We remember him with an obituary.

Please do not forget to send me information or corrections about international conferences

The 2029 IASPEI Scientific Assembly – Call for Hosting Bids

IASPEI is seeking a venue for its 45th Scientific Assembly in 2029.

In the case that you would like to invite the IASPEI community to your country and host the Assembly, please contact the Secretary General and your IASPEI National Correspondent to discuss your idea. The official bid must formally be submitted by the National Correspondent.

The IASPEI ExeCom will then decide among all received bids for the 2029 venue, latest during the General Assembly in Incheon, in 2027.

Johannes Schweitzer

News from the IASPEI-ECS Group

The IUGG's Early-career Scientists Network (ECSNet) is running a spotlight blog series on the challenges faced by early career scientists. These blog posts, organised by Katia Pinheiro (ECSNet organiser), provide insight into the unique stories of ECS across all the associations. To read more and find the stories of several IASPEI-ECS go to iugg-ecs.org. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Katia directly, or the IASPEI-ECS Team (iaspei.ecs@gmail.com).

The IASPEI-ECS team: Arun Prasath, Louisa Murray-Bergquist and María del Puy Papi Isaba

5th General Assembly of the African Seismological Commission (AfSC 2026) – Call for Abstracts



The African Seismological Commission invites you to be part of something truly historic. AfSC

2026, hosted by the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria, 30 November – 3 December 2026.

The abstract submission for the AfSC 2026 has been extended until 31 July 2026! For more details see <https://afsc2026.oauife.edu.ng/>.

16th General Assembly of the Asian Seismological Commission (ASC) – Summary

The 16th General Assembly of the Asian Seismological Commission (ASC) was successfully held from 25 to 30 April 2026, in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The Assembly was organized by the Asian Seismological Commission and hosted by the Institute of Seismology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The event marked the 60th anniversary of the 1966 Tashkent earthquake and the 60th anniversary of the Institute of Seismology. It also featured the first global observance of the “International Day of Remembrance of Earthquake Victims”, established by the United Nations, giving the Assembly profound historical and contemporary significance.



The participants of the 16th ASC visiting the 1966 Tashkent earthquake monument

The Assembly brought together 361 participants from 31 countries and regions. A total of 321 abstracts were submitted. The scientific program included 22 thematic sessions, 129 oral presentations (including two keynote lectures) and 185 poster presentations. Two pre-assembly workshops were held: “AI Large Models in Earthquake Prevention and Disaster Reduction” and “Processing GNSS observations using online scientific software”.

The opening ceremony featured two keynote lectures:

- Prof. Sirojiddin Mirzaev, Vice President of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan and former Director of the Institute of Seismology, spoke on “Sixty Years After the Tashkent Earthquake: Lessons Learned and the Path to Seismic Resilience.”
- Prof. Öz Yilmaz, founder of GeoTomo LLC, presented “Characteristics of Soil-Column Seismic Velocities – A Review with Case Studies.”

The scientific sessions covered a wide range of frontier topics including seismic monitoring, imaging techniques, geological hazards, earthquake engineering, AI applications, tsunami warning, and disaster risk reduction, fully demonstrating the latest achievements in Asian seismology.

Young Scientist Awards – Selected by the ASC Executive Committee

- Best Oral Presentation Award: Anastasia Zvereva (Russia) and Gleb Indakov (Russia)
- Best Poster Award: Timur Mamarozikov (Uzbekistan), who also received the IASPEI Early Career Scientist Award, which is connected with a supporting grant to participate in the coming IASPEI General Assembly in 2027.

ASC Executive Committee Election and Future Meetings

The Assembly formally established the ASC Nominations Committee to oversee the solicitation and review of candidates for the next Executive Committee. The Committee members are:

- Ruben Tatevossian (President of ASC, Russian Academy of Sciences): ruben@ifz.ru
- Wu Zhongliang (Institute of Earthquake Forecasting, China Earthquake Administration): wuzl@cea-igp.ac.cn
- Satoshi Ide (University of Tokyo, Japan): ide@eps.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp

ASC Secretary General Li Li is the contact point for all inquiries and applications. Individuals or institutions interested in serving on the ASC Executive Committee (as President, Vice-President, Member or Secretary General) or in hosting the 17th ASC General Assembly (2028), the 18th (2030) or the 19th (2032) are invited to contact Dr. Li Li at: lilygrace@cea-igp.ac.cn

The deadline for submitting bidding files to host future ASC General Assemblies is 31 May 2027.

Dr. Li Li, ASC Secretary General

2nd International Heat-Flow Summer School “Learning heat flow: integrating lab and field data into modelling studies”

From 9th to 15th of May 2026, the International Heat Flow Commission (IHFC), in collaboration with DEU and GFZ and under the umbrella of ILP Task Force VIII, organized the 2nd IHFC International Heat Flow Summer School in Izmir, Türkiye. Following the successful concept of the 1st IHFC International Heat Flow Summer School of 2023 that integrated lectures, participant contributions, and hands-on practice, the 2026 Summer School provided early-career scientists and professionals a comprehensive training in heat-flow fundamentals, acquisition and interpretation methods. Applied methods included laboratory analyses and field measurements. The course aimed to qualify participants to conduct quantitative heat-flow determinations, evaluate the uncertainty and quality of heat-flow data, and encourage their active engagement with the heat-flow geophysical community.

The one-week summer school was conducted in a multilingual, international environment and brought together undergraduates, PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, senior researchers, as well as participants from

industry and public services. Learning was guided by an international and local team of heat-flow experts: Prof. Graeme Beardsmore (University of Melbourne), Dr. Elif Balkan-Pazvantoğlu (DEU), Dr. Ben Norden (GFZ), Dr. habil. Sven Fuchs (GFZ), and Prof. Kamil Erkan (University of Istanbul).

The curriculum covered (i) fundamentals of geothermics and conductive heat transfer, (ii) methods for heat-flow determination and evaluation, (iii) laboratory and field characterization of thermal properties, and (iv) interpretation and modelling approaches relevant to geothermal and crustal-thermal-state studies. In addition to lectures and discussions, the school emphasized practical training and documentation habits that support reproducible workflows and high-quality data products.

A central achievement of the 2026 course was the integrated end-to-end exercise in which participants combined laboratory results from outcrop analog studies with borehole temperature–depth logging to compute a new heat-flow value for the northwest of Izmir. This result was produced collaboratively by all participants and is intended for joint dissemination as the “2026 Izmir Summer School Heat Flow Value”.

Field and laboratory components



Field trip to the Pamukkale travertines: A dedicated excursion introduced participants to the regional geological and geothermal context, highlighting the increased relevance of geothermal energy for power generation from the largest geothermal field in western Türkiye, the Aydın Province, on the way to the

Pamukkale travertines. These carbonate-travertines illustrate impressively the interaction of fluid composition and thermal-hydrogeological frame conditions.

Borehole temperature logging: Participants conducted a high precision wireline borehole temperature logging in a hydrogeological monitoring well near Yenibağarası (Foca). The well was fully logged by the participant group, providing practical experience with field acquisition, quality control, and subsequent data analysis including gradient selection for heat-flow calculation.

Laboratory study day of outcrop analog: Participants performed thermal characterization on outcrop analog material using different measurement techniques and integrated these results into the final heat-flow computation exercise.

Field trip to shoreline carbonate outcrops: On the final day, participants visited shoreline outcrops near Alaçatı, using the exposures to discuss marine control on lithological conditions and to get introduced in hydrogeological-geothermal processes relevant for this area like sub-sea hot thermal springs and continental seawater infiltration.

General achievements and future directions

The summer school strengthened international capacity building in geothermal heat-flow research by (i) providing practical training in acquisition and interpretation, (ii) fostering collaboration of scientists across countries, continents and disciplines, and (iii) producing a tangible, jointly generated data product (the 2026 Izmir heat-flow value) that transforms the training into a concrete reportable result. The 2026 event supported professional development and community building, particularly for early-career scientists from all regions of the world who will carry methods and standards back to their home institutions.

Sven Fuch, IHFC Vice Chair

Obituary

Agustín Udías (1935 – 2026)



On May 4, 2026, seismology lost one of its most distinguished figures, Agustín Udías. His passing was sudden and unexpected, catching us by surprise as he remained passionately active in his work until the very end. Demonstrating his lifelong commitment, he was actively collaborating with the authors of this tribute on a manuscript regarding two historic earthquakes in eastern Spain at the time of his passing.

Born in Santander (Spain) on August 20, 1935, where he also completed his secondary education, Udías was one of the country's last Jesuit scientists. In September 1953, he entered the Jesuit novitiate of St. Stanislaus Kostka in Salamanca (Spain), the same city where he would pass away in May of this year. In 1954, Udías moved to Havana (Cuba), to complete his novitiate. By the 1958–59 academic year, he began his studies at St. Louis University (USA), graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in 1969 and a Licentiate in Philosophy in 1961. At the same institution, he earned a Ph.D. in geophysics in 1964 under the supervision of Prof. William Stauder, developing one of the earliest Numerical Methods for Focal Mechanism Determination Using S-Wave Data. He then served as a Research Associate at the University of California, Berkeley (1963–1964), collaborating

with Prof. Bruce Bolt and where he met the eminent seismologist Prof. Perry Byerly. Following this period, he moved to Frankfurt (Germany), where he remained until late 1968 to study theology at the Theologische Hochschule Sankt Georgen. During this time, he balanced his theological studies with seismological research, working with Prof. Hans Berkhemmer to expand upon his doctoral thesis while also teaching as a Lehrbeauftragter (lecturer) at Goethe University in Frankfurt.

In 1969, Agustín returned to Spain for the first time since departure for Cuba, invited by the Instituto Geográfico Nacional (IGN) for a five-month research stay (February–June) in Madrid. His objective was to collaborate with the IGN on implementing new computational techniques in seismology. During his stay at the IGN, he taught a course on numerical calculation, which was published by the IGN and became one of the first Spanish-language textbooks on this subject. In September 1969, IASPEI and the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA) hosted major general scientific assemblies in Madrid, with Fr. Antonio Romañá, S.J.— a member of IAGA — serving as president of the Local Organizing Committee. At Fr. Romañá's earnest suggestion, Udías made the pivotal decision to remain in Spain, a choice that would profoundly shape both his own career and the future of Spanish seismology. Between 1969 and 1972, he held a position as an Associate Professor of Seismology at the Complutense University of Madrid (UCM), balancing university teaching with his research at the National Geographic Institute (IGN), where he collaborated with Alfonso López-Arroyo and Gonzalo Payo. Together with López-Arroyo, he published some of his most notable works on the seismic source of earthquakes in the Gulf of Cádiz in Tectonophysics and the Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America. That same partnership yielded a 1972 paper in *Nature*, which provided one of the first studies to explain the earthquakes in the Azores-Gibraltar region in terms of plate tectonics. That same year, he secured a permanent professorship in geophysics at the University of Barcelona, before returning to UCM in 1977 as a Full Professor of geophysics. He remained active

until 2005, subsequently serving as Professor Emeritus until 2018.

Udías's main line of research, which he pursued throughout his life, centered on historical and instrumental seismicity, as well as the seismotectonics of active zones. He developed pioneering numerical methods for determining earthquake focal mechanism, applying them to regions including the Azores-Tunisia region, El Salvador, Peru, and Chile. He was a pioneer in installing the Western Mediterranean (WM) broadband seismic network in the Ibero-Maghrebian region, and contributed significantly to the areas of Earthquake Early Warning Systems. Beyond these domains, Udías proposed and led the first lithospheric structure studies based on deep seismic profiles. His leadership as director of the deep seismic profiling group for Geodynamic Project (1972–1982) was fundamental, yielding the first comprehensive models of the crustal and mantle structure of the Iberian Peninsula. The Spanish Navy actively participated in these campaigns through the Royal Institute and Observatory of the Navy (ROA), initiating a fruitful collaboration between UCM and ROA that endures today through the WM network. International collaboration was equally vital to his work, involving institutions such as Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH, Zurich, Switzerland), the Institut de Physique du Globe (IPG, Paris, France), the University of Strasbourg (France), the Helmholtz-Zentrum für Geoforschung (GFZ, Potsdam, Germany), the University of Oxford, and Imperial College (London, United Kingdom). Udías also maintained lifelong ties with St. Louis University and Berkeley, returning for summer research stays and sending many of his own doctoral students there. Additionally, his collaboration with Dr. Alvaro Espinosa of the U.S. Geological Survey (USA) facilitated crucial research projects and academic exchanges.

Udías's international standing was undeniable, forged not only through collaborative projects and visiting tenures to European and American laboratories, but also through his membership in several institutions. These included the Seismological Society of America, the

American Geophysical Union, the Royal Astronomical Society, the Royal Spanish Society of Physics, and the European Academy. He served as president of the European Seismological Commission's (ESC) Subcommittee on the Study of "Focal Mechanism and Earthquake Prediction" (1976–1992), vice-president of the ESC (1984–1986), and was the founding editor of the *Journal of Seismology*. He authored numerous textbooks on geophysics, numerical analysis, and seismology—several of which were published by Cambridge University Press—as well as books on the history of physics. His historical research extended beyond geophysics; he wrote extensively on the Jesuit contribution to seismology, meteorology, and astronomy, and published several texts examining the life and work of Athanasius Kircher.

Alongside his scientific endeavors, Agustín Udías, profoundly explored the intersection of science and faith in his capacity as a Jesuit. For years, he taught a popular course on science and religion at the UCM and authored several textbooks and numerous articles on the topic. Over the last two decades, the figure of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin became a central focus of his scholarship. He dedicated a large part of his later writings to this subject, establishing himself as one of the field's foremost experts.

Yet, above these monumental scientific and religious contributions stood the professor and magister, who was always ready to listen to and help support his colleagues and students. Agustín Udías possessed true *auctoritas*, almost imperceptibly, he guided us for decades, shaping many of us into the scientists and individuals we are today. With profound generosity, he consistently placed the interests of others above his own. For all of this, he will be remembered — not only for his vast wisdom and scientific legacy, but for his deep, enduring humanity.

Elisa Buforn and Maurizio Mattesini
Universidad Complutense, Madrid (Spain)

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.

2026

AOGS 23rd Annual Meeting 2026

August 2 – 7, 2026, Fukuoka, Japan

URL:

<https://www.asiaoceania.org/AOGS2026/Home>

VI LACSC General Assembly

August 3 – 7, 2026, Mexico City, Mexico

URL: <https://lacsc2026.enesmorelia.unam.mx>

12th SCAR Open Science Conference

August 8 – 19, 2026, Oslo, Norway

URL: <https://scar2026.org/>

40th ESC General Assembly

September 6 – 11, 2026, Istanbul, Türkiye

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

SGI-SIMP Meeting

September 15-17, 2026, Padua, Italy

URL:

<https://www.geoscienze.org/padova2026/>

2nd IUGG Symposium on Planetary Sciences (IUGG-PS 2026)

September 21 – 23, 2026, Wuhan, China

URL: <https://iugg-ps2026.com>

Charting the Future of Ocean Passive Acoustics: From observations to science and management

September 22 – 24, 2026, Oostende, Belgium

URL: <https://www.iqoe.org/workshops/future-ocean-pam>

TIGER Symposium in Geodesy 2026 – Linking Geodesy and Seismology

September 28 – October 1, 2026, Gävle, Sweden & online

URL:

<https://geodesy.science.com/3/meetings/tiger-symposium-2026/>

21st Wegener Assembly

October 13 – 15, 2026, Tirana, Albania

URL: <https://wegener2026.sciencesconf.org/>

SSA Fall Topical: Optical Seismology and the Next Era in Seismic Sensing

October 13 – 16, 2026, Kona, Hawaii, USA

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

7th IASPEI / IAE International Symposium on the Effect of Surface Geology on Seismic Motion (ESG)

October 19 – 21, 2026, Grenoble, France

URL: <https://esg2026.inviteo.fr/inscriptions/>

The International Symposium on Deep Earth Exploration and TopoAsia (Deep&Topo-2026)

November 6 – 12, 2026, Beijing, China

URL: <https://deeptopo.geoscience.cn>

2026 MedGU Annual Meeting

November 8 – 11, 2026, Cairo, Egypt

URL: <https://2026.medgu.org/>

5th AfSC General Assembly

November 30 – December 3, 2026, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

URL: <https://afsc2026.oauife.edu.ng/>

AGU26

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

URL: <https://www.agu.org/annual-meeting>

2027

EGU General Assembly 2027

April 4 – 9, 2027, Vienna, Austria

URL:

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

SSA Annual Meeting 2027

April 20 – 23, 2027, Seattle, Washington, USA

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

Active and Passive Seismics in Laterally Inhomogeneous Media III (APSLIM 2027)

June 7 - 11, 2027, Nové Hrad Castle, Czech Republic

URL: <http://eagelc.cz/APSLIM.html>

IASPEI 44th General Assembly
IUGG 29th General Assembly
July 16 – 22, 2027, Incheon, Rep. of Korea
URL: <https://iugg2027korea.org/>

AOGS 24th Annual Meeting 2027
July 25 – 30, 2027, Marina Bay Sands,
Singapore

AGU27
December 13 – 17, 2027, Washington, D.C.,
USA
URL: <https://www.agu.org/annual-meeting>

2028

EGU General Assembly 2028
April 23 – 28, 2028, Vienna, Austria
URL:
<https://www.egu.eu/meetings/calendar/egu/>

AOGS 25th Annual Meeting 2028
July 23 – 28, 2028, Shenzhen, China

AGU28
December 11 – 15, 2028, San Diego,
California, USA
URL: <https://www.agu.org/annual-meeting>

2029

EGU General Assembly 2029
April 8 – 13, 2029, Vienna, Austria
URL:
<https://www.egu.eu/meetings/calendar/egu/>

IASPEI 45th Scientific Assembly
**The call is open for bids to host the
Assembly!!!**

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, 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.

The IASPEI Website

The IASPEI website is hosted by the International Seismological Centre (ISC) in Thatcham, UK and can be found at <http://www.iaspei.org/>.

Contacting IASPEI

The Secretary General is the main point of contact for all matters concerning IASPEI.

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