

## Formalization of the Association of Geotechnical Societies of South Asia The AGSSA Geotechnical Family



**2026 AUSTRIA  
VIENNA**  
WHERE IT ALL BEGAN  
**21<sup>st</sup> ICSMGE**

**2026 Terzaghi Orator  
Prof. Jean-Louis Briaud**



**Call for nominations  
ISSMGE awards at 21 ICSMGE Vienna 2026**

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## Message from the Editor

**Prof. Mona Badr**  
Editor-in-Chief  
PI Committee Chairperson



It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the first issue of the ISSMGE Bulletin for 2025. As we embark on a new year of growth and collaboration, this issue proudly features a historic milestone—the formal establishment of the Association of Geotechnical Societies of South Asia (AGSSA). This agreement among five prominent South Asian geotechnical societies marks a defining moment of unity and shared vision in our global community. Such regional collaboration is a testament to the power of cooperation in advancing geotechnical research, education, and practice. Alongside this celebration, the Bulletin continues to highlight the vibrant activities of our member societies, technical committees, and young members around the world. I invite you all to be inspired by the stories shared within these pages, and I encourage continued engagement as we move together toward a more connected and innovative geotechnical future.



## Report #5 by the President



I like to welcome you our dear readers, to this special Buletin! It holds many great and important news and you and all our colleagues would enjoy reading this first issue of Volume 19, covering the first 3 months of the year 2025!

Presidential Activities – January to March 2025			
Jan-25	9	Meeting PMGEC Organizing Committee	Beirut, Lebanon
	10	Meeting regarding special session for Mike Jamiolkovski	(Virtual / Online)
	13	Meeting for revamping CAPG website	(Virtual / Online)
	14	Recording the 22nd IITT Tropical Residual Soil - TC 107	(Virtual / Video)
	15	13th ISSMGE Board Meeting	(Virtual / Online)
	20	AWAC Meeting - Launching ILAM	(Virtual / Online)
	23	PMGEC meeting with INFOMED	Beirut, Lebanon
	23	Meeting UAE new Membership & IGIC conference	(Virtual / Online)
Feb-25	18	CAPG meeting for revamping website	(Virtual / Online)
	19	5th FedIGS Board Meeting	(Virtual / Online)
	20	PMGEC meeting with INFOMED & Sponsorship	Beirut, Lebanon
	25	Recording the 23rd IITT Earthquake Geotech Engineering - TC 203	(Virtual / Video)
	25	PMGEC meeting with INFOMED	Beirut, Lebanon
	26	PMGEC & UAE as new Member Society	(Virtual / Online)
Mar-25	4	Attending Geo-Legends Premier - JL Briaud	(Virtual / Online)
	7	Radio Interview on RLL about ISSMGE	Beirut, Lebanon
	7	PMGEC & Khatib Alami as Sponsor	(Virtual / Online)
	11	PMGEC & Fadi Haddad BAUER as Sponsor	(Virtual / Online)
	19	meting POC committee of ISSMGE	(Virtual / Online)
	21	Recording the 24th IITT Foundations on Soft Soils - TC 214	(Virtual / Video)
	26	14th ISSMGE Board Meeting - BLC Reports	(Virtual / Video)
	28	14th ISSMGE Board Meeting -Board Members Alone	(Virtual / Video)

My report this time will not be too long as it didn't include travelling much. I actually had a major injury and my left foot in mid January that made my mobility very limited. Thankfully I am much better now. So the concentration this year was on reorganizing the society and strengthening its relationship with our member societies. As you know, ISSMGE is a society of member societies, represented by national geotechnical engineering societies that represent the council of ISSMGE.

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## Report #5 by the President



The strategy this year is to work closely and effectively with the Vice Presidents and all board members on encouraging our members to be active and working hard on bringing new members to the family.

As you see in the Table, we had 3 Board meetings to launch this strategy this year, with a fourth meeting coming up.

You will notice in this issue that we are giving the controls to our members: Global News from Member Societies control most of the pages of this magazine issue.

As you know, we also have Corporate Associate members and we are revamping the CA website page and preparing a marketing campaign to reach out to all geoengineering companies worldwide this year.

I am hopeful that the next issue of the bulletin will bring some great news from new member societies and new CA members.

It is important to mention that this year started very well on the education aspect by recording 3 new IITT episodes covering 3 important topics :

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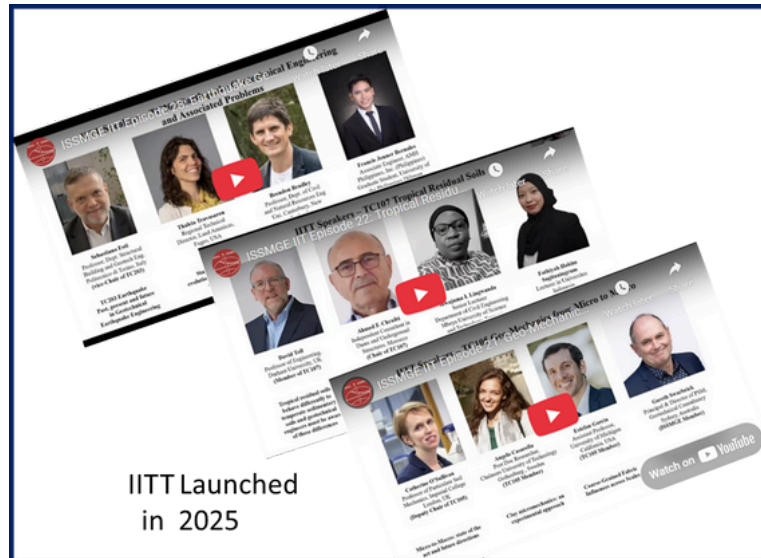
1. TC 107: Tropical Residual Soils
2. TC 203: Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering
3. TC 214: Foundations on Soft Soils

These talks are gaining a lot of attention and becoming more popular. So far 24 episodes have been recorded at a rate of one every two months or so.



# From the PRESIDENT's desk

## Report #5 by the President



IITT Launched  
in 2025

In this issue, a major call for nominating candidates for the ISSMGE awards is launched. These prestigious awards will be given at the 21st International Conference of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, ICSMGE, in Vienna 2026. I encourage all member societies to nominate their candidates as soon as possible.

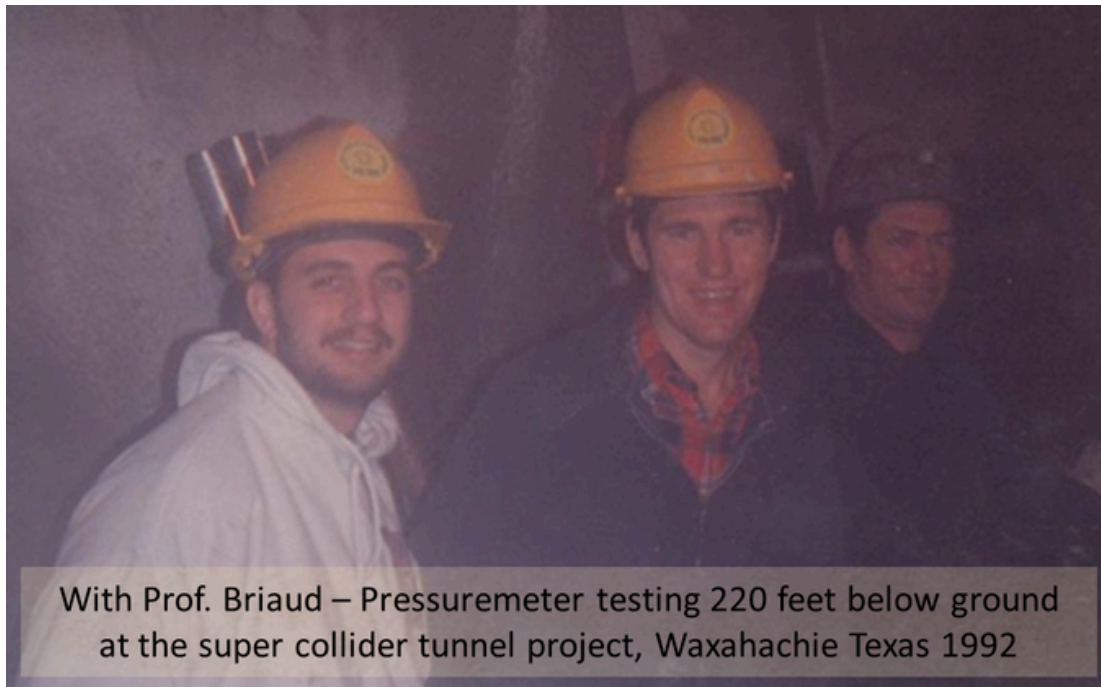
Along the same lines, it is with great joy that I announce to you the Terzaghi Orator for the Vienna conference: Professor Jean Louis Briaud ! Congratulations to Jean-Louis ! I am sure that my friend and mentor, since the early nineteen nineties, will deliver an exceptional and memorable lecture. This will be a major announcement within this bulletin; but I had to mention it here in my report. I should stress on the fact that it wasn't easy for the ISSMGE board and myself to select one winner from the list of outstanding candidates.



**AWARDS @**

- Outstanding Technical Committee
- Outstanding Geotechnical Project
- Outstanding Innovator
- Outstanding Member Society **x 2**
- Outstanding Paper Published in the International Journal of Geo-Engineering Case Histories
- Outstanding Public Relations Award
- Outstanding Young Geotechnical Engineer Award

## Report #5 by the President



With Prof. Briaud – Pressuremeter testing 220 feet below ground  
at the super collider tunnel project, Waxahachie Texas 1992

On another note, under the umbrella of the Federation of International GeoEngineering Societies, FedIGS, the ISSMGE is cooperating closely with sister societies (ISRM, IAEG, and IGS) in organizing a "Mega Geoengineering conference in 2030, the details of which will be revealed as they become available.



## Vice Presidents Reports

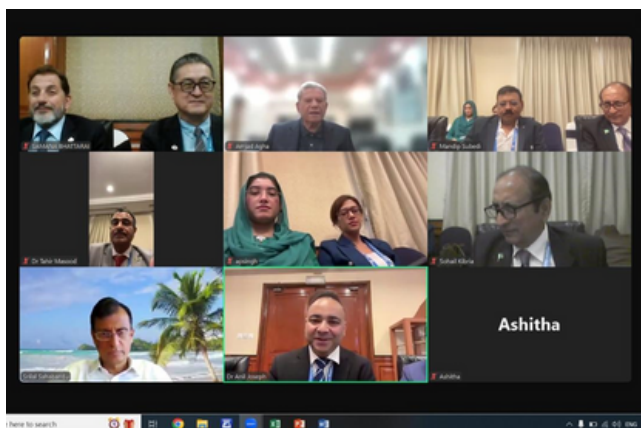
# Historical Final Formalization Meeting of the Association of Geotechnical Societies of South Asia (AGSSA)

**Kehjian (Albert) Shou, VP Asia**

On 29th November 2024, a meeting was held to formalize the establishment of the Association of Geotechnical Societies of South Asia (AGSSA) during the GeoMandu 2024, the biennial international conference of Nepal Geotechnical Society. This significant event took place in the presence of Dr. Marc Ballouz, President of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE), and Prof. Keh-Jian Shou, Vice President Asia, ISSMGE. The meeting marked the signing of the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the formation of AGSSA by the member societies from South Asia.



The signing ceremony was attended by the representatives of the founding member societies: Indian Geotechnical Society, Pakistan Geotechnical Engineering Society, Nepal Geotechnical Society and Sri Lankan Geotechnical Society. As per the MoU, the AGSSA will officially come into existence on 1st January 2025. Under the terms of the agreement, India will hold the position of President, while Nepal will hold the role of Secretary. The formation of AGSSA is expected to play a pivotal role in advancing geotechnical engineering practices and research across the region. This historic moment reflects the commitment of South Asian geotechnical societies to work together in advancing the field, with a shared vision for the future of geotechnical engineering in the region.



# From the Board

## ISSMGE HERITAGE TIME CAPSULE (HTC) PROJECT

## PRIZE COMPETITIONS, PHYSICAL TIME CAPSULE, PODCASTS, AND MORE

Sukumar Pathmanandavel, HTC Leader



The HTC website (<https://htc.issmge.org/>) has been updated with the discoverer reports having prominence. A discoverer report prize competition, with a 1<sup>st</sup> prize of £1,000, and other cash prizes, has been launched, <https://www.issmge.org/news/htc-discoverer-report-competition-2025>.



The screenshot shows the ISSMGE HTC website with a navigation bar at the top containing links: WHAT IS THE HTC?, CONTRIBUTIONS, DISCOVERY, TIME CAPSULE, 100 YEARS ON, NEWS, CONTACT, and a search icon. Below the navigation bar is a section titled "Discoverer Reports" with a red underline. This section displays six discoverer reports, each with a thumbnail image and the name of the contributor. The reports are:

- Time Capsule Discoverer's review by Monica Löfman, Finnish Geotechnical Society
- Time Capsule Project Review by Asal Bidarmaghz, Australian Geomechanics Society
- ISSMGE Time Capsule Discoverer's Report by María José Camacho Cordero, Asociación Costarricense de Geotecnia
- ISSMGE Time Capsule Discoverer's Report by Sonia H. M. Marques, Sociedade Portuguesa de Geotecnia
- ISSMGE Time Capsule Project Discoverer's Report by Choo Siung Chung, Malaysian Geotechnical Society
- ISSMGE Time Capsule Project Discoverer's Report by Judy Eid, British Geotechnical Association (BGA)

At the bottom of the Discoverer Reports section is a button labeled "HTC DISCOVERER REPORT COMPETITION, 2025" with a "Read More" link.

The introduction section What is the HTC? has been updated to align with the activities and developments in the HTC project in 2024. Two new sections have been added, (1) Time Capsule, describing the physical time capsule to be sealed for 100 years, and (2) 100 years on, the next HTC phase that aims at creating a strategic framework for geotechnical engineering over the next 100 years.

ISSMGE Member Societies, Corporate Associates, Technical Committees, Past Presidents and Key Persons are presently invited to propose what material should be held in the physical time capsule. Further details can be found on <https://htc.issmge.org/physical-time-capsule>.

An HTC webinar is planned in 2025 to lay the ground work for the phase, 100 years on.

Neelima Satyam of Indian Institute of Technology Indore has planned monthly podcast interviews for 2025 to engage with technical leaders in the Asia region, on their experience, collaboration in the Asia region and what they look forward to in the next 100 years. These podcasts can be accessed on the HTC website, [https://htc.issmge.org/discovery#htc\\_podcasts](https://htc.issmge.org/discovery#htc_podcasts). Our previous episodes are listed here:



# From the Board

## ISSMGE HERITAGE TIME CAPSULE (HTC) PROJECT



- Episode 1: Prof. M.R. Madhav
- Episode 2: Prof. Jian Chu

Summarises for Episodes 1 and 2 of the HTC Champions Asia podcasts are included below

**HTC CHAMPIONS 2025 ASIA PODCAST**

ISSMGE & Heritage Time Capsule (HTC) Asia presents a new monthly podcast series <https://htcissmge.org/>

**EPISODE 2**

**About the guest**

Prof. Jian Chu is a distinguished geotechnical expert specializing in ground improvement, land reclamation, and geotechnical disaster mitigation. He is the President's Chair in Civil Engineering at NTU Singapore and has led ISSMGE technical committees on land reclamation and ground improvement. A globally recognized researcher, he has made significant contributions to bio-mediated soil improvement and geotechnical resilience.

**Listen on**

**Spotify**

**Supported by**

Indian Society for Geotechnical Engineering (ISGE) and Indian Chapter of ISSMGE

Host & Member, HTC Asia initiative

**HTC CHAMPIONS 2025 ASIA PODCAST**

ISSMGE & Heritage Time Capsule (HTC) Asia presents a new monthly podcast series <https://htcissmge.org/>

**EPISODE 1**

**About the guest**

Prof. M.R. Madhav is a renowned geotechnical engineer specializing in slope stabilization, ground improvement, and geosynthetics. He has served as a Vice president ISSMGE Asia region. A distinguished researcher and educator, he has contributed extensively to ISSMGE technical committees and has mentored generations in advancing geotechnical engineering worldwide.

**Listen on**

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Host & Member, HTC Asia initiative

# ISSMGE Highlights

## ILAM :The ISSMGE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

Prof. Loretta Batali - Awards Committee Chairperson



The ISSMGE Awards Committee (AWAC) reminds all member societies that nominations are still open for the ISSMGE Lifetime Achievement Medal (ILAM) 2025—one of the most prestigious honors in the field of geotechnical engineering.

We're pleased to announce that the deadline has been extended to April 14, 2025 to allow more time for submissions.



# ILAM

**LAST CALL FOR THE  
2025 NOMINATIONS**



**ISSMGE**, by its “Awards” committee (**AWAC**), had announced [here](#) the call for nominations for this year’s **ISSMGE Lifetime Achievement Medal**.  
**Nominations are made by the national societies of 90 country members.**  
**The door is open till the end of this month, March 2025.**

**The ISSMGE Lifetime achievement medal** is probably the most prestigious international award in geotechnical engineering. All regions are encouraged to nominate their candidates, especially regions that didn’t win yet.




## 2026 Terzaghi Orator Prof. Jean-Louis Briaud

I am very pleased to announce that Professor Jean-Louis Briaud, from the University of Texas A&M has been selected as the 2026 Terzaghi Orator.

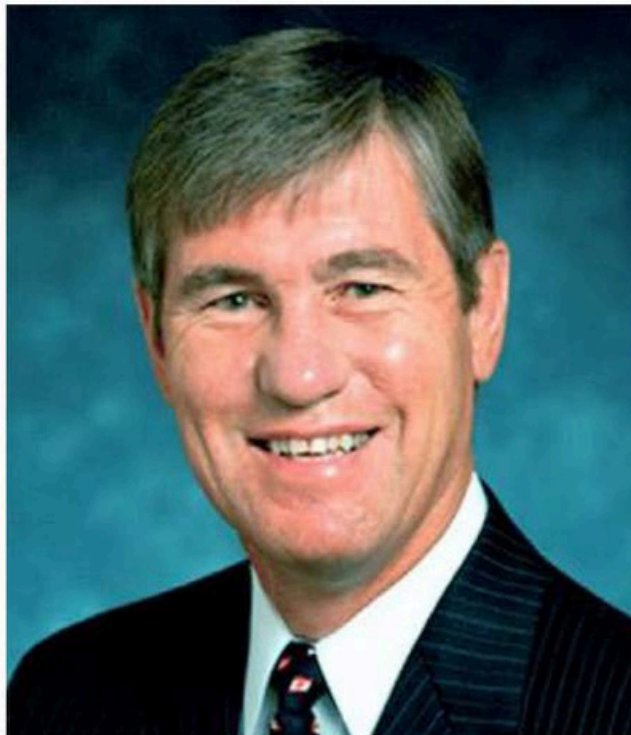
Professor Briaud was selected from a pool of 7 outstanding candidates nominated and supported by 10 different countries.

After reviewing the proposals and consulting with all ISSMGE board members, I had the privilege to select Professor Briaud to be our next Orator although the decision was extremely difficult. From the inventor of the TEXAM pressuremeter to the presidency of G-I, ISSMGE, and FedIGS, with hundreds of papers and many books published, and many awards; I am absolutely confident that Professor Briaud will deliver an excellent lecture in Vienna 2026. Please join me in congratulating Professor Jean-Louis Briaud.



March 28, 2025

Dr. Marc Ballouz  
President of the ISSMGE



Prof. Jean-Louis Briaud



With the TEXAM pressuremeter 1992

# ISSMGE Highlights

## Seeking the Best in Geotechnical Engineering



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR ISSMGE AWARDS AT 21 ICSMGE VIENNA 2026

The ISSMGE offers awards to recognise those members who have made important contributions to our profession, society and the world. The following awards are open for call for nominations in view of the attribution at the 21st International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering 2026 (21 ICSMGE):

- ISSMGE Outstanding Technical Committee Award
- ISSMGE Outstanding Geotechnical Project Award
- ISSMGE Outstanding Innovator Award
- ISSMGE Outstanding Member Society Award
- ISSMGE Outstanding Paper Published in the International Journal of GeoEngineering Case Histories Award
- ISSMGE Outstanding Public Relations Award • ISSMGE Outstanding Young Geotechnical Engineer Award



**Winners from Previous conferences**



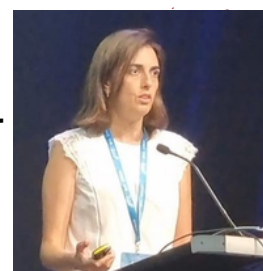
# Global News from Member Societies

## 1<sup>st</sup> Pan Mediterranean Geotechnical Engineering Conference

Grace Abou-Jaoude Estephan

President of LGES

Conference Organizing Committee Chair



The Lebanese Geotechnical Engineering Society (LGES) is excited to invite you to be part of the 1<sup>st</sup> Pan Mediterranean Geotechnical Engineering Conference; a unique opportunity to connect, collaborate, and exchange knowledge with geotechnical professionals from across the Mediterranean region., for more details please [Visit our Website](#)



Inaugural  
Pan Mediterranean Geotechnical  
Engineering Conference

The PMGEC website [pmgec-leb.com](http://pmgec-leb.com) is officially launched.

The Lebanese Geotechnical Engineering Society (LGES) is organizing and hosting the inaugural Pan Mediterranean Geotechnical Engineering Conference under the auspices of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) and the Order of Engineers and Architects (OEA) in Lebanon. The ISSMGE board endorsed the creation of this regional conference and its recurrence every four years in one Mediterranean country.



25 - 28 MARCH  
2026



CONFERENCE VENUE  
InterContinental Phoenicia

PMGEC is a groundbreaking gathering of professionals, researchers, and industry leaders from across the Mediterranean region. This conference marks the beginning of an exciting journey.



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS OPEN

THE INAUGURAL CONFERENCE  
THEME 2026

BRIDGING BORDERS:  
GEOTECHNICAL CHALLENGES  
AND INNOVATIONS ACROSS THE  
MEDITERRANEAN

KEY DATES



June 30, 2025  
Abstract Submission  
Deadline



October 1, 2025  
Registration Opens



Explore more:  
[www.pmgec-leb.com](http://www.pmgec-leb.com)

## REPORT ON THE CONFERENCE OF THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTION OF GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS (NIGE)

**Sebastian Ozoamalu - Chairman of NIGE**

The recently concluded Nigerian Institution of Geotechnical Engineers (NIGE) Conference, themed "Innovations and Best Practices in Geotechnical Engineering," proved to be a resounding success. The event brought together leading geotechnical engineers, researchers, and industry professionals, fostering a dynamic exchange of ideas on cutting-edge technologies, sustainable solutions, and the challenges facing the geotechnical engineering sector in Nigeria.



The conference commenced with a warm welcome address and words of appreciation from Engr. Sebastian Chinedu Ozoamalu MNSE FNIGE, the National Chairman of NIGE. Dignitaries and national executive officers were duly recognized. In his concluding remarks, the Chairman assured conference delegates that the event would provide valuable insights into the latest trends and expose them to the challenges associated with best practices in Geotechnical Engineering.



**Recognition and Conferment of Fellowship of deserving members of the Institution**

### **The Key Highlights Included:**

**1. Fellowship Conferment and New Member Induction:** The conference activities started with the esteemed recognition of three deserving members, who were conferred with the prestigious Fellowship of the Institution. Additionally, eleven new members were formally inducted into the NIGE, marking their official entry into the professional community.



**Induction of new members**

**2. Technological Advancements and Keynote Presentations:** A series of insightful keynote presentations showcased the latest advancements in geotechnical engineering.

- **Setting the Bar in Ground Improvement – Insights from Large Scale Case Histories:** delivered by Prof. Marawan Shahien, highlighted the critical challenges posed by unimproved and reclaimed soil conditions. The presentation explored innovative soil improvement techniques, such as dynamic compaction, dynamic replacement, vibro-floatation, stone columns, jet grouting, and pre-loading with vertical drains, emphasizing their potential to enhance soil stability and reduce construction costs.

## REPORT ON THE CONFERENCE OF THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTION OF GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS (NIGE)

- Innovations and Best Practices in Geotechnical Engineering – The Nigerian Experience: by Engr. Barry Esimone FNSE, delved into the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning techniques in geotechnical engineering. The presentation demonstrated how these technologies can revolutionize design, optimize construction processes, and improve long-term infrastructure performance.

**3. Sustainability Focus:** Sustainability emerged as a central theme throughout the conference. Presentations from leading academics within the institution highlighted the importance of sustainable practices including;

- Stability Modelling of Coconut Ash and Cement Stabilized Chikoko Homogenous Earth Dam: presented an eco-friendly approach to earth dam construction. By utilizing recycled agricultural waste (coconut ash), the study demonstrated a commitment to sustainable construction practices while enhancing the stability and durability of the earth dam structure.
- Climate Change Considerations on Lateritic Bedrock Characterisation: investigated the impact of climate change on the geotechnical properties of lateritic soils within the Sokoto Basin. The study revealed the significant influence of minerals like hematite and goethite on the high compressive strength of lateritic gravels.

**4. Industry Challenges and Solutions:** The conference addressed critical challenges facing the geotechnical engineering sector in Nigeria.

- Addressing Data Gaps: The need for improved data collection and sharing was emphasized to enhance the accuracy of geotechnical investigations and improve the quality of design decisions.
- Capacity Building: The importance of capacity building initiatives, including training programs, mentorship programs, and attracting young talent to the profession, was underscored.
- Collaboration and Partnerships: The conference highlighted the crucial role of strong collaboration between academia, industry, and government in addressing the multifaceted challenges facing the geotechnical engineering sector in Nigeria.

### Conclusion:

The 2024 NIGE Conference served as a valuable platform for knowledge exchange, networking, and professional development. By embracing innovation and best practices, the geotechnical engineering community can continue to advance the field, deliver sustainable and resilient infrastructure, and contribute significantly to the socio-economic progress of Nigeria.





# Global News from Member Societies

## Hungarian Geotechnical Society's news

### 30<sup>th</sup> Széchy Károly Memorial Lecture

The Hungarian Geotechnical Society has organized the Széchy Károly Memorial Lecture since 1993. This annual lecture recognizes significant contributions to geotechnical engineering and celebrates the legacy of Károly Széchy, a renowned Hungarian geotechnical engineer. The invited speakers – internationally respected experts, professors, presidents and vice-presidents of the ISSMGE, and esteemed national professionals in the geotechnical field – consider the invitation an honor and, year after year, meet the high standards of both scientific excellence and practical application.

In February 2025, prof. António Gomes Correia had the honor of presenting the prestigious 30<sup>th</sup> Széchy Memorial Lecture in Budapest, Hungary. Prof. Gomes Correia's lecture focused on trends and advancements in the digital era related to the analysis, testing, and performance of geomaterials, primarily applied to high-speed railways. Key technologies discussed included self-sensing geomaterials and interferometric synthetic aperture radar, applied to infrastructure projects and slope instability prediction, respectively. The integration of these advanced technologies with artificial intelligence is transforming modern transportation geotechnics, enabling smarter solutions, enhancing predictive capabilities, and improving resilience.



prof. António Gomes Correia



Dr. András Mahler



Benedek Nagy

The invited Hungarian lecture was delivered by dr. András Mahler, the former president of the Hungarian Geotechnical Society. His lecture focused on the application of geotechnical models to help predict cumulative settlement of pavements. He demonstrated the theoretical and practical application of modern geotechnical models with increasing complexity to better understand the long-term behavior of multilayered asphalt systems.

The introduced Hungarian young engineer, Benedek Nagy focused on the numerical modeling of elliptical and circular shaft excavations and their retaining system. His analyses showed the advantages of considering the wall components as ellipsoidal shafts to reduce required reinforcement and to allow a supportless design.



# Global News from Member Societies

## Hungarian Geotechnical Society's news

### 30<sup>th</sup> Széchy Károly Memorial Lecture

The event was attended by the esteemed prof. Laloui, the ISSMGE Vice-president Europe who delivered the lecture in 2024. Prof. Laloui's participation in this prestigious event reflects the commitment of ISSMGE Europe leaders to engage with national societies and promote knowledge exchange across the continent.

For the 30<sup>th</sup> Széchy Károly Memorial Lecture, 170 registered participants attended in person, including some guests from Austria, Croatia, Italy, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, and Turkey. After the lectures, the Gala Dinner in the Academy Science Building was a memorable highlight for the delegates.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the sponsors. Without their support, the event would not have achieved the level of excellence comparable to that of other world-class events.



prof. Lyesse Laoui  
Vice-president Europe



from left to right: dr. Edina Koch  
(president of the Hungarian Geotechnical Society), prof.  
António Gomes Correia, dr. Balázs Móczár (president of the  
Geotechnical Section of the Hungarian Chamber of Engineers)



Gathering in Gala Dinner

# Global News from Member Societies

## The International Geotechnical Conference Dedicated to the 90th Anniversary of the Department of Geotechnics at SPbGASU, Russia

**Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov**  
**President of KGS**



In October 2024, an international geotechnical conference titled “Geotechnical Fundamentals and Applications in Construction: New Materials, Structures, Technologies and Calculations” was held in Saint Petersburg, Russia. The conference was dedicated to the celebration of the 90th anniversary of the Department of Geotechnical Engineering at Saint Petersburg State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering (SPbGASU).



Opening Session at the International conference in SPbGASU

Welcoming the participants, Ye. Rybnov, Rector of SPbGASU, emphasized that since 2003 it has become a tradition to hold conferences on geotechnics at the university. During this period, 17 Russian and international conferences have been held, which invariably aroused interest of specialists in the field of soil mechanics, bases, foundations and engineering geology.

«The large number of participants confirmed the importance of geotechnics as the most important direction of construction science and serves as a tribute to the scientific traditions and achievements of the Department of Geotechnics of SPbGASU, founded in 1934. In different years, it employed well-known scientists, honored for science of the USSR, professors Tsytoich, Vasiliyev, Maslov, Dalmatov, Sotnikov, Mangushev, who worked in the country and abroad.





# Global News from Member Societies

## The International Geotechnical Conference Dedicated to the 90th Anniversary of the Department of Geotechnics at SPbGASU, Russia

In the last two years, the department has been headed by A. I. Osokin, Honored Builder of Russia, winner of prizes of the Government of Russia and St. Petersburg, Associate professor, Ph.Dr. Since its establishment, the department has been one of the leading divisions of the university, which has trained many engineers, candidates, and doctors of technical sciences. The department has established and successfully developed a scientific school focused on addressing current issues in construction geotechnics. First and foremost, these studies focus on improving foundation engineering on weak and compressible soils, including pile foundations and foundations for high-rise buildings, as well as research on structural deformations and their prediction. Additionally, the department conducts studies on frozen and thawing soils and their use as building foundations. The department also researches improving construction methods for underground structures, soil stabilization for foundations, and foundation reinforcement during building reconstruction. Additionally, studies focus on developing numerical methods for analyzing the foundations and supports of underground structures.

Over the past 15 years, the staff of the department has published numerous textbooks and manuals, monographs, reference books on geotechnics, which have become desktop books for engineers and teachers of universities in Russia, CIS countries and Far Abroad», - said Ye. Rybnov. He noted that the conference allowed geotechnical specialists to exchange the latest scientific achievements, establish new useful contacts, as well as to get acquainted with historical and recently built unique objects of St. Petersburg.

According to Professor R. Mangushev (corresponding member of RAASN, head of the scientific school, director of the Scientific and Production Consulting Center of Geotechnologies of SPbGASU), over the past 20 years the university and the Department of Geotechnics have regularly held such conferences. This year, the conference was dedicated to the 90th anniversary of the department. It brought together specialists from 23 cities and 13 countries, including Belarus, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, South Korea, Malaysia, China, India, Syria, Mongolia, and the USA. More than 110 presentations were delivered.



Right to left: Prof E.C Shin (South Korea) and Prof. R. Nazir (Malaysia) with spouse

# Global News from Member Societies

## The International Geotechnical Conference Dedicated to the 90th Anniversary of the Department of Geotechnics at SPbGASU, Russia

The President of the Russian Society for Soil Mechanics, Geotechnics, and Foundation Engineering, Prof. V. Ilyichov, called St. Petersburg a «monument to geotechnics.» He noted that «Building such a city today would require surveys, soil investigation methods, and computer programs. Back then, none of this existed, yet the city was built—for centuries and with great beauty. Geotechnics has been evolving for many years, and leading universities in St. Petersburg play a crucial role in this process. They have established outstanding scientific schools and are training highly skilled specialists. Russian science has always been the foundation of the country's technological independence, and we continue to uphold this foundation».

A.Vikhrov, a member of the Board of the National Association of Surveyors and Designers, President of the Baltic Association of Designers, and a graduate of SPbGASU, who previously held the positions of dean and vice-rector of SPbGASU, confirmed that decades ago young specialists had no tools except a slide rule. But science was developing, and such tools were appearing and improving before his eyes. He stated «Is 90 years a lot or a little? In the context of history, it is just a moment. Despite this significant anniversary, the department was only at the beginning of its development, keeping up with the times and continuing to make a great contribution to solving modern challenges in the industry, the city, the country, and the world».

For many years SPbGASU and the Department of Geotechnics have been cooperating with the Committee for State Control, Use and Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments of St. Petersburg, emphasized Acting Chairman of the Committee A. Mikhailov in his welcoming address. He noted the high level of involvement of undergraduate and graduate students in current urban problems in the field of urban planning and adaptation of cultural heritage objects to modern use.

«Our city is relatively young, but nearly 10% of all the historical and cultural monuments of the country are concentrated here. Along with preserving cultural heritage and the historical environment, we must also develop the metropolis' infrastructure to ensure a comfortable life for both citizens and tourists. To successfully address this challenge, we must rely on modern scientific research in soil mechanics and geotechnics, as well as share our experience in designing, constructing, and reconstructing complex geotechnical structures in diverse engineering and geological conditions», – said A. Mikhailov.





# Global News from Member Societies

## The International Geotechnical Conference Dedicated to the 90th Anniversary of the Department of Geotechnics at SPbGASU, Russia

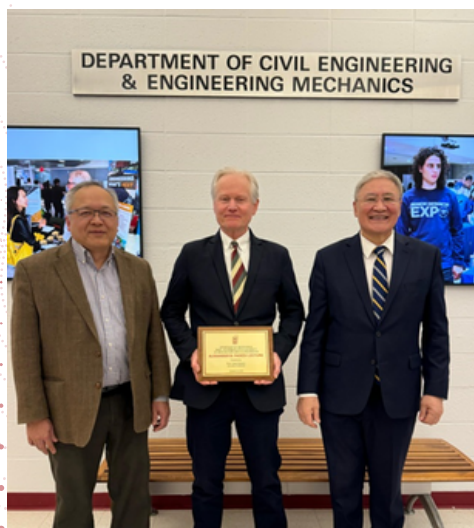
A. Zhussupbekov, President of the Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society, Honorary Doctor of SPbGASU, alumnus of the department, confirmed that the Department of Geotechnics has always been famous for its outstanding world-class scientists and talented students. He concluded that «Continuing traditions, the department continues to grow. Last year, the Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society held a large-scale international scientific and technical conference attended by 682 participants from 88 countries worldwide. And I am proud to note that the most representative and numerous delegations came from SPbGASU. SPbGASU demonstrates high scientific achievements and knows how to organize effective scientific and practical platforms within its walls, including the current conference».

It should be especially noted that in the international plenary session, Prof. Victor N. Kaliakin (Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, University of Delaware, Newark, USA) delivered the first Alexander B. Fadeev Lecture (online) on the topic: «Current State of u-p Mixed Elements Used to Simulate the Response of Saturated Geomaterials».

Professor Fadeev was a renowned international and national expert in Geotechnical and Rock Engineering. He graduated from the Mining University in Saint Petersburg. Since he was fluent in three foreign languages (English, French, and German), he lectured in many different countries. Professor Fadeev was a pioneer in Computational Geomechanics in the Soviet Union (and later Russia). He was a leading figure in the application of the Finite Element Method (FEM) in geotechnical and rock engineering. He supervised more than 50 doctoral students from the USSR, Russia, Kazakhstan, the CIS, and several foreign countries, including Syria, Jordan, Poland, China, Iraq, and others.

On behalf of the Russian Geotechnical Society, Professor Askar Zhussupbekov presented an award to the first speaker of the Alexander B. Fadeev Lecture, Prof. Victor N. Kaliakin, at Columbia University (New York, USA) on February 24, 2025.

The award ceremony was attended by Prof. Hoe Ling (Vice-Chair of TC 305 of ISSMGE) from Columbia University (USA) and geotechnical engineers from Columbia University's Burmiister Laboratory.



The awarding ceremony by Fadeev Lecture plaque to Prof. Victor Kaliakin (University of Delaware, USA)

# Global News from Member Societies

## The International Geotechnical Conference Dedicated to the 90th Anniversary of the Department of Geotechnics at SPbGASU, Russia

Also, during the plenary session, presentations were made by several leading scientists of the world universities, namely Prof. E. Ch. Shin (South Korea) "Consolidation settlement of waste lime landfill site", Prof. Ramli Bin Nazir (Malaysia) "The impact of non-homogeneity on colluvium overlying clay clayshale in the hilly region"; Prof. Dong-Sheng Xu (China) «Lateral Loading Behavior of Large-scale Pipe Piles in Offshore Wind Farm Foundations»; Prof. Nyamdorj Setev (Mongolia) «Scientific substantiation of the development of optimal solutions for foundations, foundations of buildings and structures erected on subsidence soils of Mongolia»; Prof. A. Boominathan (India) «Vibration Measurement during Blast Induced Controlled Demolition of a 17 Storied Building at Cochin»; Prof. Habibov Fakhraddin (Azerbaijan) «Study of vulnerability and security of buildings and structures on structurally unstable clay soils»; and Prof. Awwad Talal (Syria) «The reasons behind soil failure during earthquakes as in case of the 2023 Turkey-Syria Earthquake».

In Closing Ceremony Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov invited all participants to participate of International Geotechnical Conference on GIZ and Geoinformation Zoning for Disaster Mitigation (GIZ), which will held August 28-30, 2025, Almaty, Kazakhstan.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Southern African Geotechnical Conference (2SAGC)



The First Southern African Geotechnical Conference (SAGC) was organised by the Geotechnical Division of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE) under the auspices of the International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) and took place at Sun City, South Africa on 5 and 6 May 2016. The conference was organised by a small committee from the SAICE Geotechnical Division, under the chairmanship of Prof. Gerhard Heymann from the University of Pretoria. The SAICE Geotechnical Division's aim was to create a forum for local geotechnical practitioners and academics from the Southern African region to present their work and to provide networking opportunities.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> SAGC which will be hosted in Umhlanga, Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa from 28 to 30 May 2025, this time under the chairmanship of Prof. Denis Kalumba from the University of Cape Town. It is expected that between 150 and 200 delegates will be in attendance. Additionally, two interactive workshops will be held prior to the main conference, offering hands-on learning experiences. This conference will be a key event in the subcontinent for geotechnical professionals, researchers, academics, and students, offering a platform to share knowledge and foster collaboration. The conference will feature a comprehensive program, including 7 keynote lectures, highlighting the latest innovations and developments in geotechnical engineering. The main keynote at the conference will be the 22<sup>nd</sup> Jennings lecture and will be presented by Prof. Helmut F. Schweiger from Graz University of Technology, Austria. The title of his lecture will be "Successful Applications of Numerical Methods in Practical Geotechnical Engineering". Furthermore, the final keynote will be delivered by internationally renowned geotechnical engineer Dr. Peter Day from South Africa, who will re-present his Vienna Terzaghi Lecture on "Dealing with uncertainty in foundation design. The conference is well supported by the ISSMGE with the President (Dr Marc Ballouz), Secretary General (Dr Andrew McNamara), the VP for Africa (Dr Marawan M. Shahien), and the VP for Europe (Prof. Lyesse Laloui) attending.

The main themes that will be covered include:

- Construction
- Dolomite
- Environmental
- Foundations
- Geosynthetics
- Lateral support and slopes
- Materials
- Site characterisation & lab testing
- Tailings

Abstract and paper deadlines have lapsed, however, we encourage everyone to attend to avoid missing out on this spectacular occasion. For more information, please visit the conference website (<https://www.sagc2025.co.za/>)



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Southern African Geotechnical Conference (2SAGC)

SOUTHERN AFRICAN  
GEOTECHNICAL CONFERENCE  
2025



[www.sagc2025.co.za](http://www.sagc2025.co.za)



SAICE Geotechnical Division presents:

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SOUTHERN AFRICAN GEOTECHNICAL CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES AVAILABLE!

**Date:** 28 – 30 May 2025

**Venue:** Premier Hotel Umhlanga, Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

### ABOUT

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Southern African Geotechnical Conference will be hosted by the Geotechnical Division of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE) under the auspices of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE). The sub-regional conference will provide a forum for exchanging, disseminating and discussing current geotechnical practice in Southern Africa as well as sharing information of recent projects and developments.

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Geotechnical engineers, engineering geologists, scientists, researchers, and practitioners working in all fields of soil and rock mechanics and geotechnical engineering should attend.

### ABSTRACTS & PAPERS

All communications regarding the abstracts and papers are done directly with the authors.

*The deadline for abstract submission has passed but should you still be interested in submitting an abstract please send an email to [info@sagc2025.co.za](mailto:info@sagc2025.co.za).*

# Global News from Member Societies

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Southern African Geotechnical Conference (2SAGC)

SOUTHERN AFRICAN  
GEOTECHNICAL CONFERENCE  
2025



[www.sagc2025.co.za](http://www.sagc2025.co.za)



### KEY DATES

- Abstract submissions open: 01 August 2024
- Final abstracts submissions: 18 October 2024
- First call for registration: 25 November 2024
- Feedback on abstract submissions: 01 November 2024
- Full paper submission deadline: 17 January 2025
- Corrected papers back to authors: 07 February 2025
- Early bird registration closes: 07 February 2025
- Final Paper Submissions: 28 February 2025



### SPONSORSHIP, ADVERTISING AND EXHIBITION

There are various sponsorship, advertising and exhibition options available. The list of options are available on the conference website. Should you be interested to sponsor, advertise and/or exhibit, please send an email to [info@sagc2025.co.za](mailto:info@sagc2025.co.za).

### REGISTRATION AND ACCOMMODATION

Registrations are now open. You will also be able to book accommodation when registering for the conference. For more information, please send an email to [info@selahproductions.co.za](mailto:info@selahproductions.co.za).

### CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

Yolandé van den Berg  
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# Global News from Member Societies

## 18<sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ARCSMGE 24)

**Prof. Ramdane Bahar**  
**President of ALGEOS**  
**Chair of the ARCSMGE 2024**



The city of Algiers, Algeria, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea with its majestic white facade, which gives it its name "Alger la Blanche", hosted the 18th African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ARCSMGE 24) from 6th to 9th October 2024. This highly anticipated African event, organized for the first time by the Algerian Geotechnical Society (ALGEOS), brought together experts, researchers, and professionals from across Africa and around the world.

ARCSMGE 2024 was a successful event that brought together over 470 researchers, engineers, academics, and professionals from the geotechnical and soil mechanics sectors across the African continent. The conference centered around the theme: "Geotechnical Engineering for Africa's Sustainable Development" provided to address the critical role that geotechnical engineering plays in promoting sustainable practices across the continent, and aimed to:

- Promote the exchange of knowledge, research, and practices in the field of geotechnical engineering, while addressing the specific challenges faced in Africa,
- Provide a platform to share the latest research and innovations in soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering,
- Discuss geotechnical solutions adapted to environmental and socioeconomic challenges in Africa.

The program included a variety of technical sessions, and panel discussions that highlighted innovative solutions and best practices in geotechnical engineering tailored to Africa's specific challenges.





# Global News from Member Societies

## 18<sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ARCSMGE 24)

### Key Statistics:



**470+**

**Participants**



**34**

**Partner Companies**



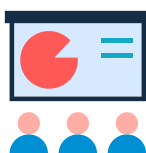
**2**

**Short Courses**



**12**

**Keynote lectures**



**6**

**Plenary sessions**



**1**

**HTC session  
CAPG Session**



**14**

**Thematic  
sessions**



**82**

**Presented  
papers**



**2**

**Bright spark  
lecture awards**

### Scientific program

#### Plenary and thematic sessions

The conference typically focused on various aspects of soil mechanics, geotechnical engineering, and related disciplines, providing attendees a platform for knowledge exchange, technical insights, and networking. The 6 plenary and the 14 thematic sessions covered a broad spectrum of subjects, ensuring something for all participants. The 6 plenary sessions were well attended, with more than 470 participants on the first day and more than 200 on the last day.

The key themes of thematic sessions are: soil characterization, behavior of soils: analysis and modelling, foundation engineering, ground stabilization and improvement, slopes, embankment and retaining, environmental geotechnics and geotechnical and earthquake case studies. The conference's highlights were truly remarkable, featuring twelve keynotes that covered a diverse range of topics essential to the field. Each presenter not only captivated the audience but also inspired a forward-thinking mindset, underscoring the profound impact our profession has on society today and in the years to come. The twelve conferences are:

# Global News from Member Societies

## 18<sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ARCSMGE 24)

- Pre and post construction challenges of problematic ground conditions in arid desert areas, Pr. Marawan Shahien (Egypt),
- Characterization and efficient use of local geomaterials in sustainable construction in Africa, Pr. Etienne Marcelin Kana (Cameroon),
- Appropriate methods of design for use in geotechnical practice, Pr. Peter Day (South Africa),
- Applications of geosynthetics in tunnels and dams, Pr. Daniele Antonio Cazzuffi (Italy)
- Rehabilitation of a large earth fill dam - case history, Pr. Raffaella Granatta (Italy)
- Determination of the shear strength of soils using the Cylindrical Shear Tool, Pr. Mounir Bouassida (Tunisia)
- Eco-construction using raw earth - Contribution of unsaturated soil mechanics, Pr. Said Taibi (France),
- Revision of Algerian earthquake regulations RPA 2024: New seismic microzoning map and definition of seismic actions, Pr. Laouami Nasser (Algeria)
- Understanding the way water is a destabilizing factor : an update, Pr. Jean-Claude Gress (France),
- Feedback on tunnel geotechnics, Pr. Akchiche Mustapha (Algeria)
- How the second generation of Eurocode 7 is progressing? Dr. Sebastien Burlon (France),
- Standardization in geotechnics, Dr. Idriss Moulay Zerhouni (France).



**Opening Ceremony:** From left to right Pr. S.M. Aissa Mamoune (Co-chair SC), Pr. D. Akretche (Rector of USTHB), Pr M. Shahien (VP Africa), Pr. R. Bahar (Chair of the Conference) and Pr. S. Haddadi (COC).

**First Plenary session:** From left to right Pr. R. Bahar (Algeria), Pr. E.M. Kana (Cameroon), Pr. P. Day (South Africa), Pr. A. McNamara (GB, Secretary General of the ISSMGE), Pr M. Shahien (Egypt, VP Africa), Pr. D. Kalumba (South Africa).



# Global News from Member Societies

## 18<sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ARCSMGE 24)



Third Plenary session: From left to right Pr. D. Cazzuffi (Italy), Pr. R. Granata (Italy), Pr. J.P. Gress (France), Pr. M. Akchiche (Algeria), Pr M. Belachia (Algeria).



### Bright spark lecture awards

A restricted scientific committee, chaired by Professor S.M. Aissa Mamoune, reviewed all the papers accepted for the conference. He selected the best conference paper and the best Algerian paper.

- Best conference paper : D.M. Bester, J. Steenkamp, E. Theron, P.R. Stott, J. Snyman "Investigation into an adopted design procedure for raft foundations of light structures on expansive soils located in the Free State".
- Best Algerian paper : B. Bouguedra, K. Sandjak, M. Ouamani "Bayesian Optimization Algorithm based Support Vector Regression analysis for Predicting the Strength of Subgrade soil for Pavement Design".



# Global News from Member Societies

## 18<sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ARCSMGE 24)



**Best conference paper : J. Steenkamp**



**Best Algerian paper: K. Sandjak**

### HTC Session

The Heritage Time Capsule (HTC) session "Unite and Communicate - together, we build a brighter future for Africa", has been scheduled during this conference. One of the main objectives of this communication is to help initiate discussions in various forums within the geotechnical community in order to develop a strategy for the profession and encourage a forward-looking action plan. This presentation aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the evolution of soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering, fostering a deeper understanding of the field's past, present, and future in Africa.

### CAPG Session

The Civil and Environmental Engineering Professional Group (CAPG) session on "Innovations and Developments in Geotechnical Practice in Africa" has also been scheduled for the fourth day of the conference. The session would likely conclude with a panel discussion, allowing participants to engage with experts, share experiences, and discuss future directions for geotechnical practice in Africa. This CAPG session was well attended, with more than 200 participants. Here are the topics and themes that were covered.

- Geosynthetics of reinforcement in geotechnical applications (F. Cherifi, Afitex, Algérie)
- Soil reinforcement by rigid and soft inclusions (M. Yahia-Aissa, A. Abboud and S. Burlon, Setec Terrasol, France)
- Presentation of strategic projects for the construction of basic infrastructure, including hydraulics, rail, road, and highways, carried out by Trevi in Algeria (M.A.S Briksi, Trevi, Algeria)
- The Multi purpose bottom plug (MPBP): a case of value engineering for the Galataport project in Istanbul, Turkey (S. Miranda – S. Aksu, Trevi, Algérie).



# Global News from Member Societies

## 18<sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ARCSMGE 24)

### Social and Cultural Experience

The charm and hospitality of Algiers were on full display throughout the conference. The gala dinner at the Marriott Hotel was a memorable event, combining elegance and conviviality. Upon entering, guests were greeted by a refined setting, with tables adorned with crisp white tablecloths and soft lighting creating a warm atmosphere. The evening was hosted by an Algerian television presenter known for her ability to captivate audiences. With her dazzling smile and sense of humor, she put guests at ease and kept them engaged throughout the evening. The Algerian chaabi orchestra, meanwhile, provided an authentic and festive musical touch. The lively rhythms of the music encouraged guests to get up and dance, creating a joyful and dynamic atmosphere. The dinner, featuring refined and delicious dishes, was served with care, allowing guests to savor every bite while enjoying the musical performances. Laughter, lively conversations, and moments of dancing punctuated the evening, making this gala a true success. During the evening, speeches were delivered, certificates and symbolic trophies were presented to the various sponsors and partners as a token of appreciation. In short, this gala dinner at the Marriott Hotel was an unforgettable celebration, combining gastronomy, music, and conviviality, all masterfully orchestrated by a talented presenter and a quality orchestra.

A visit to the Algiers Mosque, one of the largest mosques in the world and an iconic symbol of the Algerian capital, offers an enriching experience, both architecturally and culturally.



### Sponsor Acknowledgement

The support of our sponsors and partners was essential to the success of ARCSMGE 2024. Their generous contributions had a significant impact on the quality of the conference. We express our sincere gratitude to each sponsor for their commitment to advancing the field of geotechnical engineering.

A visit to the Algiers Mosque, one of the largest mosques in the world and an iconic symbol of the Algerian capital, offers an enriching experience, both architecturally and culturally.



# Global News from Member Societies

## 18<sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ARCSMGE 24)



Exhibitor Hall, from left to right : B. Yahia-Aissa (Algeria), G.K Mukoko (Congo), A. McNamara (GB - Secretary General of the ISSMGE), M. Bouassida (Tunisia), R. Bahar (Algeria), P. Day (South Africa), M. Shahien (Egypt, VP Africa), E.M. Kana (Cameroon), Seifeddine Tabchouche, S. Tabti (Algeria).

### Conclusion

The 18<sup>th</sup> African Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ARCSMGE 2024) was a resounding success, bringing together experts in the field and fostering enriching exchanges and innovative ideas that will strengthen our understanding and practices in this vital sector. The conference served as an excellent platform for sharing knowledge, fostering professional growth, and building community connections. By the conclusion of the event, attendees departed with fresh ideas, enhanced relationships, and a revitalized drive to address the changing needs of African society through geotechnical engineering.





# Young Members Arena

## MEET THE YMPG



We are excited to introduce you to our team of talented engineers, a group of dedicated professionals who make up the YMPG. With diverse backgrounds and a shared passion for excellence, our engineers work collaboratively to bring the ISSMGE closer to young geotechnical professionals. This team is committed to the mandate of the ISSMGE -YMPG. Their combined experience ensure that we stay ahead in an ever-evolving industry.



Ashe holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Auckland, New Zealand. Over the past decade, he has gained extensive experience working on diverse infrastructure and land development projects in the public and private sectors across the Asia-Pacific region. He has also dabbled in instrumentation and monitoring, an area that is increasingly becoming a critical component of engineering projects worldwide. Ashe has been with Beca for over 10 years as a valued member of their expanding geotechnical team.

In 2018, he joined the YMPG core team and, in 2022, took on the role of Chair of the committee. Recently, he relocated to Sydney, Australia, after a rewarding stint working in the Pacific Islands. In his free time, Ashe enjoys exploring new destinations on weekends, spending time on the water, traveling, and snowboarding.



Max Gabriel Barbosa holds a Master's and a PhD in Civil and Geotechnical Engineering from the University of Brasília (UnB), with an exchange year at Heriot-Watt University. His research and professional work focus on soil improvement, grouting, retaining structures, tunnels, and design-build approaches in geotechnical engineering. Currently, he serves as the Technical Director at SCO Engenharia Geotécnica, where he leads geotechnical projects and construction initiatives.

Max also serves as an ad-hoc director of ABMS (Brazilian Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering) and is an associate member of DFI (Deep Foundations Institute), DBIA (Design-Build Institute of America), and ITA-AITES (International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association). As a Brazilian, Max is passionate about soccer and is a die-hard Palmeiras fan. He also enjoys spending his free time with his family, reading business and detective novels, and hiking.

# Young Members Arena

## MEET THE YMPG



Bridget Nana Ama Lokoe is a civil engineer currently working as a geotechnical engineer with WSP in the mining industry. She is based in Indonesia, within the Australasia region. She recently completed an MBA in Entrepreneurship and Leadership from Jain University. Bridget has extensive experience in construction projects within the roads, infrastructure, and mining sectors. In addition to pursuing her career and knowledge-building goals, Bridget defines success as the ability to balance family, social, and personal life.



Tong Zhu is a senior engineer at China State Construction Engineering Co., Ltd. (CSCEC). He obtained his doctoral degree from the School of Civil Engineering at Tsinghua University, subsequently conducting postdoctoral research at CSCEC for two years. He serves as the vice secretary-general of the Young Engineer Work Committee of the Chinese Institution of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. His research primarily focuses on earthquake engineering of urban underground structures, and he has conducted innovative research in the field of structure-soil dynamic interaction in liquefiable ground.

His research findings have been incorporated into the China Standard for Seismic Design of Underground Structures and applied to the seismic design of several major engineering projects. As a member of Young Member Presidential Group (YMPG) of the ISSMGE, he aims to contribute to this group to facilitate exchanges between international geotechnical organizations and young scholars and engineers.

In his free time, Tong enjoys engaging in various outdoor activities, such as running, cycling, and traveling.



Judy Eid is Design Geotechnical Engineer at Tony Gee and Partners LLP. She earned her Bachelor of Engineering in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the American University of Beirut (AUB) in Lebanon. Driven by a commitment to enhance safety and sustainability in engineering practices, Judy pursued a Master of Science in Soil Mechanics and Environmental Geotechnics at Imperial College London, graduating with distinction in 2022.



At Tony Gee and Partners, Judy contributes to a diverse range of projects across sectors including railways, highways, power, and marine. Her responsibilities encompass the design and analysis of foundations, retaining walls, slope stabilisation, and earthworks. She is focused on integrating sustainable practices into geotechnical solutions, ensuring that designs not only meet technical standards but also promote environmental stewardship.

Judy's efforts aim to foster knowledge exchange, connect young engineers globally, and facilitate communication between young professionals and established leaders within the ISSMGE.

Judy's international background, with roots in Lebanon and professional experience in the United Kingdom, enriches her perspective on global engineering challenges. She is committed to advancing the field of geotechnical engineering through continuous learning, collaboration, and the promotion of best practices that prioritise safety and sustainability.



Jhih-Rou Huang earned her Master's and PhD degrees in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. Her expertise lies in geotechnical engineering, earthquake engineering, and the application of remote sensing and artificial intelligence (AI) techniques for natural disaster assessment.

Jhih-Rou has extensive experience in landslide detection, infrastructure monitoring, seismic hazard analysis, retaining wall design, and failure analysis of dams and slopes. She currently serves as an associate at Exponent, where she contributes her skills and knowledge to solving complex engineering challenges.

Beyond her professional pursuits, Jhih-Rou enjoys exploring new restaurants, traveling to discover new cultures, and hiking in scenic landscapes.



# Corporate Associates Corner

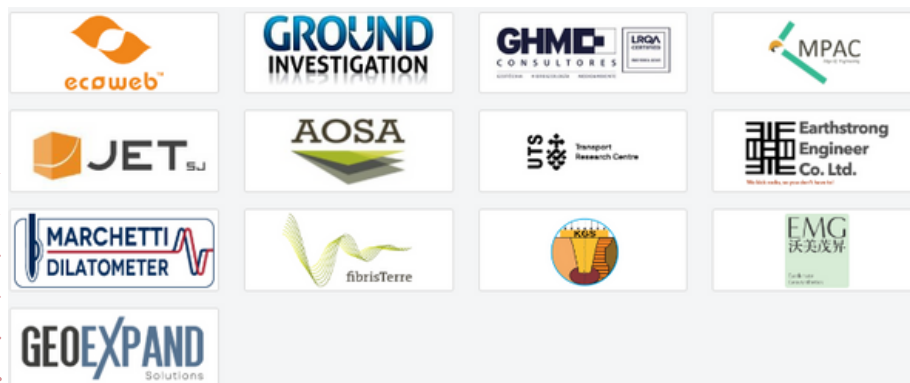
## Platinum Member



## Gold Member

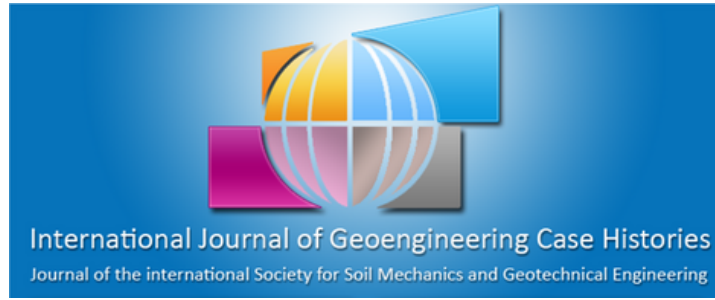


## Silver Member

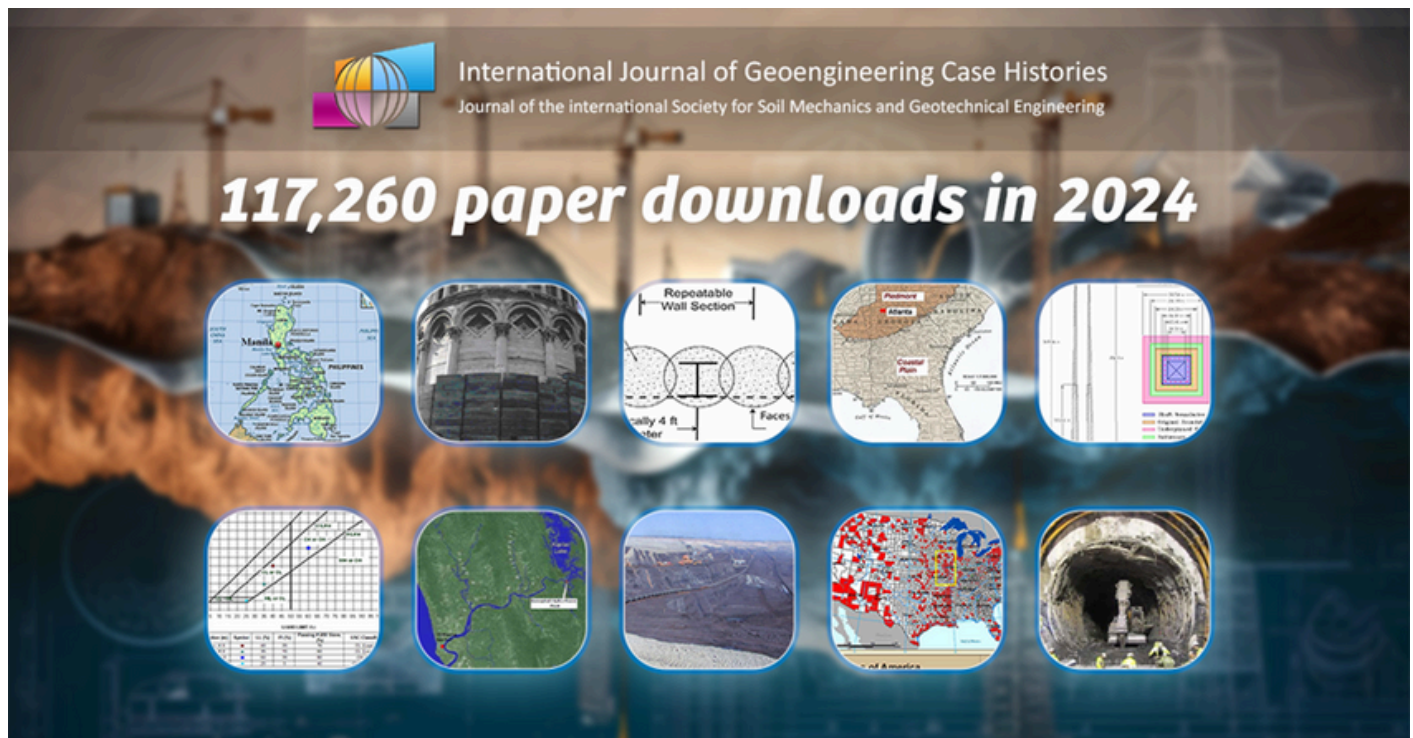




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## **International Journal of Geoengineering Case Histories** **115,000+ paper downloads in 2024 for the ISSMGE** **International Journal of Geoengineering Case Histories!**

The ISSMGE International Journal of Geoengineering Case Histories is an official open-access journal of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. The platinum open-access Case Histories Journal saw a significant increase in its paper downloads, reaching 117,260 in 2024, up 17% from the previous year.

Below, you can find the list of the top 10 papers downloaded from the International Journal of Geoengineering Case Histories in 2024:

1. Jafari, N. H., Stark, T. D., Merry, S. (2013). The July 10 2000 Payatas Landfill Slope Failure. International Journal of Geoengineering Case Histories, Vol. 2, Issue 3, p.208-228. (3,180 downloads – 19,910 downloads since 2017)
2. Burland J. B., Jamiolkowski M. B., Viggiani C., (2009). Leaning Tower of Pisa: Behaviour after Stabilization Operations. International Journal of Geoengineering Case histories, Vol.1, Issue 3, p.156-169. (2,693 downloads – 17,595 downloads since 2017)
3. Rutherford C. J., Biscontin G., Koutsoftas D., Briaud J. L. (2007). Design Process of Deep Soil Mixed Walls for Excavation Support. International Journal of Geoengineering Case histories, Vol.1, Issue 2, p.56-72. (2,360 downloads – 15,362 downloads since 2017)
4. Mayne, P. W. (2005). Unexpected but foreseeable mat settlements on Piedmont residuum. International Journal of Geoengineering Case histories, Vol.1, Issue 1, p.5-17. (2,282 downloads – 13,334 downloads since 2017)
5. Briaud J-L., Smith B., Rhee K-Y., Lacy H., Nicks J., (2009). The Washington Monument Case History. International Journal of Geoengineering Case histories, Vol.1, Issue 3, p.170-188. (2,222 downloads – 13,866 downloads since 2017)
6. Muthukkumaran K., Sundaravadivelu R., Gandhi S. R. (2007). Effect of Dredging and Axial Load on a Berthing Structure. International Journal of Geoengineering Case histories, Vol.1, Issue 2, p.73-88. (2,161 downloads – 10,642 downloads since 2017)
7. Dhar, A. S., Siddique, A., Ameen, S. F., (2011). Ground Improvement using Pre-loading with Prefabricated Vertical Drains. International Journal of Geoengineering Case Histories, Vol.2, Issue 2, p.86-104. (1,930 downloads – 13,478 downloads since 2017)
8. Dolezalova, M., Hladik, I., Zemanova, V. (2006), An open-pit coalmine surcharged by artesian water pressure, International Journal of Geoengineering Case histories, Vol.1, Issue 1, p.35-55. (1,881 downloads – 10,002 downloads since 2017)
9. Bernhardt, M., Briaud, J. L., Kim, D., Leclair, M., Storesund, R., Lim, S. G., Bea, R. G., Rogers, J. D., (2011). Mississippi River Levee Failures: June 2008 Flood. International Journal of Geoengineering Case Histories, Vol.2, Issue 3, p. 127-162. (1,879 downloads – 8,207 downloads since 2017)
10. Barla, G., Bonini, M., Debernardi, D. (2010). Time Dependent Deformations in Squeezing Tunnels, Vol. 2, Issue 1, p.40-65. (1,788 downloads – 9,824 downloads since 2017)

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# In Memory

## Late Engr. Enoch A J George, FNSE, FNIGE

It is with deep sorrow that we share the passing of Engr. Enoch Amakiri Job George, FNSE, FNIGE—an esteemed pioneer and father figure in the Nigerian geotechnical engineering community. As a founding member of the Nigerian Institution of Geotechnical Engineers (NIGE), Engr. George played a vital role in shaping the profession in Nigeria through his visionary leadership, mentorship, and unwavering dedication. He was the Chairman and CEO of Enoch George Associates, a leading geotechnical engineering firm based in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. Known for his wisdom, kindness, and remarkable sense of humour, Engr. George's legacy extends far beyond the Niger Delta region, leaving an indelible mark on the advancement of geotechnical engineering across the nation. His loss is deeply felt, and his contributions will continue to inspire generations to come.



# Upcoming Events

## Excellent International Young Minds in Geotechnics (EIYMG)



**ORGANIZERS:**



**Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov**  
Eurasian National University,  
Astana, Kazakhstan



**Prof. Assel Tulebekova**  
Eurasian National University,  
Astana, Kazakhstan



**Prof. Ankit Garg**  
Xian Jiatong Liverpool  
University, Suzhou, China


**Selection and Webinar Series**  
**EXCELLENT INTERNATIONAL  
YOUNG MINDS IN GEOTECHNICS  
(EIYMG)**

 01 March 2025 to 01 December 2025

**Objectives:**

- **Recognizing the Top 10 EIYMG:** Selection of the top 10 scholars based on their contributions and inspiring career growth backgrounds in the field of geotechnical infrastructure for Megacities and New Capitals (aligned with ISSMGE TC 305, KGS and KazGS activities)
- **Inspiring Future Scholars:** To inspire young scholars through a webinar series featuring selected EIYMG awardees.
- **Fostering Global Collaboration:** To promote international networking and the exchange of research ideas/activities (aligned with ISSMGE TC 305) among young scholars from Kazakhstan and other countries.

**Application Deadline (Selection of EIYMG): 25th June 2025**  
**Applicants must submit all required documents as a single PDF file via email to the General Secretary of Kazakhstan Geosynthetics Society at:**  
**Email: [tulebekova\\_as@enu.kz](mailto:tulebekova_as@enu.kz)**



**Selection and Webinar Series**  
**EXCELLENT INTERNATIONAL YOUNG MINDS IN GEOTECHNICS  
(EIYMG)**

01 March 2025 to 01 December 2025

**Selection of Top 10 EIYMG for Webinar Series**

**Criteria:**

- **Age Limit:** Applicants must be below 40 years of age
- **Eligibility:** Open to individuals with a PhD degree in geotechnical engineering or related fields. Membership in any society is not required. Applicants should have made significant contributions as young researchers in geotechnical engineering. Preference will be given to candidates with experience in international collaboration.
- **Application Deadline (Selection of EIYMG): 25th June 2025**

**Required Documents and Submission Guidelines:**

- **CV Requirements:** Submit a CV that includes basic information such as address, age, nationality, etc., along with your h-index from Scopus and Web of Science (mandatory).
- **Career Story:** Provide a brief narrative (from a non-technical perspective) of your career growth, highlighting challenges you overcame and hardships you faced, with the aim of inspiring young scholars (maximum 500 words; optional but desirable).
- **Awards and Recognition:** Include any awards or recognition received at the international level (optional).
- **Submission Instructions:** All documents must be compiled into a single file and emailed to the General Secretary of the Kazakhstan Geosynthetics Society, Prof. Assel Tulebekova, at: [tulebekova\\_as@enu.kz](mailto:tulebekova_as@enu.kz)

**Recognition:**

- A certificate and recognition as one of the Top 10 Excellent International Young Minds in Geotechnics (EIYMG) from KazGS/KGS.
- Opportunity to share their research contributions and inspire young research scholars in domain related to geotechnical infrastructure for megacities and new capitals.
- Chance to establish collaborations and jointly guide students from Eurasian National University in the fields of geotechnics and geosynthetics engineering.
- Information about the EIYMG and the webinar series will be shared online via the websites and social media platforms of ISSMGE, KGS, and Eurasian National University.

# Upcoming Events

## (TC 301) the 4th TC301 International Symposium



INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM  
**PRESERVATION OF  
MONUMENTS  
& HISTORIC SITES**

TC301

4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium  
on

Geotechnical Engineering for  
the Preservation of Monuments  
& Historic Sites

16-18 September 2026  
Athens, Greece





# Upcoming Events



14 - 19 JUNE 2026  
VIENNA, AUSTRIA

## 21<sup>st</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOIL MECHANICS & GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

Geotechnical Challenges  
in a Changing Environment



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## 6th International Conference on GIS and Geoinformation Zoning for Disaster Mitigation (GIZ)

August 28-30, 2025 | Almaty, Kazakhstan

**Dear Colleagues and Friends,**

The Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society (KGS) and the Japanese Geotechnical Society (JGS), with the support of the ISSMGE and its technical committees ATC10, ATC19, and TC305, are pleased to announce the 6th International Conference on GIS and Geoinformation Zoning for Disaster Mitigation (GIZ) in Almaty, Kazakhstan, from August 28-30, 2025.

This conference serves as a vital platform for professionals, researchers, engineers, and public officials to exchange innovative research and technologies in geoinformatics, hazard zoning, geotechnics, earthquake engineering, and disaster prevention. Expanding its scope, the event will feature cutting-edge advancements in Building Information Modeling (BIM), Digital Twin, and Machine Learning to strengthen disaster mitigation strategies, historic sites, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and addressing the impact of natural disasters on cultural historical heritage.

**CALL FOR ABSTRACT**

### Important Dates

**Abstract Due Date:** 15 February 2025  
**Full Paper Due Date:** 31 May 2025

**Homepage:** <https://giz2025.org/>  
Submit your abstract through the homepage

**E-mail:** [aabisheva012@gmail.com](mailto:aabisheva012@gmail.com),  
[almagul\\_m75@mail.ru](mailto:almagul_m75@mail.ru)

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**Thank you for being part of  
our international family!**



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