

PRESENTATION OF THE BOOK OF THE SPANISH CONTRIBUTION TO THE 34 IGC OF ISTANBUL

On June 15, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. in the Assembly Hall of the National Geographic Institute (IGN) in Madrid, the presentation of the book containing the Spanish contributions to the Istanbul Congress took place. It was the first hybrid act of the country's geographers after the pandemic. The realization of these Spanish Contributions constitutes a historical tradition of Spanish Geography, from the very realization of the first International Geography Congresses in Antwerp 1871 or in Brussels 1922. At first it was a matter of compiling the works of geographers, military and representatives politicians who went to congresses held in different cities around the world. From 1948 in Lisbon, the university and academic Geography decided to order its contributions in summaries or news published in Geography magazines. In 1990, on the occasion of the Washington Congress, a state of the art of Spanish Geography 1970-1990 was made, and since 2002 in Seoul it was decided to publish a book that collects the works prepared from the central theme of the Congress. This tradition has continued to this day, with the present contribution.

The Spanish Contribution is always published bilingual, in Spanish and English. On this occasion, it was agreed to prepare a first part of the book reserved for the different associations or geographic institutions of the country show their mission and most recent contributions. One year after the centenary of the IGU, the Spanish Committee, the Spanish Geography Association (AGE), the Royal Geographical Society (RSG), the National Geographic Institute (IGN), the Army Geographical Service, the Catalan Geography Society (SCG)) and the Higher Center for Scientific Research (CSIC) explain their most recent achievements and their historical trajectory in spatial and territorial analysis. Then about 30 Spanish geographers address varied topics of Geography in Spain, from the natural environment to cartography or landscape, under the principle that it is a Geography of a Mediterranean country, a bridge between cultures and continents.

The presentation of the Spanish Contribution was attended by Professor Jorge Olcina-Cantos, President of the Spanish Committee of the UGI, Rubén C. Lois-González Vice President of the IGU and Manuel Valenzuela-Rubio, from the Royal Geographical Society, along with a representative of the IGN and another from the Catalan Society of Geography, on the Spanish side. The Vice-Presidents of the IGU, Barbaros Gonencil, presenting the IGC of Istanbul, and Nathalie Lemachard, explaining the general lines of the Paris Congress of 2022, also spoke. Finally, Michael Meadows, President of the IGU, who closed the event, explained the motivations and functions of the IGC in the trajectory of our discipline and encouraged participation in Istanbul and Paris, especially the Spanish-speaking geographic community.