

**Letter of support for
the organization of
the conference
"Artificial
Intelligence and
Geography"
Paris, 2027**



As President of the International Commission of the International Geographical Union (IGU), "*Geography of Digital Society and Connected World (C24.16)*", I wish to express our Commission's full support for the initiative to organize a scientific event in Paris, at the Sorbonne, dedicated to the intersections between artificial intelligence and geography.

Our Commission, active for over 30 years, studies how digital technologies transform societies and territories, and naturally now integrates reflections on artificial intelligence. Understanding how digital technologies- and now AI - alter the relationships of individuals, institutions, and businesses with the spaces they inhabit constitutes a central dimension of our research.

Many members of our Commission are already engaged in work on the uses, effects, and spatial implications of AI. This research, expected to develop further in the coming years, forms part of an international collective effort that this Parisian event will undoubtedly help to strengthen.

We consider that artificial intelligence should be approached both as a major new scientific input, capable of renewing our methods and research objects, and as a logical continuation of the progressive integration of digital technologies into territorial functioning. It opens new perspectives, without erasing the intellectual and conceptual heritage that underpins our geographical understanding of digital technologies.

In this regard, the *Geography of Digital Society and Connected World* Commission is fully prepared to participate actively in this event and to contribute to its scientific preparation.

Please accept, Ladies and Gentlemen, the expression of our keen interest and our strongest support for this ambitious and necessary initiative.

Saint-Etienne, 17 October 2025

Philippe Vidal
Chair, IGU Commission C24.16 – Geography of Digital Society and Connected World

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