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e-Newsletter - July 2026

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17-21 AUGUST 2026
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Dear Colleagues

I am writing this editorial as we near the 2026 Regional Conference in Istanbul. Despite the turbulent global landscape, I am confident that the geographers we are will share their visions and positions, along with the findings of their research. Our Secretary-General, Barbaros Gönençgil, and his dedicated team have worked tirelessly to ensure that this conference is nothing short of exceptional, despite the challenging circumstances in the Middle East. And if you are living in the northern hemisphere, including myself, summer has been characterized by relentless heat waves and devastating wildfires. I am afraid you will not enjoy hearing about the condition of my garden! Despite all this, I'll be happy to meet and see you all in Istanbul.



On the scientific front, I find some comfort in pondering the Tara Drifting Polar Station, which is set to traverse both poles until 2046! Scientists from various fields and backgrounds, as well as artists and journalists, will team up to collect data and carry out experiments in temperatures ranging from -20° to -45° in the midst of the winter polar night. The objective is to reveal the myriad mysteries of this setting, which is essential for comprehending the underlying factors and consequences of climate change.

In the meantime, and on a point of the world map, the ISC-UNESCO meeting took place in Paris in July. It focused on scientific freedom, the safety of scientists, and the need for science systems to be more open, inclusive, and resilient. The discussion also emphasized the potential of science to enhance sustainable development, evidence-driven decision-making, and global collaboration (more information on: <https://unescoiran.com/advancing-scientific-freedom-and-the-safety-of-scientists/>).

On another front CIPSH, of which the IGU is a member, has renewed its long-standing partnership with UNESCO. Its recent work has highlighted the growing importance of the humanities in addressing today's global challenges. For the IGU, this is especially relevant because CIPSH remains a key interface for interdisciplinary work linking geography, the humanities, sustainability, and international scientific cooperation.

With regard to the IGU agenda, I would like to highlight the holding of an extraordinary online General Assembly on 16 July, dedicated to the establishment of the IGU's headquarters. Full details on this subject will be provided in the next e-newsletter. Two important and special meetings are on the agenda. The first is EC meeting in Nepal in November: it will be the opportunity to meet our colleagues of Nepal Geographical Association and take part in an international conference on "the Future of Himalaya".

Finally, don't miss the call for sessions for the next IGU thematic conference, to be held in Paris in July 2027 under the theme: What AI Does to the World(s): Critical Geographic Perspectives? <https://ai-geography.sciencesconf.org/resource/page/id/3/>

After the IRC in Istanbul, we look forward to seeing you there!

Nathalie LEMARCHAND
IGU Président

Statement of Condolence and Solidarity from the IGU

Statement of Condolence and Solidarity from the International Geographical Union

The International Geographical Union (IGU) extends its deepest condolences to the people of Venezuela following the devastating earthquake that has brought such profound loss and suffering.

At this difficult time, our thoughts are with all those who have lost loved ones, those who have been injured or displaced, and the many families who continue to await news of relatives and friends. We also pay tribute to the courage and dedication of the emergency services, rescue teams, healthcare professionals, volunteers, and all those working tirelessly under extremely challenging conditions to search for survivors, recover the missing, and provide relief to affected communities.

As an international community committed to advancing geographical knowledge and fostering cooperation across nations, the IGU recognises the immense human, social, and environmental consequences of natural disasters which are embedded in complex interactions between natural processes and anthropogenic factors, particularly in the context of the Anthropocene. We stand in solidarity with the people of Venezuela as they confront the immediate challenges of rescue and recovery and begin the longer process of rebuilding communities, restoring livelihoods, and strengthening resilience for the future.

On behalf of the global geographical community, we express our heartfelt sympathy and unwavering support to the people of Venezuela during this time of tragedy. We hope that those affected will find strength in the compassion and assistance of the international community, and we honour the resilience and determination that will guide the nation's recovery.

The IGU also reaffirms its commitment to advancing international scientific cooperation in the study of natural hazards, disaster risk reduction, environmental resilience, and sustainable development. Through research, education, and global collaboration, geographers contribute to a deeper understanding of the processes that shape our world and to the development of knowledge that can help societies better prepare for, respond to, and recover from future disasters.

Click to download: [IGU Statement of Condolence and Solidarity for People of Venezuela, French Version](#)

Click to download: [IGU Statement of Condolence and Solidarity for People of Venezuela, Spanish Version](#)

International Geographical Union (IGU)

IGU Executive Committee (EC) meeting , Naples, Italy

The second IGU EC meeting of the year 2026 took place from 18th to 21st April 2026 at the Research Centre Calza Bini, Department of Architecture, University of Naples Federico II. The Executive Committee (EC) meeting was chaired by IGU President Nathalie Lemarchand, who welcomed all the EC members. The meeting covered various organizational and operational matters. Discussions included the 2026 EC meeting schedule in Istanbul and Nepal, the financial report, registration of the IGU as a legal international association in France, opportunities for EU funding, and preparations for the 2026 EC elections. The EC also discussed the proposal for an IGU Advisory Committee and Special Councillor, Task Officers, and approved the establishment of the IGU Gender Equality Committee. Updates were provided on the 2026 EC elections, the IGU Commission Excellence Award, the 2025 Annual Report, online meetings with National Committees and Commission Chairs, membership requests, and progress on expanding IGU national membership. The Committee also reviewed the 2026 IGU Honours and Awards, approved the establishment of the GeoAI Task Force, and discussed the IGU Survey, participation of Global South geographers at IGU events, the IGU website, social media, the e-Newsletter, publishing activities, IGUTube, and the IGU Journals Project. The Committee also received updates on upcoming IGU conferences and activities, including the International Geography Olympiad (iGeo), the IGU Regional Conference in Istanbul, the IGU Thematic Conference at Aligarh Muslim University, India, the Artificial Intelligence in Geography Thematic Conference in Paris, the International Geographical Congress in Melbourne, the GORILLA Conference in Uganda, and activities of the International Science Council (ISC), SCGES, FIG, GeoNight, CODATA, UN-GGIM, and GeoUnions. EC in Naples has been organised by VP Maria Paradiso. The meeting concluded with discussions under other business and appreciation to the local organizing team for the excellent arrangements.

International Geographical Union (IGU) Executive Committee (EC) Meeting

Saturday 18th, April and Monday 20th April 2026, **Naples / Italy**

Research Centre Calza Bini, Department of Architecture, University of Naples Federico II



From Right: Prof. Barbaros Gonencgil, Prof. Holly Barcus, Prof. Rubén Camilo Lois González, Prof. Maria Paradiso, Prof. Marek Wieckowski, Prof. Nathalie Lemarchand, Prof. Anindita Datta, Prof. Michael Meadows, Prof. Bojie Fu, Prof. Bernardo Mançano Fernandes, Prof. Pankaj Kumar



IGU ANNOUNCES HONORS AND AWARDS FOR 2026

Following the recommendation of the IGU Honors and Awards Committee, chaired by former IGU Vice President Professor Joos Droogleever Fortuijn, we are delighted to announce the winners of our 2026 awards. Congratulations to our worth winners!

The IGU Lauréats d'honneur, which recognizes individuals who have achieved particular distinction, or who have rendered outstanding service in the work of the IGU or in international geography is awarded to:

KNOWLES, Richard (United Kingdom)
KWAN, Mei-Po (China-Hong Kong)
MATSUMOTO, Jun (Japan)

The IGU Distinguished Practice Award recognizes geographers whose work in research, geographical practice, or application is notable for its outstanding engagement and collaboration with diverse non-academic communities, and is awarded to:

CHEN, MIN (China-Beijing)
LAHIRI-DUTT, Kuntala (Australia)
ROMERO ARAVENA, Hugo Iván (Chile)
ROWE-GONZALEZ, Francisco Javier (United Kingdom)

IGU Early Career Awards recognizes outstanding, innovative young geographers. Eligibility for the IGU Early Career Award in Geography is restricted to individuals who received an earned terminal degree within the last ten years. The awardees are:

RAN, Zihan (China-Hong Kong)
LIU, Dong (China-Beijing)
SI, Qiao (China-Beijing)
TADAKI, Marc (New Zealand)

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AND LEGALLY COMPLIANT**

IGU Thematic Conference



What AI Does to the World(s): Critical Geographic Perspectives?

IGU thematic conference

 Paris (France)
5-8 Jul 2027

Artificial Intelligence boom impacts geography and the way to produce geography: far from being immaterial, AI's multiple layers and scales are embedded in a complex spatial dynamics that geography can help debunk and understand in very original manners. The conference will gather contribution that both define and critically approach the multiple challenges that AI opens for our understanding of space, places and territories.

More and more successful AI devices open opportunities for specific research in geography and related studies, such as climate, hydrography, biodiversity, urban planning, transport/mobilities, as well as cultures and societies.

As a tool, AI offers new forms of knowledge representation. Generative AI however also leads to misinformation, through algorithmic biases, notably pointing out to "fake geographies" and proxy knowledge. Through its power needs, AI's impacts on environment is increasing in proportions that can endanger resource availability: AI also leads to understanding for the subsoil and the close layers of the atmospheres as new frontiers. Use of AI remains very uneven and access to it raises question of spatial justice. Lack of transparency and the multiplication of rogue actors lead to question both the possibility and place of regulatory policies that could ensure safety and benefits around the uses of this technology. Analysis of these will not only promote a critical understanding of AI's consequences for spatial knowledge: it will enhance the importance of geography to analyze the profound changes that AI induce in all aspects of our existences, and that of our planet.

This conference aims to deepen our understanding of emerging patterns in the impact of AI in geography studies. It will also provide a platform for interdisciplinary exchanges. By fostering dialogue among international scholars, the conference explores IA opportunities and threats in the diversity of their spatial components.

website: <https://ai-geography.sciencesconf.org/resource/page/id/3>

To attend the Gala Dinner, please log in to the registration system and obtain your gala ticket.



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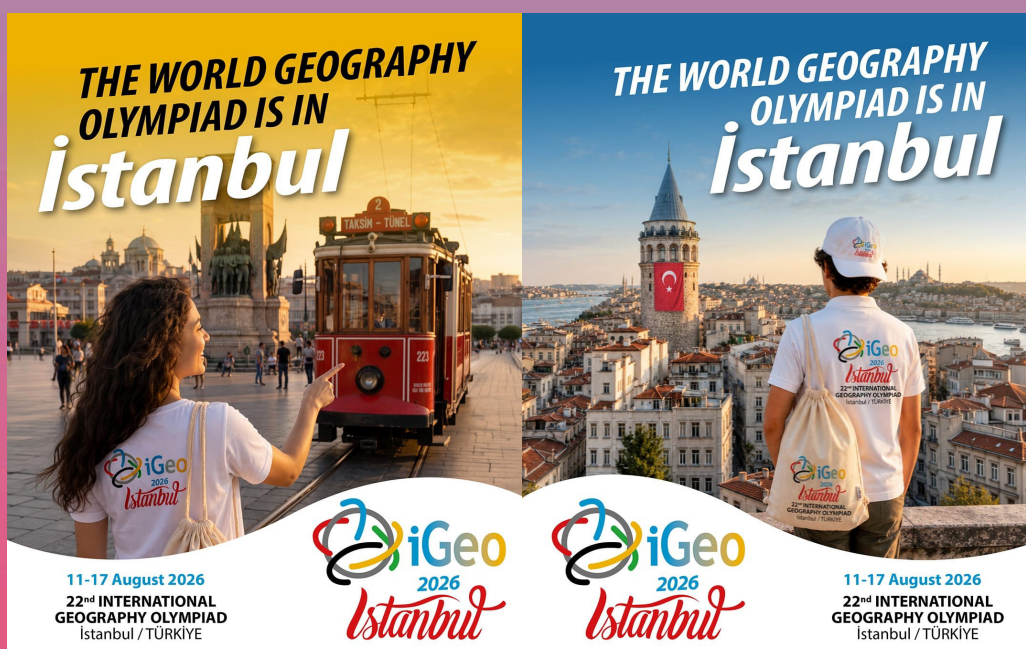
INCISU

GALA DINNER
ON BOSPHORUS

DATE: 19 AUGUST 2026 | TIME: 20.00 - 23.00
reserve your place - limited capacity | www.irc2026.org

International Geography Olympiad

Join the world's brightest geography students in Istanbul, Türkiye.



THE WORLD GEOGRAPHY OLYMPIAD IS IN Istanbul

11-17 August 2026
22nd INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHY OLYMPIAD
Istanbul / TÜRKİYE

THE WORLD GEOGRAPHY OLYMPIAD IS IN Istanbul

11-17 August 2026
22nd INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHY OLYMPIAD
Istanbul / TÜRKİYE



MEET OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Prof. Dr. Tolga Gorum

From Anthropogenic Disturbances to Sediment Cascades:
Mass Movements in an Era of Compound Extremes

17 AUGUST, 2026 | 6:00 PM - 6:40 PM

Opening Ceremony & Opening Keynote

From Anthropogenic Disturbances to
Sediment Cascades: Mass Movements in an
Era of Compound Extremes

Monday, August 17, 2026 | 16:15 - 18:40
| Room 01 - Piri Reis Room

Convenor/Chair : Tolga Görüm

Keynote Lecture

**GEONIGHT: Ten Years Of Geography,
Connecting People Around The World**

Tuesday, August 18, 2026 | 09:00 - 10:00 | Room
01 - Piri Reis Room

Convenor/Chair : Arturo Gallia & Nathalie
Lemarchand



MEET OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Prof. Arturo Gallia

Prof. Dr. Nathalie Lemarchand

GEONIGHT: Ten years of geography,
connecting people around the world

18 AUGUST, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM



MEET OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dallen J. Timothy, PhD

Connecting Worlds through Shared Heritage:
Geopolitics, Borders, and the Future of Tourism

19 AUGUST, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Keynote Lecture

Connecting Worlds through Shared Heritage:
Geopolitics, Borders, and the Future of Tourism

Wednesday, August 19, 2026 | 09:00 - 10:00 |
Room 01 - Piri Reis Room

<https://irc2026.org/program/>

IGU and other Conferences



Place: Department of Geography,
Faculty of Science, Aligarh Muslim
University, Aligarh INDIA

www.amu.ac.in



IGU Conference 2026
AMU · Aligarh · India

**International Geographical Union
Thematic Conference**
on
**21st Century Urbanizing World: Emerging
Challenges, Circulations, Connectivity**

 **3-5 November 2026 (formerly)**



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

 *This event is currently being held in abeyance until further notice. Inconvenience caused is deeply regretted.*



 **Third United Nations
World Geospatial Information Congress**

Navigating the Next Frontier:
Embracing the Digital Renaissance and a New Geospatial Paradigm

Ritz-Carlton Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
16-19 November 2026



Photo from: Discover Jeddah: Coastal Experiences & Top Attractions - Visit Saudi Official Website

website: <https://www.un.org/globalgeospatial/en>

CONFERENCES

Frontiers in Telecoupling and Metacoupling Research for Addressing Global Sustainability Challenges

International Summer School on Geography and Sustainability 2026



2026: Frontiers in Telecoupling and Metacoupling Research for Addressing Global Sustainability Challenges, International Summer School on Geography and Sustainability 2026, August 9-16, 2026, Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China. [Weblink](#)

2026: IGU CDES Regional Conference "Geographies of America and the transformation of economic spaces in global context" **September 9 to 11, 2026**, Fortaleza, Brazil. [Weblink](#)

2026: AIGF DK "Geography put to the test by uncertainty" Congress organized by the International Association of Francophone Geography (AIGF) in partnership with Cheikh Anta Diop University, 24-27 November, 2026, Dakar, Senegal [Weblink](#)

2026: International Workshop on Geography and Sustainability, November 27-29, 2026, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, HK, China [Weblink](#)

2026: International Conference on Social Geography and Development, 4 – 7 December, 2026, Beijing, China [Weblink](#)

2027: IGU thematic conference What AI Does to the World(s): Critical Geographic Perspectives?, 5-8 Jul 2027 Paris, France, [Weblink](#)

2027: American association of Geographers (AAG) meeting 2027, 8-12 February, New York, [Weblink](#)

2027: International Data Week 2027, 20-23 September, 2027, Capetown international conference Centre, [Weblink](#)



IGU Executive Committee Outreach Activities



IGU President, Nathalie Lemarchand in China, in June 2026, for the 5th Workshop of Asian Young Geographers at South China Normal University in Guangzhou, China. Later, she visited the School of Geography at Nanjing Normal University, in Nanjing.

Vice President Holly Barcus participated in the IGU-Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems. Genoa, Italy. July 6-10, 2026.

Immediate Past President Mike Meadows attended the 5th Workshop of Asian Young Geographers at South China Normal University in Guangzhou, China and a conference in Inner Mongolia celebrating 2026 World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought.

Secretary General Barbaros Gonencgil participated in iGeo preparation event in Istanbul, Türkiye.

Vice President Anindita Datta participated in the International Migration Research Network IMISCOE Annual Meeting held in Girona, Spain, from 29 June to 2 July, where she deliberated on "Equitable Partnerships in Migration Research" in the DEIC Special Session.

Vice President Maria Paradiso participated in The 5th International Scientific Symposium organised by the Romano-Hellenic Division (RHD) of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) was held on 3-5 June 2026 at Villa Celimontana – Mattei Palace (Via della Navicella, 12, Rome), the seat of the Società Geografica Italiana (SGI).

Vice President Bernardo and colleagues from the National Association for Graduate Studies and Research in Geography and the Association of Brazilian Geographers at the 21st National Meeting of Geographers, at the Federal University of Bahia, on July 22, 2026, during the establishment of the Brazilian IGU Commission and Meeting of the steering committee of the IGU Commission on Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

Vice President Marek WIĘCKOWSKI - promoted the Geography of Borders at the University of Szczecin on the occasion of Geographer's Day in Poland.

IGU Springer Book Series

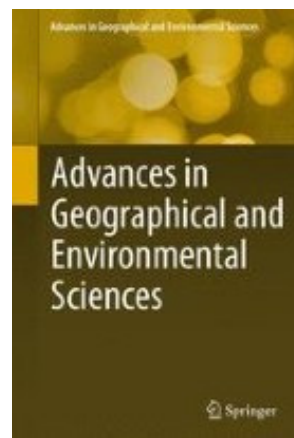
Book series

Advances in Geographical and Environmental Sciences

Series Editor

Yukio Himiyama, Subhash Anand, Rubén Camilo Lois González

Call for Book Proposal



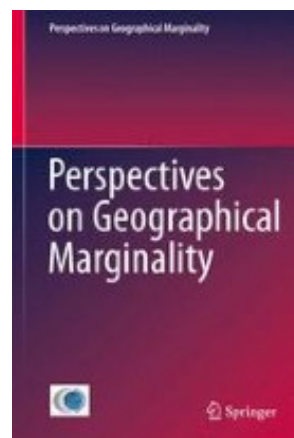
Book series

Perspectives on Geographical Marginality

Series Editor

Walter Leimgruber, Etienne Nel, Stanko Pelc

Call for Book Proposal



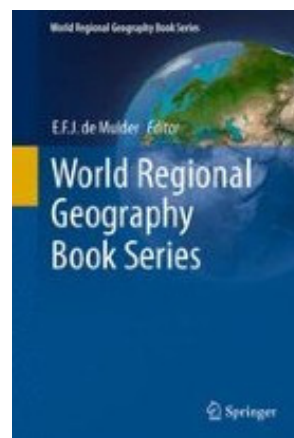
Book series

World Regional Geography Book Series

Series Editor

Eduardo F.J. De Mulder

Call for Book Proposal



IGU Elgar Book Series

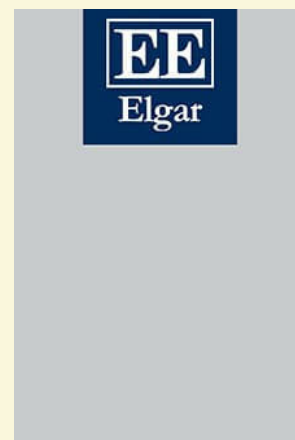
Book series

The International Geographical Union Series on Contemporary Geographies

Series Editor

Iain Hay and Holly R. Barcus

[Call for Book Proposal](#)



IGU JOURNAL DATABASE

WELCOME TO THE NEWLY REVISED AND UPDATED IGU JOURNAL DATABASE

The International Geographical Union (IGU) is pleased to unveil its newly revised and updated world-wide listing of geographical and geography-related journals. Its aim is to provide a definitive listing of all journals published by geographical organizations, ranging from departments to national organizations, together with a more tentative listing of journals that can be regarded as “**geographically related**”.

This latter set are defined by four criteria: whether the journal explicitly encourages contributions from geographers; whether the editor or members of the editorial board are geographers; whether the journal routinely publishes articles written by geographers; and whether the journal is cited by other geographical journals.

The database includes **1123 journals**.

[Click here to access Updated Journal Database](#)

IGU Statement on Academic Freedom and Ethics (IGU-SAFE)

IGU Statement on Academic Freedom and Ethics guidelines document is now on IGU website for access. [Click to Download](#)

Recent Books



Book:

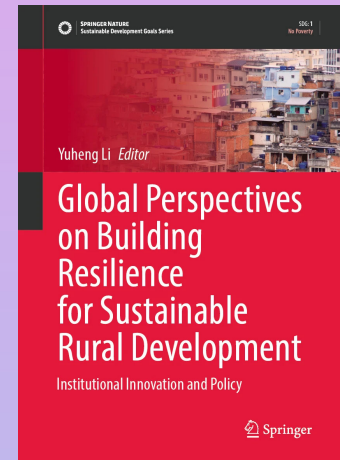
Global Perspectives on Building Resilience for Sustainable Rural Development: Institutional Innovation and Policy

Editor

Yuheng Li

The Springer book link :

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-96-6149-7>



Book:

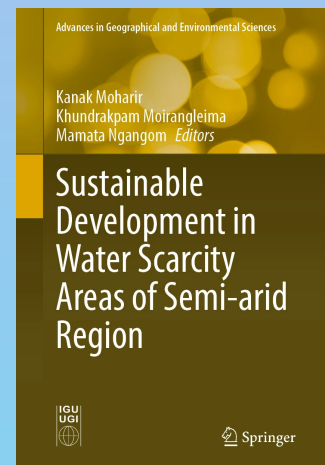
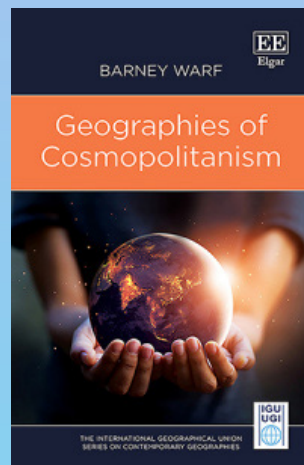
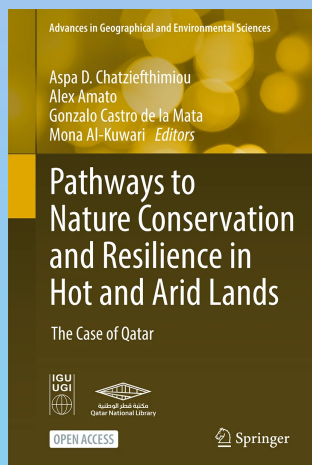
Misinformation in the Digital Age An American Infodemic

Editor

Monica Stephens, Department of Geography, Durham University, UK, Jessie P.H. Poon, Department of Geography, University at Buffalo, US and Gordon K.S. Tan, Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Singapore University of Technology and Design, Singapore

Edward Elgar book link :

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781789904895>



Recent Books & Articles



Book:

Extreme Weather and the Media Communicating Disasters and Climate Change

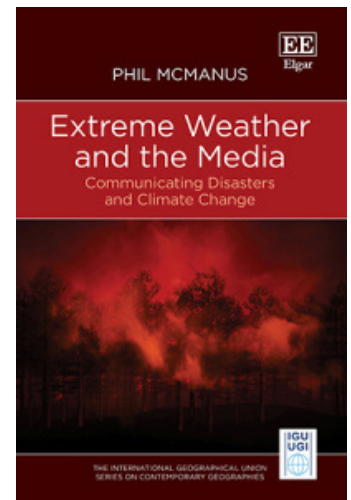
[The International Geographical Union Series on Contemporary Geographies](#)

Editor

Phil McManus, University of Sydney, Australia

Edward Elgar book

<https://www.e-elgar.com/shop/gbp/extreme-weather-and-the-media-9781035338887.html>



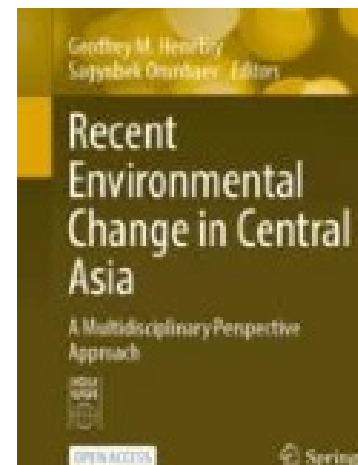
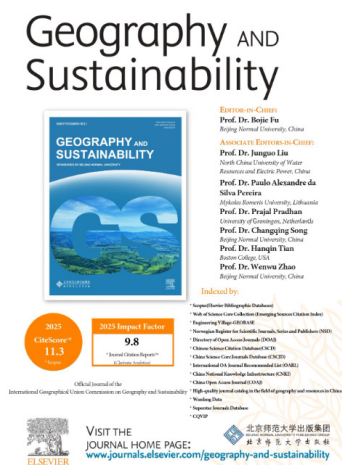
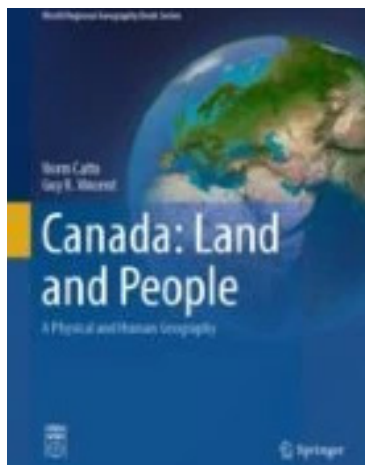
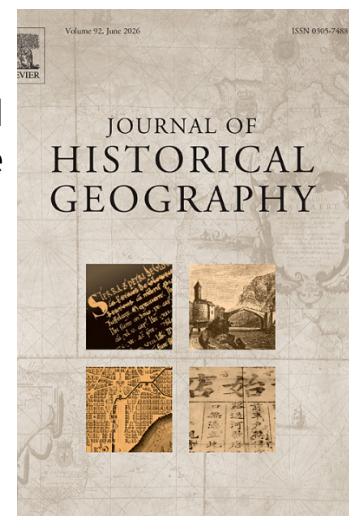
Article:

Historical geography studies in Türkiye: Evolution, research topics, and emerging trends (2020–2025), Journal of Historical Geography, Volume 93, Pages 16-26, 2026, ISSN 0305-7488,

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhg.2026.04.006>.

Author

İlker Yiğit



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[International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences \(CIPSH\)](#)

[Committee on Data \(CODATA\) International Science Council \(ISC\)](#)

[American Association of Geographers \(AAG\)](#)

[International Association of Geomorphologists \(IAG\)](#)

[Standing Committee for Gender Equality in Science \(SCGES\)](#)

[ISC GeoUnions](#)

[UNESCO International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development \(IYBSSD\)](#)

[The World Data System \(WDS\)](#)

[United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management \(UN-GGIM\)](#)

[El Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales](#)

[Festival International de Géographie \(FIG\)](#)

[International Association for Promoting Geoethics \(IAPG\)](#)

[Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia \(IPGH\)](#)

[Société de Géographie](#)



Hommage à Yves Lacoste (1929 – 2026)

The IGU regrets to announce the passing of a French geographer whose great influence on the discipline has been widely recognized. Below is a letter of announcement compiled by Amaël Cattaruzza, Paris 8 University, French Institute of Geopolitics (IFG) and Past-President of the French National Committee of Geography (CNFG).

Yves Lacoste passed away on 20 June 2026. This is a source of great sadness and a considerable loss for the field of geography. As the figure who revitalised geopolitics in France in the 1970s, and as the founder and editor of the journal *Hérodote*, he left a profound mark on French and international geography.

He was primarily a man of debate and an intellectual provocateur. In the 1960s, he set new standards with his work on underdevelopment, having begun his career as a teacher at the Lycée Bugeaud in Algeria between 1952 and 1955. There, he came into contact with anti-colonialist and independence movements. In 1965, his book *The Geography of Underdevelopment* revealed that underdevelopment is not just a matter of late growth, but rather arises from the unequal power dynamics in the organization of global, regional and local spaces. These dynamics often stem from the legacy of colonialism. This text can be considered a forerunner to his later critical and activist approach to the field.

In 1976, his pamphlet *La Géographie, ça sert d'abord à faire la guerre* (Geography serves, first and foremost, to wage war) criticized geography teaching for its descriptive and bland nature.[1] The subject, however, constitutes strategic knowledge for many actors in their rivalries and quest for power. Military applications provide a perfect example of this, as the mastery of space at various scales plays a considerable role in battles and wars. The epistemological shift introduced by the question “What is the purpose of geography?” rather than “What is geography?” refocuses on its applications and actions. He continued the legacy of his predecessors, Jean Dresch and Pierre George, by advocating for geography as a strategic instrument and a means of revealing power dynamics. His steadfast commitment to this perspective is undoubtedly one of his most significant achievements.

Even before his methodological contribution, the strength of his work lay in reintroducing, within the geographical community, an epistemological debate on the discipline's key issues. The radical decision he took in the early 1980s, alongside the *Hérodote* team, to reintroduce the term “geopolitics” into French academic circles, which had been banned after the Second World War, was strongly contested. Sometimes it provoked fierce rejection from within the discipline and from beyond.[2]

Yves Lacoste's unique perspective on geography undeniably stirred strong reactions, not only due to his unwavering methodological convictions, but also because of his bold and contentious nature. In an academic environment not known for fostering debate, this approach ultimately led to a few setbacks in his career. Specifically, his promotion to professor was temporarily put on hold in the early 1980s, a decision that was likely influenced by his willingness to engage in controversy.

This debate, which features prominently in the early issues of *Hérodote*, forms part of our shared heritage, whether or not one agrees with Lacoste's methodological approaches.

Let us then revisit these approaches that have led to the resurgence of the term “geopolitics,” by altering the focus of study and the geographer's perspective. Geopolitics, as he practices it, is foremost a geographical method aimed at uncovering spatial strategies and relations of domination. It is no longer confined to analyzing the tools of power in space, but rather seeks to expose the underlying political logics of domination across various settings and on diverse levels.

The objective is to use cartography to uncover the diverse spatial arrangements of the participants and the resulting territorial disputes. For Lacoste, space is no longer a given, but a matter of contention. It is the subject of contradictory representations that become the heart of geopolitical analysis. His approach was therefore resolutely critical and radical, rooted in the belief that geographical knowledge must be reclaimed by the people as a tool for strategic decision-making.

Moreover, beyond his methods, his passing challenges us through the message he has passed on to us – a message that makes us his heirs, each in our own way. This message is simple: geography is a tool for citizens' emancipation, a necessary form of knowledge for identifying power dynamics, understanding rivalries and combating inequalities.

Today, in the midst of significant geopolitical and climate shifts, his message holds more relevance than ever

SOURCE: <https://igu-online.org/hommage-a-yves-lacoste-1929-2026/>



Emerita Sarah Witham Bednarz

source: <https://igu-online.org/in-memoriam-professor-emerita-sarah-witham-bednarz/>

It is with deep sadness that we share the news of the passing of Professor Emerita Sarah Witham Bednarz, a distinguished scholar whose work shaped generations of geography educators and researchers.

Renowned for her contributions to spatial thinking, the educational use of geospatial technologies, and teacher education, she helped strengthen the intellectual foundations of our field. Across borders, she led and anchored many of the international projects and collaborations that have come to define geography education.

For many entering the geography education community, she was a trusted mentor whose nurturing spirit helped young scholars build confidence and curiosity. She will be remembered for her tireless energy and leadership in defending the place of geography in schools, universities, and public life, far beyond any single nation. A past president of the American Association of Geographers, she was also a devoted, long-standing member of the IGU Commission on Geographical Education.

Her contributions will endure in the research she advanced and the people she mentored. We will miss the roadmap she drew for our field.

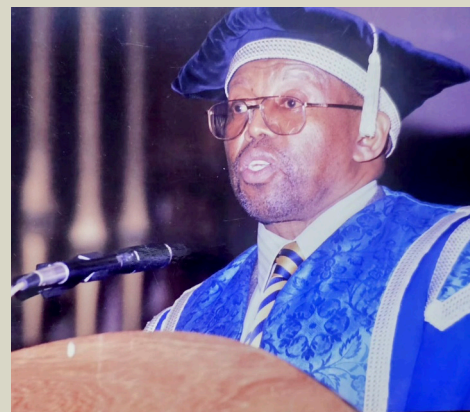
It is with profound sadness that we report to the passing of one of South Africa's most distinguished geographers, Professor Lindisizwe Morris Magi, who died on Monday, 27 July 2026. The news of his passing has been received with deep sorrow by colleagues, former students, and friends across the discipline, both within South Africa and abroad, for whom he was not merely a respected scholar but a mentor, a unifier, and, to many, a cherished friend.

Professor Magi served the International Geographical Union with the same distinction and commitment that characterised his service at home, representing South African geography with dignity on the international stage during a period in which the country's re-entry into the global academic community carried particular significance. Among the notable achievements of his international service was his role, together with some distinguished colleagues, in hosting a highly successful international conference in 2002 at which Tata Nelson Mandela was honoured with a Planet Humanity Award. This occasion stood as one of the most memorable in the Society's history and a fitting testament to the esteem in which Professor Magi and his fellow organisers were held.

May his memory continue to inspire the community he served so faithfully, and may he rest in eternal peace.

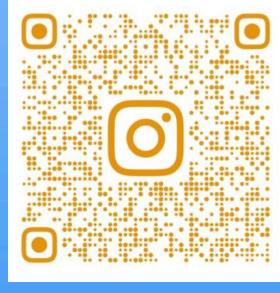
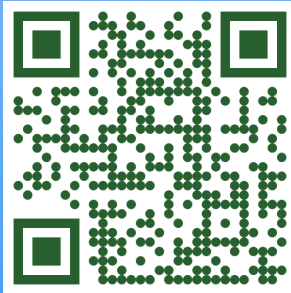
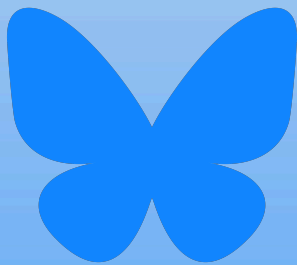
With acknowledgments to the Society of South African Geographers

source: <https://igu-online.org/obituary-former-igu-vice-president-professor-lindisize-magi/>



**Former IGU Vice-President
Professor Lindisize Magi**

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Scan the QR code or use the link above to access and follow our new official Instagram account as well as other social media accounts.

International Geographical Union

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