Our Challenge

ONE EARTH

XXXVIII GEOLOGORUM CONVENTUS
20 24
BERLIN - GERMANY
MENTE ET MALLEO

GERMANY BIDS FOR 37TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

Berlin 2024

THE INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

The IGC is one of the most renowned and traditional scientific conferences in the Earth sciences. Usually hosting more than 6000 attendees, it is a congress of global importance. Organised under the umbrella of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), the main purpose of the congress is to encourage the advancement of fundamental and applied research.

The scientific program revolves around issues of general importance. Geological excursions as part of the congress are an excellent opportunity to discover the hosting continent. The “Geo Expo” is the ideal platform to expose the newest geo-technologies in the applied geosciences, to develop business contacts and to enhance the debate over the geological sciences in the public realm.

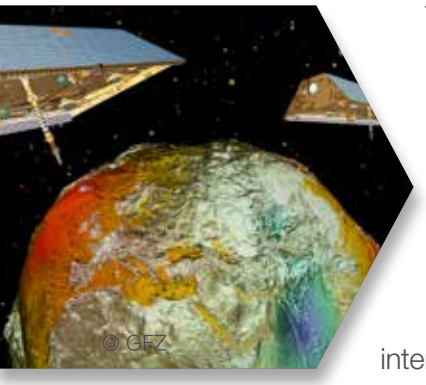
After consulting the main German geoscientific stakeholders the German National Committee for the IUGS decided to submit a bid to host the 37th IGC in 2024 in the city of Berlin. It would be the first IGC held in Germany in over 130 years.

Under consideration is an idea to join the traditional IGC with the IUGG (International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics) General Assembly.
This new format could cover the full range of geological, geophysical and geodesy themes. A World Geoscience Congress in this format would present a platform for a truly interdisciplinary approach to addressing large challenges and complex geoscientific issues, as well as opening the exchange between the different communities in geosciences. Final decisions will be taken by the IUGG General Assembly in 2019 in Montréal.

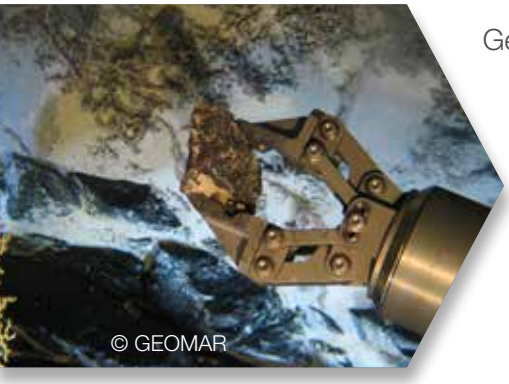
GERMAN EXCELLENCE IN GEOSCIENCES

The Tsunami Early Warning System in the Indian Ocean developed by German research institutions is a model and “Best Practice-Example” for international cooperation, know-how-transfer and capacity building.

The RV Polarstern is a research icebreaker and one of few research vessels worldwide able to sail Arctic and Antarctic waters during winter months. It exemplifies the common sharing of large research infrastructures by German and international research partners.



To understand the dynamic processes of the Earth system and their effects on global change and the human habitat a multidisciplinary research approach is required. The successful contributions of the German geosciences to Earth system monitoring and –modelling with modern satellites is only one example for interdisciplinary collaboration along new lines.



German geosciences are committed to carrying out ambitious basic research geared towards practical applications. Research findings flow directly into society and policymaking processes or are channeled into commercial innovations.

FRANCE & POLAND OFFICIAL PARTNERS

France and Poland are official partner countries in the bid for the 37th IGC: one of the central scientific themes will be the Variscan orogeny which extends from Poland to the tips of France and the United Kingdom and further to Spain. Europe as the place of origin in geosciences still has many hidden treasures which have yet to be discovered. France and Poland will contribute significantly to the scientific program, the field excursions program and the organisation of summer schools.

Ploumanach Bretagne, France © BRGM

Błędne Skały Stołowe Mountains National Park, Poland © PGS

BERLIN
AN ATTRACTIVE VENUE

There are many good reasons to travel to Berlin. The city offers incomparable value for money and a choice of modern hotels. Berlin is famous not only for its rich cultural life but also for its thriving start-up scene and universitary spin-off companies. History comes alive in Berlin, where the old and the new blend to create exciting contrasts in the cityscape. In addition to the bustling city life, there are many green oases for rest and relaxation. Berlin offers something to everyone – from the expected to innumerable unexpected surprises.
Visit the locations of some fundamental experiments and discoveries in the history of geosciences and the sites where Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859) and Alfred Wegener (1880-1930) among others developed their pioneering theories which revolutionized our perspective on the world.

Brandenburg Gate, Berlin

The Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin at night with Brachiosaurus brancai - with 13.27 meters the world largest skeleton presented in a museum © MfN

THE PARTNERS

German Partners

- Deutsches Nationalkomitee für die IUGS (DNK-IUGS)
- Helmholtz Centre Potsdam
  GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences
- Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR)
- Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI)
- GeoUnion with its 36 geoscientific supporting associations
- Deutsche Geologische Gesellschaft - Geologische Vereinigung (DGGV)
- Nationales Komitee für Geodäsie und Geophysik der Bundesrepublik Deutschland (NKGG)
- Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin - Leibniz Institute for Evolution and Biodiversity Science (MfN)
- Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung (SGN)
- GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel

French Partners

- French Geological Survey (BRGM)
- French National IUGS Committee
- Société Géologique de France
- French Academy of Sciences

Polish Partners

- Polish Geological Survey
- Polish Academy of Sciences

Coordination and Contact

Helmholtz Centre Potsdam
GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences
International Office
Christine Bismuth
Telegrafenberg, 14473 Potsdam, Germany
bismuth@gfz-potsdam.de
Phone: + 49 (0)331 288 1033

TREASURES OF GERMAN GEOLOGY

Germany: an attractive, multifaceted country for visitors with geoscientific interest and beyond.

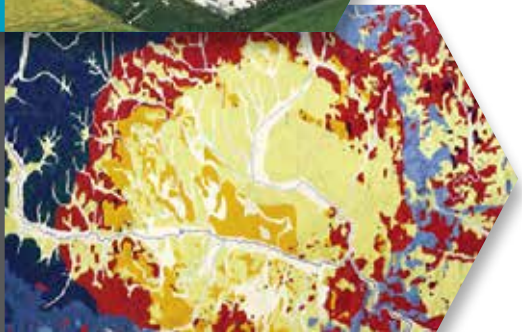
The German "Ruhrgebiet" with it's coal mines was the heart of Germany's 19th-century industrialization. Today the mine "Zollverein" has become a UNESCO World Heritage site.
© Jochen Tack / Stiftung Zollverein

The Elbe delta is an example of the various geomorphological processes along the German shore lines.
© natura2000-unterelbe.de

The Alps are a typical example of a collisional belt and a mountain range where the nappe theory was conceived and rapidly consolidated.
© MichaelUtech

The Continental Deep Drilling Project at the Geopark Bavaria-Bohemia. With more than 9100 m one of the deepest drill holes in the world.
© GFZ

The geological map of the meteorite impact crater at the Nördlinger Ries.
© geopark-ries.de



TREASURES OF GERMAN GEOLOGY

Propalaeotherium Messel Pit is a world famous fossil site for understanding the living environment of the Eocene between 57 and 36 million years ago.
© Forschungsinstitut und Naturkunde-museum Senckenberg

In the German Eifel region, Maars were originally described. These water-filled crater lakes offer perfect continental climate archives.
© Eifel-Touristik und Werbung GmbH

The famous Cretaceous chalk cliffs of Rügen, a UNESCO World Heritage site, represent type localities for prograding glacier deformation structures.
© RicoK69

The geothermal research platform "Groß Schönebeck", NE of Berlin, represents an important pilot project for the geothermal technology development in Europe.
© A. Saadat, GFZ

The National Park "Elbe Sandstone Mountains" is an erosional clastic witness of inversion tectonics in Central Europe with applied implications.
© subtik