

The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors Comité de Liaison des Géomètres Européens

EU-Register of interest representatives ID-510083513941-24 - www.clge.eu

Osijek, 19 December 2020

To CLGE Delegates, Members and European Surveyors,

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Undoubtedly, 2020 has been a challenging year. Many of us have suffered due to the health, economic, and social effects of the crisis. On behalf of CLGE I express my warm appreciation to those who have found the resources to show us their solidarity.

Despite these difficult times, CLGE has been resilient and quickly transformed its activities to blended or fully online events. The Skopje General Assembly was ready to be staged, but had unfortunately to be rescheduled to Spring 2022. The Athens General Assembly took place in a mostly online manner. One can say without hesitation that it was a good event. Our GISCAD-OV project, under heavy pressure as well, is still on track and our staff work hard to face the many issues. We were even able to organise our elections and to launch the activities of the incoming Executive Board. Our objective is to consolidate the progress made so far and to reach out for new goals. We will propose a new strategy based on EU Relations, Policy and Professional Practice, Projects, Professional Qualifications, Young Surveyors, including the Contest, and Digital Strategy / Communications.

Fortunately, the digital initiatives begun by my predecessor, Maurice Barbieri, allowed us to use tools that were already well in place, even before the pandemic. We organised a multitude of online meetings, a few seminars and have many more in mind. The Dynamic Professional Knowledge Base project was revitalised, the Geomatics on the Move prizes were awarded during the European Space Week, more recently the CLGE Corporate Members Group was launched and a Team concentrating on our Digital Strategy and Communications has started its work. The new year will see other activities, led by the Vice-Presidents.

Since our theme of this year 2020 was not fully realised, the Executive Board proposes to maintain our responsibility in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030 as a central subject for next year. We would like to put the emphasis on one of them: SDG 05 'Gender Equality'. A dynamic female crew will moderate the theme "Women in Surveying"; men are welcome to join.

Soon, we will go on with the second track of CLGE's Contest, with the finals during an online event on 25 February 2021, normally in the afternoon, and the awarding ceremony embedded in the – also online – celebrations of the Global Surveyors Day, on 23 March 2021.



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We hope that our "real" Athens General Assembly, planned for on the end of May or early in June 2021 will allow us to reunite in a physical meeting. The exact date will be announced in January. The second General Assembly of 2021 in Finland is under preparation, including the VII CLGE Conference of the European Surveyor.

You can see that we have plenty of plans and a lot of work to do. Your personal participation will be essential if we want to reach our ambitious goals. Before that, we will use the imminent holidays to reflect and to gather the required strength for the year to come.

Allow me, in the name of the CLGE Executive Board and staff, to wish all of you and your families a peaceful Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2021.

Sincerely yours,

Vladimir Krupa CLGE President