

European Association of Geographers

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What is the purpose of EUROGEO?



EUROGEO has been in existence since 1979, first established by the European Commission in 1979 under the name of European Standing Conference of Geography Teachers Association. This report reflects on the outcomes of the first 40 years of the association.



educators,
researchers,
policy
makers,
citizen and
NGOs

In the beginning it was an organization that networked European geographical associations and Geography teacher organisations. Presidents of these associations or their representatives attended the bi-annual meetings in Brussels and Luxembourg that were originally supported and funded by the European Commission. The principal aims were to promote the European dimension in geographical education and break down borders by teaching about the countries of Europe as a contribution towards the development of a European dimension.

Today, EUROGEO has been transformed into a respected European scientific society that holds one or more major academic conferences each year. In 2018 the annual meeting brought together members from more than 45 countries. The association has developed as a not-for-profit organisation based in Belgium. It seeks to promote policies designed to advance the status of Geography through cross-border cooperation. We promote education and training in Geography and are working nationally and internationally on items of particular importance.

Major developments in 2018 included working in Brussels with the European Commission and ESRI promoting the use of geospatial technologies in education and in the workplace, where we participated in the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition launch, making GIS accessible for all. Promoting the use of open geo-data in the European Parliament and Committee of Regions was also significant through our leadership of the YouthMetre Project (<http://www.youthmetre.eu>) and the events we hosted in Brussels and Strasbourg that networked politicians, policy makers and people working with youth.

EUROGEO has been very active in the United Nations and the Council of Europe, working on policy matters concerning migration, climate change, the landscape convention and citizenship in education. In 2018 we also organized visits of members to South Korea and Morocco.

What does EUROGEO stand for?

As a large global network, EUROGEO interacts with a wide variety of geographers, including educators from all sectors, researchers, academics, professionals, planners, tourist organisations, NGOs, companies and policy makers. Today our newsletter reaches more than 10,000 subscribers, and we have built a large social media following on Facebook (10,000+), LinkedIn (8,000+) and Twitter (3,500+). Through these media outlets we advance the status of Geography and respond where necessary to the needs of our members. Our journal, the European Journal of Geography (<http://www.eurogeographyjournal.eu/>), is our flagship publication. It goes from strength to strength increasing its impact factor by publishing quality, original research from around the world. It is based on the goal to make European Geography a worldwide reference and standard. In 2018, as a major new initiative, EUROGEO has published its first books in the series "Key Challenges in Geography" with Springer. A very significant and prestigious achievement for the association. The activities of the association are presented in this Annual Report, illustrated through its meetings, projects, study trips and publications. I am very grateful to the members of the association who freely volunteer their services and expertise to help us to develop and grow. The fact that EUROGEO continues to be very active in so many fields is testimony to the support we have had over the last 40 years. Now as we prepare for the next development phases and new challenges, I want to publically thank the members of the Presidium and other colleagues who have supported me in my work as President over the past 17 years.

Karl Donert | President EUROGEO

EUROGEO Visit To South Korea 2018

Eleven Geographers from all over Europe took part in the second EUROGEO visit to South Korea from October 21 to 27, 2018. Geography educators from schools and universities in England, Scotland, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Armenia followed the invitation of the Northeast Asian History Foundation (NAHF).

The first thought of many people visiting South Korea is: What about the North? So did the EUROGEO study group, and members were happy to visit the demilitarized zone (DMZ) in Panmunjom on the first day. In spite of very wet and stormy weather everyone could get a glimpse towards the "other side" of the border. Mixed emotions accompanied many of us standing there at a war line, feeling that unification is more than a word for Koreans. South Korea is longing for a peaceful common future with their northern "brothers and sisters". A modern station is just waiting for trains to be allowed to cross the border at Dorisan and fulfil the dream of many South Koreans to be able to "go to London by train" one day. The War Memorial Museum in Seoul gave further information on the long story of wars and especially the Korean war since 1953. Even though there has been a ceasefire for decades, war is present in many aspects, e.g. gas masks are available in each metro station.

The NAHF made great efforts to present their country's traditions and modern life, including visits to a traditional king's palace, to a Hyundai-factory, the National Mapping Agency and Gangnam ("river south") – the rich and trendy district in the South of Seoul.

Being educators, the EUROGEO group was attending a joint conference with Korean teachers in order to exchange their respective perspectives on South Korea and issues the country is facing at present. Many new aspects were offered by the NAHF, European and Korean teachers. Whereas in Europe there seem to be no big discussions

about differing place names, Korea is having a vivid dispute with its eastern neighbour country on the naming of the sea between - connecting or separating? – the two countries. Maps showing the wrong name have been banned from selling in Korea. The (Korean) truth is: it's the East Sea. The most impressive part of discussion was the question on how Europe could manage to become a peaceful continent

after so many years of war between so many different nationalities and peoples. This was the moment to become aware and proud of past and present diplomatic efforts that have led to our peaceful European Union. Some suggestions could be discussed commonly, including critical thinking, multi-perspective teaching and learning methods.

On the last day, the EUROGEO group had the opportunity to visit Myung Duk Girls High School. After individual school tours guided by very nice young ladies, we witnessed a Geography lesson held especially for our group. At the end of our stay, we were invited to visit "Dokto museum", which again showed the importance of the tiny islands disputed by Korea and Japan since many years and in quite weird manner for 21st century Europeans. May this conflict soon be solved in a peaceful and respectful manner.

After these 5 days, the EUROGEO group had not only grown together, but also gained numerous insights in Korean lifestyle, tradition and politics. Besides all the visits and discussions, we had experienced Korean cuisine with all its kimchi and other tastes we could hardly describe, Korean punctuality and truly accurate organisation and time planning.

Our special thanks goes to NAHF for inviting us to this incredibly impressive and intensive excursion!

If EUROGEO is able to organise more visits to South Korea, this will be announced in our newsletter.

Michaella Linder-Fally | Member of EUROGEO

joint
conference
with
Korean
teachers

European Journal Of Geography

Scopus
An eye on global research.

YEAR	ISSUES	ARTICLES	AVERAGE
2018	5	5	3.2
2017	5	25	3.5
2016	5	34	3.7
2015	5	45	3.5
2014	5	35	3.5
2013	5	35	3.5
2012	5	35	3.5
2011	5	45	3.5
2010	5	35	3.5
Total	50	322	3.8

The 2018 annual meeting of the AAG, the largest geographic event in the world (close to 7000 attendees), will be concerned with "Digital transformation: Changing our World". Simply put, digital transformation is now part of Geography and Geographers and EJG representing EUROGEO cannot abstain from that transformation.

Indeed, EJG is actively participating in this transformation. It has created a journal environment that includes digitization (everything is in a digital form), digitalization (every process is computerized) and digital effects (the publishing results are on line available to anyone, anywhere and for any purpose). In essence, EJG has been contributing in accelerating the digital transformation of publishing Geographic research, teaching and spatial problem solving. A process that is characterized by three major issues:

First, EJG's digital transformation is not only about digital technology, but about the fact that technology, which is digital, allows our journal to efficiently address the traditional concerns of Geography. EJG just prefers a digital approach to the old approaches, but still is concerned with serving the long time established main goal of EUROGEO, the European Association of Geographers, to make European Geography a worldwide reference and standard.

But at the same time, the editorial team and the presidium of EUROGEO continue to follow the traditional principle that "scientists produce publications as gifts to the community in exchange for the rewards of recognition and acknowledgment", by operating the journal on a volunteer basis and with no fee for publication.

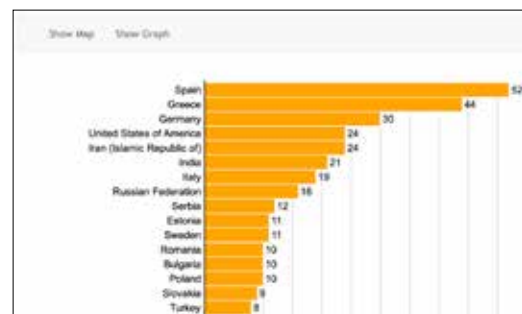
Second, EJG digital transformation has led our journal to reach its third milestone in a short life span. The first one was the publishing of the EJG in 2010, the second one was in 2015, when EJG was indexed in SCOPUS, because it was considered "A fine journal with excellent and widely cited papers on European geography" (Scopus evaluators). The third milestone has been reached this year by redesigning EJG website in order to become more fashionable as well as more functional. Several new pages have been added and old pages have been redesigned giving more flexible options to the user.

These include:

- Explore Articles page: All articles are listed in a tree layout stating the year, volume, issue number and article title.
- Website analytics page: A new page demonstrating the website traffic has been added, using google analytics API.
- Authors Map and Graphs: The page has been redesigned to serve dynamic data and not just simple images applying D3.js technology. Data get updated dynamically, using an automated process without any administration intervention.
- Article information: Users are able to get a quick view of the "most downloaded" and "most recent" articles.
- Article presentation: For every article there is a download,

as well as a bibTex style citation download button.

- Track mechanism: An automated mechanism to track the number of downloads for every article as well as the total number of downloads is available.
- Submission page: The authors provide additional information to help potential users, but at the same time they receive considerably more help in avoiding mistakes committed during the process of submitting their papers.



Third, EJG's digital transformation helped improve the fulfilment of EUROGEO's goals related to:

- Communicate Geographic information to the widest possible audience,
- Continue validating the quality of Geographic research, which is the isthmus test of all journals,
- Build a valid collective Geographic knowledge base,
- Promote the work of the Geographic community.

Indeed, during the year 2018 EJG's output contained more authors, from more countries, writing about a greater variety of subjects and representing more institutions than the previous years, resulting in a 40% increase in EJG's impact factor (see Statistics and Figures).

Closing and on behalf of EUROGEO's board I would like to thank EJG's administrative secretary Afroditi Bardosa , Software Developer-Analyst Pavlos Tsagkis and Associate Editor Yorgos Fotis, who through their dedication and hard work made all these achievements possible.

Professor Kostis Koutsopoulos
Vice President, Editor-in Chief

excellent
and widely
cited
papers

„Geography for all“

March 15st/16st 2018

Cologne, Germany



**Institut of Primary Science and
Social Sciences**

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences
University of Cologne



picture: Prof Dr Daniela Schmeink

More than 90 participants from 35 countries attended the 2018 EUROGEO Conference, which took place from 15th to 17th March. Conference was held at the University of Cologne, Germany. Under the theme „Geography for All“, this geographical event demonstrated the importance of geographical knowledge and geographical perspectives in technology-oriented society. The main conference topics were focused on: Development and cities, Environmental change, Geographical education – geotechnology and teaching, Publishing, Inequalities, Climate change. Spatial thinking, Demography, Rural geography, Applied GIS, Mapping and earth observation, Culture and Heritage.

At the 2018 edition of EUROGEO Conference the keynote speakers were Manfred Schrenk (CORP) and Assoc. Prof. Gillian Kidman (Monash University, Australia). Manfred Schrenk was speak on „The Spatial Dimension of Smart Cities“ while Gillian Kidman was speak about „Geography that is personal, relevant and related to the students' lives – a geography for all: what might it look like?“ The various sessions and workshops, as well as insights and discussions that transpired during the conference – such as what research responses can geography bring to dealing with complex challenges, role of geography in society, and how does geographical education need respond to needs of society and world, provided an overview to the participants. The outcome documents of the event, Abstracts paper book and European Journal of Geography, will supports stakeholders in striving to make quality geography education

and solve today's challenges.

During the Conference, the annual meeting of the association took place, and the 2017 Annual Report was presented and approved.

It was decided that next EUROGEO conference 2019 are going to be held in Paris, France, with possible theme on “Teaching Geography in Challenging time.”

Tijana Ilic
Vice President

The 2019 EUROGEO Conference „Teaching Geography in challenging times“ will be held at Millennium Paris Charles de Gaulle Hotel, Paris, France, from 14-15 March 2019.

The 2019 Conference „Hidden Geographies“ will be held at the Department of Geography, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia, from 29-30 August 2019. The conference will be part of the activities dedicated to the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Department of Geography and the University of Ljubljana.

quality
geography
education



European Association of Geographers | Annual Report 2018

EUROGEO Book series with Springer: Titles in preparation

provide
answers

In 2018, EUROGEO book series titled Key challenges in geography and published by Springer has been announced in our newsletters and website, and also presented in two workshops during the Eurogeo Conference in Cologne (Geography for all), and the Joint Conference with the Bulgarian Geographical Society (Smart Geography). As a result, a wide variety of geographers, from different European countries and abroad, have answered to the call for chapters of the two edited books. Besides this, in 2018 a third book (individual) is in the final writing and review steps. That proves the inclusive aim of our association, and also the positive feedback from EUROGEO members and affiliates for contributing to the initial success of this Series. Accordingly, in 2019 will be published the three aforementioned books:

- Challenges in the 21th century, edited book, expecting 21 chapters and contributions.
- Aligning geopolitics, humanitarian action and geography in times of conflict, book written by Gerry O'Reilly, Dublin City University.
- Geospatial technologies in geography education, edited book, expecting 12 chapters and contributions.

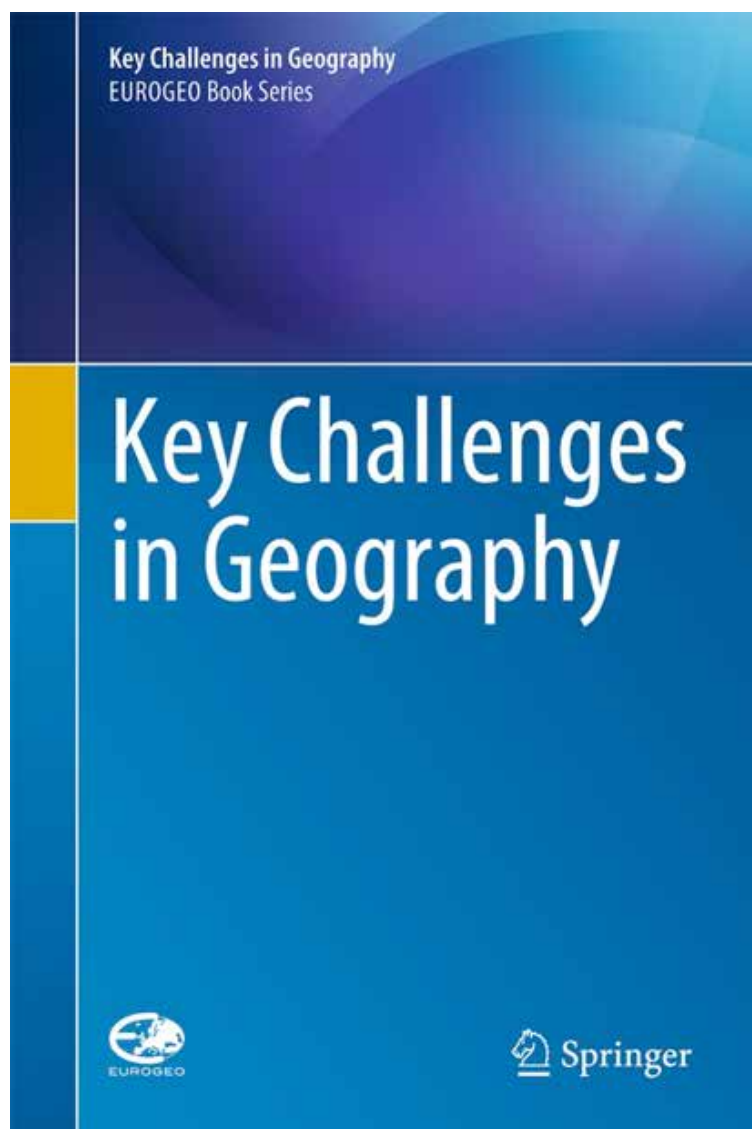
Books proposals for forthcoming titles are welcome.

For more information, call for chapters and guidelines, please visit:

<http://www.eurogeography.eu/springerbooks/>

Kostis Koutsopoulos, Rafael de Miguel, Daniela Schmeinck, Series editors.

Professor Kostis Koutsopoulos, Dr Rafael de Miguel González, Professor Daniela Schmeinck | Vice Presidents, Series editors



Social Development United Nations

2017 was the year when EUROGEO received its special consultative status from the United Nations Economic and Social Council, allowing to our organisation to actively engage with ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies and programs. In 2018, EUROGEO has participated in two important initiatives: the Commission for Social Development and the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

The fifty-sixth session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD56) took place in early February 2018, as the advisory body responsible for the social development pillar of global development. This session has as priority theme "Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all". One of the five highlighted strategies was a "World Programme of Action for Youth". During a workshop, EUROGEO presented the results of the Youthmetre project to empower young people to connect with policy makers. Thus, we have contributed to the general reflections later expressed in one of the main outcomes of Commission: the draft resolution about strategies (approved by ECOSOC in April, 2018). The project coordinated by EUROGEO was a good case study for understanding and fostering the recognition of universal access to quality formal and non-formal education, at

all levels, including in information and communications technologies, as important factors that enable people of all ages, particularly young people, to acquire the relevant skills and to build their personal and social capacities. Some of them, described in the Resolution, as nearly the same than the categories developed in our project: employability and entrepreneurial development, volunteering, participation or access to services and opportunities.

In 2018, EUROGEO has been also involved in the UN-Habitat implementation of the New Urban Agenda. In parallel to the consultation of the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2025, this association is member of the General Assembly of Partners as the UN selected stakeholder partnership platform for Habitat III. In October 2018, the General Assembly of Partners issued a statement, together with Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments. This statement claimed for strengthen an inter-active high level stakeholder engagement structure within UN-Habitat to involve local governments and stakeholders in the development and implementation of UN Habitat policies, publications, programs, and convenings.

Dr Rafael de Miguel González | Vice President



important
initiatives

EUROGEO field visit 2018: Marrakech, Agafay Desert and High Atlas Mountains

For the second consecutive year Eurogeo was invited by travel agent Discover Ltd and charity Education for All to participate and evaluate a four nights/five days promotional trip to the area mentioned above. Eight persons, including two Eurogeo Board members, participated in the trip which was led by Mike McHugo. Kasbah de Toubkal; Discover and Education for All are the key issues leading to a very successful charity in which more than 200 Moroccan girls are enabled to follow secondary education because of the Boarding Houses of Education for All. This charity is combined with excellent opportunities for educational and geographical fieldwork in Marrakech, the Agafay Desert and the High Atlas operating from Imlil village. The five day introduction to the participants

lead to the conclusion "to spread the word". Whereby the charity and the very attractive geographical educational opportunities are stressed. www.efamorocco.org Mr Mike McHugo being the keyfigure in all these activities. After the August Field Visit plans have been developed in order to continue cooperation and supporting Education for All. Next to geography the field of history was also explored because of participation of an ambassador of our Eurogeo's sister Association Euroclio: The European Association of History Educators.

Harry Rogge | Member of EUROGEO

educational
fieldwork



Financial Report 2018

small negative balance

In 2018 EUROGEO had a balance of -11426,43 EUR.

Our main income is:

- project we were coordinator and partner: YouthMetre.
- projects where EUROGEO is involved in as partner: GI Learner, Tell Your Story, Smile, Sea Change project
- our annual congress, which was in 2018 in cooperation with the University of Cologne
- membership

Our main expenses are:

- services, including, payment of people doing the project work and board expenses (incl. board meeting and lobbying)
- goods, including payment site European Journal of geography, costs for the accountant and auditor, and webhosting of as well our website as our Moodle platform.

The negative balance is an accounting balance, as we received as coordinator at the end of December 2018 the final payment (119746,80 EUR) but a part of that money is for the partners. So to prevent a false too positive balance with the advice of the accountant that amount has been kept outside the balance. Because we payed already invoices with the money of the final grant the balance seems negative.

Luc Zwartjes | Treasurer

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EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT	INCOME	AMOUNT
Services	86,976.84 €	Membership	3,289.65 €
Financial costs	553.33 €	Subsidies	0.00 €
Other costs	0.00 €	Congresses and courses	25,864.28 €
		Projects	4,4238.54 €
		Trainings	0.00 €
		Financial profits	2,711.27 €
Total expenditure	87,530.17 €	Total income	76,103.74 €
Balance 2018			-11,426.43 €



Activities With Young Geographers

Eurogeo is an association for all geographers from all specialisations and all generations. Its congresses and journals are easily accessible also for students, PhDs and young researchers.

Eurogeo aims to help young geographers to kick start their career and to promote geography and the work of geographers. In doing so, we work closely with EGEA - the European Geography Association for students and young geographers – an organisation that shares many of our aims. EGEA is a large student network with over 5000 members from almost 100 cities in over 30 European countries. The local entities organise exchanges with each other and every year 4 regional congresses and one large annual congress are organised. Eurogeo supported the first congress for egea alumni members in 2015. In September 2018 the third alumni congress was organised at the Croatia coast close to Crikvenica. This time, the alumni congress was connected to the student conference. 55 alumni members joined, at the student congress there were over 200 participants. The alumni members were invited to exchange their experiences

with students about career possibilities for geographers.

At Eurogeo's conference in Cologne one EGEA member was invited to present his research.

Eurogeo supported the competition for the Geography Awareness Week that EGEA organised in cooperation with GeoDAG (German geography students) and AFNEG (French geography students). In this competition local student organisations were encouraged to organise activities to raise awareness for geography. The best actions were awarded a prize.

Gert Ruepert
Vice President

250
students
from all
over
Europe

Telling Stories With Maps

EUROGEO has been participating in two Erasmus Plus Strategic Partnership projects seeking to reduce the number of youngsters in different European countries planning to leave school early, Tell Your Story (2016-2018) and My Storymap (2017-2020). The projects are based on using the ESRI Storymapping tools and ArcGIS Online to empower young people to share the issues, concerns and problems they have by "telling and sharing their stories".

Tell Your Story (<http://tellyourstorymap.eu/>) aims to reintegrate early school leavers and was designed to explore the implementation of digital storytelling and story mapping in education. It is based on the consideration that well-told stories, using a powerful digital environment, are a suitable and effective means for young people to communicate their experiences. The stories produced by the young people were presented in compelling, interactive and emotionally engaging formats.

The project produced a research report on telling digital stories to fight against early school leaving, a training course for people working in schools and with young people at risk of leaving school early and a portfolio of stories produced by the youngsters involved (<http://mystory.dieberater.com/>). My Story Map (<https://www.mystorymap.eu/>) addresses young people from 15 to 25 years of age who already

dropped out of school and students between 15 and 18 years of age at risk of leaving school early. It is based on the process of peer education, where young people are training to support others at risk and to motivate youngsters who have dropped out of their education to re-enter their learning pathway. The stories are prepared, written, recorded and then presented to the young people at risk in the schools with the aim of preventing them from taking the decision to drop out. Youth organisations working with those at risk are also being addressed.

Mt Story Map is creating a number of Learning Modules based on how to tell a (life) story, media production skills and preventing early school drop-outs through digital stories and maps. An online exhibition is being developed to showcase the outcomes and initiate a campaign to encourage the use of digital life stories.

Karl Donert | President



SEED: Smart Entrepreneurial Education and training in Digital farming



The Smart Entrepreneurial Education and training in Digital farming – SEED project develops skills in agriculture by introducing a digital transformation in the profession.

The overall impact envisaged is not only to design a joint qualification in VET, and foster transparency, comparability and recognition of qualification, but to set up a new sustainable cooperation among partners, in order to create long-term synergies,

The main target groups for SEED are VET organisations (vocational education and training), their students and SMEs (small, medium enterprises) involved in agriculture. The project will support them by facilitating the development of skills and competences to meet labour market needs and also become more flexible to anticipate future skills' gaps.

The SEED project aims to:

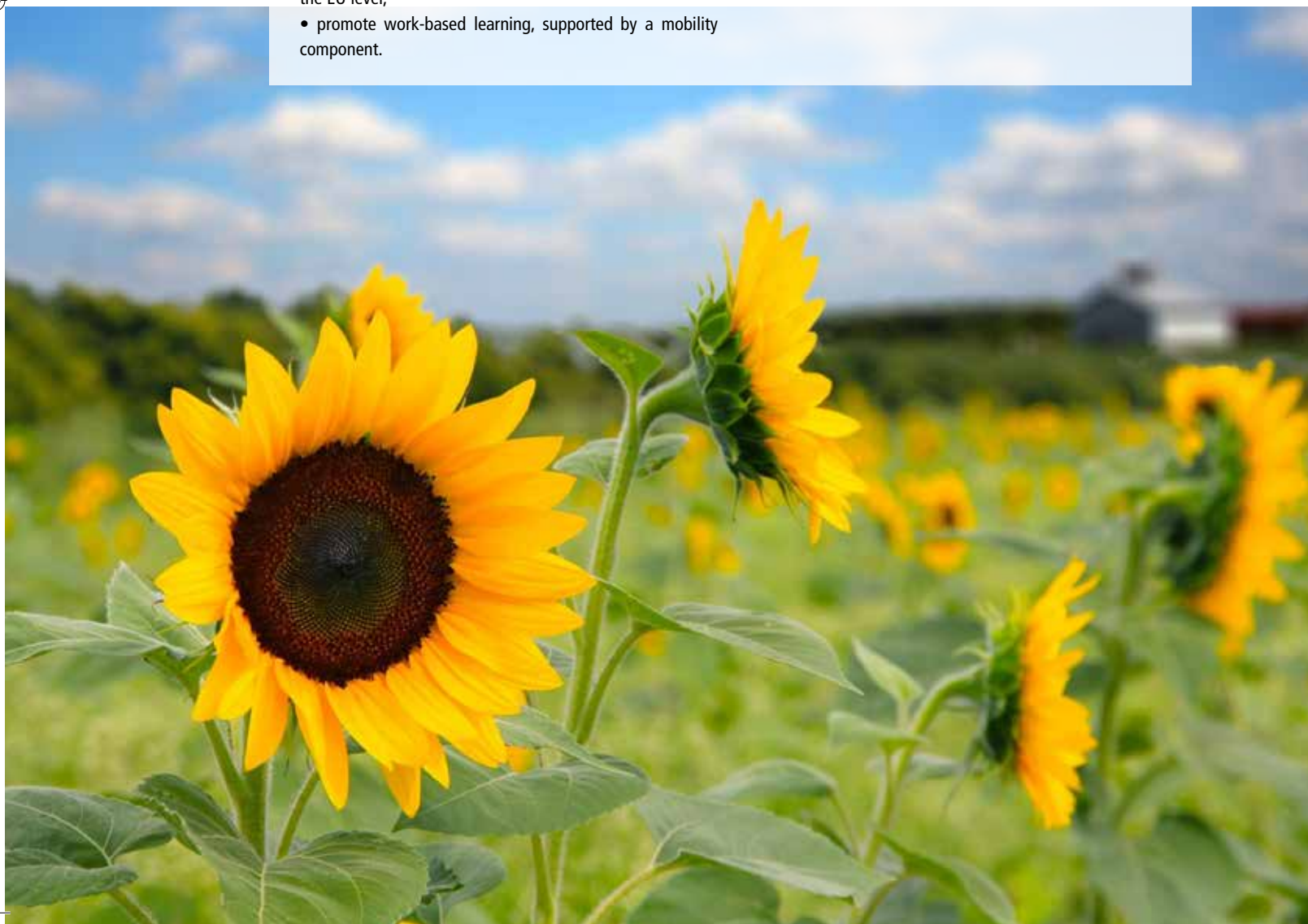
- increase the employability of young people, by supporting the development of a highly skilled, qualified and mobile workforce, also thanks to transnational placement;
- support the development of a joint VET qualification at the EU level;
- promote work-based learning, supported by a mobility component.

The main outputs from the project will be:

- 1) the definition of a qualification profile based on modular units of LOs to create a new qualification or to review an already existing qualification;
- 2) a curriculum in digital farming;
- 3) the elaboration of assessment standards.

<http://www.digitalseed.eu>

Dr María Luisa de Lázaro, Dr Rafael de Miguel González and Luc Zwartjes | Vice Presidents



GI Learner: Developing a learning line on GIScience in education'

The year 2018 has been the third year of the GI-Learner project. The short-term exchange of groups of students have taken place, attended by 120 students and teachers from five different countries (Austria, Belgium, Romania, Spain and United Kingdom), in Madrid held by Universidad Complutense de Madrid (25th February to 3rd March 2018). It has been an incredible experience to share the previous learning and to make story maps about it. It has made it possible to obtain some learning results and improvement on spatial thinking using GIScience. The report for stakeholders collect the experience. It is available on the project website: <http://www.gilearner.ugent.be/>.

Although the funded project ended in 31st of August 2018 schools and teachers who have been approached to the project continuous working on the learning lessons available on the project website. We invite teachers to use the guided materials with their secondary school students and to report their experience to the coordinator of the project Luc Zwartjes.

The project has demonstrated that GIScience is useful for spatial thinking, as a way of learning on and about territory, students enjoyed it and a learning line has been made up. Students have improved their learning. They have been giving feedback on the lessons plans created by the partners of the project. But it is necessary to train teachers on GIScience in order to integrate data from the field and from the Internet using WebGIS. The learning line has been successfully built up and applied with a very good collaborative work among teachers who have also been improving their GeolCT skills.

Dr María Luisa de Lázaro | Vice President



EUROGEO and the Council of Europe: Human Rights, Democracy and Rule of Law

During a week in January and in June 2018, at sessions of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg Eurogeo participates actively in the agenda of the so called INGO Conference. In this conference nearly 300 accredited European Associations are entitled to discuss and advice in the work of the Council that in itself comprises 47 member states. Eurogeo is involved in these activities since the mid-seventies of last century. Eurogeo participates in nearly all meetings of the three themed committees Human Rights – Education and Culture -Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges. Currently Eurogeo acts as Vice Chair at the Education and Culture Committee. Details of the work, content of the agenda, decisions made are all online available on the Council of Europe website www.coe.int under the heading Conference of INGOS. After the last session in June 2018

about nine Dutch members of the INGO Conference decided to get in touch with the Dutch parliamentarians through the Dutch Ambassador in order to exchange ideas on effectiveness and results. Activities concerning this were set up in the Fall of 2018 resulting in a positive response of the Dutch Ambassador. This latter to be continued in 2019. .

Karl Donert | President

Harry Rogge | Member of EUROGEO

Education
and
Culture
Committee



Sea Change Project: Raising Awareness Of Ocean Literacy



The Sea Change project (2015-2018) aimed to establish a fundamental "Sea Change" in the way European citizens view their relationship with the sea, by empowering them, as Ocean Literate citizens, to take direct and sustainable action towards a healthy ocean and seas, healthy communities and ultimately a healthy planet.

Key objectives of Sea Change were among others:

- Compile an in-depth review of the links between Seas and Ocean and Human health based on latest research knowledge outputs.
- Build upon the latest social research on citizen and stakeholder attitudes, perceptions and values to help design and implement successful mobilisation activities focused on education, community, governance actors and directly targeted at citizens.
- Build upon significant work to date, adopting best practice and embedding Ocean Literacy across established strategic initiatives and networks in order to help maximise impact and ensure sustainability.
- Ensure that efforts to sustain an Ocean Literate society in Europe continue beyond the life of Sea Change through codes of good practice, public campaigns and other ongoing community activities.

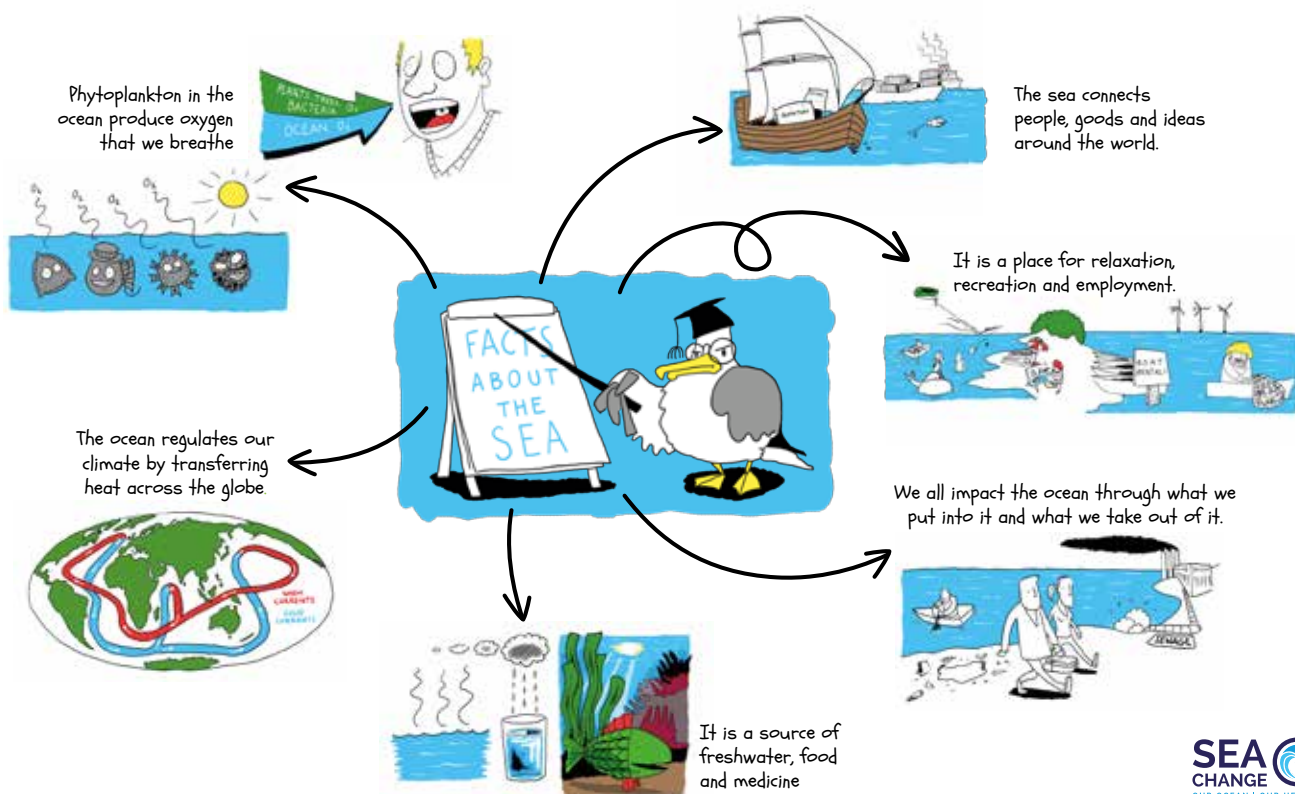
The objectives were achieved by a closely interlinked programme.

Finally, the Sea Change project:

- Educates and engages a wide range of audiences – from scientists to sailors and pupils to policy-makers – not only on the vital importance of a healthy Ocean to the health of humanity, but on their role in maintaining ocean health into the future through simple everyday actions.
- Leaves a legacy of awareness and care for the most important resource on this planet – The Sea.
- establish a fundamental "Sea Change" in the way European citizens view their relationship with the sea, by empowering them, as Ocean Literate citizens, to take direct and sustainable action towards a healthy ocean and seas, healthy communities and ultimately a healthy planet.

Luc Zwartjes | Vice President

UNDERSTANDING OUR OCEAN



MY GEO: Geo Tools for Modernization and Youth Employment

The European Project Erasmus+ KA203 - Strategic Partnerships for Higher Education "Geo tools for Modernization and Youth Employment (MY GEO)" (2018-1-IT02-KA203-048195) began on the 1st October 2018 and will end on 31st of March 2021. In the project four universities (Universiteit Gent, Universidad Nacional de Educacion a Distancia, Università di Padova and Universidad de Zaragoza) will cooperate with four geo-ict companies: Archetipo srl (<https://archetipo-srl.com>); GeoSlab (<https://www.geoslab.com>); Ars Progetti (<https://www.arsprogetti.org>) and GeoSolutions (<https://geosolutions.be>). EUROGEO will monitor MY GEO project.

The kick off meeting at the Università di Padova (coordinator) distributed tasks in order to run the main objectives of the project, which can be summarize as follows:

- Modernize university, integrating GIS as a transversal tool on the teaching.
- Increase the employability of higher education students derived from the acquisition of skills and abilities in Geographic Information Systems (GIS).
- Promote the use of GIS tools that students need in the workplace in the teaching of different non-GIS subjects.
- As a result a GIS portfolio will be created.

For these, the following actions are necessary (project methodology):

- Design an action plan on training for teachers and students: an online course, favoring the acquisition of key competences relate to the use of GIS in higher education courses (MOOC). It is looking for using GIS so that university students understand the territory better, learn geographic concepts and develop useful GIS competencies in the workplace (student training).
- Organize different rounds of focused groups for feedback from teachers, for the teachers MOOC syllabus course and from students, for the students MOOC syllabus course.
- Strengthen collaboration between University and company (internships in companies)

As a result of collaboration between universities and companies it will be created a GIS portfolio, it will contain the skills acquired in the use of GIS applications and the ability of students for the labour market, it will be based on what companies want/need and on what teachers teach.

Dr María Luisa de Lázaro, Dr Rafael de Miguel González and Luc Zwartjes | Vice Presidents



GIS tools
that
students
need

SMILE: Soft Mobility Integrated Learning in English

SMILE (2015-2018) is an Erasmus Plus Strategic Partnership project in the field of school education. It is based on promoting cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices at European level. It aims at bringing positive and long-lasting effects on the participating organisations and the educational system at local, regional, national and EU level.

The SMILE project (<http://smile-project.eu>) encourages youngsters to learn to ride bicycles to go to school, reducing car use and improving the environment. It uses Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) methodology

in primary schools through the adoption of innovative teaching approaches and non-formal education practices, as well as to support problem-based learning. The teaching methodology thus promotes active citizenship and raises awareness among pupils on sustainable mobility issues in urban environments through the use of a SMILE toolkit of resources.

Karl Donert | President

learn to
ride
bicycles



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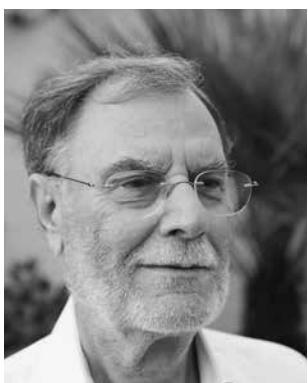
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