



# INTERNATIONAL GEODIVERSITY DAY 2025 ONE EARTH, MANY STORIES

# ONLINE WORKSHOP KEY CONCEPTS AND BEST PRACTICES ON GEOCONSERVATION

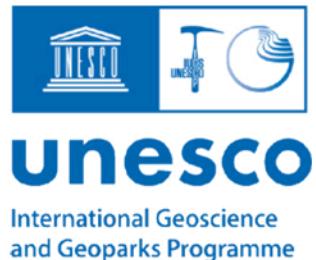
Scan & Join the Meeting



OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025 | 12.00 GMT



# Organisation



# Support

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UNIVERSIDADE  
DE TRÁS-OS-MONTES  
E ALTO DOURO

Chair on Geoparks,  
Sustainable Regional  
Development and  
Healthy Lifestyle



Chair



Chair on Geoparks  
and sustainable development  
of insular and coastal areas.



UNIVERSITY OF THE  
AEGEAN



Global Geoparks



## Message of the GGN President

"On the occasion of the International Day of Geodiversity, it is my honour and duty to invite our global community to the special online workshop "Key Concepts and best practices on Geoconservation in UNESCO Global Geoparks", scheduled for Friday October 3rd, from 12:00 to 14:00 GMT.



Geological heritage is the inseparable and vital essence of our planet's legacy, the living memory of Earth itself. It holds not only the chronicles of its deep time and the shaping of its most extraordinary landscapes, but also the unfolding story of life's evolution across time.

The Global Geoparks Network represents the widest international community with a clear mandate to protect our geological heritage. This workshop reflects our shared responsibility to deepen understanding, strengthen skills, and share innovative approaches to geoconservation inside the Global Geoparks Network. It is an opportunity for professionals, community leaders, educators, and all who care about the invaluable legacy of our planet to come together in open dialogue and learning. By exchanging knowledge and best practices, we not only safeguard extraordinary sites but also empower local communities to build sustainable futures rooted in their geological and cultural identities.

I warmly encourage every member of our network, and all our partners worldwide, to join us. Your experience, commitment and insights are essential to the success of this initiative. Together, let us reaffirm our collective dedication to protecting the memory of the Earth and ensuring that its wonders remain an inspiration for generations to come.

With my sincere appreciation,  
Artur Sá  
President  
Global Geoparks Network"

# INTERNATIONAL GEODIVERSITY DAY 2025

## GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK

ONLINE WORKSHOP

### GEODIVERSITY AND GEOCONSERVATION IN UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 – 12.00 - 14.00 GMT

Coordinated by Asier Hilario & Nickolas Zouros

Introduction talks 30 min.

**International Geodiversity Day 2025 - GGN celebration in UNESCO Global Geoparks**  
Prof. Artur Sá – GGN President

**UNESCO Global Geoparks and Geodiversity**

Mr. Kristof Vandenbergh – Chief of the Section for Earth Sciences and Geoparks of UNESCO

**UNESCO Global Geoparks - Assessment of Geological Heritage in UNESCO Global Geoparks**  
Dr. Charalambos Fassoulas – UNESCO Global Geoparks Council Vice-Chair

**UNESCO Global Geoparks and Geoconservation. Why should we work on Geoconservation?**  
Dr. Asier Hilario IUGS Geoheritage Committee Chair

**UNESCO Global Geoparks : Geoconservation - Sustainable local development and Community pride**  
Prof. Nickolas Zouros - UNESCO Chair on Geoparks and the sustainable development on insular and  
Coastal areas - GGN General Secretary

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PRESENTATION OF THE DIGITAL PUBLICATION. 30 min

### “GEOCONSERVATION IN UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS”

**Best practices on Geoconservation in UNESCO Global Geoparks (5 minutes each)**

1. F. Weiß - Ries UGGp. Germany
2. Chan Yu-Nam - Hong Kong UGGp. China
3. J. Calder - Cliffs of Fundy UGGp. Canada.
4. A. Pinheiro - Araripe UGGp. Brazil
5. A. Amrikazemi - Qeshm UGGp. Iran.

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OPEN DISCUSSION PANEL 1 hour

### CHALLENGES ON GEOCONSERVATION IN UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS

**NEXT STEPS FOR THE UPCOMING BOOK ON  
“GEOCONSERVATION IN UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARKS”.**

Total: 2 hours

# International Geodiversity Day 2025

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Blutu Sand Peak and interdune lake



ALXA DESERT  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
CHINA



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Cordulagomphus fenestratus (MPSC I 485). Fossilized dragonfly (Odonata) preserved in the Crato Formation, bearing witness to these insects' ancient flight 110 million years ago



ARARIPE  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
BRAZIL



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Photograph showing the typical geomorphological feature of the High Island Formation



HONG KONG  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
CHINA



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View of the exceptional concentration of *Coroniceras multicostatum* ammonites. The largest are up to 70 cm in diameter.

(Charente-Province Global Geopark)



HAUTE PROVENCE  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
FRANCE



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Sea cliffs at the Old Wife, with dark flood basalts overlying red sedimentary strata of the Triassic rift valley



CLIFFS OF FUNDY  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
CANADA



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The derking beetle *Ceropria messelense* preserving its colour pattern and a blossom on the right elytron.



BERGRASSE-ODENWALD  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
GERMANY



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Monospecific association of *Ogyginus forteyi* (Ribeiro, 1989) from Canelas quarry, probably fossilized during the ecdysis process (external and internal molds). Scale bar = 10 cm.



AROUCA  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
PORTUGAL



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Picture taken on the early phase of the 1957-58 Capelinhos eruption, with the typical phreatomagmatic explosion 'cypress tree-like' ash jets and steam clouds.



GORREIA-CORE  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
PORTUGAL



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Eocene turbiditic system in Zumaya, which was the cover of the classic book 'Atlas and Glossary of Primary/Sedimentary Structures' (F.J. Pettijohn and P.E. Potter, Springer – Verlag 1964).



BASQUE COAST  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
SPAIN



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The largest standing trunk of a petrified tree known so far in the world belongs to a conifer tree (*Taxodiioxylon albertense*), an ancestor of the modern sequoias

LESVOS ISLAND  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
GREECE



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Concentrated dinosaur fossils in the site

ZIGONG  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
CHINA



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Aerial view of Ulmen Maar with preserved tephra ring (background) and highly eroded Jungfernweier maar (foreground)

VULKANEIFEL  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
GERMANY



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Northeast view of Heisei Shinzan, formed in the 1990–1995 eruption, with the endogenous part at top

UNZEN VOLCANIC AREA  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
JAPAN



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Panoramic view of the Ries Crater with the town of Nördlingen in the central part  
(Photographer: Frédéric Hézég)

RIES CRATER  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
GERMANY



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One of the big halls of Namakdan Cave with untouched stalactites.  
(Photo: Philipp Cramer)

QESHM ISLAND  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
IRAN



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La Olla anticline, second-generation vertical-axis fold affecting Lower Cretaceous marine formations. In front: Alange medieval castle. Horizon: Late Neogene planation surface

MAESTRAZGO  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
SPAIN



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The more recent active volcanic domes of the Wolf (right) and Yerovi (left) islands emerge in the middle of Cuicocha caldera lake. Photo taken from the south flank of Cotacachi volcano

IMBABURA  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
ECUADOR



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Ngorongoro Crater panorama view

NGORONGORO LENGAI  
UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK  
TANZANIA



# **International Geodiversity Day 2025**

## **ONE EARTH, MANY STORIES**

**UNESCO Global Geoparks host unique geological heritage sites of international significance!**

Some of these outstanding geological heritage sites in UNESCO Global Geoparks, are included among the 100 first and the 100 second IUGS Geological Heritage Sites, that mark important moments in Earth history and evolution.

These sites representing exceptional moments of our unique planet EARTH, have many stories to tell to our communities!

The Global Geoparks Network celebrates the International Geodiversity Day 2025 promoting these exceptional sites in collaboration with IUGS and other international initiatives.

Collaboration between all international initiatives involved with geoheritage and geodiversity can lead to their further appreciation, to their sustainable use as educational resources, and, most importantly, to their preservation for the good of society, for future generations, and for our Planet's well-being.

The Global Geoparks Network encourages all 229 UNESCO Global Geoparks to participate in the celebration of the International Geodiversity Day 2025 and organize events with the involvement of their local communities, visitors and local schools!

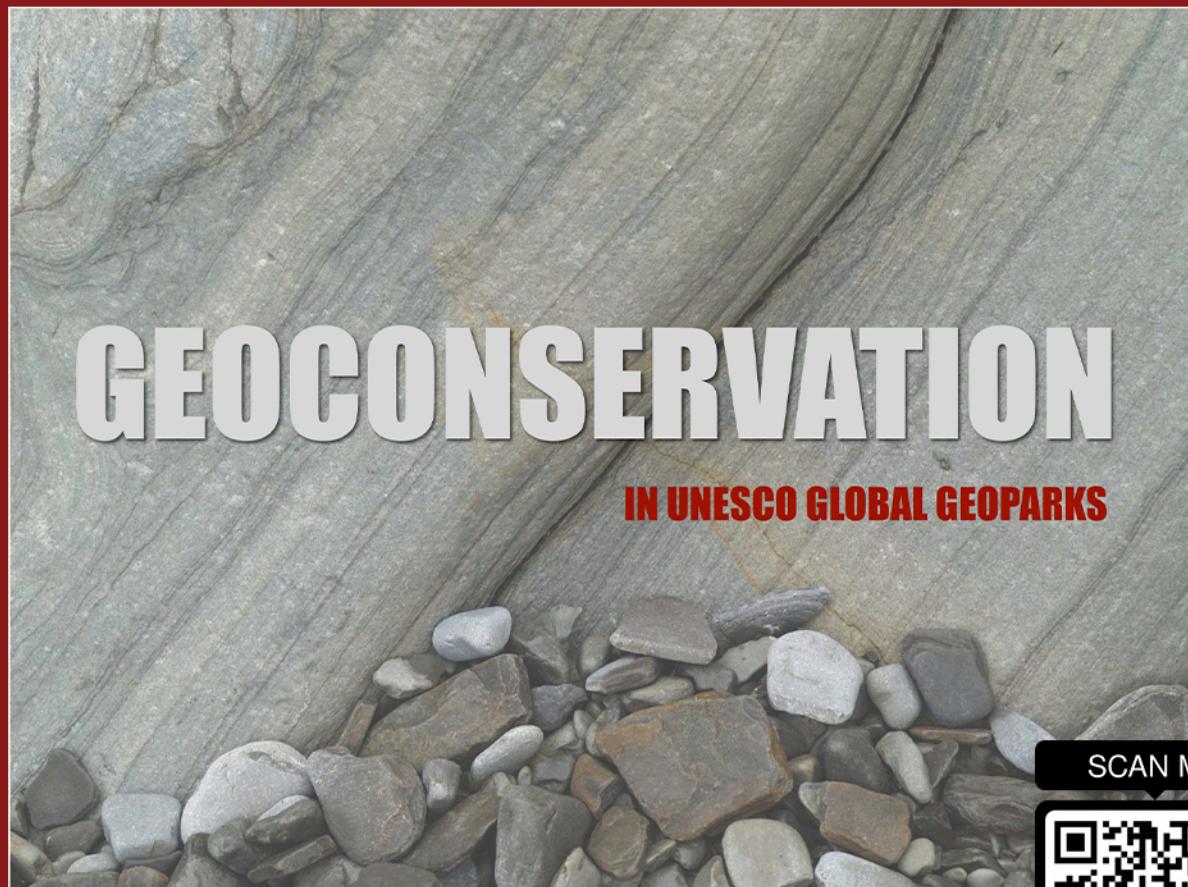
In 2025 we celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Programme and the International Geodiversity Day gives an excellent opportunity to all Geoparks to explain to our communities why Geological Heritage and Geodiversity matters for our communities and our lives!



6th OCTOBER

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**GEOPARKS &  
GEOCONSERVATION**



**NEW PUBLICATION  
GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK 2025**

