

SIMSG ISSMGE



# ISSMGE Europe Newsletter, Spring Edition 2025

March, 2025

## Share This Newsletter with Your Society!

Help us strengthen our geotechnical community by sharing this newsletter with colleagues, members, and students in your national society. Let's ensure everyone stays informed about key events, opportunities, and innovations shaping our field.

🔗 **Follow and join the conversation on [LinkedIn](#)**

Dear colleagues,

I'm delighted to reach out following the 5th European Assembly in Skopje, where the energy and commitment of our geotechnical community were truly inspiring. A huge thank you and congratulations to the Macedonian Geotechnical Society (MAG) for hosting such a well-organized and engaging event—it was a pleasure to be part of it.

The discussions in Skopje reinforced the importance of collaboration and knowledge exchange across ISSMGE Europe. Our ongoing focus on "Supporting Innovation and Creating a Framework to Accelerate the Transfer of Technology from the Laboratory to the Market" remains more relevant than ever. Bringing research into practice is a challenge we all recognize, and it was great to see the enthusiasm for driving this forward.

Moments like these remind us why our network is so valuable. While formal initiatives may take time to develop, the conversations we have at these gatherings lay the groundwork for future progress. I encourage you all to stay engaged, share ideas, and keep the momentum going in your own communities.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to continue working together to strengthen geotechnical engineering across Europe. Let's keep building on these connections and pushing our profession forward.

Onwards,

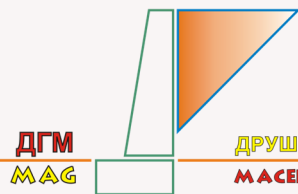
**Lyesse Laloui**

ISSMGE Vice President Europe



# ISSMGE Europe Assembly

## A Landmark Gathering: Reflections on the 5th European ISSMGE National Assembly



ДРУШТВО ЗА ГЕОТЕХНИКА НА МАКЕДОНИЈА  
MACEDONIAN ASSOCIATION FOR GEOTECHNICS



The Macedonian Association for Geotechnics (MAG) had the honor of hosting the 5th European National Assembly of ISSMGE in Skopje, North Macedonia. This dynamic one-day event brought together leading experts, professionals, and representatives from 22 European geotechnical societies, providing a collaborative platform to discuss key issues, exchange insights, and shape the future of geotechnical engineering.



The day commenced with a roundtable session where member societies shared updates on their activities, achievements, and future plans. This interactive discussion highlighted the diverse experiences across Europe and provided a valuable opportunity to explore initiatives that can advance the field.

Attendees also received important conference updates from:

- Helmut Schweiger, President of the Austrian Geotechnical Society, who outlined preparations for ICSMGE 2026.
- Ozer Cinicioglu, Vic-president of the Turkish Geotechnical Society, who shared details on ICSMGE 2028.
- Additional presentations from various national societies, showcasing their ongoing contributions and developments.

A major theme of the assembly was inspiring and attracting young professionals to geotechnical engineering. This was the focus of a working session led by MAG President Igor Peshevski, titled "The Role of Geotechnical Societies in Maintaining the Interest of Young People."

With the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence and machine learning, there is a growing need to engage young engineers through innovative programs and career opportunities. Member societies shared their best practices and successful initiatives for mentoring, professional development, and outreach efforts aimed at sustaining enthusiasm in the next generation.

Following the morning discussions, participants had the opportunity to visit the Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology (IZIIS) in Skopje. This visit provided a firsthand look at the institute's state-of-the-art testing facilities and cutting-edge research in earthquake engineering, reinforcing the vital link between geotechnical research and practical applications.

The afternoon sessions explored pressing challenges and opportunities within our field.



### **Standardization and Eurocode 7**

Prof. Loretta Batali led discussions on the joint efforts between ISSMGE and SC7 to implement the second generation of Eurocode 7. This session emphasized the importance of harmonizing geotechnical design standards across Europe to ensure consistency and reliability in practice.

### **Challenges of Small Societies and Markets**

Igor Peshevski facilitated an insightful discussion on the challenges faced by smaller geotechnical societies and markets. Key topics included:

- The inclusion of engineers from smaller nations in global discussions.
- Strengthening industry-university collaboration to drive innovation.
- Adapting pricing models for geotechnical services in smaller economies.

### **Europe's Role in ISSMGE**

In his closing remarks, Prof. Lyesse Laloui reflected on Europe's significant contributions to ISSMGE and the global geotechnical community. He emphasized the importance of fostering collaboration, driving innovation, and ensuring inclusivity to strengthen the field.



### **A Memorable Conclusion**

The assembly concluded with a networking dinner at a traditional Macedonian restaurant, where participants had the chance to experience local cuisine, engage in stimulating discussions, and strengthen professional relationships. This informal gathering provided

the perfect setting to celebrate the success of the assembly and reinforce connections within the European geotechnical community.

[Natasha Nedelkovska](#), MAG secretary.



## ISSMGE Europe Announcements

### Professor Lyesse Laloui to Deliver Prestigious John Mitchell Lecture



We are proud to announce that our **ISSMGE Vice President for Europe, Professor Lyesse Laloui** has been selected to deliver the prestigious **John Mitchell Lecture** at the upcoming **DFI-EFFC International Conference: Geotechnics Reimagined**, taking place in **Bruges, Belgium, from May 21–23, 2024**.

The **John Mitchell Lecture**, organized by the **Deep Foundations Institute (DFI)** and the **European Federation of Foundation Contractors (EFFC)**, is one of the highest honors in geotechnical engineering. It recognizes individuals whose work has significantly advanced the understanding and application of **deep foundations and ground improvement** on a global scale.

Professor Laloui's selection reflects his **pioneering contributions to energy geostructures and sustainable geotechnical solutions**. His research has transformed the industry by offering innovative approaches to energy efficiency and environmental sustainability in foundation engineering.

This highly anticipated lecture will bring together **industry leaders, academics, and practitioners** to engage with **Professor Laloui's groundbreaking work**.

For more information on the event, visit the website.

[DFI-EFFC Conference 2025](#)

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### ICSMGE 2026: A Centennial Celebration in Vienna



The International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE 2026), the flagship event of ISSMGE, will take place in Vienna, Austria, from June 14–19, 2026. Marking the 100th anniversary of Karl Terzaghi’s seminal work, this historic gathering will bring together geotechnical experts from around the world to celebrate the past and explore the future of the field.

**With abstract submissions now closed and the review process underway,** preparations are in full swing for an exciting program featuring keynote lectures, technical sessions, exhibitions, and networking opportunities. As **Vienna is at the heart of Europe,** we encourage all European geotechnical professionals to take part in this **must-attend event.**

For updates and registration details, visit

[ICSMGE26](#)

### EYGEC 2025: Rijeka, Croatia



The **29th European Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (EYGEC 2025)** will take place in **Rijeka, Croatia, from September 9–12, 2025**, marking a significant moment for young geotechnical engineers across Europe. We extend a huge thank you to Croatia for generously stepping forward to host this important event. Their commitment ensures that we maintain our biennial schedule, providing a valuable platform for our young members to connect, learn, and grow within our field.

#### **Why Attend?**

- A premier gathering for young geotechnical engineers under 35 to exchange ideas and present their work.
- Technical visits and interactive discussions to enhance learning.
- Cultural experiences in the beautiful coastal city of Rijeka.

#### **Key Dates**

- Abstract submission deadline: December 15, 2024
- Full paper submission: April 1, 2025
- Registration deadline: July 1, 2025

**Venue:** Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Rijeka

**Registration fee:** €500 (includes accommodation, meals & technical tour)

**More details at**

[EYGEC2025](#)

**CNG Venezia 2025**



AGI Associazione  
Geotecnica  
Italiana

## XXVIII Convegno Nazionale di Geotecnica

11-13 giugno 2025



The most important meeting for AGI (Italian Geotechnical Society), now in its XXVIII edition, is currently being organized.

The **National Conference on Geotechnical Engineering** will take place in the beautiful city of **Venice** from **11 to 13 June 2025**. The Scientific Program will focus on "Safety, maintenance, and infrastructure development" and will include 5 General Sessions, 14 Panel Sessions, two Special Sessions. The Technical Exhibition by Sponsors will also take place during the conference.

[CNG Venezia 2025](#)

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## ISSMGE Europe News

## ASSOCIAZIONE GEOTECNICA ITALIANA

### XXIII Arrigo Croce Lecture

XXIII Croce Lecture  
Prof. Mario Manassero  
Roma, 18 dicembre 2025

AGI Associazione Geotecnica Italiana



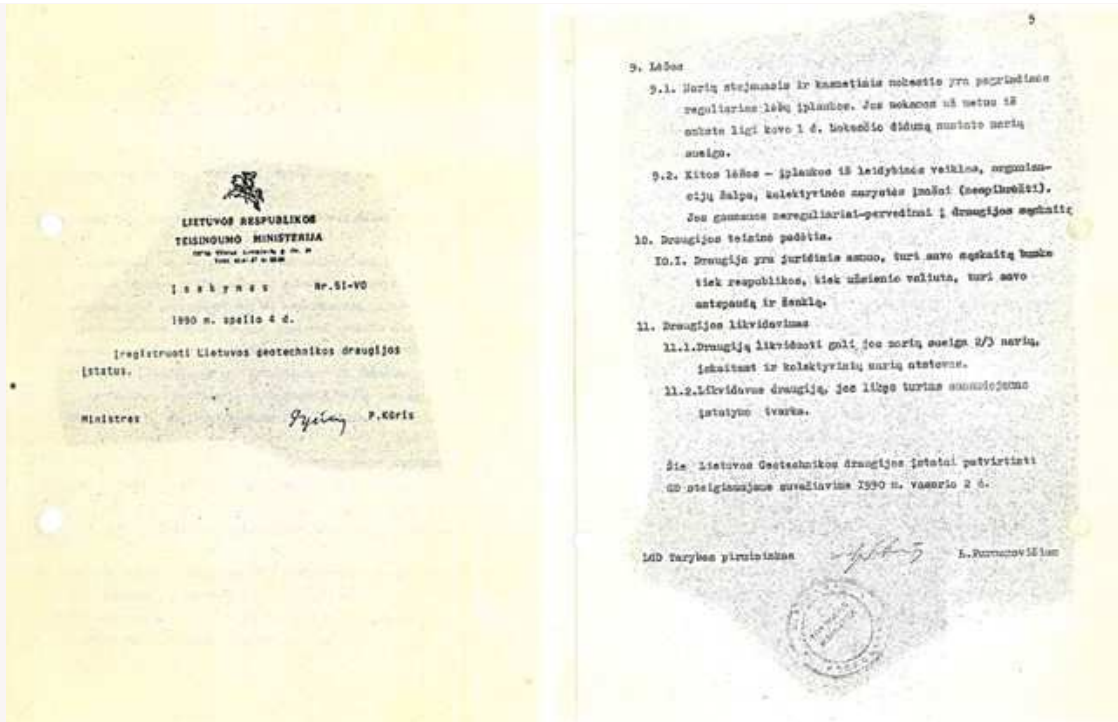
The next Arrigo Croce Lecture will be delivered by **Prof. Mario Manassero** (Polytechnic University of Turin) in **Rome – 18 December 2025**. The title will be: *Basic Principles and Recent Developments in Soil Mechanics for Environmental Protection (Examples and Perspectives)*.

## LITHUANIAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

### 35th Anniversary

On February 2nd, the Lithuanian Geotechnical Society (LGS) celebrated its 35th anniversary. At the inaugural congress of LGS, the first Articles of Association were approved and signed by the first chairperson, Mr. Liudvikas Furmonavičius. Interestingly, the Articles of Association were signed on February 2nd, just a few days before Lithuania declared its independence on March 11th, 1990. Later that same year, on October 4th, the LGS Articles of Association were officially approved by the Minister of Justice.





Extract from the Articles of Association of the Lithuanian Geotechnical Society, dated 02/02/1990.

## Crowd-funding Scholarships for Geotechnical Engineering Students



Through the initiative of the Lithuanian Geotechnical Society (LGS), an innovative approach was introduced to encourage students at VILNIUS TECH, Lithuania, to specialize in geotechnical engineering.

LGS acted as a fundraiser and secured agreements with seven companies active in geotechnical engineering (design and construction) to financially support six third-year Civil Engineering students who chose the Geotechnical specialization. Each student receives a monthly scholarship of 200 euros. Notably, these scholarships come with no obligations—recipients are not required to work for any of the sponsoring companies.



"In the words of athlete Jim Ryun, 'Motivation is what gets you started; habit is what keeps you going.' We hope that these scholarships will become a habit—leading to more students choosing geotechnical engineering, more specialists entering the labor market, and a win for all of us," said VILNIUS TECH Vice-Rector for Science and Innovation, Prof. Dr. Dalius Navakauskas, in his speech of gratitude.

[Source (in Lithuanian)]: [BNS News](#)



## ISSMGE Europe Requests



### Share Your National Lectures – Let's Promote Them Together!

ISSMGE Europe is committed to showcasing the wealth of knowledge within our community, and we need your help! We invite all **National Societies** to share details of their **National Lectures** so we can help promote them across ISSMGE's **social media channels and other platforms**.

By increasing visibility, we can amplify the reach of your lectures, celebrate the contributions of your experts, and strengthen knowledge-sharing across our geotechnical network.

- If your society organizes National Lectures, please send us:
- The lecture title and speaker's name
- A brief description of the topic

- Date, time, and format (in-person, online, or hybrid)
- Any relevant links for registration or further information

Let's work together to bring geotechnical insights to a wider audience! Forward your lecture details to [brendan.smith@epfl.ch](mailto:brendan.smith@epfl.ch), and we'll make sure they get the recognition they deserve.

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