



# 34<sup>th</sup> International GEOGRAPHICAL Congress



**"Geography: bridging the continents"**

**17-21 AUGUST, 2020 • Istanbul**

**Istanbul University**

**SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT**



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## WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues and friends,

It is an honour and a pleasure for me to welcome you to the 34th International Geographical Congress in Istanbul in 2020, Turkey.

Istanbul has an enchanting and captivating location straddling two continents. Together with the rest of Turkey the city serves as a bridge between different cultures. This asset will be a major feature of the 2020 34<sup>th</sup> IGC, bringing together the Asia, Middle East and Europe.

This Congress presents a valuable opportunity to join scholars and practitioners from around the world in a scientifically enriched environment, to appreciate the historical beauties of Istanbul, and to enjoy Turkey's celebrated hospitality. All are guaranteed to leave you with fond and unforgettable memories.

I am certain that Istanbul will mobilize the experience, expertise and support required to ensure one of the most successful events in the history of the IGU.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee and the Turkish Geographical Society, we look forward to the pleasure and excitement of welcoming you to Istanbul.

With warm regards,

**Prof. Dr. Barbaros Gönencgil**

IGC 2020 Head of LOC

Vice President of International Geographical Union (IGU)





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## MAIN THEME

### Geography: Bridging the Continents

Geography is the science of relationships between the Earth and humanity. This is a basic definition of Geography. But Geography is not only a science of relationship. Geography also embraces evaluation, interpretation, awareness and analysis. It is the “Queen of the all sciences”.

Historically, people developed geographical knowledge to explore the world. While the first discoveries were in their own surrounds, as time progressed people set out to discover other places as well. These discoveries were sometimes the outcome of simple curiosity and for pure “wonder” but they often realised the needs of social groups. In the Little Ice Age period, confronted with challenging climatic conditions, people travelled to unknown regions of the world in search of new resources. In a sense, the adverse climatic conditions of the Little Ice Age marked the beginning of the era of discoveries. So it was that Geography brought the continents and humanity together.

The fact that Istanbul is located at the junction of continents constitutes a most important point of this great meaning. The 34<sup>th</sup> International Geographical Congress, which will be organised for the first time in Istanbul where the continents meet, will be the most appropriate way of realising this historical meaning of Geography. Thus, all colleagues in all continents will meet in Istanbul.

## IGC 2020 ISTANBUL KEY TOPICS

- Globalisation vs Localisation
- Climate Change
- Migration and Conflicts
- Earth and Disasters
- Eurasia and Middle East Studies
- Anthropocene





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## KEY TOPICS

### **Globalisation vs Localisation**

In its most basic meaning, globalisation describes the pattern of international trade and investment and communication that has accelerated dramatically since the middle of the twentieth century. In this framework, globalisation is associated with government policies that open up domestic and international markets with the objectives of supporting development in poorer countries and raising people's living standards. However, these policies have also been associated with market conditions harmful to local businesses, local cultures, and human communities. There are also social, political and legal visions of globalisation imagining a single, seamless world in the future. However, in opposition to these notions the concept of localisation has emerged and evolved. It brings an emphasis on the local differences and characteristics that are at the root of a multicultural world but are under the threat of globalisation. As a science concerned with place and relationships between them, Geography can contribute usefully to the assessment of all the details of globalisation and localisation.

### **Climate Change**

Climate change has become one of the most important issues confronting humanity today. However, not everyone understands what it is, what kind of problem it is, and what the reasons for it are. Discussions are sometimes complicated by questions about the extent to which human activity has affected the course of 'natural' change. Human-induced, or anthropogenic, climate change is a major environmental issue. Anthropogenic causes of climate change include urbanization, industrialisation and destruction of natural areas. It follows therefore that mitigating negative pressures on the broader environment has the potential to reduce human pressures on climate change. It is also important to understand adaptation associated with climate change and to explore new and effective ways of adjusting to Earth's changing climate conditions. Geography is an important scientific discipline that can contribute to these considerations.

### **Migration and Conflicts**

Migration and conflicts continue as significant challenges in today's world. Political problems, especially in 'hot regions', cause conflicts and migration. Human trafficking, such as that starting from the Middle East and North Africa and crossing the Mediterranean through routes, has tragic consequences. These illegal activities cause social, economic and political problems, especially in many European countries as well as in many other parts of the world. Discussing such problems from a geographical point of view and developing proposals for solutions will be an important result for this Congress.

### **Earth and Disasters**

All of the Earth system consists of fully dynamic conditions and processes. Each process – from plate movements to mass movements to atmospheric change – is a natural part of this active system which has existed for millions of years. However, growing populations and environmental damage caused by humans have increased vulnerabilities associated with these natural processes. Today, the number of measures taken to counter 'natural' disasters and their increasing array of environmental and social effects is of growing significance. 'Natural' disasters and adaptations to them are a critical focus for Geography and for this Congress.



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## Eurasia and Middle East Studies

Istanbul is located at the intersection of Eurasia and the Middle East. This region, where many civilisations have arisen and flourished for thousands of years, still brings many nations together. Istanbul IGC2020 is open to scientifically founded discussion of all problems in this region. In this context all subjects related to physical and human geography will be considered.

## Anthropocene

Have we reached the end of the Holocene? This question has been asked frequently of late as a result of the extreme pressure humanity has placed on Earth systems.. Humanity began to be especially influential on the biosphere after the Industrial Revolution, affecting, for example, terrestrial ecosystems, the atmosphere, and hydrological cycles. Loss of natural areas, atmospheric pollution, pollution of the seas and oceans, and climate change: all these Earth systems problems have been intensified by human activity. Natural processes have been degraded and a significant new era has begun. Currently humanity is so influential over Earth systems that we may now be in the so-called Anthropocene. For those interested in the relationship between Physical and Human Geography this is clearly an important field of study in the near future. For this reason, the Anthropocene is one of the main topics of this congress.





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## REGISTRATION FEES

	Early Bird	Regular	Late / On site
Participant	350 €	400 €	450 €
Student	175 €	200 €	225 €
Accompanying Person	125 €	150 €	175 €

### Registration Fee Includes:

- Congress opening ceremony
- Welcome cocktail
- Coffee breaks
- Lunch boxes
- Entrance to all sessions
- Entrance to exhibition area
- Entrance to poster area
- Congress closing ceremony
- Congress kit (Congress bag, programme booklet, etc.)

### Gala dinner

- Prices will be determined later for the year 2020

## IMPORTANT DATES

- 31 July 2019** Deadline for the submission of the session proposals
- 1 August 2019** Early registration starts
- 13 January 2020** Deadline for submitting abstracts for papers and posters
- 24 February 2020** Notification of results of abstract reviews
- 9 March 2020** Deadline for early registration fee payment
- 6 April 2020** Deadline for early registration fee payment (Abstract Author)
- 20 April 2020** Deadline for regular fee payment
- 17-21 August 2020** IGU Congress in Istanbul, Turkey







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## ABOUT ISTANBUL



### THREE EMPIRES - THREE CAPITALS

Istanbul has been the capital of the Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman Empires, leaving behind a multicultural sediment of civilisations and faiths that take physical form as aqueducts, cisterns, palaces, churches, synagogues, mosques and social form as cultural tolerance and harmony.

### MODERN TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS AND CONGRESS FACILITIES

Istanbul today is the focal point of industry, commerce and cultural life in Turkey. It has many internationally acclaimed hotels, congress centres and offers state-of-the-art meeting facilities. The city is connected to the world by two international airports, international harbours, railways and Trans-European-Motorway.

### SOME OF THE TOURIST DESTINATIONS TO VISIT IN ISTANBUL

- The Bosphorus • Hagia Sophia Museum • Topkapı Palace • Archeology Museum • Dolmabahçe Palace
- St. Irene • Yerebatan Cistern • Caria Museum • Grand Bazaar • Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum
- Spice Market • Museum of Turkish Carpets • Maiden's Tower

### ACCESSIBILITY

Almost all international airlines have convenient direct flights to Istanbul from all over the world. Recently, Turkish Airlines offers direct flights from 200 cities all over the world including LOS ANGELES, CHICAGO, NEW YORK, TORONTO, SAO PAULO, CAPE TOWN, JOHANNESBURG, NAIROBI, CASABLANCA, DAKAR, JAKARTA, HONG KONG, TOKYO, SHANGHAI, SEOUL, SINGAPORE, NEW DELHI, ALMATY, BISHKEK, MOSCOW, PARIS, ROME, AMSTERDAM, BRUSSELS, MADRID, LISBON, BUDAPEST, BUCHAREST, PRAGUE, STOCKHOLM, HELSINKI etc....

[www.igc2020.org](http://www.igc2020.org)

## **CONTACT**

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