



International Association of Geomorphologists

The X Young Geomorphologists' Day and III IAG International Young Geomorphologists' Meeting

Venice, Italy, 1–2 March 2024

Report

Andrei Kedich

*Division of Geography and Tourism, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, KU Leuven,
Heverlee, Belgium*

andrei.kedich@kuleuven.be

I would like to start this report by expressing my deepest gratitude to the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) for their ongoing and significant support of young researchers worldwide. The grant provided by the IAG allowed me to attend the combined event X Young Geomorphologists' Day, III IAG International Young Geomorphologists' Meeting & IAG Southern Europe Webinar that took place in Venice on March 1-2, 2024. The grant not only covered my expenses but also fostered collaboration with other grant recipients and young geomorphologists.

The conference spanned two days. The first day was filled with presentations primarily by young geomorphologists from across Europe, with a specific focus on Southern Europe due to the nature of the event. Although I am from a different region, my PhD topic is centered on studying the geomorphological aspects of agricultural terraces in the Eastern Mediterranean. Therefore, I was fascinated by the presentations made during the day. I had the opportunity to share the initial progress of my PhD, which I began six months ago. My presentation was titled "Towards the automatic identification of agricultural terraces in the Eastern Mediterranean using open access Earth observation data". It was vital for me to connect with and learn from other PhD students and young geomorphologists who are further along in their careers. They offered me valuable advice on research and managing a PhD.

In addition to professional connections, I also made new friends from various countries including Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and Croatia. After the official program ended on the first day, the Bacaro Tour, a traditional Venetian event, was organized for all participants. This allowed us to converse in an informal setting in the heart of Venice. It was a lot of fun!

The second day was dedicated to the field trip, "Living on the water towards 2100". We toured Venice and visited prominent attractions, with a strong emphasis on studying sea level rise. It was fascinating to focus on a problem that concerns many people worldwide, specifically in Venice, which is often used as a prime example. We studied sea level changes and the return periods of exceptional floods, the diversion of river channels, and ground subsidence under the pressure of buildings since the 13th century. It was intriguing to try to combine all these effects, gathered from different proxies such as algae levels or staircases, stratigraphic data, and synthetic aperture radar (SAR) measurements, to create a comprehensive picture of relative sea level change in the Venetian Lagoon.

I would like to express my gratitude to the IAG once again for their financial support and specifically to Anita Bernatek-Jakiel and Efthimios Karymbalis for their efforts to assist young geomorphologists. I look forward to seeing everyone at future events!



International Association of Geomorphologists

Photos



Presentation given during the X Young Geomorphologists' Day



Prof. Mauro Soldati and the organizers of the conference



International Association of Geomorphologists



Venice during the field excursion