



International Association of Geomorphologists

11th IAG International Conference on Geomorphology

Christchurch, New Zealand, 2–6 February 2026

and

ICG2026 Young Geomorphologists Training Program

“Methods for assessing geomorphic processes and change”

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Report

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From 2 to 6 February 2026, the **11th International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) International Conference on Geomorphology** was held in Christchurch, New Zealand (Ōtautahi, Aotearoa). The conference was organised by the IAG and hosted at the Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre. It opened by immersing participants in Māori culture with traditional dances, followed by a compelling keynote lecture, ‘*Be a good ancestor*’ – *an approach to weaving Indigenous knowledge and geomorphology*, delivered by Dan Hikuroa. During the opening ceremony, all the IAG Grant holders were also invited to take the stage (Fig. 1), demonstrating the great importance that the IAG has always placed on supporting the young geomorphology community. During the conference, many moments were dedicated to the scientific development and networking of early-career researchers.

My participation in the conference was both professionally and intellectually rewarding, providing the opportunity to share my research findings, learn from distinguished international scholars, and interact with researchers at different career stages involved in the advancement of Geomorphology.



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Fig. 1. IAG Grant holders gathered on stage during the congress opening ceremony

I am sincerely grateful to the International Association of Geomorphologists for awarding me the IAG Grant, whose support enabled my participation and allowed me to engage fully in the rich scientific program. I contributed an oral presentation in the thematic session “04D – Advances, Challenges and Future Directions in Tectonic Geomorphology” titled “*Geomorphic and tectonic implications of raised Quaternary shorelines along the Tyrrhenian margin of the southern Apennines, Italy*” (Fig. 2). The discussion following the presentation highlighted significant interest in the topic.



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Fig. 2. Oral presentation during the thematic session “04D – Advances, Challenges and Future Directions in Tectonic Geomorphology”

Participating in the congress not only allowed me to engage with cutting-edge research but also gave me the opportunity to attend the Italian Association of Physical Geography and Geomorphology (AIGeo) banquet supporting Italy’s candidacy to host the next IAG International Congress (Fig. 3).



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Fig. 3. The Italian delegation supporting AIGeo’s candidacy for Italy to host the next IAG International Congress in 2030

Finally, but not for importance, beyond the scientific sessions, I was able to explore New Zealand’s remarkable geomorphological sites and exchange experiences directly in the field with fellow participants, combining professional growth with cultural discovery (Fig. 4).

Overall, the congress was an enriching experience, combining scientific exchange, field exploration, and cultural engagement.



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Fig. 4. Landscape view of Mount Cook (Aoraki), illustrating the transition from the high-alpine terrain of the Southern Alps to the wide braided Tasman River alluvial plain. In the background, the U-shaped valley profile indicates extensive past glacial erosion.

I look forward to continuing these connections and seeing everyone again in Rimini in 2030.

Ciro Cerrone