



President's Report – WP 2013 - 2014

As for the previous period, we give an overview of what we have realized in 2013 and 2014.

With the end of mandate of several board members, it makes sense to build on the previous report and give some hints for our successors.

To report about the previous period 2013 - 2014, we have chosen to use the CLGE Strategy as written in the beginning of the previous period and to comment it. The italic green text is added and comments the achievements of our team during the last two years. Blue italic texts refer to the preceding period.

Although it's a President's report, I would like to insist on the fact that we had a real teamwork and that all the members were very committed to their tasks in the Bureau and Board.

Allow me to take the opportunity of this report to thank my colleagues and friends for their professional but warm behaviour.

It is the occasion as well to thank our institutional corporate members and sponsors for their support. A lot of the progress we've made wouldn't have been possible without their commitment to CLGE and the Profession!

This report will not be read during the General Assembly. Delegates are supposed to read the paper and be ready to comment it during the plenary session and or one of the workshops.

CLGE – Vision and mission statement

“CLGE is the leading surveyors association in Europe”

The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors (CLGE) is the leading representational body for the Surveying Profession in Europe. It promotes the profession in the European Union and fosters its development in the surrounding Council of Europe countries.

Surveying includes Cadastral Surveying which provides security to land and property title and thus underlies the economic base of western society.

Moreover, Geospatial Information is now ubiquitous in our lives and the Surveyor plays a fundamental role in this field. Both fields are strongly related since the cadastre is the ideal fundament for national Geo Data Infrastructures.

The individual Surveyors spread over 36 member states are the final and most important beneficiaries of CLGE's activities. However, the Council also pursues more general aims such as the sustainable development of the European society and the public and individual interests of the European Citizens.



CLGE – Strategic Goals

For two consecutive Working Programs (2011 – 2012 and 2013 – 2014) we will pursue following Strategic Goals (SG):

- Take part in the legislative process governing the exercise of the Surveying Profession at the European and national levels

This goal was clearly reached. We not only have implemented and monitored the CLGE Code of Conduct but we managed to introduce a piece of CLGE regulation in the INSPIRE directive.

The CLGE Measurement code has indeed been adopted as the reference for the measurement of buildings in Europe and this is a major achievement. It's the first time that CLGE is mentioned in European Law (16 Times!).

Moreover, CLGE took an active part in the revision process of the Directive on the Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications, directly and via CEPLIS.

The efforts of the previous period have led to the integration of the CLGE measurement code in the International Property Measurement Coalition. This will reinforce our relevance in this field.

In the field of the Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications we've managed to find a common position on Cadastral Surveying and the absolute need of national regulation. However, it also led us to the insight that CLGE has to think certification, auto-regulation and standardization at the EU Level and beyond.

Our efforts were crowned by the participation in several EU projects (GALIL-EU, GeoSkills Plus and GIN2K).

- Build a Professional image of the European of Surveyor, recognized by the national governments as well as the EU

Progress was made in this field. CLGE has acquired a high level of cooperation with the European body in charge of GNSS (GSA or GNSS Agency). We took part as an expert group for the market report about the potential use of GNSS in the future.

These contacts are still excellent and CLGE was consulted many times with regard to the use of GNSS. However, it is important to follow up this effort and recent contacts with the European Commission offer renewed perspectives that we've started use but where efforts will be necessary.

The Day of the European Surveyor and GeoInformation was successfully launched and will be followed up by other days of the same kind.

After Mercator and Galileo, Struve is the third European Surveyor of the year and the initiative becomes a tradition. We have successfully 'sold' the idea to the US National Society of Professional Surveyors and together we are convincing FIG to consider similar approaches ([Budapest Declaration](#)).

With the above mentioned activities in the field of law making, CLGE has acquired and maintained a higher level of reputation in front of the European Bodies.

Diverse activities and missions were organized with the aim to give advice to national governments. Letters were sent to several prime ministers, with the aim to raise profile and support our national member organizations (Albania, Austria,



Bulgaria, Croatia, Moldova). Several ministerial meetings took place (Albania, Croatia, Moldova).

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The creation of the Dynamic Professional Knowledge Base is well on track and the next election period should see its completion. The DPKB is a good occasion to see that a group of voluntary members can prepare the work for the whole organisation.

The process is ongoing. The results are slower than expected and we ask the next board to make all the necessary efforts to get this progress through.

The integration of CLGE and GE was a success and improves the visibility of our organization at several levels.

CLGE and CLGE IG-PARLS work hand in hand now and there are no real differences anymore. As a matter of fact, the chair of IG-PARLS is the only candidate for CLGE Presidency.

- Motivate young surveyors to become active within their national associations and hence CLGE.

Efforts were done in that field and some encouraging successes were achieved.

They include the CLGE Students' Contest that seems to be surprisingly successful since 11 papers were introduced, and that's not bad for the first edition.

The second CLGE European Students' meeting is a confirmation of the first event of that kind. For the next session, we have to consolidate these results and why not expand the event to gain more visibility.

These initiatives are traditional events now and have much media attention.

The CLGE Students' Contest, CLGE Students' Meeting and FIG YSEN meeting are closely coordinated. Every three years, the CLGE Students' meeting could take place at INTERGEO in Berlin.

We are engaged in the FIG Young Surveyors Network and should coordinate this Network at the European Level.

Thanks to the CLGE contest, won by a FIGYSEN-team, closer relations were established. There will be a permanent observer of the network on the CLGE Board.

First STEP still exists but should be better promoted. This requires the involvement of our companies and if this is not possible, we should abandon or rethink the scheme.

In the frame of GeoSkills Plus we managed to give new perspectives to First STEP. The European Young Surveyors are also ready to be involved.

CLGE has also engaged with another interesting initiative launched by our Italian colleagues: the International Course for Young Surveyors. We will have to be very supportive of this initiative in the future too.

These courses are suspended but CLGE should seek for cooperation and ask the Italian or another lead nation to consider going on. Perhaps it could be nice to involve the whole of Europe.

- Make sure that the CLGE members are satisfied with the performance of CLGE.



Our members were asked to give their opinion after each GA or event. We've received some (not many) comments and have tried to follow the majority of recommendations. From in the beginning of the election period we've empowered the General Assembly by introducing more discussions and we think that this improvement was well perceived by the members and their delegates (organization of several Work Shops with follow up).

We still miss real satisfaction surveys which could be implemented after GA's or after an election period. The elections are of course a kind of satisfaction surveys on their own. Real surveys, as well as more unified registration procedures could be implemented during the future periods.

There are many candidates for the elections and this demonstrates a growing interest in our activities. Work Shops about goals and governance are regularly organized and should be maintained.

The discussions during GA's are becoming livelier, sometimes even vigorous, but the outcomes are generally satisfying and more robust.

Our actions will concentrate on following features.

Proximity - CLGE is close to its members

The proximity between CLGE and its members is essential. This nearness is reached by strong ties between the Bureau, the Executive Board and the General Assembly. The CLGE delegates representing their National Liaison Groups have also a key role to hold in that field: They have to secure that the information percolates from CLGE to the individual surveyor and vice versa. This bidirectional information flow is crucial if we want to be of any help.

Proximity: empower the GA, visibility, added value, demonstrate need of EU actions, work regionally to prepare CLGE wide agreements, advertise CLGE events as national CPD not only in the host country

A lot of actions have contributed to the proximity we wanted to achieve.

The Day of the European Surveyor was interesting because the National Liaison Groups were invited to organize actively this day in their own country. This will be developed in the future.

The magazine GeoInformatics is a success, since we have a permanent visibility in the Geomatics world. We also hope to reach our members. Moreover, we have developed the base for a permanent and multilingual e-newsletter that can start soon. Moreover, we've started some social media, for instance twitter and LinkedIn accounts. Of course, we still should improve things, for instance the national and international Continued Professional Development Measures.

The multilingual newsletter has been abandoned at least for a while.

However the other above mentioned initiatives were consolidated and some improved. Our twitter and Facebook accounts gain interest. We should really promote them, especially amongst the young surveyors. The LinkedIn initiative is probably the less



developed, for the moment.

Embedding CLGE conferences and seminars in National events are a very strong tool to improve our proximity with the individual members.

The European Space Expo was a major event promoting our profession to the general public but also to the European Commission and GSA.

CLGE is called a strategic partner by EuroGeographics (EG), it is a trademark during INTERGEO ... all this promotes our visibility.

At the end of the election period we got a major success with BlueParking.eu. The involvement of a major European partner is a great success and helps us to progress in that field too. We need visibility towards the Decision Makers, the General Public but also High Visibility Partners (EG, Corporate members, Manufacturers, ...).

Pro-activity - CLGE engages with the competent authorities and relevant partners

CLGE does not work in isolation. On the contrary, to gain efficiency and credibility, we seek for relevant engagements and partnerships. Once collaboration is started, CLGE behaves as a constructive, transparent and trustworthy partner.

Pro-activity: take part in the evaluation process of directives, inspire new directives or regulations, ...

This was a very successful axis of our policy too.

CLGE is very present in the evaluation process of the directive. We've learned to interact better with our General Assembly, when it comes to wave the flag (e.g. in the field of the Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications).

Although it was only in a small field (the surface of buildings) CLGE has had a real added value in the INSPIRE Directive. We have possibilities to engage with the European Normalization Body CEN. We should really try to seize this opportunity to have a lasting influence on this sector.

We also had a contacts about the normalization of expertize reports with CEN and we should pursue these efforts.

The 2009 initiative about the European Code of Conduct is maintained. The monitoring of its implementation is going on (although the process is much too slow and has to be improved urgently). Our contribution on the website of the European Economic and Social Committee has been updated.

By integrating the IPMS-C (International Property Measurement Coalition) CLGE has seized the opportunity to keep the momentum around euREAL, and this increases the relevance of our initiative.

Naturally, we were approached to join the International Coalition on Ethics in the Real Estate Sector and that's a good omen. Our code of conduct will be used and perhaps updated in that perspective.

Discussions about the normalization effort at CEN level will be easier when we have more or less the rest of the world behind us.

We had good contact with EuroGeographics in the previous working period and could develop this due to excellent relations during PCC meetings. The cooperation with both organizations has led to the signing of the Common Vision Paper on Cadastre and



Registration.

Finally, excellent relations with EUROGI were resumed and led to the integration of CLGE in the 2 days programme of the IMAGINE conference, held by CLGE at INTERGEO.

International cooperation is growing: FIG, International Property Measurement Coalition, International Ethical Standards Coalitions, WPLA, ... this enhances our visibility but the first goal is to be really proactive.

Professionalism - CLGE works in a professional way

Although most of our work is done by volunteers, we have to make all the efforts to adopt a professional profile in our work. Strong social contacts are indispensable to foster the needed proximity but our professional targets and the way we get there must remain our main concern.

Professionalism: Put a clear focus on our meetings and especially the active parts, secondment, trainees, create working parties (regional actions, ...)

Our meetings were professionalized. More discussions, more engagement, ... but we still have to improve this by reducing the administrative part (it's the reason why this report is tabled in a written way).

Inspired by Nordic and German models we have experienced the interest local working parties. This was especially successful in the euREAL working party and will be maintained.

With the unfortunate withdrawal of Pierre Bibollet from our Executive Board and thanks to the help of OGE (France) we have experienced a kind of secondment with the availability of Bénédicte Fournier. This way of using resources could be encouraged in the future.

We should investigate if there are no other Interest Groups that we should create.

Moreover, we managed to increase our budget with 60% without augmenting the fees. This is mostly thanks to the help of our partners and could be difficult to keep at that level but it shows that there is a real interest for us.

The path taken in the previous election period has been followed in different aspects.

We were able to maintain the level of commitment and the high number of candidates during the election period presages a continuation of this trend.

France has still financed an external help to maintain our early warning system (eu.Monitoring). Others could or should follow the example by allocating young staff members in secondment.

Since 2010 the CLGE budget is three times higher. This will have to be consolidated and if possible increased. Professionalism requires more means. True engagement activities in Brussels would require a tenfold of the 2010 budget i.e. €500.000,-

Membership affairs



A special effort will be done in asking member associations to create NLG. This process will be monitored.

The enlargement policy is reviewed. In the coming period, CLGE looks for consolidation. Enhancement remains possible but is not longer the top priority.

However, it's plain that candidate EU member states are suitable incoming CLGE members, while incoming EU member states must be CLGE member, preferably before their adhesion.

For example France and Belgium have made an effort to create such a National Liaison Group. We are convinced that this goal has still to remain high on our agenda.

Efforts are made in some countries, but the success is insufficient. This point will be explained again. A higher understanding of this could be achieved by asking more NMCA's to join the corporate membership scheme. Special contacts were made about this subject with The Netherlands and UK. Belgium, Germany and Croatia are involved since many years.

HESGI

The House of the European Surveyors and GeoInformation plays an essential role in CLGE's visibility in Brussels and abroad.

We have to use this infrastructure as a venue for our meetings but also as a symbol of our unity.

The effective use of the infrastructure will be promoted either by CLGE activities or national activities in Brussels.

With its official opening of the House of European Surveyors, the election period started well in 2010. Some renovation works are still possible and will be needed if the secondment goes on but, improvements have to be secured. For instance national activities in our house (not only Belgian activities) should be organized.

The annual meeting in HESGI is a major event for CLGE now. We have to warn VIP's in September October about the meeting to be organized every Monday preceding the Day of the European Surveyor and GeoInformation.

Thanks to the positive presence of CLGE and EG in HESGI, the third floor of the building will now be opened for offices and meeting facilities. This infrastructure will be available for staff members, people in secondment etc.

Working parties and task forces

The work of CTF-EU (formerly uniting CLGE-GE) will be conducted by the CLGE Executive Board members in close cooperation with IG-PARLS. We have to monitor the EU events and propose relevant policies. It is a vital part in the CLGE's engagement towards the EU institutions.

To enhance the cooperation between CLGE and EGoS a task force will be built.

Ad hoc working groups will be created for well defined topics (Dynamic Professional Knowledge Base, EGNOS, Galileo, ...).

Regional activities are encouraged and coordinated but they may not threaten CLGE events, nor overshadow them. They have to be effective thus very local or with teleconferencing.



As explained above, these goals were well reached.

Discussions with EGoS are on-going but the results are not very satisfying. We have a good cooperation but we are losing momentum. Efforts should be maintained during the next election period.

The cooperation with EGoS was not developed any further and should be started again as soon as possible. Several topics could create a new momentum, for instance the development of Certification tools or Self-Regulation. Another topic is the Professional card within the IMI frame.

Different taskforces have worked, especially in the field of the preparation of major events (European Space Expo, Seminars, and Conferences). The new field of land management was prepared ([Chisinau Declaration](#), cooperation within WPLA and other European associations). A working group for this task is being created.

Conferences and Seminars

The biannual Conferences will be maintained.

The organisation of Seminars and other events will be carefully monitored for the future. We feel that it is not easy to mobilise our members for a multitude of events. Conferences can and must draw our full attention.

These events should be financially self supporting although a deficit guaranty can always be invoked, when accepted by the GA.

The Conferences and Seminars remain a major asset for CLGE.

With the Umeå seminar in Sweden we've really reached our breakthrough with the European GNSS Agency. This kind of event should be repeated to create similar ties with another European agency or body. It should influence the selection of the topic too.

The Conference of the closing Election Period is an ideal platform to launch euREAL with sufficient media attention.

We should improve the participation to our seminars and conferences, especially on a local basis.

Several interesting seminars were organized (Budapest, Chisinau) and, after some initial problems in Spain, the IV Conference of the European Surveyor and GI became an important success, allying local and international involvement.

All the conferences led to statements and they can be used as a road map or history of our Council. The Kaliningrad Declaration is a good example and will be uploaded soon.