



2019, a World Bank Round Table on Professional Ethics in Surveying

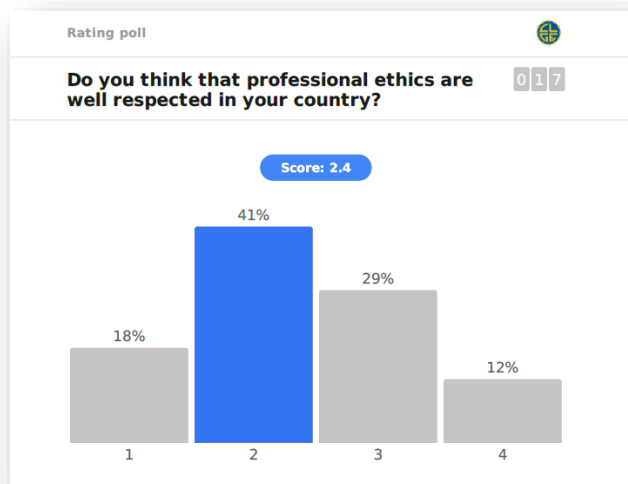
In 2018, CLGE and NSPS, supported by FIG and Leica Geosystems, have celebrated the first Global Surveyors Day. This celebration took place during the Land and Poverty Conference in Washington, on 21 March 2018. It will be repeated every year on the same day from now on, everywhere in the world.

For the first edition of the Global Surveyors Day, the World Bank has supported our initiative by authorizing a reception as well as a specific Round Table about the future of Surveying.

Unfortunately, due to the bad meteorological circumstances, the World Bank was closed on that very day and we had to relocate the celebration to the State Plaza Hotel, close to the original venue. However, the event was a success, thanks to the help of our partners, including the World Bank Staff.

This year we would like to repeat the Round Table and Reception. Therefore we submit a new proposal to your approval. If accepted, we hope that we will be more lucky with the weather conditions.

During this year's Round Table about the future of our profession, we conducted an enquiry amongst the participants. More than 90% of them expressed the believe that professional ethics are an essential to the exercise of our profession. However, nearly 60% of the participants esteemed that the professional ethics aren't well respected in their country. This is at least a questioning if not a worrying observation.





Therefore, the Forum of Regional Bodies within FIG proposes to intensify the efforts amongst their members in the field of professional ethics.

We recommend to emphasize the professional ethics during the whole of 2019.

One pertinent action would be to organize the World Bank Round Table in this field.

CLGE suggests three short papers about the subject with the aim to spark the discussion during a subsequent Round Table:

- Worldwide, Regional and local initiatives to regulate professional ethics
- Professional ethics under pressure, how to cope with technical developments
- Ethics, from theory to practice

Hereafter we give a short abstract about these three topics.

Worldwide, Regional and local initiatives to regulate professional ethics

Back in 1998, FIG has edited an important document about [professional Ethics](#). It is also involved in the International Ethics Standards Coalition developing a universal set of [ethical principles](#) for real estate and related professions.

Similar initiatives have been conducted at regional levels such as in the [USA](#) and [Europe](#), to mention a few. In many countries, legislation imposes a set of ethical principles to professional surveyors. The question is to know how these different initiatives are enforced.

The first presentation aims at describing the situation at hand and to envisage perspectives for the future.

Professional ethics under pressure, how to cope with technical developments

Professional ethics are important. This applies since eternities. However the principles are changing over the years. They have to be dynamic and adapt to the changing world.

This presentation aims at showing the impact of new technologies and trends on our professional ethics. Crowdsourcing, drones, big data and data mining, blockchains, ... the number of evolutions is impressive and this puts a tangible stress on our ethics.

Ethics, from theory to practice

There is perceptual a gap between the importance of professional ethics and their application in real life. Professionals tend to consider ethical principles as important but don't want to invest efforts in pursuing them in their daily routine or at least they suspect their colleagues to neglect these aspects.

The presentation aims at describing this paradox and starting the discussion about possible practical solutions that could improve the situation.

Curtis Sumner, NSPS executive director, USA

Jean-Yves Pirlot, CLGE director general, European Union

Maurice Barbieri, CLGE president, Switzerland