

CLGE speech during the opening of the 6th FIG YS Conference

Opening by Vladimir Krupa, CLGE President

Dear Young Surveyors, dear Colleagues and Friends,



It's my pleasure to take part in the opening of this online 6th FIG Young Surveyors Conference with the nice title "Challenges in our New Reality: Reimagining a Sustainable Future". Yes, we live in challenging times and everybody is more or less holding their breath thinking: what comes next and what can we do to prevail? These are important questions for young and old, but especially for you young professionals, at the start of your career.

CLGE has a long tradition of supporting the FIG Young Surveyors Network and we stay committed to this goal. We started with the European Students Meetings and see that this became a nice tradition now within FIG. We have implemented the CLGE Students' Contest which has gradually transformed towards a Young Surveyors contest and we will go on with this together with GSA / EUSPA. We have integrated a delegate from your Network to assist in our Executive Board meetings: after Eva Maria and Diana, it is Ferah now, your Vice-Chair. And vice versa, whenever we could, we have sent somebody to your events. In recent years these were either the President or our longstanding Vice-President from Estonia, Mairolt Kakko. He has retired now from this position, but our commitment remains unbroken since we have appointed Jānis Klīve from Latvia, to take over this task.

We are particularly pleased about the subject you've chosen for this year's conference. It's in line with the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and it will probably be necessary to keep our focus on these kind of topics until 2030 and even beyond!

Actually, since a few years, CLGE is choosing a theme of the year. We are proposing it to FIG and the Forum of Regional Bodies and we are happy that we find a lot of cooperation and support.

In 2019 it was our year of "Professional Ethics", 2020 was the start of our countdown for the "Sustainable Development Goals 2030", and 2021 is the year of "Women in Surveying", totally in line with the UN - SDG #05: Gender Equality. Don't misunderstand us, we don't want to have themes of the year and then forget them. On the contrary, we want people to remember these years and keep



the topics they've learned about alive in their memories. This can be reached by thinking back every year about this series of topics and trying not to forget them in our daily lives.

The word "sustainability" is one of the most important words of this century, I guess. "Resilience" is fine, but it is a reaction. We, and especially you, youngsters, have to go for it, not to wait for what will happen next, but take your and our future in your hands and improve it!

We at CLGE are thinking about it for a long time now. A few years ago, we have asked to enhance the Fit for Purpose Model. We like this FfP approach, it's a first thing a surveyor learns at university: arrange your work to be fit for purpose, don't over or undersize your efforts. So we like it and support it, but we also would like to bring the "Sustainability factor" in the equation. For the sake of local surveyors, we believe that you have to plan more than what's fit for purpose now. Start with it, but be ready, after a while, to evolve because the purpose might shift and it would be a pity if you have to start all over again.

Another example: among other international coalitions, including the [International Property Measurement Standards Coalition](#) (IPMSC) and the [International Land Measurement Standards Coalition](#) (ILMSC), CLGE is also active in the [International Ethical Standards Coalition](#) (IESC). The IESC Coalition revised this Standard recently and, our contribution was, to petition for the inclusion of the "S" of Sustainability. We were successful in achieving the adoption of a reference to 'acting sustainably' as an ethical consideration and encouraging practitioners to become familiar with the UN-SDGs. Of course, there is much more to do. Firstly, we all need to **act** on the SDGs. We are convinced that this "S" is of the utmost importance. CLGE will continue to make the case for IESC to adopt "Sustainability" as one of the explicit Ethical Principles. We hope that we will be successful in getting this implemented in a future revision of the Standard. We believe that "Sustainability" should follow the same path as "Diversity", another important Ethical principle that has been recently introduced. To get this done, we need people to starting the lobbying work, well in advance.

Finally, and I don't want to take too long, CLGE has decided to put its own house in order first. We have for instance started checking what we could do to decrease the carbon footprint of our organisation. The best start is being more thoughtful about our energy consumption and our emissions. The second step is to compensate the emissions that we cannot avoid. Hence, we have started a cooperation with the German Company called Atmosfair, with fair written like fairness. We also try to have a snowball effect and ask other organisations to do the same so, my suggestion, why shouldn't FIG YSEN follow the same path? Ferah, I leave this idea in your hands and maybe it will percolate. Another sister organisation of ours has already adopted the scheme. The next phase is to analyse how individual surveyors can adapt their processes to take part in the effort. This is ongoing work. Another Vice-President of CLGE, Michalis Kalogiannakis, gave a nice presentation about this topic, in October last year.

Enough words from the grey-haired man, I don't want to eat your speaking times, I only seize the opportunity to wish you very fruitful talks, a lot of follow up online meetings – this is also good for your footprint – but, I also wish you, once in a while, nice live meetings, very soon.

I urge you or better, I challenge you, not only to reimagine the future, but to also to shape it with your acts.