



# 7TH FIG YOUNG SURVEYORS **EUROPEAN MEETING**

REPORT 23-24 OCTOBER 2024 BUCHAREST, ROMANIA







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#### **ABOUT THE EVENT**

The Young Surveyors European Meeting (YSEM) took place in Bucharest, Romania, on the 23rd and 24th of October 2024, under the engaging theme "Building Together: Surveyors Leading Tomorrow's Challenges." This landmark event attracted over 60 students, young professionals, seasoned experts, and leaders from across Europe to delve into pressing issues, share fresh perspectives, and chart a path forward for the surveying profession. Significantly, this YSEM was the first in-person meeting since the pandemic, making it a special opportunity for participants to reconnect face-to-face, strengthening bonds that had previously been sustained online.

Designed to unite past experiences with modern insights, the conference offered a robust platform for young surveyors to learn, connect, and drive innovation in response to current industry challenges. A rich array of activities was organized, including keynote presentations, technical panels, and handson workshops. The program was tailored to foster collaboration, provide critical skills, and inspire emerging leaders in the field. Networking events further enriched the conference, enabling participants to build lasting connections and collaborate on projects poised to impact the future of surveying.

This report captures the essence of YSEM 2024, detailing the standout sessions, participant contributions, and key takeaways that embody the conference's collaborative and future-focused spirit. By documenting these insights, we aim to contribute to the professional growth of surveyors and to support a vision of continuous advancement in the field.





## FIRST DAY, WEDNESDAY, 23 OCTOBER, 2024

#### Welcome Speeches

The meeting was officially opened by Marineli Dancheva, the Young Surveyors' Representative from the Council of European Geodetic Surveyors (CLGE), and laroslav Zifceac, President of the Youth Commission of the Romanian Surveyors Union. The session kicked off with an engaging icebreaker activity. Each participant, including speakers and sponsors, was asked to find a seat based on a number they drew beforehand. Once seated, everyone stood up for 5-8 minutes to mingle and introduce themselves to those seated nearby, fostering a friendly and inclusive atmosphere right from the start.

After that, they provide a bit of background on the meeting, with an emphasis that this is the first in-person meeting after the pandemic period in Europe.

The welcome speeches were delivered by a distinguished lineup of keynote speakers:

- Mircea Afrăsinei, President of the Romanian Surveyors Union
- Jean-Yves Pirlot, General Director of the Council of European Geodetic Surveyors (CLGE)
- Peter Ache, Chair of the FIG Commission 9 "Valuation and the Management of Real Estate" and FIG Representative
- Shirley Chapunza, Chair of the FIG Young Surveyors Network (joining online)
- Cornel Păunescu, University of Bucharest, Honorary President of the Romanian Surveyors Union

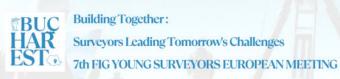
Mircea Afrăsinei opened the session by stressing the importance of coming together to build a stronger community. He highlighted the significant role that organizations play in investing in the younger generation and shared the efforts made by the Romanian Surveyors Union to promote youth engagement within the profession.





Jean-Yves Pirlot took the conversation further, emphasizing the crucial role of young surveyors in the future of the profession. He assured the audience that CLGE will always be a committed partner, stating, "Young Surveyors are the future of our profession. What we do is mainly for you. We need your input." He also addressed the current challenge of a shortage of young surveyors versus the abundance of them in different countries.







Peter Ache, speaking on behalf of FIG President Diane Dumashie, delivered an inspiring speech. He reflected on the evolution of the surveying profession, from the days of manual work to the current digital era. He highlighted the rapid changes facing the field and emphasized the need for unity and collaboration to address the challenges ahead. encouraged leveraging their collective skills and knowledge to support society's evolving needs.





Cornel Păunescu captivated the audience by showcasing some of the tools he used when he began his career in surveying. He underscored the importance of mastering the fundamental principles and basics of the profession, rather than just merely operating modern devices.

The final keynote was delivered online by Shirley Chapunza, who apologized for not being able to attend in person. She provided an overview of the supporters and the diverse activities planned for the program, encouraging participants to actively engage and share their experiences throughout the meeting.



#### Young Surveyor Grant Awarding Ceremony

The Young Surveyor Grant Awarding Ceremony was led by Cromwell Manaloto, who highlighted the FIG Foundation's efforts in supporting young surveyors. The winners—Vasil Dimitrov (Bulgaria), Maria Filip-Gherman (Romania), and Muris Mureškić (Bosnia and Herzegovina)—delivered insightful presentations about their work. They expressed sincere gratitude to the FIG Foundation for its support, which has been instrumental in advancing their projects. Their presentations showed why they were selected, as they are clearly making a positive impact in the surveying field.









#### Surveyors Leading Tomorrow's Challenges

The keynote session, chaired by Eloi Tandonnet from the French Order of Land Surveyors, featured a diverse lineup of speakers who provided insightful perspectives on their respective fields:



 Miika Kostamo (GeoForum, Finland) discussed the transformative impact of emerging technologies on the surveying industry in Europe. He emphasized the potential of large-scale data collection and the power it holds for the future.



 Tudor Sălăgean (University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca, Romania) shared a detailed overview of geodetic higher education in Romania, highlighting the advanced capabilities of Romanian universities, especially his own, in staying up-to-date with global trends and technological advancements.



 Wojciech Ostrowski (Jagiellonian University & Warsaw University of Technology, Poland) delivered an engaging presentation on the evolution of photogrammetry, focusing on the integration of AI and technology democratization. He reviewed key milestones in the field and shared his predictions on future breakthroughs that could reshape photogrammetry.

Each speaker brought valuable insights, sparking discussions on how technological advancements are shaping the future of surveying and geospatial sciences.

#### Connect with fellow European organizations (Poster session)

The "Connect with Fellow European Organizations" Poster Session, chaired by Fie Kliving from the Danish Association of Land Surveyors, was one of the most interactive and engaging segments of the event. Seven posters were showcased, each offering structured insights into various organizations:

- Young Surveyors Network presented by Shirley Chapunza
- Council of European Geodetic Surveyors (CLGE) – presented by Marineli Dancheva
- Romanian Surveyors Union Youth Commission – presented by Iaroslav Zifceac
- International Geodetic Student Organisation – presented by Vasil Dimitrov
- Collegio dei Geometri e Geometri Laureati di Ascoli Piceno – presented by Enrico Davoli
- DVW e.V. German Association for Geodesy, Geoinformation and Land Management – presented by Georgia Giannopoulou
- Konferenz der Geodäsiestudierenden presented by Leila von Rotberg







#### Building Together:

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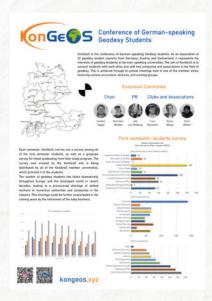


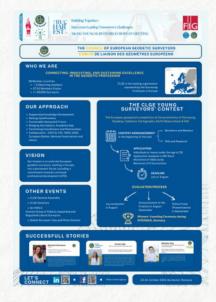














The session's goal was to share best practices from young surveying organizations across Europe, allowing attendees to learn about different organizational structures, key projects, challenges, and future objectives. It was fascinating to see how each group is contributing to the field, and the open exchange of ideas provided inspiration for collaboration and growth within the European surveying community.







#### Are we equipped with the right tools?

The session titled "Are We Equipped with the Right Tools?" was dedicated to exploring the tools needed to tackle the challenges highlighted in earlier discussions. Chaired by Mircea Nap, Vice-President of the Youth Commission of the Romanian Surveyors Union, this session featured presentations from industry leaders and sponsors.



 Lidija Špiranec, Product Manager/Team Leader at Leica Geosystems (part of Hexagon), presented Pure Surveying – Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow, covering the evolution of surveying technologies and their impact on the profession.



 Diana Andreea Cristina Mancas, GIS Specialist at ESRI Romania, demonstrated Field Operations in the ArcGIS System, focusing on efficient data collection using ArcGIS Field Maps.

These presentations, delivered by top industry sponsors, offered cutting-edge insights into the latest tools and solutions available to modern surveyors. The session provided participants with practical knowledge to better equip themselves for addressing current and future challenges in the field.

#### Developing the new generation of Surveyors

The final session of the first day, titled "Developing the New Generation of Surveyors," aimed to close the circle of knowledge shared throughout the day. Building on the foundation laid by the welcome addresses, it expanded on the key topics discussed, explored insights from various organizations, and showcased the latest tools in the field. This session was chaired by Lisa Bredek from Kadaster International, The Netherlands. The speakers for this session were:









- Enrico Rispoli (Director of FIG Foundation and Secretary General of Consiglio Nazionale Geometri, Italy) and Maria Scorza (Head of the International Office, Consiglio Nazionale Geometri, Italy), who discussed Young Surveyors Tomorrow between Environment and Al: A New Way to Go
- Angel Collado (FIG YSN Educational Affairs Representative, Spain), who
  presented on Towards the Integration of Geomatics: An Educational and
  Professional Perspective.





- Georgia Giannopoulou (Publicly Appointed Surveyor in Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany), who shared insights on DVW Working Group 1: Focusing on the Future of the Surveying World in Germany.
- Divyani Kohli (Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation, ITC, University of Twente, The Netherlands), who explored Innovations in Land Administration Using Geospatial Technologies.

This session was packed with knowledge transfer, building on the day's discussions to provide a comprehensive view of how to develop the next generation of surveyors. It offered additional perspectives on leveraging new technologies, integrating educational advancements, and adapting to future challenges in the profession, leaving participants with a deeper understanding of the path forward.

## **SECOND DAY, THURSDAY, 24 OCTOBER, 2024**

#### Navigating the Complexity of the Surveyor's Domain

The second day began with the session titled "Navigating the Complexity of the Surveyor's Domain" chaired by Silviu Cristian Răducu, Vice-President of the Youth Commission of the Romanian Surveyors Union. This session aimed to showcase the diverse, unique, and complex nature of surveying work across different regions of Europe, highlighting real-world challenges not just as broad topics, but through specific, case-by-case examples.

The session featured the following speakers:

 Leonardo Franchi and Cromwell Manaloto (Consiglio Nazionale Geometri, Italy) discussed The Identity of an Italian Surveyor, offering a historical perspective on this century-old profession in Italy.

• Andrea van Dinten and Rindert Vos (Kadaster International, The Netherlands) presented on Al Applications in Land Surveying and Land Registration, exploring how artificial intelligence is transforming the field.

- Etienne Aveline (French Order of Land Surveyors, France) spoke on Land Sobriety, linking the EU soil strategy to practical proposals from French surveyors.
- Paulina Zachar (Doctoral Candidate, Warsaw University of Technology, Poland) delved into the Use of Deep Learning Methods in Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, highlighting both challenges and practical applications.
- Kimmo Sulonen (Head of Unit, City of Hyvinkää, Finland) shared insights into The Overall Land Use Processes of Finland, demonstrating the complexity of land management with real-world examples.

This session fascinated the audience by revealing both the differences and similarities in daily surveying practices across Europe. Attendees gained a deeper appreciation for the unique challenges surveyors face in various regions, showcasing the adaptability and innovation required in their day-to-day work.





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#### Shape our future – be involved

The last interactive session of the event was titled "Shape Our Future - Be Involved," and was led by Iaroslav Zifceac, President of the Youth Commission of the Romanian Surveyors Union. This engaging session turned the spotlight on the participants, inviting them to become active contributors.

#### Discussion Points:

- How do you ensure continuous professional growth in the rapidly evolving field of surveying?
- What are your favorite sources of information, training, or certification programs that help keep your knowledge up to date?
- How can the surveying community foster a culture of continuous learning and development?

Soft Skills and Leadership Development

- · What are the most important soft skills (e.g., communication, teamwork, leadership) needed for success in the surveying profession?
- What are the main challenges young face in survevors developing these soft skills in their careers?
- How can you leverage soft skills to become more effective leadership roles and team collaboration?

Involvement and Networking in Surveying Organizations

#### **Discussion Points:**

- How active are young surveyors in national and regional organizations within your country?
- How has participating in international events like FIG YS or similar impacted your career development?
- What would you expect from an international young surveyor network, and what activities or resources would be valuable to you?

#### Innovation and the **Future of Surveying**

#### **Discussion Points:**

- · What are the most important technological advancements drones, GIS, AI) shaping the future of the surveying profession?
- · How can young surveyors play an active role in driving innovation and the adoption of new tools and techniques?

Attendees were divided into four groups, each selecting a topic to brainstorm collaboratively. Drawing on the knowledge and insights gathered from the previous two days, participants explored real-world challenges and potential solutions within the surveying field. Each group then presented their findings and ideas to the entire audience, creating a space for lively discussion and knowledge sharing.

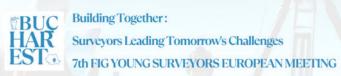
This session was designed to empower participants, encouraging them to apply what they had learned and actively contribute to shaping the future of their profession. It was an energizing and thought-provoking way to wrap up the day's presentations, setting the stage for the final wrap-up session of the event.











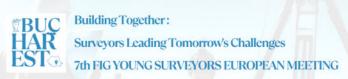


#### Wrap up

The meeting concluded with a wrap-up session led by laroslav Zifceac and Marineli Dancheva. They took the opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of the sponsors, thank the organizing team, and express gratitude to all participants. The wrap-up included a comprehensive recap of the two-day event, highlighting the key sessions, presentations, and interactive activities.

laroslav and Marineli reflected on the valuable insights shared throughout the event, emphasizing the importance of collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange in the surveying profession. Their closing remarks left attendees with a sense of accomplishment and inspiration to continue engaging with the surveying community and its future challenges.







#### FIG - Social event powered by Leica

On the evening of the first day, attendees had the opportunity to network in a more relaxed and informal setting at the Social Event sponsored by Leica. This lively event took place at Hanu lui Manuc, one of the most authentic and legendary restaurants in Bucharest, known for its rich history and traditional Romanian atmosphere.







Guests enjoyed a delicious spread of traditional Romanian dishes, offering a taste of the local cuisine. The atmosphere was further enhanced by live traditional music, creating a festive ambiance that invited everyone to join in the celebration. The highlight of the evening was the traditional Hora dance, where participants danced together in a joyful, communal circle, embracing the culture and spirit of the country.



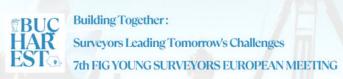




In addition to the food, music, and dancing, attendees also engaged in a fun and competitive game of Kahoot, where they tested their knowledge on various topics related to surveying. The winners of the quiz were recognized and praised by the sponsor, Leica, adding an exciting and interactive element to the evening.

This social event provided a perfect balance of relaxation, culture, and friendly competition, allowing attendees to network and connect with each other in a more informal and enjoyable setting.







#### FIG YSN - Charity event

On Thursday afternoon, the young surveyors gathered for a meaningful cause, joining forces to support Asociația Dăruiește Viață, a charity dedicated to improving the lives of children in need. The event aimed to contribute to building a brighter future for these children. Participants with generous hearts who made donations received a special gift from the event sponsor, Leica — a cap as a token of appreciation.







In addition to supporting the charity, those with free time or flexible schedules were invited to explore the city of Bucharest on foot, guided by a professional tour guide. This gave attendees the opportunity to experience the city's culture and history while contributing to a worthy cause.



All funds raised during the event were donated directly to Asociația Dăruiește Viață, ensuring that the collective efforts of the participants went toward helping those in need. It was a heartwarming and impactful afternoon that not only allowed for giving back but also highlighted the sense of community and solidarity within the surveying profession.





## **SPONSORS**

# Platinum sponsor



Gold sponsor



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## **PARTICIPANTS**





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#### Co-Chairs:



Shirley Chapunza (Zimbabwe) – Chair, FIG Young Surveyors Network



laroslav Zifceac (Romania) – President of Romanian Surveyor Union - Young Commission



Marineli Dancheva (Bulgaria) -Representative of Young Surveyors to the CLGE Executive-Board

#### **Preparation of the Program:**



Angela Anyakora -Vice - chair, FIG Young Surveyors Network



Charles Atakora - FIG Young Surveyors Network



student at Warsaw University of Technology

#### **Communication and Social Media:**



Diana Chiriloiu -Member of Romanian Surveyor Union -Young Commission



-Sutoidem Theophilus - FIG Young Surveyors Network



David Elegbede - FIG Young Surveyors Network

#### **Logistic and Registration:**



Silviu Cristian Răducu - Vicepresident of Romanian Surveyor Union - Young Commission



Bitu Cristina -Member of Romanian Surveyor Union -Young Commission

#### **Finance and Sponsors:**



Nap Mircea -Vicepresident of Romanian Surveyor Union - Young Commission



Rindert Vos - FIG Young Surveyors Network



Lisa Bredek - FIG Young Surveyors Networkrk