

INVITATION AND CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION IS CLOSING SOON!

Navigate to Faculty of Military Science, Stellenbosch University @ [Faculty of Military Science](#) webpage (ICMG24 tab)

Or

Click this link: [ICMG24 Registration Form](#)

The International Association of Military Geosciences invites you to share your research, practice, and experiences in military geoscience at the 15th International Conference on Military Geosciences (ICMG24), hosted by the Faculty of Military Sciences at Stellenbosch University, which will be held in Somerset West at the [Lord Charles Hotel and Conference Centre](#) from 9 to 14 June 2024. A post-conference battlefield tour (15 to 20 June 2024) to various selected South African battlefields, scenic sites, and interesting places in the Western Cape area will close the conference.

The theme of the conference will be: ***Unmasking the change and continuity in the nature and character of military operations.***

With this deliberate broad theme, the organisers aim to host a conference celebrating the diversity of research avenues explored by Military Geoscientists, as well as the impact this research has on military activities in the broadest possible sense. Considering the current military events in the world, this conference presents a major opportunity to devote time to presentations specifically related to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

APPROACH FOR THE ICMG24

The approach from the ICMG 2024 Organising Committee is to bring in new elements compared to previous conferences. This will be the first international **hybrid conference** in military geosciences to attract (in-person and virtual) military geoscientists from around the globe. In addition, invitations will be sent to various national and international higher institutions and military organisations/academies to attract a wider audience (including geoscience practitioners and students).

What to expect during the conference:

- **Keynote presentations:**
 1. [Francis A. Galgano](#) (Associate Professor of Geography, Director of Sustainability Studies, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Geographical Society).
 2. [Hennie Smit](#) (Emeritus Associate Professor in Military Geography, Faculty of Military Science, Stellenbosch University).
- Presentations from distinguished international and South African scholars and researchers.

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- Two field trips are planned during the conference, namely a visit to the Naval Base in Simon's Town, and a half-day excursion to Robben Island – a place of isolation where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 18 years.
- A welcoming function on Sunday evening and a conference dinner on Tuesday evening at Root 44.
- The five-day post-conference field excursion will include visits to the greater Cape Town Metropolitan area, Franschhoek, Cederberg region, Saldanha Bay, and Buffelsfontein Game and Nature Reserve.

REGISTRATION AND FEES

The Conference Registration (in-person and online) closes on **17 May 2024**.

To register - Use the ICMG24 Registration Form available on the ICMG24 webpage (Registration tab).

Conference payment:

Details about the conference payment process, including payment links for the various payment categories and options (standard and early-bird) are available on the [Faculty of Military Science webpage \(ICMG24 tab → Payment tab\)](#). Please use the payment links to make your registration payment. Payment links are only provided for the payment of the conference registration. For information on how to process payments for the post-conference excursion, please refer to the details provided below, under the heading 'POST-CONFERENCE EXCURSION AND FEES'.

Conference fees:

	Early-Bird (until 31 March 2024)	Standard (from 1 April 2024 until 17 May 2024)
In-person attendance (observer or presenter)	R9 250 p/p (ZAR)	R10 500 p/p (ZAR)
Online (virtual) attendance (observer or presenter)	R1 250 p/p (ZAR)	R1 750 p/p (ZAR)
Accompanying partner	R3 750 p/p (ZAR)	R4 750 p/p (ZAR)

The **early-bird registration** fee will only apply for full payment of the registration fee received by no later than 23h59 UTC on **31st March 2024** (cut-off date for early-bird registration). Thereafter, the standard registration fee will apply until 17 May 2024 (cut-off date for conference registration).

Inclusions - Virtual (online) participation:

Registration (virtual participation) includes the following:

- Link to all conference presentations.
- Presentation slot for virtual presentations (if selected).
- The option to submit a paper/book chapter for consideration at one of the conference publication options (please see the Abstracts and Publications tab for more details).

Inclusions - In-person participation:

Registration (in-person participation) includes the following:

- Welcome function and cocktails on Sunday evening at the Lord Charles Hotel and Conference Centre (H&CC).
- Coffee, tea, water, snacks – something savoury or sweet.
- Lunches – Monday through Friday.

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- Conference dinner at Root 44 on Tuesday during the field trip (1).
- Transportation, tour fees, and lunch boxes for field trips.
- Abstract volume.
- Conference T-shirt.
- The option to submit a paper/book chapter for consideration at one of the conference publication options (please see the Abstracts and Publications tab for more details).

Inclusions - Accompanying partner:

Conference activities will be inclusive and include the following:

- Welcoming function and cocktails.
- Conference dinner at Root 44.
- Field Trips: (1) Simon's Town Naval Base with lunch box and dinner; (2) Robben Island tour.
- Conference T-shirt.

ACCOMMODATION

The ICMG24 Conference Organising Committee would like to inform you that all accommodation reservations for the conference must be made individually by each attendee and are solely the responsibility of the attendee. Please note that the conference organisers will not be handling any accommodation arrangements on behalf of the attendees. We strongly recommend that you make your reservations well in advance to ensure availability.

To assist you in finding suitable accommodation over the period June 8th - 15th 2024, we have negotiated a special group tariff (Standard Single or Double Room @ R2 520.00 per room per night) at the Lord Charles Hotel (venue for the conference).

We advise you to use the [Accommodation Reservation Booking Sheet](#) available on the [Faculty of Military Science webpage \(ICMG24 tab → Accommodation tab\)](#) to make your reservations directly with the Hotel.

POST-CONFERENCE EXCURSION AND FEES

The post-conference excursion will be handled separately from the conference. See the [Faculty of Military Science webpage \(ICMG24 tab → Post-Conference Excursion tab\)](#) for more details about the tour. Details about the payment process for the post-conference excursion will be available under the 'Post-Conference Excursion' tab before 1 October 2023.

<u>Excursion fees:</u>	Fee (until 30 April 2024)
Post-conference excursion	R22 500 p/p (ZAR)
	R16 000 p/p sharing (ZAR)

The **post-conference excursion fee** will only apply until **10 May 2024** (the cut-off date to participate in the post-conference excursion).

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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

We welcome submissions of abstracts (1 – 2 pages) in English, following the ICMG24 Abstract template, available on the ICMG24 webpage (Abstracts and Publications tab). Both online and in-person participants (presenters) can submit a paper/book chapter for consideration at one of the conference publication options. Each submission will undergo a thorough peer review process conducted by academics and experts in the field. The review will evaluate various criteria, including *scientific originality, relevance to the community, accurate documentation of prior work, clarity of presentation, technical accuracy, and language proficiency*.

Authors of accepted abstracts will have the honour of presenting their work in English at the ICMG24 conference. The presentation format may include either an oral presentation or a poster session. It is important to note that the presenting author must complete the conference registration process and payment to secure their participation. The last date for **abstract submission is 30 April 2024**.

We look forward to receiving your valuable contributions at ICMG24!

- Send abstracts to **Evert Kleynhans** (kleynhans@sun.ac.za).

PUBLICATIONS

Accepted abstracts that have been revised to address reviewer comments will be published in the Abstract Proceedings ICMG24. Additionally, after submission and approval of the abstracts, authors will be given the option to express their interest in having their abstracts considered for one of the publication opportunities. Should they choose to participate, authors will be required to expand their abstracts into full journal papers/book chapters. These submissions will undergo a double-blind peer review process before being considered for publication in one of the ICMG24 publication options: *Springer Volume, SUN MeDIA, or Scientia Military Special Edition*.

The final publications are anticipated to take place in 2025.

MORE INFORMATION AND CONTACT

More information about the conference, such as the preliminary conference programme can be found on the conference website. Alternatively, to request more specific information e-mail **Babalwa Mtshawu** (mtshawu@sun.ac.za) or **Ivan Henrico** (ivanh@sun.ac.za) or **Hennie Smit** (smit692@gmail.com).

Note that the ICMG24 webpage ([ICMG24](#)) will be updated regularly as more information and confirmations become available. Please check the website regularly for updated information. We are thrilled to have you join us at the ICMG24 conference! Your valuable contributions and presence will undoubtedly enrich the event. Looking forward to meeting you there and making it a memorable experience for everyone involved. See you soon!