

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?

If you hold a degree in geology or geological science and have gained at least five years postgraduate experience in the practice of geology, you can apply to become a European Geologist. (EurGeol)

Members of IGI in Ireland, ICOG in Spain and GSL in UK should apply to their National Associations. All other geologists should apply through the EFG office in Brussels. Details of the procedure and application forms are available on the EFG web site at www.eurogeologists.de.

Your application will give details of your undergraduate training, professional practice and details of the experience gained since graduation. Your application will be supported by two sponsors who confirm that you meet the required standards for the EurGeol title. These details are vetted by your peers and, if deemed satisfactory, will lead to award of the EurGeol title.

IS THAT ALL I HAVE TO DO?

As a EurGeol, you will be in contract with the Federation and the profession to behave professionally and in accordance with the Code of Professional Conduct. This Code requires that you behave professionally within the standards and to the spirit of the Code and so as not to harm the dignity of the profession or other professionals. This is a career-long commitment.

Demonstration of this commitment will be by submission of a record of CPD activities carried out in your professional practice. Failure to provide such a return when requested will result in your being struck off the register, and thus no longer able to benefit from use of the EurGeol title.

THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION

MISSION

To promote the profession and practice of geology and its relevance.

OBJECTIVES

- To represent the geological profession in Europe.
- To safeguard and promote the present and future interests of the geological profession in Europe, including:
- To guarantee the free movement of geologists in Europe.
- To promote the harmonisation of education and training. To define and protect the title of geologist and related professional titles.
- To promote the code of professional ethics of the EFG
- To provide advice and assistance to constituent member National Associations.
- To promote European geological policies with regard to the responsible use of the Earth's natural resources.

HISTORY

The representatives of the national associations of geologists of the United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal, Italy, France, Belgium and Luxembourg established the European Federation of Geologists in Paris in 1980 during the 26th International Congress of Geology. In the same year the Statutes were presented to the European Economic Community in Brussels.



THE EUROPEAN GEOLOGIST TITLE THE QUALIFICATION FOR PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS



Benefits of the EurGeol title, and an outline of application procedures

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WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN GEOLOGIST PROFESSIONAL TITLE?

A professional title means that the person who holds it has achieved suitable academic training, and a level of professional experience, skill and competence to perform tasks within their professional practice. It also means that the geologist undertakes continuing education and training, demonstrating commitment to stay up to date and informed within the sphere of their professional work.

WHY DO I NEED A PROFESSIONAL TITLE?

Professional titles have become important in demonstrating the suitability of a professional to provide geological services. The professional title provides a quality mark to demonstrate to clients, regulators and the general public that the individual is competent to provide geological advice, and allows employers to offer competitive commercial services.

To adapt to the current and future challenges within the geo-political framework of the European Union, it is necessary that geologists achieve, and can demonstrate, a high degree of professional experience to be able to respond to the demands of Society in practicing their profession.

The EU Directive on Recognition of Professional Qualifications incorporates the Common Platform whereby a title such as European Geologist is accepted by the Commission as the international title to demonstrate a geologist's competence.

The Common Platform will start to affect professional practice and mobility within a few years. If you are a EurGeol you will be able to benefit from these developments.

As a responsible professional, you becoming a EurGeol will also strengthen the title. The title certifies high standards which is a requirement for raising the standing of the geological profession, and this in turn is a prerequisite for raising the salaries for the next generations of geologists.

WHO ISSUES THE PROFESSIONAL TITLE

The European Geologist (EurGeol) title is awarded by the European Federation of Geologists. The Federation represents the geological profession across Europe and has as members the professional associations of nineteen of the EU member countries. There are over 600 individual EurGeol title holders.

The process of vetting applications for the title is carried out for the Federation by its Licensed Bodies. National Licensed Bodies operating in Ireland, Spain and the United Kingdom receive applications from their own members. Applicants from other countries apply to the International Licensed Body, which is supported by the EFG Brussels office. Recommendations for election from the Licensed Bodies are passed to the EFG Council for ratification. A register of title holders is maintained on the EFG web site.

WHERE IS THE TITLE RECOGNISED?

The title of European Geologist is a professional title created by the European Federation of Geologists and which recognises the ability to deliver a high quality of services within the practise of geology.

The training and experience underlying the title are being harmonised. This will mean that the title will be recognisable in all European countries and so act as a passport to professional practice in Europe, thereby encouraging free movement of professionals. There are mutual recognition

agreements in place such that the EurGeol title is recognised by the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) and the Canadian Council of Professional Geologists (CCPG).

On a practical level, European Geologists are recognised by the mineral reporting authorities in Australia, Canada, South Africa and London as professionals accredited to sign reports on mineral reserves and resources within their area of expertise and in the valuation of mining companies quoted on the Stock Exchanges.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DEMONSTRATE?

An applicant for the EurGeol title is required to demonstrate an:

- i. ability to understand the complexities of geology and of geological processes in space and time in relation to their speciality;
- ii. ability to use geoscience information to generate predictive models;
- iii. ability to communicate clearly, both verbally and in writing;
- iv. understanding of the meaning and needs of professionalism;
- v. awareness of Health and Safety and other statutory obligations applicable to their area of work;
- vi. knowledge and understanding of the Code of Conduct; and
- vii. appreciation of the role of Continuing Professional Development after validation.