

6th Belgian Geography Days

13–14 November 2015

Workshops for
Geography students,
researchers & teachers

*'Getting playful?
Rethinking mapping'*

Keynote presentation
by **Christopher Perkins**
(University of Manchester)

VENUE

Campus Etterbeek
Pleinlaan 2, 1050 Elsene

Organized by



Vrije
Universiteit
Brussel

Mapping the Future of Geography

1st circular



Nationaal Comité voor Geografie
Comité national de Géographie

Mapping the Future of Geography | 1st circular

Economic globalization and uneven development, international migration and urban (super)diversity, climate change, traffic congestion, urban sprawl, natural disasters, geopolitical conflicts, land degradation, food security, management of natural resources ... our world is currently confronted with **major challenges**, from the local to the global scale, **with an intrinsic spatial nature**.

At the crossroads of the human and natural sciences, geography occupies a unique position to document complex processes with a range of observation techniques and to develop integrated analyses with advanced spatial modelling. The wide range of issues addressed, however, makes it challenging to define the **essence of geographical research**, to clearly communicate **its added value** to the public and policy makers, and to defend its **specificity in secondary school teaching** in order to recruit future university students.

Call for contributions

Participants will be invited to submit their proposals on the conference website for oral or poster presentations related to one of the following main research topics:

- **Economic, transport and tourism geography**
- **Urban and cultural geography**
- **GIS and environmental modelling**
- **Geomorphology, natural resources and hazards**
- **Climate, meteorology and ice**

The **6th Belgian Geography Days** will focus on the contribution of geographical research to the tackling of present and future challenges within our society. With 2015-2016 being officially proclaimed as the **International Map Year**, specific attention will be given to the use of contemporary spatial data, mapping techniques and representations for a critical and integrated analysis of spatial processes. Scientific contributions highlighting the **relevance of geographical research for contributing to ongoing and upcoming societal debates** at various spatial scales are strongly encouraged. Throughout the different thematic sessions, participants will get a taste of the future of geography research in Belgium and beyond.

We especially **encourage young scientists** to present their research. In addition to oral presentations, an extended poster session, including 1 minute flash presentations, is foreseen. Prizes for best posters will be awarded, including a prize for the best cartographic presentation.

Timing and deadlines

30 April 2015 2nd circular & call for abstracts

30 June 2015 Submission deadline for abstracts

Visit the conference website at
we.vub.ac.be/belgian-geography-days-2015

Preliminary Program

Friday 13 November 2015 | Academic Program

Language: English

8:00–9:00	Registration
9:00–9:15	Welcome by VUB and National Committee of Geography
9:15–10:15	‘Getting playful? Rethinking mapping’ Keynote presentation by Christopher Perkins (University of Manchester)
10:30–12:15	Parallel sessions
12:15–13:15	Lunch
13:15–15:00	Parallel sessions
15:00–15:45	1 minute oral presentations of posters
15:45–16:30	Poster session
16:30–17:30	Reception & Best Poster Awards

Saturday 14 November 2015 | Teachers’ Day

Languages: French & Dutch

9:30–17:00 Program to be determined
in collaboration with VLA & FEGEPRO