

Highlights of the INTERMAGNET Meeting in Hungary

The 2023 INTERMAGNET meeting was held on 28th and 29th May in Sopron. It was hosted by the Institute of Earth Physics and Space Science of the Hungarian Research Network.



Participants at the end of the 19th IAGA Observatory Workshop in Sopron, which immediately preceded the INTERMAGNET meeting. A number of the workshop delegates stayed on to participate in the INTERMAGNET meeting.

The minutes of the meeting are available at <https://intermagnet.org/meetings/2023May-Sopron/INTERMAGNETMeetingMinutes-SopronMay2023-Public.pdf>, though material relating to individual observatories, institutes or people has been removed from this public copy of the minutes.

This was INTERMAGNET's first face-to-face meeting since the pandemic. The relatively short notice given for the meeting and changes to institute policies on international travel meant that not all INTERMAGNET's officers were able to attend in person and several people joined via video links. Because INTERMAGNET has members from around the world, the differences in time-zones present a particular challenge. Thanks to those who attended online for being prepared to work at such unusual hours! Those who were able to attend in person agreed that the experience was beneficial to INTERMAGNET's business. INTERMAGNET expects to hold an annual face-to-face meeting in the future and encourages as many as can to attend in person.

One decision made at the meeting in Sopron was to open membership of the INTERMAGNET Operations Committee more widely, creating the new role of "Opscom member" alongside the current "Opscom officers". Opscom members will not necessarily join a particular subcommittee. The chair of the Executive Council is preparing a description of this opportunity and calling for nominations. Please look out for this soon.

[INTERMAGNET statement on non-compliant INTERMAGNET observatories](#)

Two recent events, the COVID19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, have created unprecedented difficulties for the operation of some INTERMAGNET Magnetic Observatories (IMOs)

These events are outside the scope of the situations for which the rules for IMOs were designed and are beyond the control of the institutes operating these observatories. Accordingly, INTERMAGNET has temporarily suspended the requirements for IMOs affected by these two incidents.

Consequently, affected observatories will still be considered as IMOs but it will be noted that they are temporarily unable to provide data. We hope that the difficulties facing these observatories will be resolved soon so that their full participation in the global INTERMAGNET community can resume.

The decision will be reviewed at the next INTERMAGNET meeting, planned for October 2024.

[A new Intermagnet data portal and web service](#)

The INTERMAGNET data portal has moved from Natural Resources Canada to the British Geological Survey. As part of this, a new INTERMAGNET web service has been made available. The new INTERMAGNET data portal also adds support for the Heliophysics Data Application Programmer's Interface (HAPI), a standardised way to access a range of data sets, including INTERMAGNET's. When data are available from a HAPI server, there is no need to download data files and write custom reading software. Using a HAPI client library, data can be loaded directly into programs written in IDL, Matlab and Python, amongst others.

The INTERMAGNET data portal is here: <https://imag-data.bgs.ac.uk/GIN/>

More details on HAPI can be found here: https://hapi-server.org/docs/HAPI_OnePager_v4.pdf

INTERMAGNET's HAPI server is here: https://imag-data.bgs.ac.uk/GIN_V1/hapi

[Data publication](#)

The INTERMAGNET Reference Data Set (IRDS) for 2019 has been published and joins INTERMAGNET's other Digital Object Identifiers:

- <https://doi.org/10.5880/INTERMAGNET.2013>
- <https://doi.org/10.5880/INTERMAGNET.2014>
- <https://doi.org/10.5880/INTERMAGNET.1991.2015>
- <https://doi.org/10.5880/INTERMAGNET.1991.2016>
- <https://doi.org/10.5880/INTERMAGNET.1991.2017>
- <https://doi.org/10.5880/INTERMAGNET.1991.2018>
- <https://doi.org/10.5880/INTERMAGNET.1991.2019>

INTERMAGNET thanks the data checking team (who are listed on the INTERMAGNET web site - https://intermagnet.org/data_checkers.html) for continuing to assure the high quality of the INTERMAGNET definitive data set and also GFZ for their work in preparing the DOI and hosting the IRDS datasets.

[Migration of intermagnet.org domain to GitHub](#)

The intermagnet.org web domain has now been moved to INTERMAGNET's "new" web site and the previous web site has been retired. A number of photos of INTERMAGNET observatories and historic yearbooks from INTERMAGNET observatories that were held at the Canadian GIN have been moved onto the new web site and are now available.

INTERMAGNET structure

Intermagnet officers

Alan Thomson from BGS left the INTERMAGNET Executive Council having served since 2014. We wish Alan well in his retirement. David Boteler, already a member of the Executive Council, takes over from Alan as Chair. Congratulations David!

Ellen Clarke, head of Geomagnetism at BGS, joined the Executive Council to replace Alan. Welcome Ellen!

Following the meeting Jürgen Matzka was elected chair of the INTERMAGNET Operations Committee. Congratulations Jürgen!

Benoit St-Louis resigned from the Operations Committee and also left his role as chair of the Technical Manual subcommittee. Benoit has served on the Operations Committee since 1994, making him possibly the longest serving person in INTERMAGNET's history. Stephan Bracke, already a member of the Operations Committee, has taken over as chair of the Technical Manual subcommittee. Thank you Benoit for all your work over so many years.

Sergey Khomutov resigned from the Operations Committee and as an INTERMAGNET data checker. Sergey served on the Operations Committee between 2016 and 2022 and we thank him for his work.

Shun Imajho, assistant professor at Kyoto University, joined the INTERMAGNET Operations Committee and will work on the Definitive Data and WWW, GINS, and Data Format subcommittees. He also represents the Kyoto Geomagnetic Information Node (GIN). Welcome Shun!

The current organisational structure can be seen on the new INTERMAGNET website: <https://intermagnet.org/structure.html>

Next meeting

Preliminary dates for the next meeting are 7th and 8th November 2024, following the IAGA workshop in Vassouras, Brazil.

Thanks to...

The meeting was organized by the Institute of Earth Physics and Space Science of the Hungarian Research Network. Staff from the Institute provided invaluable support for the meeting including much needed facilities and help for the participants in the preparation and execution of their tasks. Many thanks to Viktor Wesztergom, István Lemperger, Karolina Szabóné, Balázs Heilig, Laszlo, Hegymegi, András Csontos, Tibor Rubóczki, Csongor Szabó for organising a successful meeting.

Simon Flower (INTERMAGNET Operations Committee Chair), smf@bgs.ac.uk, 21st Dec 2023