GeoNight

https://www.geonight.net/

Launched in 2017 by the French National Geographical Committee (CNFG), with EUGEO support, the GeoNight is **a night dedicated in promoting the geography discipline**. Over the years, more and more countries, towns and cities, and geography departments around the world have participated in the organised events, gathering several thousand people together. **The sixth edition will take place on Friday, April 1th 2022**.

We are well aware of the difficulties and obstacles you might meet in organising a physical event (either indoor or outdoor) this year due to Covid restrictions. This is why we insist that **events can also be organised online** as it was the case for many events held in 2021. To facilitate the organisation of events, we have created a website in which you will find all the necessary information that will guide you in the organisation of a GeoNight event: **https://www.geonight.net/**

General Goals of the GeoNight

This event aims to highlight geography and geographers, give the greater public a chance to familiarise themselves with geographic concepts and studies and to make geographical research more accessible. The proposed events should, whenever possible, be **free and open to the public**.

Types of events

Whenever possible, **the events should take place in the evening and/or during the night**, so as **to welcome the general public, not only academics**. If for various reasons, the events cannot be held in the evening/night, events can also take place during the daytime. Organisers are invited to put forward unexpected and possibly playful aspects of geographical sciences. Organisers can, for instance, present their work and/or fieldworks, students' activities tied to geography, jobs linked to geographical education, GIS software, new technologies used in research or teaching, original geographical projects, etc.

Events could be organised:

- **Indoor**: lecture rooms, public buildings (museums, bars and cafés, restaurants, etc.)
  <u>Suggestions of events:</u> workshops, conferences, exhibitions, radio talk-shows, movie showings, buffets, multi-sensorial geographical drawing and mapping, games, performances, etc.

- **Outdoor**: small fieldtrips, urban walks, bike rides, tours, technology demonstrations, games, orienteering, etc.

- **Online**: lectures, podcasts, posters or photos competition, virtual urban walks (using available software), geography quizzes, etc.

General organisation

The spirit of the GeoNight relies in all events being organised in a decentralised manner, from logistic and financial standpoints. The goal is to accentuate the creativity of local initiatives and the variety of people, institutions, and associations concerned and who/which would like to participate. The size of the event has no boundaries and greatly depends on the resources available (time, people, finances, etc.). Local organisers can set up a small geographical café or a short thematic walk through the city, or put together a larger event involving many scientific facets. Over the past four years, participating geography departments and cities have organised a vast array of events, either physically or virtually: from international to neighbourhood scales.

Involvement: No time? Don't worry!

Don't have time to be entirely involved in the organisation of a GeoNight event? Do not worry! Delegate the different tasks to colleagues and students at your university or school, local student associations, etc. In previous events, academics did not hesitate to entrust student associations with the organisation of the events. It is particularly important that you (or your local organising team/delegates) communicate about the organised event. In addition, it is important to pass the general information on to us via our website: https://www.geonight.net/propose-an-event-for-the-2022-geonight-edition/

Prior to the approval of you proposition as a GeoNight event, the organizing committee and/or your national coordinators will evaluate your proposition. This "light verification" allows us to ensure that the proposed event(s) fit with the GeoNight's main rules and that they are not commercial initiatives.

Costs of organising events

Since the spirit of GeoNight relies on openness and flexibility, if you need to use some budget, it can be maintained at a low level. Locations can be outside, in cultural or academic institutions, or in cafés, online, and in places that organisers do not necessarily have to rent.
Ask your research labs, universities, associations, or sponsors if they can lend you technical

materials. Students and associations can volunteer to help with logistics and assistance to the public. Communication via social media costs nothing; use them! However, the local organizers will pay possible costs such as security or sanitary matters, so we suggest you utilize research labs or local/national intuitions and contact possible sponsors, or ask for public subsidies, which would in turn give more visibility to your event.

It should be emphasised that these costs also accumulate strong benefits: people get to change their ideas on what geography is and what geographers do, more people can get involved (more students and more professional stakeholders, etc.), and let's not forget the pleasure we have in spending time together and living a diverse and amazing geography!

We are here to help!

You and your institution want to contribute to the international success of GeoNight but you don't know where to start or how to proceed? A small international organizing committee (https://www.geonight.net/organizing-committee/) is set up to coordinate some steps, give pieces of advice, and to communicate about the events; but mostly the job is done by local organisers, in order to keep things simple!

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Interested in glancing last years' events organised in many universities, geography departments and cities? Go to see the following website: http://www.eugeo.eu/component/content/article/7-notizie/99-nuitgeo-geonight-2020.html

You can also find the map of the events organized in 2019 following this link:
http://umap.openstreetmap.fr/it/map/world-map-of-the-geonights-2019_294736#3/20.39/-3.69

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