

## **THE ITALIAN YOUNG GEOMORPHOLOGISTS' GROUP: A DYNAMIC REALITY WITHIN THE ITALIAN GEOMORPHOLOGICAL COMMUNITY**

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Recently, the important role of young geomorphologists in scientific community has been recognised in most of the European countries, where they are organised in groups at national level, allowing young researchers to share their works and experience. The Italian Young Geomorphologists' Group (IYG) was officially established in 2013, within the frame of the Italian Association of Physical Geography and Geomorphology (AIGeo). The members of the IYG group are focused on multi-disciplinary and innovative research activities, including: landslide monitoring and susceptibility assessment; tectonic geomorphology and seismic hazard assessment; geopedology; fluvial geomorphology; dendrogeomorphology; glacial, periglacial and high altitude environment geomorphology; climatology; coastal and submarine geomorphology; geoheritage, geodiversity, geotourism; urban geomorphology; geoarchaeology; planetary geomorphology; habitat mapping and eco-geomorphology; remote sensing GIS, geostatistical analysis, geomorphometry.

Young scientists' added value consists in their curiosity and opening to new fields of application for geomorphological analysis, going from underwater environment to urban areas (e.g. Urban geomorphology), the capability of crossing borders to study transitional environments (e.g. high altitude environments geomorphology), look at other planets than the Earth (e.g. planetary geomorphology) and analyse the influence of geomorphology on ecosystems. Moreover, young researchers are used to live surrounded by new technologies (e.g. drones) and methodologies (e.g. computer science) that can help in monitoring, modelling and predicting the possible evolution of morphogenetic systems. These new approaches are based on the tricky and fundamental steps of geomorphological mapping and GIS analysis, and are essential in the framework of geomorphological hazards assessment and mitigation.

The interests of the IYG towards new tools and methods for investigating geomorphological hazards and the exchange of ideas with other similar realities all around Europe are expected to increase the quality of the Italian scientific research in applied geomorphology. Hence, the contact with the analogous international groups will be useful for scientific exchange of ideas and opportunities.