**Twelfth Session of the United Nations**
**Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management**

## Trustful and Ethical Use of Geospatial Data: the Role of Academics
**Wednesday, 3 August 2022**
**9:00 am - 10:25 am**
**Venue: Conference Room A (CR-A, Conference Building)**
**United Nations Headquarters, New York**

## CONCEPT NOTE

**Background**

The primary objective of the UN-GGIM Academic Network is to support the aims and objectives of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) by facilitating global access to research and education capabilities for the UN-GGIM and its affiliated members to identify and respond to challenges and opportunities for the UN-GGIM and related offices of the United Nations. One of its aims is to provide a forum for coordination and dialogue among academics and researchers from the geospatial information management community to advance activities related to competencies and qualifications needed for the administration, management, and use of geospatial information, and to identify and respond to challenges and opportunities in which the UN-GGIM and related members can achieve their visions.

Since the establishment of the Network in 2016, it has successfully organised events during the seventh, eighth, and ninth UN-GGIM Sessions in New York, as well as a virtual events, including during the eleventh UN-GGIM Session. This side event aims to convene a debate on issues related to trust in geospatial data and its ethical use, considering how ethical values are now playing a larger role in building trust in data. The event will explore the role the academics can play in building the capacities of practising data trust and ethical use of geospatial data. The topics will include, but not limited to, ethics in Geospatial Information Science, mapping and cartography, trust in geospatial data, information, and knowledge, ethics of augmented and extended reality and the Metaverse, use and misuse of geographic information in social media, and other related topics.

This side event will convene members of UN-GGIM, including its Academic Network, regional committees and its functional groups, with other interested participants to explore gaps, challenges and opportunities facing geospatial data trust and ethical use of them.

**Aims and Objectives**

The side event aims to:
- Share experiences on incorporating trust and ethical use in geospatial information management;
- Discuss what is needed and what is urgent for better addressing the related issues, and how the Academic Network can contribute; and
- Explore the role of academia in promoting trust in geospatial data and its ethical use.

*"This is an open side event and all Session Attendees are invited"*

## Proposed Agenda

The side event will be held in a format that combines presentations, Q/A, and discussions for one and half-hours, with the following preliminary agenda.

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| 09:15 - 09:25am | **Welcome & Introduction**<br><br>UN-GGIM Academic Network Executive Committee |
| 09:25 - 09:35am | **In Maps, We Trust! Trustworthiness of Geodata and their Visualisations**<br><br>Mr Georg Gartner, TU Wien, Austria |
| 09:35 - 09:45am | **Ethics in the Use of Geospatial Information: The Case of the Americas**<br><br>Ms Paloma Merodio, INEGI, Mexico and co-Chair UN-GGIM |
| 09:45 - 10:00am | **Ethics in Geospatial Science Education**<br><br>Ms Rosario Casanova, Universidad de la República, Uruguay<br>Mr Joep Crompvoets, KU Leuven, Belgium |
| 10:00 - 10:40am | **Q/A & Discussion: some suggested discussion points:**<br><br>● How to maximise benefits while preserving data privacy and security?<br>● Has the ethical use of geospatial data been adequately addressed?<br>● Are the current ethical guidelines and standards sufficient?<br>● What are the concepts of trust, trust models, and trust indicators that can be applied to GIS and geospatial data?<br>● How can we make sure the maps are trustworthy, especially when being used by the public?<br>● What are the challenges in educating people and the roles of academics? |
| 10:40 - 10:45am | **Wrap-up and close**<br><br>UN-GGIM Academic Network Executive Committee |

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