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EurGeol as Competent Person

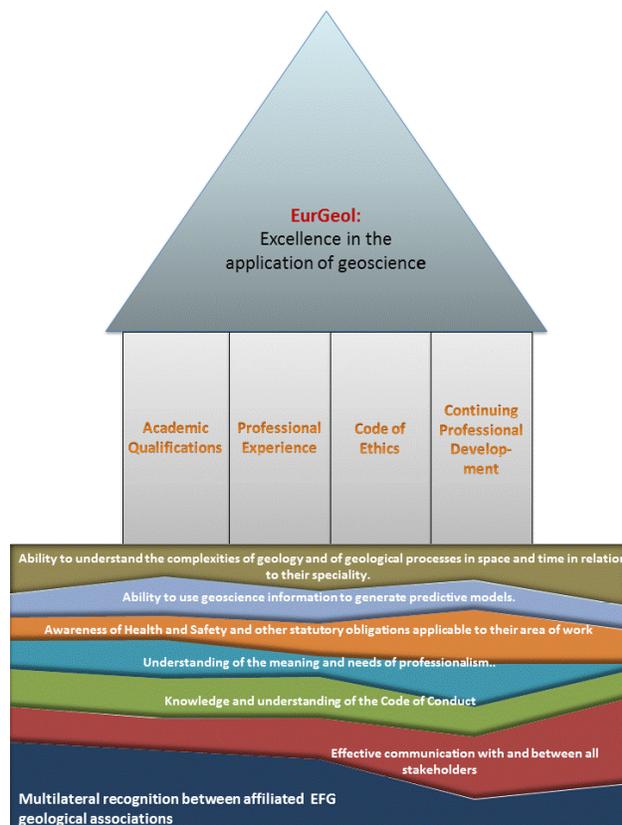
Fernandez, I.¹, Allington, R.² and Correia, V.¹

¹European Federation of Geologists, Brussels, Belgium, isabel.fernandez@eurogeologists.eu

² GWP Consultants LLP, United Kingdom

The search for excellence in geology and its application has been, and will remain, one of the fundamental objectives of European Federation of Geologists, EFG. To achieve this, EFG is continuously following the major political objectives in Europe and working hard to adapt to them. This is also the case for EU legislation on the recognition of professional qualifications. However, beyond legal requirements, our organisation has put in place a voluntary system of mutual recognition serving the mobility of geologists not only within Europe but also at a global level.

EFG has been working since the 1990s on the mutual recognition of geologists in Europe. EFG's approach is based on international standards on the recognition of qualifications for competent persons. This paper presents the criteria established by EFG to guarantee common standards in the award of the European Geologist (EurGeol) title.



The first selection is made at country level. Applicants for registration must be recommended by their National Association and accepted by EFG before they are awarded the EurGeol title. The title held by a professional geologist, EurGeol, means that the holder has achieved suitable academic training and a level of professional experience, skill and competence to perform tasks within their professional practice. It also means that the geologist undertakes continuing education and training, demonstrating a personal commitment to stay up to date and informed within the sphere of their professional work. European Geologists are bound by a strict code of professional conduct. EFG has created an interactive directory allowing companies and organisations to search for European Geologists, EurGeols, active in one specific country and/or one specific professional geology domain. <http://eurogeologists.eu/title/eurgeol/>

Fig 1: The foundations of excellence of the EurGeol title

Industrial sectors where the profession of geologist has a considerable economic impact, such as the mining sector, have highlighted the necessity to have clear criteria on what guarantees a Competent

Person in geology. However, the concept of Competent Person can, and must be extended to other areas of our profession. This will naturally include sectors where geologists have a high impact on society, and bear societal responsibility, e.g. natural hazards, hydrology, and sustainable use of natural resources. Consequently, the criteria accepted for defining a Competent Person in the mining sector can also be translated/adapted to other professional sectors where geology is at the service of society.

