

Austrian's Contribution to IUGG 2011

The Austrian Geodetic Commission (ÖGK) is the national organisation in Austria related to the International Association of Geodesy (IAG). Instead of a National Report, the ÖGK has decided to publish a collection of research papers of Austrian institutions related to geodesy as their contribution to the IUGG General Assembly 2011.

The main task of this special issue of the *Österreichische Zeitschrift für Vermessung & Geoinformation (VGI)* is to give the international geodetic research community an idea about the various topics Austrian geodesists are working on. Additionally, this scientific work should be cumulatively shown to those Austrian colleagues who are mainly involved in practical and administrative work. The variety of research topics indicates how closely geodesy is related to its neighbouring disciplines such as geophysics, meteorology, oceanography, space science, and computer science. Joint efforts in different fields are needed to achieve the goals which are common in modern society, such as precise navigation on Earth or a thorough description of the various interactions in 'System Earth' providing important input parameters for research on natural hazards and global change.

With in total 17 papers the present issue can be considered more than a "snapshot" of the geodetic research work carried out in Austria. The authors of this special issue of the VGI represent Vienna University of Technology and Graz University of Technology, both offering the full educational programme in geodesy, as well as the University of Innsbruck, the Federal Office of Metrology and Surveying (BEV), the Space Research Institute (IWF) of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, and their research partners.

It has to be mentioned that all papers of this issue had to undergo the peer-review process of the VGI to ensure that the quality of the published articles was the same as in a standard issue of the journal. Thus, I also want to thank all reviewers for their useful comments and constructive remarks.

The digital version of the papers is available in the journal 2/2011 of the VGI
<http://www.ovg.at/index.php?id=1049>