

GGOS IberAtlantic Newsletter

July 2026

— N°1 —

Welcome Message



Esther Azcue
GGOS Iberatlantic President

We are pleased to share the first issue of the GGOS IberAtlantic Newsletter, marking an important milestone for our regional GGOS affiliate. Since its formal establishment in 2024, GGOS IberAtlantic has been working to strengthen geodetic collaboration across Spain, Portugal, and the Atlantic region, while contributing to the global GGOS framework.

This inaugural issue highlights our first major training activities, international outreach, and participation in key scientific conferences, reflecting our commitment to capacity building, visibility, and societal engagement.

News & Highlights

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GGOS IberAtlantic: A New Regional Voice for Geodesy

GGOS IberAtlantic (GGOS IA) was formally established in April 2024 as a regional affiliate of the Global Geodetic Observing System. Covering Spain, Portugal, and the Atlantic region, GGOS IA brings together institutions, observatories, and experts to strengthen geodetic infrastructure, scientific cooperation, and outreach, while ensuring alignment with GGOS strategic priorities.



Education & Capacity Building

1st GGOS IA Summer School on Space Geodesy Yebees Observatory (Spain) | 14–18 July 2025

GGOS IberAtlantic successfully organized its first Summer School on Space Geodesy at the Yebees Observatory, the first GGOS Core Site in Spain. The school brought together early-career researchers from Spain and Portugal for an intensive week of theoretical and hands-on training.

Participants received training in GNSS, VLBI, SLR, DORIS, Gravimetry, and local tie measurements, with lectures and practical sessions delivered by experts from Spanish and Portuguese institutions. The programme also highlighted the RAEGE project and the role of integrated geodesy in global reference frames, climate monitoring, and natural hazard assessment.



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THE VIDEO



Geodetic Training Course San Juan Observatory (Argentina) | 27–31 October 2025

During 27–31 October, the XVI SIRGAS School (Geodetic Reference System for the Americas) was held at the Faculty of Engineering of the National University of San Juan (UNSJ), organized by the Félix Aguilar Astronomical Observatory (OAFa) and the Department of Surveying.

The school brought together 23 students from 8 countries across the Americas to deepen their knowledge of space geodesy techniques, with a focus on VLBI and SLR. Lectures were delivered by Esther Azcue Infanzón (IGN Spain and GGOS IberAtlantic President) and Cristina García Miró (IGN Spain) on VLBI, and Manuel Ángel Sánchez Piedra (Royal Observatory of the Spanish Army and GGOS IberAtlantic Board member) on SLR.

The initiative was made possible through the collaboration between GGOS and SIRGAS, reinforcing their shared commitment to training young scientists and promoting geodesy in Spanish, Portuguese, and English.

A highlight of the week was a visit to the CART Radio Telescope (China–Argentina) in Barreal, a strategic infrastructure for strengthening VLBI and SLR coverage in the Southern Hemisphere, essential for improving global reference frames and Earth observation.



Conferences & Outreach

A key component of GGOS IberAtlantic's mission is to promote geodesy within the scientific community and foster collaboration across the IberAtlantic region and beyond. Through participation in international conferences and scientific meetings, GGOS IberAtlantic has contributed to increasing the visibility of geodesy, strengthening partnerships, and engaging with researchers and institutions worldwide. This section presents some of the events and outreach initiatives in which GGOS IberAtlantic has been actively represented.

27th EVGA General Meeting

April 2025, Matera, Italy

The European VLBI Group for Geodesy and Astrometry General Meeting 2025 was held in Matera, Italy, bringing together the VLBI geodetic and astrometric community to discuss recent advances in Very Long Baseline Interferometry.



GGOS IberAtlantic was represented by its President Esther Azcue, Board Member Prof. José Ferrándiz, Outreach representative Mariana Moreira, and VLBI representative Javier González. Esther Azcue presented a poster on science communication in VLBI and the RAEGE project, emphasizing outreach and knowledge transfer within geodesy.

For additional information visit:

<https://zenodo.org/communities/evga2025>



Conferences & Outreach

EGU General Assembly 2025

May 2025 Vienna, Austria

The European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly 2026 (EGU26) was held from 27 April - 2 May 2025 in Vienna, Austria. As one of the largest Earth and space science gatherings worldwide, it offers sessions covering all disciplines of the Earth, planetary, and space sciences, and provides a forum for researchers at all career stages to present and discuss their work.



GGOS IberAtlantic presented a poster outlining its goals, structure, and contribution to geodesy for science and society. Represented by GGOS-IA Board Member Prof. José Ferrándiz, the poster highlighted ongoing regional activities and scientific collaboration.

For additional information visit:

<https://www.egu25.eu/>



Conferences & Outreach

IAG Scientific Assembly September 2025 Rimini, Italy

The IAG Scientific Assembly 2025, organized by the International Association of Geodesy (IAG), took place in Rimini, Italy, from 1–5 September 2025 under the theme “Geodesy for a Changing Environment.”



Representing GGOS-IA, Esther Azcue delivered the presentation “GGOS IberAtlantic: Strengthening Geodetic Cooperation Across the Iberian-Atlantic Region,” highlighting the affiliate’s efforts to foster collaboration among geodetic institutions in Spain and Portugal, promote geodetic research and observation, and engage new generations of geodesists through outreach and capacity-building initiatives. She also presented the poster “The Importance of Communication in Science, with a Focus on VLBI and the RAEGE Project,” showcasing the role of scientific communication in increasing public awareness of geodesy.

The conference was also attended by Prof. José Ferrándiz, member of the GGOS IberAtlantic Board, further strengthening the affiliate’s presence within the international geodetic community.

For additional information visit:

<https://geodesy.science/event/iag-scientific-assembly-2025/>



Conferences & Outreach

REFAG & UAW

March 2026 Munich, Germany

The REFAG2026 Symposium on Reference Frames for Applications in Geosciences and the GGOS/IERS Unified Analysis Workshop (UAW2026) was held from 2–6 March 2026 in Munich, Germany. Hosted by the Technical University of Munich, these events brought together international experts in global geodesy and reference systems to advance research on Earth's reference frames and related applications.



GGOS IberAtlantic, represented by its President Esther Azcue, participated in discussions on improving global reference frame consistency and strengthening coordination across geodetic services.

For additional information visit:

<https://geodesy.science/events/munich2026/>



Conferences & Outreach

14th IVS General Meeting

April 2026 Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany

The 14th General Meeting of the International VLBI Service for Geodesy and Astrometry (IVS GM2026) took place from 12–17 April 2026 in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. This biennial meeting brings together the VLBI geodesy and astrometry community to share results and plan future activities.



GGOS IberAtlantic was represented by its President Esther Azcue, Outreach representative Mariana Moreira, and VLBI representative Javier González, contributing to discussions on VLBI integration, coordination, and outreach within the global geodetic community.

For additional information visit:

<https://indico.astro.uni-wuerzburg.de/event/2>





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Spain



Portugal



Atlantic region

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