

The EGSAct Project – Towards a White Paper on Surveying in Europe

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SUMMARY

Abstract: EGSAct – Advancing the Academic Discourse on Surveying in Europe

The European Geodetic Surveyors Act (EGSAct) is a strategic initiative led by the Council of European Geodetic Surveyors (CLGE), aimed at producing a comprehensive White Paper on Surveying in Europe. This project seeks to bridge the gap between professional practice, academic research, and policy development by systematically documenting the role of geodetic surveying in contemporary European society.

Surveying underpins critical domains such as property rights, spatial planning, environmental governance, and digital infrastructure. Despite its foundational role, the profession remains underrepresented in academic and policy discourse. The EGSAct addresses this by offering a multidisciplinary investigation into the economic, legal, and social dimensions of surveying, supported by empirical data and expert contributions from across Europe.

The project is structured in two phases. The first involves a sector-wide study combining quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews with professionals across Europe. This will generate a robust dataset on demographics, education, licensing, professional standards, and technological adoption (e.g., BIM, GNSS, AI). Parallel to this, external analyses will be conducted by economists, legal scholars, and sociologists to assess the profession's macroeconomic contributions, legal relevance in land governance, and social impact in areas such as disaster resilience and urban sustainability.

The second phase focuses on knowledge dissemination and engagement, including a targeted Visibility & Influence Campaign. This will involve public outreach, academic publications, and

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policy dialogues to enhance the visibility of the profession and its alignment with EU priorities such as the Green Deal, digital transformation, and territorial cohesion.

The final outputs will include:

- A full academic White Paper, integrating data analysis, case studies, and theoretical insights.
- A policy-oriented summary for decision-makers.
- A conference declaration to be adopted at the XI CLGE Conference of the European Surveyor in 2027.

By fostering collaboration between academia, professional bodies, and policymakers, EGSAct aims to reposition geodetic surveying as a critical, interdisciplinary field of study and practice. It invites academic engagement through contributions to thematic papers, peer-reviewed publications, and participation in strategic foresight activities.

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