



# European Geosciences Union Press Release

8 April 2005

for immediate release

*"Sumatra catastrophe has put the geosciences on the front pages again."*

*(John Ludden)*

Contact:

Dick van der Wateren  
EGU Press Officer

+31-20-4632559

Peter Vlam  
Assistant Press Officer

+31-20-4632647

[egu-press@landforms.org](mailto:egu-press@landforms.org)

## Putting Geosciences back on the European Agenda

**Recently, the geosciences have frequently hit the front pages. The Cassini-Huygens and Mars Express space missions provided spectacular images of our planetary system. Current debates on rapid climate change make the headlines almost daily. Although through enormous loss of life the Sumatra catastrophe has provided enormous visibility.**

2006 is the year in which the next European Community Framework programme will be decided, we think it is essential for the Geosciences to underline some of our achievements and long term projects at the upcoming EGU General Assembly in Vienna.

As the incoming president of the European Geosciences Union, John LUDDEN, with Enric BANDA, a past president, will organise a Union session entitled **"Putting Geosciences back onto the European Agenda"** at the upcoming EGU meeting in Vienna Tuesday. The aims of this Union session are to present the current state of major geoscience initiatives in Europe and to define the steps required to enhance major multi-national geoscience programmes as part of the European Research Ara.

Time and place: 26 April 2005, Lecture Room: Hall D.

The following people will be involved in this open discussion forum:

- Alan Edwards, EC Brussels: EC 6th & 7th framework initiatives in the geosciences.
- Enric Banda, FCR, SPAIN: Large scale continental & marine geophysical infrastructure.
- Sylvie Joussaume, INSU-CNRS, FRANCE: Large initiatives in climate change studies including the need for a European supercomputing facility.
- Olivier Dubrule President EAGE, Total, Aberdeen: Concerns about the future of the resource industry and the fact that universities are dropping geosciences.
- John Ludden, President EGU: European Science Foundation schemes in the geosciences.

- British Geological Survey, UK: Natural Hazards and risks - the third and fourth dimensions.
- To be named: Infrastructure for Space research

---

## You can contact:

John Ludden  
Vice President EGU  
Director of Earth Sciences, CNRS-INSU  
Paris, France  
+33 1 4496 4383  
[john.ludden@cnrs-dir.fr](mailto:john.ludden@cnrs-dir.fr)

Enric Banda  
Past General Secretary of the ESF  
Director, Fundació Catalana per a la Recerca  
Barcelona, Spain  
+34 93 268 7718  
[enric.banda@fcr.es](mailto:enric.banda@fcr.es)

---

## Links

The EGU General Assembly: <http://www.copernicus.org/EGU/ga/egu05/>

The European Geosciences Union:  
<http://www.copernicus.org/site/EGU/EGU.html>