



## How to reach Monte Verità

The closest railway station to the conference centre in Ascona is Locarno, whether you fly in or travel by train within Europe. Nearest airports (by train) are Lugano, Zurich, Milano, Italy, and Basel. Once in Locarno, you will reach Monte Verità by public transport in approx. 30mins ([www.sbb.ch](http://www.sbb.ch)).

Congressi Stefano Franscini (CSF), the meeting platform of ETH Zurich, provides an ideal meeting point for all members of the international geotechnical community who wish to discuss the state of the art and new challenges in their field of research in relaxed surroundings.

## Contact

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[www.geotechnics.ethz.ch](http://www.geotechnics.ethz.ch)

## Venue

Conference Centre "Congressi Stefano Franscini"  
 Monte Verità, Via Collina 84  
 6612 Ascona, Switzerland  
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**ETH** zürich



## Winter School

**From research to practise in  
 geotechnical engineering**

12–17 January 2020

Coordinator:

Prof. Dr. I. Anastasopoulos

Congressi Stefano Franscini  
 Monte Verità, Ascona, Switzerland

Institute for Geotechnical Engineering

# Winter School

## From research to practice in geotechnical engineering

With the ultimate goal of developing innovative mitigation techniques, the international geotechnical engineering community has made substantial efforts to gain deeper insights on geotechnical hazards. For the state of practice to advance, academics need to join forces with practitioners.

The Winter School aims to bring these two groups together, to question the status quo, and to propose out-of-the-box solutions. The program will combine:

- (a) Keynote lectures by international experts from the academia and the industry;
- (b) Seminars on state-of-the-art numerical and physical modelling techniques;
- (c) Presentations by the participants;
- (d) Panel sessions, where the participants will have a “debate” with industry and academia experts on the applicability of their ideas; and
- (e) Special session on start-ups, on the process of product development, from initial conception to founding of a new company.

It is envisaged that this novel setup will not only expose the participants to different points-of-view, but will also allow cross-fertilization of ideas between the academia and the industry. Industry experts will have an opportunity to gain an overview of the latest developments, but also to contribute in shaping these ideas so that innovations can have a better chance of finding their way to practise. The special session on start-ups aims to further emphasize the path from innovation to application.

The participants will benefit from this chance to learn from, and challenge, senior researchers and industry experts, interact with each other, engage in critical thinking and to build international networks.

## Topics & Keynote Speakers

### Geotechnical earthquake engineering

Prof. George Gazetas, NTUA  
Prof. Gopal Madhabushi, University of Cambridge  
Dr. Stavroula Kontoe, Imperial College London

### Offshore geotechnics

Prof. Guy Houlsby, University of Oxford  
Prof. Michael Brown, University of Dundee

### Landslides, tailing dams, and rockfalls

Prof. Eduardo Alonso, Uni. Politècnica de Catalunya  
Prof. Alexander Puzrin, ETH Zurich  
Prof. Jan Laue, Luleå University of Technology  
Prof. Jonathan Knappett, University of Dundee

### Field investigation

Prof. Sebastiano Foti, Politecnico di Torino  
Dr. Michael Iten, Marmota Engineering AG

### Foundations and retaining structures

Prof. Sarah Springman, ETH Zurich  
Prof. Christos Vrettos, TU Kaiserslautern

### Industry specialists

Prof. Alain Pecker, École des Ponts Paris Tech  
Prof. Nikos Gerolymos, NTUA  
Prof. Carlo Rabaiotti, HS für Technik Rapperswil  
Dr. Ignasi Aliguer Piferrer, SAALG Geomechanics  
Dr. Felix Shroeder, GCG LLP London

### Specialized seminars

- Centrifuge Modelling  
Prof. Gopal Madhabushi, University of Cambridge &  
Dr. Orestis Adamidis, ETH Zurich
- Finite Differences (FLAC)  
Prof. Nikos Gerolymos, NTUA
- Finite Element Modelling  
Dr. Stavroula Kontoe, Imperial College London
- Material Point Method (MPM)  
Dr. Francesca Ceccato, University of Padova

### Special session on startups

Dr. Michael Iten, Marmota Engineering AG



Ascona Harbour (ticino.ch)

## Registration

The Winter School is open to PhD students and research associates who have a solid background in soil mechanics/geotechnical engineering. More senior researchers and geotechnical engineers are also welcome. We expect all participants to attend for the entire week.

Registration fee: CHF 325

Application deadline: 15 November 2019

## Accommodation

The Winter School programme offers room incl. breakfast at a total cost of CHF 230 – 680 (depending on occupancy and availability), arriving on Sunday and leaving on Friday.

## Meals

Meals package to be booked separately.

Details on the course programme and registration will be made available at [www.geotechnics.ethz.ch](http://www.geotechnics.ethz.ch) and [www.csf.ethz.ch](http://www.csf.ethz.ch)