

# Organisational Aspects Supporting the Work of Coordinating Committee of SGA

Saulius Urbanas, EuroGeographics

8<sup>th</sup> Coordinating Committee of Struve Geodetic Arc

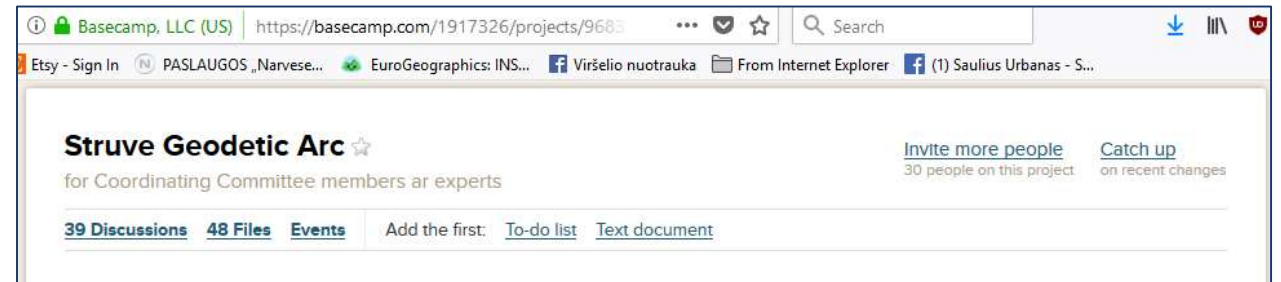
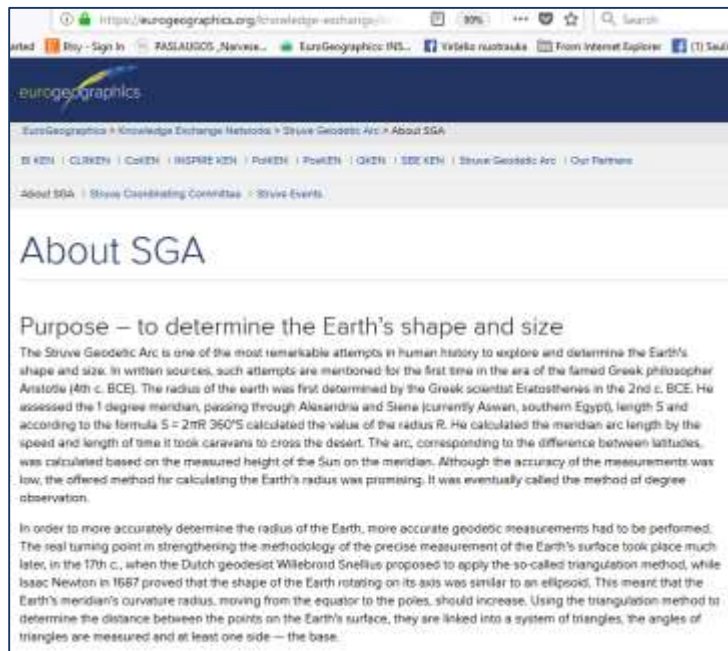
St. Petersburg, 13th September 2018

# International Management Mechanism

- [Rules of procedures, adopted in Oshmyany at 2012](#)
- Activities of Coordinating Committee toward SGA:
  - Maintain preservation
  - Follow the status of conservation
  - Provide recommendations for improving practices
  - Promote...
- Composition of Coordinating Committee:
  - Each State party nominates its primary representative – 10 NMCA's
  - Meeting frequency – 2 years
  - Decisions are reflected in Resolutions. Decisions are taken unanimously, adopted by majority of members
  - CC elects Chair for two years period. Chair represents CC, organizes the meeting
  - CC can meet on demand or take decisions by electronical means

# EuroGeographics contribution to SGA

- Resource of Secretary General
- Basecamp of SGA
- [SGA pages at EuroGeographics website](#)

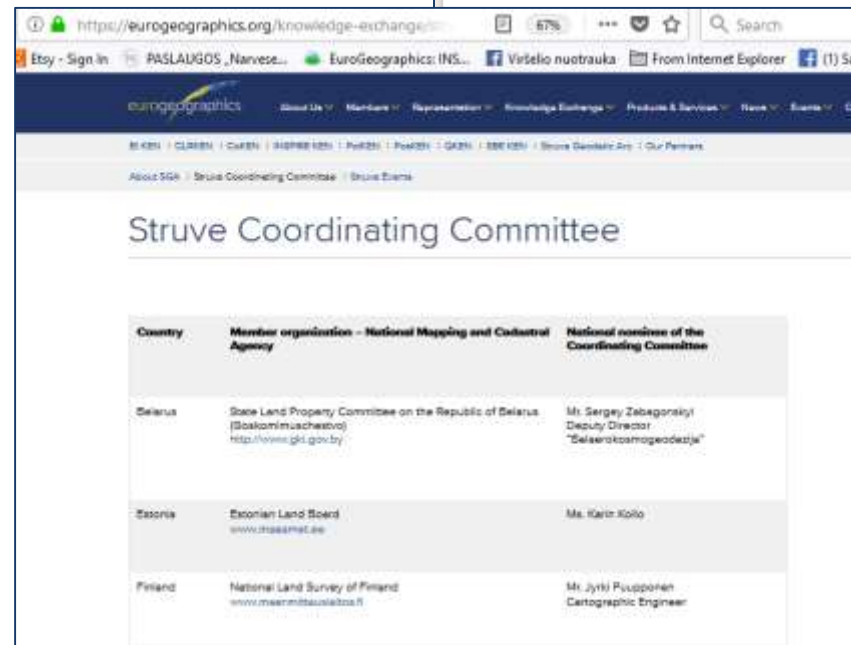



**About SGA**

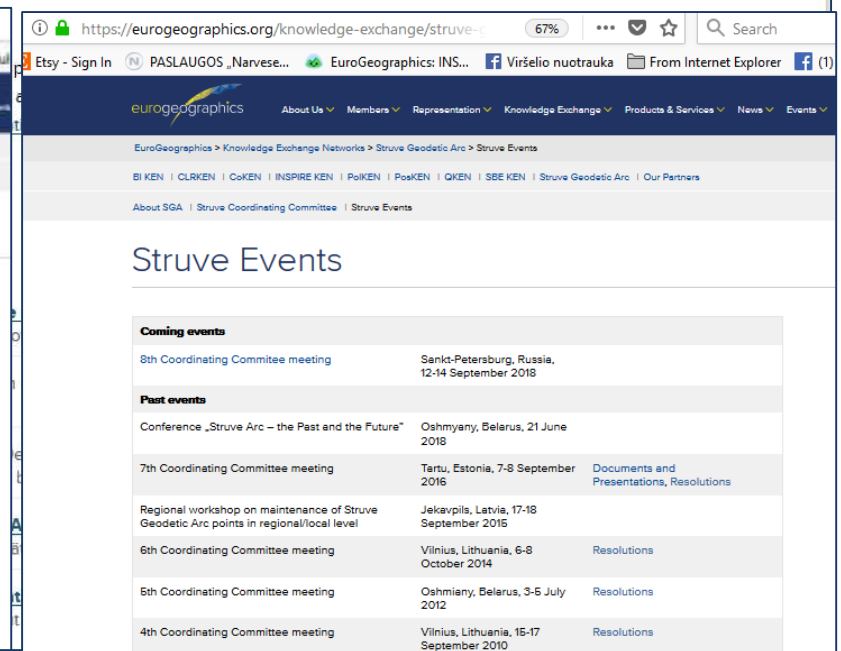
**Purpose – to determine the Earth's shape and size**

The Struve Geodetic Arc is one of the most remarkable attempts in human history to explore and determine the Earth's shape and size. In written sources, such attempts are mentioned for the first time in the era of the famed Greek philosopher Aristotle (4th c. BCE). The radius of the earth was first determined by the Greek scientist Eratosthenes in the 2nd c. BCE. He assessed the 1 degree meridian, passing through Alexandria and Siene (currently Aswan, southern Egypt), length 5 and according to the formula  $S = 2\pi R \cdot 360^\circ / 5$  calculated the value of the radius R. He calculated the meridian arc length by the speed and length of time it took caravans to cross the desert. The arc, corresponding to the difference between latitudes, was calculated based on the measured height of the Sun on the meridian. Although the accuracy of the measurements was low, the offered method for calculating the Earth's radius was promising. It was eventually called the method of degree observation.

In order to more accurately determine the radius of the Earth, more accurate geodetic measurements had to be performed. The real turning point in strengthening the methodology of the precise measurement of the Earth's surface took place much later, in the 17th c., when the Dutch geodesist Willebrord Snellius proposed to apply the so-called triangulation method, while Isaac Newton in 1687 proved that the shape of the Earth rotating on its axis was similar to an ellipsoid. This meant that the Earth's meridian's curvature radius, moving from the equator to the poles, should increase. Using the triangulation method to determine the distance between the points on the Earth's surface, they are linked into a system of triangles, the angles of triangles are measured and at least one side – the base.



Country	Member organization - National Mapping and Cadastral Agency	National coordinators of the Coordinating Committee
Belarus	State Land Property Committee on the Republic of Belarus (Belskomiuchestvo) <a href="http://www.gki.gov.by/">http://www.gki.gov.by/</a>	Mr. Sergey Zabegorskiy Deputy Director "Belsarokosmogeodetzja"
Estonia	Estonian Land Board <a href="http://www.maaamet.ee">www.maaamet.ee</a>	Ms. Karin Kõlo
Finland	National Land Survey of Finland <a href="http://www.maanmittauslaitos.fi">www.maanmittauslaitos.fi</a>	Mr. Jyri Puustinen Cartographic Engineer



**Struve Events**

**Coming events**

8th Coordinating Committee meeting	Sankt-Petersburg, Russia, 12-14 September 2018	
------------------------------------	--	--

**Past events**

Conference „Struve Arc – the Past and the Future“	Oshmyany, Belarus, 21 June 2018	
7th Coordinating Committee meeting	Tartu, Estonia, 7-8 September 2016	Documents and Presentations, Resolutions
Regional workshop on maintenance of Struve Geodetic Arc points in regional/local level	Jelkavpils, Latvia, 17-18 September 2015	
6th Coordinating Committee meeting	Vilnius, Lithuania, 6-8 October 2014	Resolutions
5th Coordinating Committee meeting	Oshmyany, Belarus, 3-5 July 2012	Resolutions
4th Coordinating Committee meeting	Vilnius, Lithuania, 15-17 September 2010	Resolutions

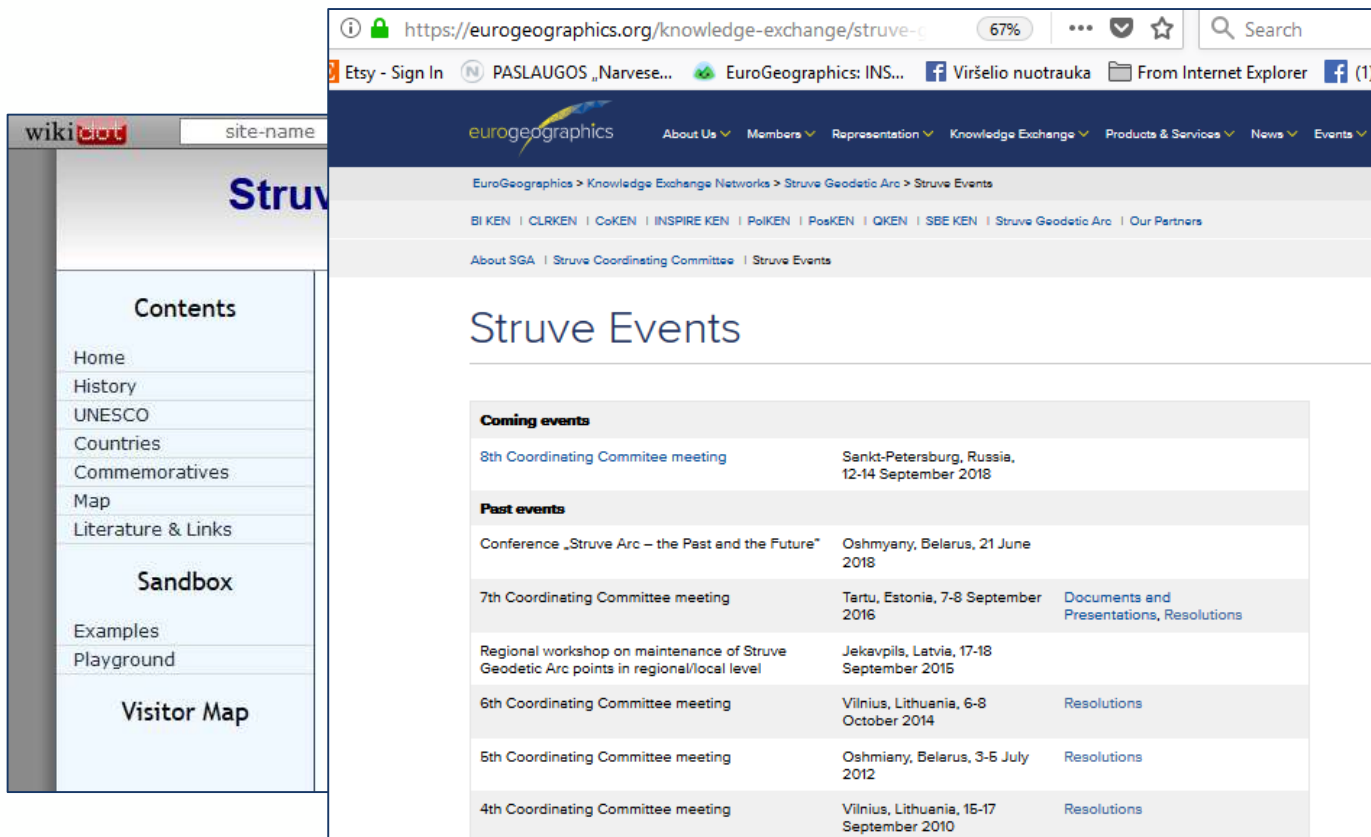
# Work with UNESCO bodies

- Collaboration with National UNESCO Commissions
  - National / international events
  - Bilateral support:
    - CC for technical matters
    - UNESCO Commissions for reaching a wider audience, communication to WHC and public
    - Recommendations and resolutions of WH meetings
    - Channel to UNESCO experts / events
- Responsibilities
  - Maintenance of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)
  - 7 years periodic reporting
    - Latest report at 2014, arranged by SG and submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture of Lithuania
    - Upcoming report - 2021

# Documentation in the SGA pages at WHC website

Struve Geodetic Arc	
Description Maps Documents Gallery Indicators Assistance	
Nomination 1187 (inscribed)	
2005	Nomination file 1187 (21 MB)
Advisory Bodies Evaluations	
2005	Advisory Body Evaluation (ICOMOS)
Maps	
2005	Struve Geodetic Arc - map of inscribed property
Decisions	
2014	38COM 8E - Adoption of Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value
2005	29COM 8B.35 - Nominations of Cultural Properties to the World Heritage List (the Struve Geodetic Arc )
Periodic Reporting	
2014	Periodic Reporting Cycle 2, Section II

# (In)Compliancy between SGA websites and the SGA pages at WHC website



The screenshot shows the website <https://eurogeographics.org/knowledge-exchange/struve-...>. The main content area is titled "Struve Events" and is divided into two sections: "Coming events" and "Past events".

Coming events		
8th Coordinating Committee meeting	Sankt-Petersburg, Russia, 12-14 September 2018	
Past events		
Conference „Struve Arc – the Past and the Future“	Oshmyany, Belarus, 21 June 2018	
7th Coordinating Committee meeting	Tartu, Estonia, 7-8 September 2016	<a href="#">Documents and Presentations, Resolutions</a>
Regional workshop on maintenance of Struve Geodetic Arc points in regional/local level	Jekavpils, Latvia, 17-18 September 2015	
6th Coordinating Committee meeting	Vilnius, Lithuania, 6-8 October 2014	<a href="#">Resolutions</a>
5th Coordinating Committee meeting	Oshmyany, Belarus, 3-5 July 2012	<a href="#">Resolutions</a>
4th Coordinating Committee meeting	Vilnius, Lithuania, 15-17 September 2010	<a href="#">Resolutions</a>

instruments and other materials, and even minting commemorative coins for the Struve Geodetic Arc (Belarus, Moldova).

## News <sup>1965</sup> (2)

- Published: Our Common Heritage: the Finnish National World Heritage Strategy 2015 – 2025 Tuesday, 3 November 2015
- Mostar, Macao and Biblical vestiges in Israel are among the 17 cultural sites inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List Friday, 15 July 2005

## Events <sup>1965</sup> (3)

- Final Periodic Reporting Meeting in Europe 01-Dec-2014-02-Dec-2014
- [in French only] Lituanie dans un colis : Exposition thématique 30-Sep-2013-04-Oct-2013
- 30th Ordinary Session of the World Heritage Committee 08-Jul-2006-16-Jul-2006

## Links

- [Struve Geodetic Arc](#)
- [Portal to the Heritage of Astronomy](#)

# Actions and channels to public

- Please pass any news about SGA developments (events, books, collectables, projects, etc) to:
  - Secretary General
  - Chair
  - Basecamp
- Share best practice in national achievements / debates
- Communicate in advance on the shared activities – workshops, studies, documentation (Management Plan...)
- Two main channels for Coordinating Committee:
  - [SGA pages at EuroGeographics website](#)
  - [struvearc.wikidot.com](http://struvearc.wikidot.com)
  - We shall find a suitable tool for sharing photos (!)
- EuroGeographics offers a possibility to organize online events – web-meetings, webinars. Any ideas?

# Goodwill in collaborative efforts

- All CC events are open to national and international experts, representatives of governmental and non-governmental organisations and individuals
- We're here because we like to be here 😊
- **... and a future is in some extend a bit forgotten past...**

