



INTERNATIONAL CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION CARTOGRAPHIQUE INTERNATIONALE

ica commissions at a glance



International Cartographic Association | Commission on Theoretical Cartography

What, why and How for Commission on Theoretical Cartography



01 What are our missions

We are concerned with what map and cartography really were, are and will be theoretically and methodologically. So we are expect to:

- build knowledge base of all previous efforts in thinking and explaining cartography as different paradigms
- Re-investigate definition of map and terminologies of cartography with the involving technologies
- Develop new theories and methodologies about conceptual model of cartography and test them in cartographic practice esp. under circumstance of information era



02 Why are we needed

The development of Cartography, especially digital Cartography and GIS, as well as map as public media makes us face to new challenge of theoretical and methodological reconstruction for our discipline.

Extending our sight to more comprehensive sister disciplines, especially Philosophy and Methodology is extremely important.

A cross-cultural and historical investigation of theoretical interests is the foundation for cartography to develop further



03 How could we do

- Research agenda which cover various paradigms mainly from sister disciplines including philosophy, cognitive science, mathematics, informatics, art and sociology
- Work on new definition of map and terminologies of cartography in the circumstance of information era
- Attract more young researchers into theoretical and methodological research of map-related scientific issues which aims at testing of existing theoretical paradigms, esp. by means of information and computational approach
- A joint workshop or conference with the topics regarding theoretical and methodological aspect of cartography and GIS