



**International Cartographic Association**  
**Association Cartographique Internationale**

## **Commission Report to the ICA Executive Committee**

Commission: Commission on Map Projections

Date of report: 07/2023

Period of report: 08/2019 - 07/2023

Name of reporter: Sarah Battersby

EC liaison:

### **General Remarks:**

*The report should focus on major events and generally not exceed 1.5 pages incl. photos and links. Activities to be reported may fall into the following categories, but should either be (co)initiated by your commission or reflect significant commission participation:*

**Commission/Working Group highlights** (e.g. conferences, publications, products & services, awards, etc. and outcomes for the EC to take note)

The Commission on Map Projections held a workshop prior to the Tokyo ICC (2019) with presentations on Symbols in Map Projections - A proposal for standardization (M. Lapaine), Equal Earth Projection (B. Šavrič), On semantic representation of map projection knowledge (L. Usery), and Map Projection Definition (M. Lapaine).

The Croatian Cartographic Society organizes an international conference on geoinformation and cartography every year. These conferences are regularly endorsed by ICA and include a meeting of the ICA CoMP.

- 15th Conference was held 26-29 Sept. 2019. Lynn Usery had a keynote Semantic Representation of Cartography: A Map Projections Example. The CoMP meeting included three presentations ICA Commission on Map Projections – Introduction (E. Lynn Usery), Standard, Equidistant and Secant Parallels (Miljenko Lapaine), Evidence of Portolan Chart Loxodromic Geometry (the Example of the Adriatic Sea Basin) (Tome Marelić). Presentations available: <http://www.kartografija.hr/preliminary-program.hr.html>

16th Conference was held 24-27 Sept. 2020. There was a presentation on map projections: (Miljenko Lapaine), Spherical Photography and Equirectangular Projection (Dino Šubat). Abstracts available: [http://www.kartografija.hr/Preliminary\\_program.hr.html](http://www.kartografija.hr/Preliminary_program.hr.html)

- 17th Conference was held 23-25 Sept 2021. The conference was held under the auspices of the International Cartographic Association (ICA) and the University of Zagreb. The conference program and lecture abstracts have been published in print and online ([www.kartografija.hr](http://www.kartografija.hr)). A record 389 people registered. The program included a webinar on map projections.

- 18th Conference was held 14-16 Sept. 2022. Presentations included: Basic Problem of Map Projections Teaching (Miljenko Lapaine), Smooth Pycnophylactic Interpolation Produced by Density-Equalizing Map Projections (Michael Gastner), A Problem in 'Basic Cartography' (Miljenko Lapaine)

The Commission also organized a workshop at the AutoCarto Conference on November 2, 2022. The topic was Practical Selection and Use with Current Research Directions at the AutoCarto. The workshop focused on challenges when selecting an appropriate map projection, exploring cognitive understanding of map projections, the importance of map projection education, and reviewing software design supporting map projection selection. A report is published: [https://ica-proj.kartografija.hr/tl\\_files/ICA%20Map%20Projections%20Commission/slike/konferencije/Fritz\\_eng02.pdf](https://ica-proj.kartografija.hr/tl_files/ICA%20Map%20Projections%20Commission/slike/konferencije/Fritz_eng02.pdf)

**Notable cross-disciplinary events** (e.g. with other ICA Commissions/WGs, regional and international communities)

2021: CoMP was asked to respond to the questionnaire send by the Chair of WG on re-search Agenda

- Miljenko Lapaine collaborates in WG CartoBoK.
- Remarks on the ICC2021 by Miljenko Lapaine

**Notable public events** (e.g. invited public speech, Mapathon, TED talks, hackathon, etc.)

Sadly, E. Lynn Usery, Chair of the Commission on Map Projections passed away in 2022.

Several international meetings (e.g., AAG and AutoCarto) held sessions in memoriam for Lynn Usery, and a publication in memorium is posted on the Commission web site: [https://ica-proj.kartografija.hr/tl\\_files/ICA%20Map%20Projections%20Commission/Lynn\\_KiG\\_eng2.pdf](https://ica-proj.kartografija.hr/tl_files/ICA%20Map%20Projections%20Commission/Lynn_KiG_eng2.pdf)

**Educational highlights** (e.g. degree programs, MOOCs, lifelong learning courses)

The Commission has been active with respect to the activities proposed in the 2019-2023 terms of reference, particularly in promoting and fostering research on map projections, coordinate systems, transformations, and disseminating the outcomes. This is noted in the commission highlighted activities, and through numerous notable publications by Commission members, such as:

- Many publications related to the Commission are listed in the report on the 20th anniversary of the Commission, published in very famous Russian journal *Geodesy and Cartography K dvadsattiletiyu komissi po kartograficheskim proektsiyam pri Meždunarodnoi kartografičeskoj asocijaci* (2003-2023)
- Kessler, F.C. and Battersby, S.E (2019) *Working with Map Projections: A Guide to their Selection*. CRC Press

**Any other sharable experiences**

The Commission on Map Projections is celebrating it's 20th anniversary in 2023.

**Upcoming events and planned actions**

19th Conference to be held in Zadar 7-9 Sept. 2023. Organized by the Croatian Cartographic Society. Co-organizers are University of Zadar, Department of Geography, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Geodesy, and Croatian Geographic Society - Zadar.

Lynn Usery built a website hosted by USGS during his tenure as Commission Chair. It will be transitioned to the new Chair with assistance from USGS