

Dr Guy Martini

Guy Martini is a geologist and has a background in anthropology. In the 80's, he was one of the founders of the French National (and also international) movement for conservation in the Earth sciences. He was the President of the French Network of National Geological Reserves (1985-1995), Member of the Malvern Task Force and General Secretary of the first International Symposium on Geological heritage Conservation, which is at the origin of the "International Declaration of the right of the Earth's Memory" (1991).



In his work, Guy Martini is permanently striving to connect territories with art, culture, sciences and sustainable development. In this respect, he was leading one of the first European programmes dedicated to a policy on territorial sustainable economy (1994-1997), which is based on the promotion of local heritage and geological heritage. In 1996, after a meeting in China with Nickolas Zouros, he developed and was leading a first European Programme bringing together four European territories to experiment and develop the concept of Geoparks. This programme later allowed the launching of the European Geoparks Network (2001), leading to the successful development of UNESCO Global Geoparks.

In the history and evolution of UNESCO Global Geoparks' development, Guy Martini is one of the main founding members. He has held a huge amount of conferences, organized workshops and wrote numerous publications on Geoparks all over the world. He has actively supported the creation of many UNESCO Global Geoparks all over the world (South America, Africa, Asia, etc.). He is today the General Secretary of the Global Geoparks Network and chairperson of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council.