

Claudio Margottini (full Professor of Engineering Geology-hab.) is the Scientific and Technological Attaché at the Italian Embassy in Cairo (Egypt), adjunct Professor at the UNESCO Chair in the University of Florence and President of Scientific Advisory Body of GEOAPP, a spinoff of the University of Florence operating in the field of Engineering Geology. He is trained as a Geologist (Rome 1979) and Engineering Seismologist (UK London, 1983) and has pursued an Italian Government Agencies career (ENEA and ISPRA-Dpt Geological Survey of Italy) and an academic career as contract Professor of Engineering Geology for Cultural Heritage (Modena University, Italy 1999 - 2011) and adjunct Professor of Fundamentals of Geothermal Energy and Thermogeology at Huangzhou University (Wuhan, China 2012-2016). He was vice President of the International Consortium on Landslides and, in 2001-2006 member of the Advisory Expert Group of the Directorate General for Research (Directorate Global Change and Ecosystems) of the European Commission, on behalf of the European Commissioner for Research Philippe Bousquin. Member of numerous committees and national and international scientific committees and associations including ICOMOS, the National Commission for EIA, the National Geophysical Committee of the Ministry for Research, the Alpine Convention at the request of the Ministry of Environment, the International Geological Correlation Programme of UNESCO, the Asian Society for the Protection of Cultural Heritages and the Joint Committee 6 (JTC6): "Ancient Monuments / Historic Sites" of IAEG/ISRM/ISSMGE, the International Association of Engineering Geology, the International Association for Geoethics, the Italian Chamber of Geologists. In the period 2014-2015 he was member of the Observatory for monitoring the procedure for decommissioning Italian Nuclear facilities and, since 2014, Vice President of CERFED (Reserch Centre for Capacity Building and Documentation in the secotr of Civil Protection).

In 2007 he was appointed Adviser to the Minister for the Environment, and in January 2008 President of the Commission for Evaluation of investments and Support to the Planning and Management of Environmental Interventions (COVIS) of the Ministry of Environment. In March 2008 he was appointed, by the Minister for the Environment, as President of the National Observatory on Soil and Water Protection (ONDIS). In the last 20 years, as Engineering Geologist, he was extensively supporting UNESCO and local institutions in many international project for the conservation of Cultural Heritages in Afghanistan (Bamiyan, Jam, Herat and Zohak), Ethiopia (Aksum and Lalibela), South Korea (Seokguram), Syria (Maaloula), Peru (Machu Picchu), Bolivia (Tiwanaku), Georgia (Vardzia and Katski), Chile (Easter Island), Jordan (Petra), North Korea (Kogurio), Mongolia (Bayannuur), Nepal (Lumbini and Swayambu) Egypt (Hawara), Madagascar (Antananarivo) and others. Currently is also responsible for the interpretation of remote sensing data (radar interferometry) in the site of Pompei (Italy) and Scientific Coordinator of a EU project for the investigation of the natural hazard and monitoring present trends with radar interferometry, in the European UNESCO sites. The collaboration with UNESCO has also included studies for understanding the role of geology in shaping historic urban landscapes. Author and co-author of more than 300 publications and books.