



Nomination Template
President
2023-2026

Nominee	
Name:	Abbas Rajabifard
Member association:	Surveying & Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI)
Country:	Australia
Contact address:	Geomatics Discipline, Department of Infrastructure Engineering, Faculty of Engineering and IT, The University of Melbourne Melbourne Connect Building, 700 Swanston St., Carlton, Vic 3010 Australia
Email address:	abbas.r@unimelb.edu.au
Age/birthday:	55 / 23 Aug. 1966
Degrees and educational background:	2002: Doctoral Degree in Geomatics Engineering, University of Melbourne, Australia 1994: License for cadastral land surveyor in Iran 1993: Masters Degree in Integrated Map and Geoinformation Production, ITC/Uni of Twente , the Netherlands 1992: PostGraduate Diploma in Photogrammetry, ITC/Uni of Twente, The Netherlands 1990: Bachelor in Surveying Engineering, K.N Toosi University, Iran
Employment history: - current position	Since 2007: Professor and Director, Centre for Spatial Data Infrastructures and Land Administration, University of Melbourne, AUSTRALIA Since 2020: Discipline Leader Geomatics, Department of Infrastructure Engineering, University of Melbourne, AUSTRALIA Since 2020: Director Smart and Sustainable Development and Lead Infrastructure Research Platform, Faculty of Engineering and IT, University of Melbourne, AUSTRALIA Member of Board UN-GGIM Academic Network.



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- previous position(s)	<p>2012 –2020: Head, Department of Infrastructure Engineering (Civil Eng., Water & Environmental Eng., Geomatics), University of Melbourne, AUSTRALIA</p> <p>2016 –2020: Chair, UN-GGIM Academic Network (United Nations - Global Geospatial Information Management -Academic Network)</p> <p>2013 – Feb. 2021: Director, Centre for Disaster Management and Public Safety, The University of Melbourne, AUSTRALIA</p>
Positions of trust: - current	<p>Since 2016: Member of National Delegation to UN-GGIM Academic Member</p> <p>Since 2019: Member of Joint Reference Committee of the World Bank and United Nations on the Integration of Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF)</p> <p>Foundation Member and Hon Fellow Spatial Sciences Institute, Australia</p>
- previous	Australian Member of the ICA Spatial Data Standards Commission
Positions in FIG - current	<p>Member of Commission 7</p> <p>Member of Commission 2</p>
- previous	
Other activities in FIG	2008-2012: As part of the FIG Task Force and co-editing author of FIG Publication no. 58 on «Spatially Enabled Societies»



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	<p>Co-Lead Cadastral Template initiative jointly conducted by FIG and CSDILA, University of Melbourne</p> <p>2002: Co- editor and co-author of FIG publication «Benchmarking Cadastral Systems»</p> <p>2014: Contributor as author of FIG Publication no. 61 «Cadastre 2014 and Beyond»</p>
Field of surveying discipline	Surveying and Mapping; Cadastral Systems Design and Development; Land Administration Modernisation; Spatial Enablement; Digital Twin; Capacity Building and Surveying and Cadastre Education
Nominees statement	
Why I want to be the President of FIG	<p>We are living in an increasing complex and interconnected world. In this context, digital transformation, and global challenges such as population growth, urbanization, land availability, climate change, sustainability and resilience, are increasingly altering all aspects of our societies and our economic stability. Technological advancements are offering new ways to design, produce, consume, and manage by providing a “live” system to models, measure and monitor changes. At the same time the dependency of projects on land and location information, and the role that surveyors, land administration (cadastre), and spatial expertise are playing on them, and the use of location information in everyday life is growing dramatically.</p> <p>In this context, risks are real in terms of skills quality, market concentration and external geopolitical factors. Moreover, the FIG’s commitment to being a global institution is reiterated in its strategy. These are all areas where the breadth of my professional and academic experience over the last 30 years can add value, particularly in enhancing the FIG’s emphasis on a deeper engagement with the emerging market.</p> <p>In order to continue as a leading professional association and improve our international standing and impact on the emerging market, we need to re-examine the FIG vision, develop a smart plan and strategic activities, and a clear roadmap that ensures that</p>



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	<p>we remain relevant and serve the needs of the members, preparing them for the World we have today and into the future.</p> <p>I have an extensive proven international leadership experience and network and have been involved at strategic level of several major international initiatives and have passion to contribute to shape and advance FIG's future direction to guarantee its international standing as a professional association.</p> <p>Therefore, as a proud surveyor and a leading scientist, with strong passion and international experiences in innovation and advancement for smart and future societies, I am motivated to express keen interest in this position. I feel that this role in close collaboration with other executive members and FIG's commissions, can significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Association and its future directions and strategic pathways. It will also assist in the successful collaboration between, government, academia and industry. At the same time, in this position I can help FIG to develop better focus on preparing the next generation of practitioners and formulate activities and training in alignment with the needs of the emerging markets and industry.</p> <p>I am fortunate enough to have led a number of international associations and entities in my life and also to have contributed significantly in developing future leaders in the land surveying and spatial domain. Therefore, I believe I would be well suited to contribute to the future FIG journey and bridge the gap between knowledge and practice to be better aligned to the needs of the wider society today and in the future.</p>
<p>What I can offer to FIG in support of its aims and objectives</p>	<p>I am a proud surveyor and an internationally recognised scholar and engineer, with a proven experience of leading and chairing professional organisations and executive science panels. I dispose of, technical and managerial capabilities, in industry, government and academia with over 30 years of experience, at state, national and international levels. My whole career in different roles and responsibilities with different institutions has been always in surveying, land administration and the spatial domain.</p> <p>I will bring effective leadership and management skills to this role, in which engagement is a strong feature. Throughout my career, I have consistently been able to demonstrate these skills,</p>



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	<p>particularly in bringing together multiple disciplines to build a cohesive team. This will be key to the future success of the FIG. I also demonstrated ability to lead across different disciplines at all levels and work collaboratively and effectively with diverse stakeholders both within the association as well as outside the association. These roles have been expanded across spatial science, surveying, land administration and mapping, research and education disciplines.</p> <p>My main expertise is on Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI), spatial enabled government with a focus on land administration modernisation, 3D cadastre, Digital Twin and BIM (Building Information Model). With this, I will bring a vision for FIG in converging its aim, objectives and mission in line with all changes in the market. My vision resonates with FIG's mission and new trends to ensure the disciplines of land and surveying and all who practice them meet the needs of global markets and communities that we are serving today and into the future.</p>
My key skills	Strong and proven strategic vision track record; strong international networking, organised and reliable, innovative thinking, socially compatible personality, Strong capabilities in managing large organisations and their employees, a thorough understanding of organizational behaviour.
Any other supporting information and comments:	Chair UN-GGIM Academic Network, President of GSDI, Chair Cadastre-PCGIAP,



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Nominator	
Name of member association	Surveying & Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI)
Name of Proposer/Contact: Position in Association	Mr Paul Digney
	President, Surveying & Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI)
Contact address	27-29 Napier Close, Deakin, ACT Australia
Email address	President@sssi.org.au
Nominator's statement	

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Digney', is located in the bottom right corner of the page.





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<p>Why the association wants to nominate Nominee</p>	<p>SSSI believes this nomination Professor Abbas Rajabifard as a candidate for the FIG Presidency is an exceptional opportunity for FIG. Professor Rajabifard brings the rich experience being previously President and Chair of other International bodies such as Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI) and UNGGIM-Academic Network. These leadership roles and experience has strengthened his governance and board skills and it is rare to have a candidate of this calibre that is so experienced in heading significant international representative bodies. Professor Rajabifard has a reputation for actively listening to the diverse views of multiple stakeholders and cultural backgrounds and is admired for his collaborative style and fairness when chairing key meetings. This approach has also developed strong negotiation skills with stakeholders to develop a consent based decisions on multi-faced issues. During the formation of the United Nations GGIM– Academic Network, he instilled diversity and inclusion as foundation of UNGGIM-AN, resulting in an enduring highly inclusive culture. By necessity, Professor Rajabifard has strong financial skills and understands running not-for-profit associations. His ability to attract sponsors is exceptional and he has a very strong track record in this area from his previous not for profit leadership roles. He has also been highly successful in attracting research funding from both Australian Government sources and the World Bank.</p> <p>SSSI believes that this candidate for FIG president is a unique opportunity to strengthen FIG’s strategic relationships with other global institutions such as the World Bank and the relevant committees of the United Nations. Professor Rajabifard as FIG President would strengthen FIG’s status as a learned society. Professional associations are not only important to the professions they represent, but they are becoming an increasingly important source of science and knowledge-based advice to governments and institutions with global responsibilities. Professor Rajabifard’s leadership of FIG would ensure FIG is on a very positive trajectory for future relevance, sustainability and growth.</p>
<p>What support (financial, administrative and others) can the Association provide to the Nominee if elected President</p>	<p>SSSI Australia supports Professor Rajabifard in his application and will provide the support he needs (admin, financial, and institutional support) to carry out the role as President 2023-2026. We will also of course provide full support to Professor Rajabifard during the bidding period leading up to vote including attendance at FIG 2022 Congress. Warsaw.</p>



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Any other supporting information:	<p>SSSI is pleased (and excited) to nominate Professor Abbas Rajabifard as a candidate for FIG President 2023-2026.</p> <p>We are confident that Prof Rajabifard has an extensive international network (including UN, World Bank and past president of GSDI and his passion and connections within FIG) that would be beneficial to FIG's members. He also brings a very strong strategic vision that will increase the relevance of FIG in the future.</p> <p>SSSI has recognised Professor Rajabifard's exceptional ability and list of achievements by conferring him as an Honorary Fellow of SSSI in 2020.</p>
Name of Seconder:	Dr Zaffar Sadiq Mohamed-Ghouse
Position in Association	Immediate Past President and Company Secretary (current)
Contact address:	27-29 Napier Close, Deakin, ACT Australia
Email address	companysecretary@sssi.org.au

Signed I hereby certify the above is true and correct*	
Date	25/02/2022
Nominee	
Nominator	

* Nominee is requested to initial every page of the nomination template





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<p>Clarifying Notes:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Nominator (Proposer and Secunder) must be principal officers of the FIG Member Association (by principal officers, it is construed as President or Chairperson, Deputy or Vice President/Chairperson, Secretary General or Chief Executive Officer or equivalent position)• The Nomination Template must be accompanied by a letter of support from either the President or the Principal Officer of the nominating FIG Member Association• Nominating FIG Member Association should ascertain the availability of the nominee over the duration of the term of office• Nominee should preferably have prior or current responsibilities within and working knowledge of FIG, its activities, aims and objectives• Nominee and Nominator are requested to pay attention to the Nominee's Statement and the Proposer's Statement
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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'K. Kozłowski', is written over a faint, light blue oval watermark.