

2nd Virtual meeting of the Commission on Mountain Cartography

Since the continuing pandemic did not allow us to hold an in-person workshop in 2022, and to keep ICA Mountain cartographers engaged as a cohesive group, we decided to prepare another, second virtual ICA-CMC meeting. The meeting was held on 12th March 2022. Based on experiences from the virtual meeting in 2020 we carefully selected a meeting time so that no one would have to participate in the middle of the night. Initially planned as a business meeting in order to inform commission members about recent ICA developments, we expanded the meeting to include a mini virtual workshop to partially make up for the cancelled in-person workshop in the year. There were 28 participants from 15 countries and four continents.

The meeting started with commission chair, Dušan Petrovič, and an ICA liaison person, Terje Midtbø. Topics included report on commission's activities at the ICC in Florence, some remarks from the ICA EC meetings and activities at the revised Body of knowledge. Next, Tom Patterson and Alex Tait presented planned activities and deadlines for CMC workshop in Colorado in the spring of 2023.



A highlight of the meeting were seven short presentations by commission members focusing on interesting projects that they have worked on since we last met. Morgan Hite explained usage of different sky models for relief hillshading. Jürg Gilgen compared the rock drawings on Swiss topographic maps to cartooning. Alexander Klaus presented newest high mountain cartography maps from Bildkartographie. Rafal Jonca discussed his latest terrain depiction techniques and also previewed 3D mountain animations. Alex Tait returned us to Himalayas, explaining his role and the results of a National Geographic Mapping Everest project and showed visualizations from very high-resolution data of the Khumbu Glacier and Everest Basecamp. From the highest peaks, Tom Patterson moved us to the depths, explaining the creation of Blue Earth, a worldwide bathymetry dataset. Finally, Bernhard Jenny discussed aerial perspective effect on shaded relief. The results of his method reveal a striking resemblance to manually produced Swiss shaded relief. All presentations triggered interesting debate and gave us ideas for further work and research. After two hours our virtual gathering concluded with a lot of positive comments from all participants. During a break in the presentations, we took a screen capture of the participants for our customary joint picture.

During our final discussion, there was general agreement to keep holding virtual meetings, even after in-person workshops start up again. We would hold the virtual meetings in the odd years between in-person workshops. Doing this will help strengthen the community and allow those unable to travel to participate.