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With the support of The ISPRS Foundation (TIF) Travel Grant and the GFZ Helmholtz Centre for Geosciences, I was able to attend the XXV ISPRS Congress in Toronto. I am sincerely grateful for this support, which enabled me to participate in one of the most important international gatherings in photogrammetry, remote sensing, and spatial information sciences.

For me, the Congress was more than an academic event. It was a meeting place for the global remote sensing community, bringing together researchers and professionals from different countries, institutions, disciplines, and career stages. The wide range of scientific sessions and discussions offered an opportunity to see how diverse research efforts collectively contribute to the development of our field.

One of the most important milestones of my participation was delivering my first oral presentation at an international conference. I presented my research in the session “ICWG III/IVa-B: Disaster Management,” chaired by Fabiola D. Yépez-Rincón and Laurent Polidori. Presenting my work to an international audience was both exciting and challenging, and it represented an important step in my development as a PhD researcher.

I greatly appreciated the encouragement I received from the two session chairs. They shared insights from their professional experience and offered perspectives that provided useful inspiration for my future research. The questions from the audience also encouraged me to reflect more critically on my work, including its methodology, practical relevance, and potential for further development. These exchanges deepened my thinking about how remote sensing can more effectively support the monitoring and management of geological hazards.

During the Congress, I also had the opportunity to meet many distinguished researchers whose names and publications had long been familiar to me. Their work introduced me to important concepts and methods when I first entered the field and has continued to influence my understanding of remote sensing. Meeting members of this international research community in person was therefore particularly meaningful.

The experience made me see the ISPRS Congress as a central stage built through the collective efforts of generations of researchers. Their scientific contributions and commitment to the community have created a platform on which young researchers can

present their ideas, exchange perspectives, and develop professionally. I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to stand on this stage, share my research, and learn from the wider community.

The Congress significantly broadened my understanding of remote sensing. The scientific programme demonstrated the diversity of the field, from advances in sensors, data processing, and methodological development to applications in natural hazards, environmental change, and other societal challenges. It also showed that, although we may work with different datasets, technologies, and scientific questions, we are part of an interconnected community with many shared objectives.

This experience resonated strongly with the vision of GFZ: “Taking the pulse of our Earth to safeguard a habitable planet.” At the Congress, I saw this aspiration reflected throughout the wider remote sensing community. From different scientific perspectives, we share the ambition to improve our understanding of the Earth, address future challenges, and use geospatial information to help make our planet safer, more resilient, and more sustainable.

Attending the XXV ISPRS Congress was an important academic and personal experience for me. It expanded my view of the field, strengthened my confidence in presenting and discussing my research, and encouraged me to contribute more actively to the international remote sensing community. I returned from Toronto with new ideas, valuable perspectives, and a stronger motivation to connect my research with both scientific development and societal needs.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to The ISPRS Foundation and the GFZ Helmholtz Centre for Geosciences for supporting my participation in the Congress. I would also like to thank my supervisor, Prof. Mahdi Motagh, for his guidance and support in my research work. My thanks also go to the Congress organisers, the session chairs, and everyone who contributed to this valuable experience. The TIF Travel Grant enabled me to present my research, learn from the international community, and take an important step forward in my development as a PhD researcher.