

FIG President Univ. Prof. Dr-Ing. Holger Magel



Breathing the Olympic spirit – the mission of the FIG in the 21st Century

Opening speech at the FIG Working Week 2004 in Athens
on May 23

FIG President Prof. Holger Magel



FIG 2003 – 2006 Shaping the Change

Contents:



- Where there is noble Competition,
there is Victory
- How is innovation to be achieved?
- The Mission of FIG in the 21st Century

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FIG 2003 – 2006 Shaping the Change

Seven decisive factors for economic growth:



1. natural resources
2. human resources (human labour)
3. technical progress
4. capital
5. knowledge, including the marketing of this knowledge
6. the political regulatory framework, e.g. a social
market economy as against a planned economy and
7. scale of values and performance paradigms.

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FIG 2003 – 2006 Shaping the Change

The speed of structural change in State,
society and economy is decisive for growth,
employment and affluence. Structural
change will be best stimulated by innovation,
by freedom and by (noble) competition.



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FIG 2003 – 2006 Shaping the Change

The necessary or desired strengthening of
privatisation must not be allowed to go hand in
hand with a weakening of public administration.
It was always the case, and it will remain the
case in the future, that a strong functioning
private sector needs functioning and
independent strong partners in the public
sector!



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“Business is people, good business is good people”.
We have these good people, these human resources,
for whom we in the Council and the Office work and
who commit themselves for us and our common ideals
and philosophies. We in the FIG practice not share
holder value but a strong stake holder understanding.
We are aware also of the great importance of
cooperation with e.g. our sister organisations such as
IAG, ICA, ISPRS and many others, who are committed
to the idea of “building a better world”



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FIG is a wonderful example of cosmopolitanism, which helps to take away from countries and their citizens anxiety about the unavoidable globalisation, to prepare them for this and to integrate them in the international community without taking from them their national identity. Our FIG stands for richness of history, knowledge, cultures and values as well as for a peaceful und enriching coexistence. Withdrawal into our national shells and sticking our heads in the sand is no longer an answer to the coalescence and the internationalisation of our world.

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Cosmopolitanism means nothing else than that we are all members of this one world but at the same time retain our national or local roots – this is after all the ethos of our FIG is characterised and the way it functions!

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Even when knowledge, capital and technical progress decide world wide between poverty and affluence, persons who are themselves enthusiastic and can inspire enthusiasm in others remain without doubt the A and O of every organisation. I am proud to be able to say that there is no shortage of such persons in the FIG.

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 FIG 2003 – 2006 Shaping the Change