The European Geoparks Network was founded in 2000, and it was initially made on the areas of 4 geoparks in France, Germany, Greece and Spain. The Network grew rapidly and now it has 58 Geoparks in 21 countries across Europe.

The Network aims at the promotion of the geological heritage, perservance of geological diversity and the support of economical development of the geopark territory, and most of all - the development of tourism.

The Network is mostly focused on the promotion of geoparks and their natural and cultural heritage, which is very important for the areas contained by the geoparks. The participation of local communities is a huge factor in the success of the Network.

Examples of activities inside the geoparks include the founding of geological trails, educational trips, school excursions and the promotion of the geological heritage in the wider tourist area.

**European Geoparks Week**

Two week-long festival of events is held across Europe during last week in May and first week in June every year. The program includes discussions and activities, and is organised to promote the knowledge of the Earth's heritage in each Geopark.

The Network is founded by their members, and is financed mostly by the EU funding. The territories that are enabled to join the EGN (European Geoparks Network) are rewarded with the Geopark status only for a 4-year period, after which the membership will be overviewed and rated. The overview looks through standard activities, infrastructure and activity across the Network.

In agreement with UNESCO, the EGN is responsible for adjusting membership in the UNESCO Global Geoparks Network (GGN). The EGN has made a progress by accomplishing goals and attracting attention of communities across Europe and the wider geological society. All other information can be found at: [www.europeangeoparks.org](http://www.europeangeoparks.org).

**The European Geopark Network members:**