

Meeting of the CODE Consortium

CODE stands for „Center for Orbit Determination in Europe“ and is a Joint Venture between the

- Astronomical Institute of the University of Bern (AIUB), Switzerland
- Federal Office of Topography swisstopo, Wabern, Switzerland
- Federal Office of Cartography and Geodesy (BKG), Frankfurt am Main, Germany
- Engineering Institute for Astronomical and Physical Geodesy at the Technical University of Munich (IAPG, TUM), Germany.

The operational contribution to the International GNSS Service (IGS), being computed at the AIUB, is a common contribution of the consortium to the international community. It is a contribution to realize the international global precise coordinate system. The works performed in the context of CODE allow the federal offices to connect the national reference frames of Switzerland and Germany directly with the global coordinate systems, which is of special importance for the application of satellite-based measuring procedures (such as GNSS: Global Navigation Satellite Systems).

The co-operation of the four institutions is, however, not restricted on GNSS, but includes other satellite-geodetic procedures as Satellite Laser Ranging (SLR) or Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) as well. The goals are joint and supplementary research projects in subject areas relevant for the partners of the consortium.

Representatives of the consortium met each other on Thursday, April 5, 2022, at the University of Bern, in order to exchange about current developments and to coordinate the planning of the common future. The meeting was special in so far as it was the first coming together after returning to the “normal situation” on April 1, 2022. The last meeting took place on March 11, 2020, in Munich – just before the proclamation of the “exceptional situation” by the Swiss Federal Council on March 16, 2020.

