



Dr C O Menkiti
BSc MSc PhD DIC
Senior Partner

Areas of expertise

Tunnelling, slopes, earthworks, deep excavations, retaining walls, foundation systems, laboratory & field testing, investigation & characterisation of soils and granular materials, instrumentation & monitoring, liquefaction risk, bulk cargo instability, seismic design and construction impact mitigation.

Experience with GCG

Dr Menkiti joined GCG in 1992. He became a Director in 2008 and a Senior Partner when the company became an LLP in 2011. He has had wide experience in the UK and abroad. Dr Menkiti has been involved in and has provided specialist advice on the geotechnical aspects of design, construction and operation of a very wide range of structures and their foundations. His experience was gained from all components of the supply-chain - owners, operators, consultants and contractors. Dr Menkiti has undertaken recognised, project-based research work on tunnels, pipe-jacked structures, retaining walls and slopes, for which he received the BGA John Mitchell Award in 2013. He was a member of the Global Bauxite Working Group (GBWG) and co-author of the international report on the stability of bauxite cargoes, which was adopted by the IMO in 2017.

From 1998 to 2001, Dr Menkiti was seconded to Bolu, Turkey, for construction of deep highway tunnels and viaducts through complex ground. As Chief Design Engineer, he was responsible for review and coordination of design submissions, as well as planning and interpretation of instrumentation and geotechnical investigations. Dr Menkiti was closely involved in evaluating the effects of the two large 1999 earthquakes on the tunnels, viaducts and surrounding ground. He also worked on developing suitable remedial measures to meet the substantially upgraded seismic criteria from the Owner after the earthquakes. Research arising from this experience was recognised by the BGA Medal award in 2009.

Dr Menkiti has also worked on a range of international infrastructure projects. These include the Jubilee Line Extension Project London, Dublin Port Tunnel Ireland, Rome Metro C extension, Amsterdam North-South Metro, Dublin Metro North, 96th Street Subway New York, Warsaw Metro Line 2, many London Underground tunnels, the Crossrail Project and the Forrestfield to Airport Link Tunnel, Perth, Australia, Expressway S-3 in Poland and HDD drilling for wind farm cables in Lincolnshire, UK. For Crossrail, Dr Menkiti led the GCG team that served as the Geotechnical Adviser to the Owner, providing advice and support throughout the project, from inception through to post-construction. For the Dublin Port Tunnel, he was the named Geotechnical Engineer on site and later led the team that designed the challenging DART Railway Crossing. For the Forrestfield-Airport Link, Dr Menkiti is providing expert advice on tunneling in sands/gravels beneath live runways at Perth International Airport. Following the recent failures in Brazil, he has been asked to give advice on assessment of the stability of tailings dams and the dry stack option for mine waste disposal.

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Chris Menkiti has given technical advice to barristers and solicitors in legal and insurance cases involving shipping, ground engineering and ground risk, in Development Consent Order processes for Tunnelling projects in London and in equivalent processes in Ireland. He has also been invited to make training lectures/ videos for solicitors on these topics. He is the author of over 50 published papers. He has been invited to give international lectures on large infrastructure projects and ground risk, and has organized, led and chaired technical sessions in pan-European conferences.

Areas worked

UK, Italy, Malaysia, Netherlands, Singapore, Turkey, India, Ireland, Poland, USA, Nigeria, Australia, Brazil.

Previous experience

Dr Menkiti attended the Civil Engineering course at Imperial College of Science Technology and Medicine, University of London between 1983 and 1986. He was awarded the Holligrave Scholarship as the top student on entry and the Governor's Prize for excellence on graduation. He completed the MSc course in Soil Mechanics at Imperial College in 1987 with distinction.

Dr Menkiti undertook research in Soil Mechanics at Imperial College from 1988 to 1992, being awarded the Fellowship of the Exhibition of 1851. While there he developed and taught practical classes on the behaviour of footings on clay. His research was on experimental investigation of soil behaviour using a sophisticated state-of-the-art Apparatus. Following this work, Dr Menkiti has retained an interest in fundamental soil behaviour and the interpretation of laboratory and field tests to derive appropriate parameters for practical problems.

In 1995, Dr Menkiti worked in Italy under the auspices of the EEC, assisting in the development of soil mechanics research facilities at Politecnico di Bari in southern Italy. In 1997-8, he was seconded to a Civil Engineering Consultant in Malaysia and to a specialist Contractor in Singapore.

Education/Research

PhD, Imperial College, 1995
MSc (Distinction), Imperial College, 1987
BSc (1st Class), Imperial College, 1986

Scholarships/Awards

Ground Engineering Technical Excellence Award 2018 – Finalist for “Strategy and Guidance for Scoping of Ground investigations, Crossrail 2”
International Society of Soil Mechanics & Geotechnical Engineering Prize for “Outstanding Society” over the four year period 2013-17 was won by BGA, covering the period the society was chaired by Dr Menkiti.
ICE London Civil Engineering “Greatest Contribution Award” 2014 for the Baker Street to Bond Street project
ICE John Mitchell Medal Award 2013
British Geotechnical Association Medal, 2009
Fleming Award, 2004
Research Fellowship, EEC Human Capital Mobility Program, 1995
Fellowship of the Royal Exhibition of 1851, 1989 - 1991
Governor's Prize, Imperial College, 1986
Holligrave Scholarship, Imperial College, 1983 - 1986

Service on Technical/Professional Bodies

Author and member *Global Bauxite Working Group* (GBWG) investigating and reporting on moisture-controlled instability of bauxite cargoes to the IMO; 2016 to 2018
British Geotechnical Association (BGA) Executive Committee, 2009 – 2015
Vice Chairman of the BGA, 2011 – 2013
Chairman of the BGA, 2013 – 2015
Conference Organising Committee, ECSMGE, Edinburgh 2015, 2011 – 2015
ISSMGE Technical Committee TC204 (Underground Construction in Soft Ground), 2010 to date
Task Group that wrote IStructE Manual for Eurocode 7, 2009 – 2011
Working Party on Engineering Geology of Groundwater in Design & Construction, 2016 to date
Member TC206 – Interactive Design
Member TC 204 – Underground Construction in Soft Ground